

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION INC
Form 10-Q
November 09, 2015

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 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: 001-32396

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Arizona
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

86-0649974
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

20002 North 19th Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona
85027
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 602-269-2000

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this Chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes No

Edgar Filing: KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION INC - Form 10-Q

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

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

Yes

No

The number of shares outstanding of registrant's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, as of October 30, 2015, was 80,920,787 shares.

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page Number | |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION | | |
| Item 1. | Financial Statements | |
| | Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014 | <u>1</u> |
| | Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Statements of Income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 | <u>3</u> |
| | Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 | <u>4</u> |
| | Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 | <u>5</u> |
| | Notes to Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Financial Statements | <u>7</u> |
| Item 2. | Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations | <u>20</u> |
| Item 3. | Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk | <u>35</u> |
| Item 4. | Controls and Procedures | <u>36</u> |
| Part II – OTHER INFORMATION | | |
| Item 1. | Legal Proceedings | <u>37</u> |
| Item 1A. | Risk Factors | <u>38</u> |
| Item 2. | Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds | <u>38</u> |
| Item 3. | Defaults Upon Senior Securities | <u>38</u> |
| Item 4. | Mine Safety Disclosures | <u>38</u> |
| Item 5. | Other Information | <u>38</u> |
| Item 6. | Exhibits | <u>39</u> |

Table of Contents

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Balance Sheets
(in thousands)

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current Assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 12,703 | \$ 17,066 |
| Trade receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$3,010 and \$3,355, respectively | 134,985 | 143,531 |
| Notes receivable, net of allowance for doubtful notes receivable of \$281 and \$351, respectively | 731 | 1,020 |
| Prepaid expenses | 23,472 | 17,423 |
| Assets held for sale | 18,005 | 23,248 |
| Other current assets | 14,251 | 13,345 |
| Income tax receivable | 9,713 | 19,432 |
| Current deferred tax assets | 3,785 | 3,187 |
| Total current assets | 217,645 | 238,252 |
| Property and Equipment: | | |
| Revenue equipment | 879,703 | 803,410 |
| Land and land improvements | 52,744 | 52,531 |
| Buildings and building improvements | 130,265 | 125,492 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 16,949 | 17,322 |
| Shop and service equipment | 16,850 | 16,653 |
| Leasehold improvements | 3,102 | 3,037 |
| Gross property and equipment | 1,099,613 | 1,018,445 |
| Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization | (295,389) | (266,399) |
| Property and equipment, net | 804,224 | 752,046 |
| Notes receivable, long-term | 3,459 | 4,065 |
| Goodwill | 47,055 | 47,067 |
| Intangible assets, net | 3,200 | 3,575 |
| Other long-term assets, restricted cash and investments | 22,339 | 37,280 |
| Total long-term assets | 880,277 | 844,033 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,097,922 | \$ 1,082,285 |

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

Table of Contents

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Balance Sheets (continued)
(in thousands, except par values)

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current Liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 24,941 | \$ 19,122 |
| Accrued payroll and purchased transportation | 27,961 | 34,127 |
| Accrued liabilities | 32,518 | 20,604 |
| Claims accrual – current portion | 18,747 | 18,532 |
| Dividend payable – current portion | 306 | 200 |
| Total current liabilities | 104,473 | 92,585 |
| Long-term Liabilities: | | |
| Claims accrual – long-term portion | 11,681 | 11,505 |
| Long-term dividend payable and other liabilities | 2,196 | 2,513 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 144,724 | 162,007 |
| Long-term debt | 120,000 | 134,400 |
| Total long-term liabilities | 278,601 | 310,425 |
| Total liabilities | 383,074 | 403,010 |
| Commitments and Contingencies (Note 6) | | |
| Shareholders' Equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 50,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding | - | - |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 300,000 shares authorized; 80,916 and 81,842 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively | 809 | 818 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 203,073 | 185,184 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 3,506 | 12,231 |
| Retained earnings | 505,165 | 479,527 |
| Total Knight Transportation shareholders' equity | 712,553 | 677,760 |
| Noncontrolling interest | 2,295 | 1,515 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 714,848 | 679,275 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ 1,097,922 | \$ 1,082,285 |

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

Table of Contents

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Statements of Income
(in thousands, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| REVENUE: | | | | |
| Revenue, before fuel surcharge | \$ 269,930 | \$ 227,829 | \$ 795,767 | \$ 652,333 |
| Fuel surcharge | 30,192 | 43,718 | 96,458 | 132,532 |
| Total revenue | 300,122 | 271,547 | 892,225 | 784,865 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES: | | | | |
| Salaries, wages and benefits | 85,514 | 65,296 | 249,921 | 190,779 |
| Fuel | 39,795 | 51,221 | 120,247 | 155,422 |
| Operations and maintenance | 20,390 | 17,305 | 62,065 | 51,481 |
| Insurance and claims | 8,149 | 7,530 | 25,076 | 22,414 |
| Operating taxes and licenses | 3,373 | 4,338 | 13,954 | 12,265 |
| Communications | 849 | 1,164 | 3,066 | 3,621 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 28,204 | 22,684 | 82,728 | 66,422 |
| Purchased transportation | 62,115 | 60,017 | 182,279 | 168,305 |
| Miscellaneous operating expenses | 5,307 | 2,201 | 18,541 | 4,216 |
| Total operating expenses | 253,696 | 231,756 | 757,877 | 674,925 |
| Income from operations | 46,426 | 39,791 | 134,348 | 109,940 |
| Interest income | 140 | 104 | 377 | 326 |
| Interest expense | (220) | (135) | (714) | (339) |
| Other income | 2,335 | 2,399 | 7,234 | 5,856 |
| Income before income taxes | 48,681 | 42,159 | 141,245 | 115,783 |
| Income taxes | 17,946 | 16,786 | 52,379 | 45,062 |
| Net income | 30,735 | 25,373 | 88,866 | 70,721 |
| Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest | (452) | (273) | (1,382) | (797) |
| Net income attributable to Knight Transportation | \$ 30,283 | \$ 25,100 | \$ 87,484 | \$ 69,924 |
| Earnings per share: | | | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.37 | \$ 0.31 | \$ 1.07 | \$ 0.87 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.37 | \$ 0.31 | \$ 1.06 | \$ 0.86 |
| Dividends declared per share | \$ 0.06 | \$ 0.06 | \$ 0.18 | \$ 0.18 |
| Weighted Average Shares Outstanding – Basic | 81,127 | 81,035 | 81,678 | 80,802 |
| Weighted Average Shares Outstanding – Diluted | 82,005 | 82,097 | 82,714 | 81,776 |

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

Table of Contents

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Statements of Comprehensive Income
(in thousands)

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | September 30, | | September 30, | |
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Net income | \$ 30,735 | \$ 25,373 | \$ 88,866 | \$ 70,721 |
| Other comprehensive income, net of tax: | | | | |
| Realized gains from available-for-sale securities reclassified to net income(1) | (1,307) | (892) | (4,093) | (1,450) |
| Unrealized (loss)/gain from changes in fair value of available-for-sale securities(2) | (1,365) | (700) | (4,632) | 3,393 |
| Comprehensive income | \$ 28,063 | \$ 23,781 | \$ 80,141 | \$ 72,664 |
| Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interest | (452) | (273) | (1,382) | (797) |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Knight Transportation | \$ 27,611 | \$ 23,508 | \$ 78,759 | \$ 71,867 |

(1) Net of current income tax expense of \$823, \$552, \$2,576, and \$897, respectively.

(2) Net of deferred income tax (benefit)/expense of \$(875), \$(433), \$(3,024), and \$2,100, respectively.

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

Table of Contents

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Statements of Cash Flows
(in thousands)

| | 2015 | Nine Months Ended September 30, | 2014 |
|---|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Cash Flows From Operating Activities: | | | |
| Net income | \$ 88,866 | | \$ 70,721 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 82,728 | | 66,422 |
| Gain on sale of equipment | (12,181) | | (13,212) |
| Gain from sale of available-for-sale securities | (6,669) | | (2,347) |
| Impairment of investment in Transportation Resource Partners I | - | | 1,041 |
| Gain from sale of Transportation Resource Partners I | (122) | | - |
| Income from investment in Transportation Resource Partners III | (443) | | (3,490) |
| Non-cash compensation expense for issuance of common stock to certain members of Board of Directors | 354 | | 200 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts and notes receivable | 1,216 | | 998 |
| Excess tax benefits related to stock-based compensation | (3,064) | | (1,023) |
| Stock-based compensation expense, net of forfeitures | 5,288 | | 2,933 |
| Deferred income taxes | (12,281) | | (12,478) |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | | |
| Trade receivables | 7,368 | | (10,385) |
| Other current assets | (906) | | (1,323) |
| Prepaid expenses | (6,049) | | (2,819) |
| Income tax receivable | 9,719 | | - |
| Other long-term assets | (1,643) | | 885 |
| Accounts payable | (3,021) | | 5,095 |
| Accrued liabilities and claims accrual | 7,479 | | 15,849 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 156,639 | | 117,067 |
| Cash Flows From Investing Activities: | | | |
| Purchases of property and equipment | (166,790) | | (185,892) |
| Proceeds from sale of equipment/assets held for sale | 57,938 | | 64,584 |
| Proceeds from notes receivable | 1,442 | | 1,426 |
| Payments for notes receivable | - | | (115) |
| Proceeds from related party notes receivable | - | | 748 |
| Change in restricted cash and investments | (25) | | (17) |
| Proceeds from sale of available-for-sale securities | 9,339 | | 4,697 |
| Investment activity in Transportation Resource Partners | 191 | | 774 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Net cash used in investing activities | (97,905) | (113,795) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------|

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

Table of Contents

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Statements of Cash Flows (continued)
(in thousands)

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Cash Flows From Financing Activities: | | |
| Dividends paid | \$ (15,003) | \$ (14,733) |
| Payments to repurchase company stock | (45,345) | - |
| Payments on line of credit borrowings, net | (14,400) | (1,000) |
| Excess tax benefits related to stock-based compensation | 3,064 | 1,023 |
| Cash distribution to noncontrolling interest holder | (603) | (589) |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | 9,190 | 12,643 |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (63,097) | (2,656) |
| Net (decrease)/increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents | (4,363) | 616 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, beginning of period | 17,066 | 992 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, end of period | \$ 12,703 | \$ 1,608 |
| Supplemental Disclosures: | | |
| Non-cash investing and financing transactions: | | |
| Equipment acquired included in accounts payable | \$ 8,852 | \$ 12,491 |
| Transfer from property and equipment to assets held for sale | \$ 32,800 | \$ 43,308 |
| Financing provided to independent contractors for equipment sold | \$ 571 | \$ 1,341 |
| Net dividend accrued for restricted stock units | \$ 137 | \$ 131 |
| Cash flow information: | | |
| Income taxes paid | \$ 52,000 | \$ 58,582 |
| Interest expense paid | \$ 749 | \$ 345 |

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

Table of Contents

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Financial Information

References in this Report on Form 10-Q to "we," "us," "our," "Knight," or the "Company" or similar terms refer to Knight Transportation, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries. All inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The accompanying condensed consolidated unaudited financial statements of Knight Transportation, Inc. and its subsidiaries have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and Regulation S-X, instructions to Form 10-Q, and other relevant rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), as applicable to the preparation and presentation of interim financial information. Certain information and footnote disclosures have been omitted or condensed pursuant to such rules and regulations. We believe all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Results of operations in interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year. These condensed consolidated unaudited financial statements and notes thereto should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Note 2. Stock-Based Compensation

In May 2015, our shareholders approved the 2015 Omnibus Incentive Plan. This plan combines into a single plan the Company's 2005 Executive Cash Bonus Plan (the "2005 Plan") and the 2012 Equity Compensation Plan (the "2012 Plan") and allows for future grants under the 2015 Omnibus Incentive Plan. Grants outstanding under the 2005 Plan and 2012 Plan will continue in force and effect and continue to be governed solely by the terms and conditions of the instrument evidencing such grants, and will be interpreted under the terms of the 2005 Plan and the 2012 Plan, as applicable. Since approval of the 2015 Omnibus Incentive Plan in May 2015, all grants of stock-based compensation are made under the 2015 Omnibus Incentive Plan. Stock-based compensation expense for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, and 2014, are as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| | (in thousands) | | | |
| Stock compensation expense for options, net of forfeitures | \$ 307 | \$ 181 | \$ 754 | \$ 453 |
| Stock compensation expense for restricted stock units and performance restricted stock units, net of forfeitures | 1,380 | 866 | 4,534 | 2,480 |
| Total stock compensation expense | \$ 1,687 | \$ 1,047 | \$ 5,288 | \$ 2,933 |

Our policy is to recognize compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period for the entire award.

As of September 30, 2015, we have approximately \$3.5 million of unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested options. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.0 years and a total period of 3.6 years. We have approximately \$11.3 million of unrecognized compensation expense related to restricted

stock unit awards, which is anticipated to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 3.7 years and a total period of 7.3 years. We also have approximately \$8.1 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested performance awards. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 3.0 years and total period of 3.3 years.

7

Table of Contents

A total of 590,141 stock options were granted during the first nine months of 2015 and 394,550 stock options were granted during the first nine months of 2014. We received approximately \$9.2 million in cash from the exercise of stock options during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to \$12.6 million for the same period in 2014.

A summary of the option award activity under our equity compensation plans as of September 30, 2015, and changes during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, is presented below:

| | Option Totals | Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Outstanding as of December 31, 2014 | 2,142,971 | \$ 17.80 |
| Granted | 590,141 | 29.81 |
| Exercised | (555,896) | 16.49 |
| Forfeited | (93,589) | 20.77 |
| Outstanding as of September 30, 2015 | 2,083,627 | 21.41 |

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option valuation model. Listed below are the weighted-average assumptions used for the fair value computation:

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Dividend yield (1) | 0.80 % | 1.06 % |
| Expected volatility (2) | 25.88 % | 28.04 % |
| Risk-free interest rate (3) | 0.98 % | 0.82 % |
| Expected term (4) | 2.74 years | 2.74 years |
| Weighted-average fair value of options granted | \$ 5.00 | \$ 3.97 |

- (1) Dividend yield – the dividend yield is based on our historical experience and future expectation of dividend payouts.
- (2) Expected volatility – we analyzed the volatility of our stock using historical data.
- (3) Risk-free interest rate – the risk-free interest rate assumption is based on U.S. Treasury securities at a constant maturity with a maturity period that most closely resembles the expected term of the stock option award.
- (4) Expected term – the expected term of employee stock options represents the weighted-average period the stock options are expected to remain outstanding and has been determined based on an analysis of historical exercise behavior.

A total of 13,950 and 9,000 restricted stock unit awards were granted during the first nine months of 2015 and 2014, respectively. A summary of the restricted stock unit award activity under our equity compensation plans as of September 30, 2015, and changes during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, is presented below:

| | Number of Restricted Stock Unit Awards | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Unvested as of December 31, 2014 | 1,073,546 | \$ 16.22 |
| Granted | 13,950 | 29.11 |
| Vested | (172,003) | 16.14 |
| Forfeited | (15,730) | 16.81 |
| Unvested as of September 30, 2015 | 899,763 | 16.42 |

The fair value of each restricted stock unit is based on the closing market price on the date of grant.

Table of Contents

Beginning in 2014, we issued performance restricted stock units (“PRSUs”) to selected key employees that may be earned based on revenue growth and return on assets, and may then be modified based on our total shareholder return, as defined in the instrument evidencing the grant, over a three-year period. The primary award adjustment may range from 0 percent to 150 percent of the initial grant, based upon performance achieved over the three-year period. The primary award modifier, which would multiply the adjusted primary award by 75 percent to 125 percent, is measured by determining the percentile rank of the total shareholder return, as defined in the instrument evidencing the grant, of Knight common stock in relation to the total shareholder return of a peer group for the three-year period. The final award will be based on performance achieved in accordance with the scale set forth in the plan agreement. Performance restricted stock units do not earn dividend equivalents.

A total of 165,720 PRSUs were granted in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, and 181,112 PRSUs were granted in the nine months ended September 30, 2014. A summary of the performance restricted stock unit award activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 is presented below:

| | Number of Performance Restricted Stock Unit Awards | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Unvested as of December 31, 2014 | 181,112 | \$ 23.85 |
| Granted | 165,720 | 29.30 |
| Vested | - | - |
| Cancelled | (5,050) | 26.20 |
| Unvested as of September 30, 2015 | 341,782 | 26.46 |

The performance measurement period for the PRSUs granted in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, is April 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017, and the performance measurement period for the PRSUs granted in the nine months ended September 30, 2014, is January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016. These awards will vest thirteen months following the expiration of the performance measurement period. The fair value of each PRSU grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Monte Carlo Simulation valuation model. Listed below are the weighted-average assumptions used for the fair value computation:

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|------------------------------------|----------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Dividend yield (1) | 0.80 % | 1.06 % |
| Expected volatility (2) | 23.18 % | 26.11 % |
| Average peer volatility (2) | 30.70 % | 36.01 % |
| Average peer correlation coefficient (3) | 0.49 | 0.5796 |
| Risk-free interest rate (4) | 0.78 % | 0.66 % |
| Expected term (5) | 2.63 | 2.80 |
| Weighted-average fair value of PRSUs granted | \$ 29.30 | \$ 23.85 |

(1) The dividend yield, used to project stock price to the end of the performance period, is based on our historical experience and future expectation of dividend payouts. Total shareholder return is determined assuming that dividends are reinvested in the issuing entity over the performance period, which is mathematically equivalent to

utilizing a 0% dividend yield.

- (2) We (or peer company) estimated volatility using our (or their) historical share price performance over the remaining performance period as of the grant date.
- (3) The correlation coefficients are used to model the way in which each entity tends to move in relation to each other; the correlation assumptions were developed using the same stock price data as the volatility assumptions.
- (4) The risk-free interest rate assumption is based on U.S. Treasury securities at a constant maturity with a maturity period that most closely resembles the expected term of the performance award.
- (5) Since the Monte Carlo simulation valuation is an open form model that uses an expected life commensurate with the performance period, the expected life of the PRSUs was assumed to be the period from the grant date to the end of the performance period.

Table of Contents

Note 3. Earnings Per Share

A reconciliation of the basic and diluted earnings per share computations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|---|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| | (in thousands, except for per share data) | | | |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding – basic | 81,127 | 81,035 | 81,678 | 80,802 |
| Dilutive effect of stock options and unvested restricted stock units | 878 | 1,062 | 1,036 | 974 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding – diluted | 82,005 | 82,097 | 82,714 | 81,776 |
| Net income attributable to Knight Transportation | \$ 30,283 | \$ 25,100 | \$ 87,484 | \$ 69,924 |
| Basic Earnings Per Share | \$ 0.37 | \$ 0.31 | \$ 1.07 | \$ 0.87 |
| Diluted Earnings per Share | \$ 0.37 | \$ 0.31 | \$ 1.06 | \$ 0.86 |

Certain shares of options, restricted stock units, and PRSUs (“equity awards”) were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share because the equity award’s exercise prices were greater than the average market price of the common shares and the sum total of assumed proceeds resulted in fewer shares repurchased than the weighted equity awards outstanding hypothetically exercised per the treasury method.

The number of anti-dilutive shares are:

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|---------|
| | (in thousands) | | (in thousands) | |
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Number of anti-dilutive shares | 597,076 | 288,334 | 322,036 | 286,159 |

Note 4. Segment Information

We have two operating segments: (i) the Trucking segment comprised of three operating units (Dry Van, Refrigerated, and Drayage), and (ii) the Logistics segment comprised of two operating units (Brokerage and Intermodal). We also provide logistics, freight management and other non-trucking services through our Logistics businesses. Through our Trucking and Logistics segment capabilities, we are able to transport, or can arrange for the transportation of, general commodities for customers throughout the United States and parts of Canada and Mexico.

We, in determining our reportable segments, focus on financial information such as operating revenues and expenses, operating income, operating ratios, and other key operating statistics common in the industry. The chief operating decision makers also use this information to evaluate segment performance and allocate resources to our operations.

Our segments provide transportation and related services for one another. Such services are billed at cost, and no profit is earned. Such intersegment revenues and expenses are eliminated in our consolidated results.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth revenue and operating income between the Trucking and Logistics segments for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 (dollars in thousands).

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|---------------------------|--|--------|--|--------|---|--------|---|--------|
| Revenues: | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Trucking Segment | \$ 242,046 | 80.6 | \$ 217,848 | 80.2 | \$ 722,963 | 81.0 | \$ 639,571 | 81.5 |
| Logistics Segment | 62,773 | 20.9 | 54,787 | 20.2 | 181,339 | 20.3 | 148,517 | 18.9 |
| Subtotal | 304,819 | | 272,635 | | 904,302 | | 788,088 | |
| Intersegment Eliminations | | | | | | | | |
| Trucking | (38) | 0.0 | (4) | 0.0 | (116) | 0.0 | (65) | 0.0 |
| Logistics | (4,659) | (1.5) | (1,084) | (0.4) | (11,961) | (1.3) | (3,158) | (0.4) |
| Total | \$ 300,122 | 100 % | \$ 271,547 | 100 % | \$ 892,225 | 100 % | \$ 784,865 | 100 % |
| Operating Income: | | | | | | | | |
| Trucking Segment | \$ 42,710 | 92.0 | \$ 35,514 | 89.3 | \$ 122,800 | 91.4 | \$ 100,491 | 91.4 |
| Logistics Segment | 3,716 | 8.0 | 4,277 | 10.7 | 11,548 | 8.6 | 9,449 | 8.6 |
| Total | \$ 46,426 | 100 % | \$ 39,791 | 100 % | \$ 134,348 | 100 % | \$ 109,940 | 100 % |

Trucking Segment Information

The Trucking operating units operate large, modern, company-owned tractor fleets and use independent contractors to provide various transportation solutions, including multiple stop pick-ups and deliveries, dedicated equipment and personnel, on-time expedited pick-ups and deliveries, specialized driver training and other truckload services. Revenues are generally set at a predetermined rate per mile or per load for the Trucking services. In addition, revenue streams are also generated by charging for tractor and trailer detention, loading and unloading activities, dedicated services, and other specialized services, as well as through the collection of fuel surcharges to mitigate the impact of increases in the cost of fuel.

The primary measure we use to evaluate the profitability of our Trucking segment is operating ratio, measured both on a GAAP basis (operating expenses expressed as a percentage of revenue) and on a non-GAAP basis that many in our industry use (Trucking operating expenses, net of Trucking fuel surcharge revenue, expressed as a percentage of Trucking revenue, excluding Trucking fuel surcharge revenue). We believe the second method allows us to more effectively compare periods while excluding the potentially volatile effect of changes in fuel prices. Non-GAAP operating ratio is not a substitute for or superior to, and should be considered in addition to, the GAAP operating ratio. Pursuant to the requirements of the SEC's Regulation G, the tables below compare our operating ratio using both methods.

The following table sets forth the Trucking segment operating ratio on a GAAP basis (dollars in thousands).

Edgar Filing: KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION INC - Form 10-Q

| GAAP Presentation: | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Trucking Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$ 242,046 | | \$ 217,848 | | \$ 722,963 | | \$ 639,571 | |
| Operating expenses | 199,336 | 82.4 | 182,334 | 83.7 | 600,163 | 83.0 | 539,080 | 84.3 |
| Operating income | \$ 42,710 | | \$ 35,514 | | \$ 122,800 | | \$ 100,491 | |

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth the Trucking segment operating ratio as if fuel surcharges are excluded from total revenue and instead reported as a reduction of operating expenses, excluding intersegment activity (dollars in thousands).

| Non-GAAP Presentation(1): | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Trucking Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$ 242,046 | | \$ 217,848 | | \$ 722,963 | | \$ 639,571 | |
| Less: Trucking fuel surcharge revenue | (30,192) | | (43,718) | | (96,458) | | (132,532) | |
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (38) | | (4) | | (116) | | (65) | |
| Revenue, net of fuel surcharge and intersegment transactions | 211,816 | | 174,126 | | 626,389 | | 506,974 | |
| Operating expenses | 199,336 | | 182,334 | | 600,163 | | 539,080 | |
| Less: Trucking fuel surcharge revenue | (30,192) | | (43,718) | | (96,458) | | (132,532) | |
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (38) | | (4) | | (116) | | (65) | |
| Operating expenses, net of fuel surcharge and intersegment transactions | 169,106 | 79.8 | 138,612 | 79.6 | 503,589 | 80.4 | 406,483 | 80.2 |
| Operating income | \$ 42,710 | | \$ 35,514 | | \$ 122,800 | | \$ 100,491 | |

(1) These items represent non-GAAP financial measures and are not substitutes for or superior to, and should be considered in addition to, the GAAP financial measures presented in the previous table. Although we believe that this non-GAAP presentation of our operating ratio can make an evaluation of our operating performance more consistent because it removes items that, in our opinion, do not reflect our core operating performance, other companies in the transportation industry may define the non-GAAP operating ratio differently. As a result, it may be difficult to use non-GAAP measures that other companies may use to compare the performance of those companies to our performance.

Our Trucking segment requires substantial capital expenditures for purchases of new revenue equipment. Total depreciation and amortization expense for the Trucking segment was approximately \$27.2 million and \$21.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense for the Trucking segment was approximately \$79.7 million and \$62.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Logistics Segment Information

Logistics revenue is generated primarily by our Brokerage and Intermodal operating units, which charge a predetermined rate per mile or per load for arranging freight transportation for our customers. We also provide logistics, freight management and other non-trucking services to our customers through our Logistics

business. Additional revenue is generated by offering specialized logistics solutions (including, but not limited to, origin management, surge volumes, disaster relief, special projects, and other logistics needs). Our Logistics revenue is mainly affected by the rates we obtain from customers, the freight volumes that we ship through our third-party capacity providers, and our ability to secure qualified third-party capacity providers to transport customer freight.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth the Logistics segment revenue, operating expenses, and operating income (dollars in thousands).

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|--------------------|--|------|--|------|---|------|---|------|
| Logistics Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$ 62,773 | | \$ 54,787 | | \$ 181,339 | | \$ 148,517 | |
| Operating expenses | 59,057 | 94.1 | 50,510 | 92.2 | 169,791 | 93.6 | 139,068 | 93.6 |
| Operating income | \$ 3,716 | | \$ 4,277 | | \$ 11,548 | | \$ 9,449 | |

The following table sets forth the Logistics segment revenue, operating expenses, and operating income, excluding intersegment transactions (dollars in thousands).

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|--|--|------|--|------|---|------|---|------|
| Logistics Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$ 62,773 | | \$ 54,787 | | \$ 181,339 | | \$ 148,517 | |
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (4,659) | | (1,084) | | (11,961) | | (3,158) | |
| Revenue excluding intersegment transactions | 58,114 | | 53,703 | | 169,378 | | 145,359 | |
| Operating expenses | 59,057 | | 50,510 | | 169,791 | | 139,068 | |
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (4,659) | | (1,084) | | (11,961) | | (3,158) | |
| Operating expenses excluding intersegment transactions | 54,398 | 93.6 | 49,426 | 92.0 | 157,830 | 93.2 | 135,910 | 93.5 |
| Operating income | \$ 3,716 | | \$ 4,277 | | \$ 11,548 | | \$ 9,449 | |

We primarily measure the Logistics segment's profitability by reviewing the gross margin percentage (revenue net of intersegment elimination, less purchased transportation expense, expressed as a percentage of revenue, net of intersegment elimination) and the operating ratio. The gross margin percentage can be affected by customer rates and the costs of securing third-party capacity providers. Our third-party capacity providers generally are not subject to long-term or predetermined contracted rates, and our operating results could be affected if the availability of third-party capacity providers or the rates for such providers change in the future.

The following table lists the gross margin percentage for our Brokerage and Intermodal businesses combined.

| | Three Months Ended | Three Months Ended | Nine Months Ended | Nine Months Ended |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | | |

| | September 30, 2015 | September 30, 2014 | September 30, 2015 | September 30, 2014 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Combined Brokerage and Intermodal gross margin percentage(1) | 16.0% | 15.2% | 16.1% | 14.2% |

(1)Gross margin percentage is based on revenue, net of intersegment eliminations.

Table of Contents

Our Logistics segment does not require significant capital expenditures and is not asset-intensive like our Trucking segment. Total Logistics segment depreciation and amortization expense is primarily attributed to equipment leased to third parties, which was approximately \$1.0 million and \$1.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense for the Logistics segment was approximately \$3.0 million and \$3.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

No segmental asset or liability information is provided as we do not prepare balance sheets by segment, and the chief operating decision makers do not review segment assets to make operating decisions.

Note 5. Joint Ventures

In July 2014, we formed an Arizona limited liability company, Kool Trans, LLC, for the purpose of expanding our refrigerated trucking business. In October 2015, we amended the Articles of Organization to change the company name to Kold Trans, LLC. We are entitled to 80% of the profits of the entity and have effective control over the management of the entity. In accordance with ASC 810-10-15-8, Consolidation, we consolidate the financial activities of this entity into our consolidated financial statements. The noncontrolling interest for this entity is presented as a separate component of the consolidated financial statements.

In 2010, we partnered with a non-related investor to form an Arizona limited liability company for the purpose of sourcing commercial vehicle parts. We contributed \$26,000 to acquire 52% ownership of this entity. In accordance with ASC 810-10-15-8, Consolidation, we consolidate the financial activities of this entity into our consolidated financial statements. The noncontrolling interest for this entity is presented as a separate component of our consolidated financial statements.

Note 6. Commitments and Contingencies

We are a party to certain claims and pending litigation arising in the normal course of business. These proceedings primarily involve claims for personal injury, property damage, physical damage, and cargo loss incurred in the transportation of freight or for personnel matters, as well as certain class action litigation in which plaintiffs allege failure to provide meal and rest breaks, unpaid wages, unauthorized deductions, and other items.

We are insured against auto liability claims under a self-insured retention ("SIR") policy with retention ranging from \$1.0 million to \$3.0 million per occurrence and in some years, depending on the applicable policy year, we have been responsible for aggregate losses up to \$1.5 million. For the policy period March 1, 2015 to March 1, 2016, and February 1, 2014 to March 1, 2015, the SIR is \$2.5 million with no additional responsibility for "aggregate" losses. We have secured excess liability coverage up to \$105.0 million per occurrence. We also carry a \$2.5 million aggregate deductible for any loss or losses that rise to the excess coverage layer.

We are self-insured for workers' compensation claims up to a maximum limit of \$500,000 per occurrence. We also maintain primary and excess coverage for employee medical expenses and hospitalization, with self-insured retention of \$225,000 per claimant.

We are a defendant in a class action lawsuit which was filed on May 8, 2008, in the California Superior Court for Tulare County. The plaintiffs, who are current and former drivers and who worked for us during the period of May 8, 2004 through August 6, 2015, allege claims for failure to provide meal periods, inaccurate itemized pay statements and other items under the California Labor Code. During the second quarter of 2015, we reached a preliminary settlement with the plaintiffs. Should the settlement not be approved by the court, further negotiations may take place that could result in a different settlement, or the case may continue on to trial, which could result in a judgment for a different amount.

Table of Contents

We are also a defendant in a class action lawsuit which was filed on June 10, 2010, in the Oregon Circuit Court for Multnomah County. The plaintiffs, who are current and former drivers who worked for us during the period of June 10, 2004 through June 10, 2010, allege the Company failed to pay minimum wage for attending pre-employment orientation and failed to pay minimum wage for work performed during certain pay periods after the start of employment. On July 2, 2015, the court, following a bench trial, issued a decision finding that we failed to pay minimum wage to some class members for work performed during certain pay periods and assessed statutory penalties and prejudgment interest related to our failure to comply with minimum wage obligations. A final judgment has not yet been entered. Shortly after the end of the third quarter of 2015, we reached a preliminary settlement with the plaintiffs and the current and former drivers who worked for us during the period June 11, 2010 through September 30, 2015. Should the settlement not be approved by the court, further negotiations may take place that could result in a different settlement, or a final judgment may be entered, which could result in a judgment for a different amount.

As a result of the California settlement and the Oregon decision, during the second quarter of 2015, we accrued a total of \$7.2 million, including the plaintiffs' estimated attorneys' fees and related costs and excluding attorneys' fees and costs related to our defense, in our condensed consolidated financial statements. We had previously accrued \$0.2 million as of December 31, 2014 related to these cases.

Based on claims resolved this quarter, and our present knowledge of the facts and in certain cases, advice of outside counsel, management believes the resolution of open claims and pending litigation, taking into account existing reserves, is not likely to have a materially adverse effect on our consolidated financial statements.

At September 30, 2015, we carried a contingent liability of \$3.5 million in "accrued liabilities" in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet, for a one-time earn-out relating to our October 2014 acquisition of Barr-Nunn Transportation Inc. ("Barr-Nunn"). The earn-out was provided for in the stock purchase agreement in connection with the Barr-Nunn acquisition, and was subject to achievement of an operating income target for Barr-Nunn and retention of certain Barr-Nunn key personnel for the four fiscal quarters ended September 30, 2015. This contingent liability was estimated as of the date of acquisition. All contingencies were satisfied, and accordingly, the earn-out was paid in full in October 2015.

Note 7. Dividends

In August 2015, we announced a cash dividend of \$0.06 per share of our common stock which was paid in September 2015. Future payment of cash dividends, and the amount of any such dividends, will depend upon our financial condition, results of operations, cash requirements, tax treatment, and certain corporate law requirements, as well as other factors deemed relevant by our Board of Directors.

Note 8. Property and Equipment

To ensure that our facilities remain modern and efficient, we periodically have facility upgrades, or new construction, in process at our various service center locations or corporate headquarters. Until these projects are completed, we consider these to be assets not yet placed in service and they are not depreciated. Once they are placed into service, we depreciate them according to our depreciation policy. At September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, we had approximately \$8.8 million and \$6.9 million, respectively, of facility construction in process assets included under "Buildings and building improvements" on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets.

Note 9. Goodwill and Intangibles, net

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price of our acquisitions over the fair value of the net assets acquired. The tax benefit from the recognition on the tax return of the amortization of the excess tax goodwill over book

goodwill is treated as a reduction in the book basis of goodwill.

Table of Contents

In conjunction with our acquisitions, identifiable intangible assets subject to amortization have been recorded at fair value and are being amortized over a weighted-average amortization period of 7.6 years. The gross carrying amount of these intangible assets at September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014 was \$3.7 million, and the accumulated amortization balance was \$0.5 million and \$0.1 million, respectively. Amortization expense associated with these intangible assets is included in "Depreciation and amortization" on the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of income. Future amortization expense for intangible assets is estimated at \$0.1 million for the remainder of 2015, and \$0.5 million for each of the years 2016 through 2019.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill, and intangible assets, for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, are as follows:

| | Goodwill | Intangibles |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| | (in thousands) | |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | \$ 47,067 | \$ 3,575 |
| Amortization relating to deferred tax assets | (12) | - |
| Amortization expense | - | (375) |
| Balance at September 30, 2015 | \$ 47,055 | \$ 3,200 |

Note 10. Investments and Related Commitments

In 2003, we signed a partnership agreement with Transportation Resource Partners ("TRP"), a company that makes privately negotiated equity investments. Per the original partnership agreement, we committed to invest \$5.0 million in TRP. In 2006, we increased the commitment amount to \$5.5 million. No gain or loss was recognized in the three months ended September 30, 2015 or 2014 from TRP investment activity. In the nine months ended September 30, 2015, we recognized a net gain of \$122,000 from TRP investment activity, and a net gain of \$519,000 in the same nine months of 2014. The carrying value of our investment in TRP was \$477,000 at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014. Our investment in TRP is accounted for using the cost method, and the balance is included within "Other long-term assets, restricted cash, and investments" on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets.

In 2008, we formed Knight Capital Growth, LLC and committed \$15.0 million to invest in a new partnership managed and operated by the managers and principals of TRP. The new partnership, Transportation Resource Partners III, LP ("TRP III"), is focused on investment opportunities similar to TRP. As of September 30, 2015, we have contributed approximately \$11.0 million to TRP III, leaving an outstanding commitment of \$4.0 million. Our investment in TRP III is accounted for using the equity method. For the three months ended September 30, 2015, we recorded income of approximately \$204,000, for our investment in TRP III, and \$1.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014. For the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, we recognized income of \$443,000, and \$3.5 million, respectively, for TRP III. The carrying value of our investment in TRP III was \$5.8 million and \$5.4 million as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, and is included within "Other long-term assets, restricted cash, and investments" on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets.

In July 2015, we committed to invest in a new partnership, TRP Capital Partners, LP. The new partnership is managed and operated by the managers and principals of TRP and TRP III, and is focused on similar investment opportunities. We committed to contribute a total of \$4.9 million to the new partnership, and no contribution has been made as of September 30, 2015.

Note 11. Marketable Equity Securities

We have certain marketable equity securities classified as available-for-sale securities, which are recorded at fair value with unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, as a component of "Accumulated other comprehensive income" in shareholders' equity on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. Realized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities are included in the determination of net income. We use specific identification to determine the cost of securities sold, or amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income into earnings and included in "Other income" on the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of income.

Table of Contents

The following table shows our realized gains during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 on certain securities that were held as available-for-sale.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | |
|------------------------------|---|----------|--|----------|
| | 2014 | 2014 | 2014 | 2014 |
| | (in thousands) | | (in thousands) | |
| Realized gains | | | | |
| Sales proceeds | \$ 3,151 | \$ 2,796 | \$ 9,339 | \$ 4,697 |
| Cost of securities sold | 1,021 | 1,352 | 2,670 | 2,350 |
| Realized gain | \$ 2,130 | \$ 1,444 | \$ 6,669 | \$ 2,347 |
| Realized gains, net of taxes | \$ 1,307 | \$ 892 | \$ 4,093 | \$ 1,450 |

As of September 30, 2015, our available-for-sale equity investments included in "Other long-term assets and restricted cash and investments" on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets, was approximately \$9.9 million, including gross unrealized gains of approximately \$5.7 million or \$3.5 million (net of tax). As of December 31, 2014, our available-for-sale investment balance was approximately \$26.9 million, including gross unrealized gains of approximately \$20.0 million or \$12.2 million (net of tax).

Note 12. Assets Held for Sale

Revenue equipment that is not utilized in continuing operations and is held for sale is classified as "Assets held for sale" on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. Assets held for sale at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, totaled \$18.0 million and \$23.2 million, respectively. Assets held for sale are no longer subject to depreciation, and are recorded at the lower of depreciated carrying value or fair market value less selling costs. We expect to sell these assets and replace them with new assets within twelve months of being classified as "Assets held for sale."

Note 13. Income Taxes

We account for income taxes under the asset and liability method, which requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been included in the financial statements. For interim reporting purposes, our income tax provisions are recorded based on the estimated annual effective tax rate. Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. The effect of a change in tax rates on deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

We record net deferred tax assets to the extent we believe these assets will more likely than not be realized. In making such determination, we consider all available positive and negative evidence, including scheduled reversals of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, tax planning strategies, and recent financial operations. A valuation allowance for deferred tax assets has not been deemed necessary due to our profitable operations.

We recognize a tax benefit from an uncertain tax position when it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination, including resolutions of any related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits. We file federal and state income tax returns with varying statutes of limitations. The 2012 through 2014 tax years remain subject to examination by federal and most state tax authorities, and the 2010 through 2014 tax years remain subject to examination by some state tax authorities. We believe that our income tax filing positions and

deductions will be sustained on audit and do not anticipate any adjustments that will result in a material change to our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows. Our policy is to recognize interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as income tax expense. We have not recorded any unrecognized tax benefits at September 30, 2015 or December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

Note 14. Company Share Repurchase Programs

In May 2011, our Board of Directors unanimously authorized the repurchase of 10.0 million shares of our common stock. The repurchase authorization is intended to afford flexibility to acquire shares opportunistically in future periods and does not indicate an intention to repurchase any particular number of shares within a definite timeframe. Any repurchases would be effected based upon share price and market conditions.

Under the share repurchase program, we repurchased 564,016 shares for \$15.0 million in the three months ended September 30, 2015, and 1,606,790 shares for \$45.3 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015. As of September 30, 2015, there were 5,831,766 shares remaining for future purchases under our repurchase program. The repurchase authorization will remain in effect until the share limit is reached or the program is terminated.

Note 15. Fair Value Measurements

Our assets and liabilities measured at fair value are based on principles set forth in ASC 820-10, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure, for recurring and non-recurring fair value measurements of financial and non-financial assets and liabilities. This standard defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This standard establishes a three-level hierarchy for fair value measurements based upon the significant inputs used to determine fair value. Observable inputs are those which are obtained from market participants external to us while unobservable inputs are generally developed internally, utilizing management's estimates, assumptions, and specific knowledge of the nature of the assets or liabilities and related markets. The three levels are defined as follows:

Level 1 – Inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that we have the ability to access at the measurement date. An active market is defined as a market in which transactions for the assets or liabilities occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

Level 2 – Inputs include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active (markets with few transactions), inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability (i.e., interest rates, yield curves, etc.), and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data correlation or other means (market corroborated inputs).

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs, only used to the extent that observable inputs are not available, reflect our assumptions about the pricing of an asset or liability.

Table of Contents

In accordance with the fair value hierarchy described above, the following table shows the fair value of our financial assets and liabilities that are required to be measured at fair value as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

| | Total Balance at September 30, 2015 | Total Balance at December 31, 2014 | Level One Balance at September 30, 2015 | Level One Balance at December 31, 2014 | Level Two Balance at September 30, 2015 | Level Two Balance at December 31, 2014 | Level Three Balance at September 30, 2015 | Level Three Balance at December 31, 2014 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| | (in thousands) | | | | | | | |

Assets:

Available-for-sale securities:

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|---|---|---|---|
| Equity securities - common shares | \$ 9,888 | \$ 26,884 | \$ 9,888 | \$ 26,884 | - | - | - | - |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|---|---|---|---|

Restricted cash and investments:

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------|----------|--------|----------|---|---|---|---|
| Money market funds | \$ 988 | \$ 1,027 | \$ 988 | \$ 1,027 | - | - | - | - |
|--------------------|--------|----------|--------|----------|---|---|---|---|

Trading securities:

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|---|---|----------|----------|---|---|
| Debt securities - municipal securities | \$ 2,301 | \$ 2,237 | - | - | \$ 2,301 | \$ 2,237 | - | - |
|--|----------|----------|---|---|----------|----------|---|---|

Note 16. Notes Receivable

We provide financing to independent contractors and third parties on equipment sold or leased under our equipment sale program. Most of the notes are collateralized and are due in weekly installments, comprised of principal and interest payments. Interest rates are determined in the contracts and generally range from 2% to 20%.

The notes receivable balances are classified separately between current and long-term on the consolidated balance sheets. The current and long-term balance of our notes receivable at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, are as follows:

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| | (in thousands) | |
| Notes receivable from independent contractors | \$ 797 | \$ 1,554 |
| Notes receivable from third parties | 3,674 | 3,882 |
| Gross notes receivable | 4,471 | 5,436 |
| Allowance for doubtful notes receivable | (281) | (351) |
| Total notes receivable, net of allowance | 4,190 | 5,085 |
| Current portion, net of allowance | 731 | 1,020 |
| Long-term portion | \$ 3,459 | \$ 4,065 |

Table of Contents

Note 17. Line of Credit

We maintain a revolving line of credit which permits revolving borrowings and letters of credit. The line of credit is maintained at \$300.0 million and matures December 1, 2017. We incur interest on borrowings under the line of credit at either the prime rate or LIBOR plus 0.625%, determined by us at the time of borrowing. We had \$120.0 million outstanding under the line of credit as of September 30, 2015, compared to \$134.4 million as of December 31, 2014. The weighted average variable annual percentage rate ("APR") for amounts borrowed during the nine months ended September 30, 2015 was 0.89%. Borrowings under the line of credit are recorded in the "Long-term debt" line of the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. As of September 30, 2015, we also utilized \$27.2 million of the line of credit for letters of credit issued to various regulatory authorities in connection with our self-insurance programs. With the outstanding letters of credit and debt borrowed, we have \$152.8 million available for future borrowings as of September 30, 2015. After consideration of fees incurred for the unused portion of our line of credit, our weighted average variable APR for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 was 1.10%. We are obligated to comply with certain financial and other covenants under the line of credit agreement and were in compliance with such covenants at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

Note 18. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") issued ASU 2014-12, Stock Compensation - Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Provide That a Performance Target Could Be Achieved after the Requisite Service Period. The amendments in this update require performance targets that could be achieved after the requisite service period be treated as performance conditions that affect the vesting of the award. The amendment is effective as of January 1, 2016, and we do not expect it to have an impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. The main objective of this update is to require revenue recognition to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which we expect to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The guidance in this update supersedes virtually all present U.S. GAAP guidance on revenue recognition. The amendments to the standard require the use of more estimates and judgments than the present standards and require additional disclosures. In July 2015, the FASB deferred the effective date for the revenue recognition standard. The accounting standard will now be effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. We are currently evaluating this standard and our existing revenue recognition policies to determine which of our customer arrangements in the scope of the guidance will be affected by the new requirements and what impact they would have on our consolidated financial statements upon adoption of this standard.

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

2.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This report contains certain statements that may be considered "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and such statements are subject to the safe harbor created by those sections and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements, including without limitation: any projections of revenues, earnings, cash flows, dividends, capital expenditures, or other financial items; any statement of plans, strategies, and objectives of management for future operations; any statements concerning proposed acquisition plans, new services or developments; any statements regarding general trucking industry issues, the average age of our

tractors and trailers, truckload freight demand and supply, equipment utilization, future rate increases, driver recruiting and retention costs, including driver pay, fuel cost and efficiency, new and used equipment prices, purchased transportation expense, working capital needs, liquidity constraints, investment income, and pending litigation; any statements regarding future economic conditions or performance; and any statements of belief and any statement of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing. Words such as “expects,” “estimates,” “projects,” “believes,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “goals,” “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “potential,” “continue,” “future” and variations of similar expressions, terms, or phrases, are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are based on currently available operating, financial, and competitive information. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks, assumptions, and uncertainties, some of which cannot be predicted or quantified, which could cause future events and actual results to differ materially from those set forth in, contemplated by, or underlying the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in the section entitled "Item 1A. Risk Factors," set forth in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, along with any supplements in Part II below. Readers should review and consider the factors that may affect future results and other disclosures by us in our press releases, Form 10-K for our most recent fiscal year, and other filings with the SEC.

Table of Contents

All such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this Form 10-Q. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto or any change in the events, conditions, or circumstances on which any such statement is based.

Introduction

Business Overview

We offer a broad range of full truckload transportation and logistics services with one of North America's largest tractor fleets, operated through a nationwide network of service centers, and contractual access to thousands of third-party capacity providers. We have continued to grow our revenue by increasing the geographic reach of our service center network and by expanding the breadth of our services for customers. Our Trucking segment provides truckload transportation, including dedicated services, of various products, goods, and materials for our diverse customer base through our Dry Van, Refrigerated, and Drayage operating units. The Brokerage and Intermodal operating units of our Logistics segment provide a multitude of shipment solutions, including additional sources of truckload capacity and alternative transportation modes, by utilizing our vast network of third-party capacity providers and rail providers, as well as certain logistics, freight management, and other non-trucking services. Our objective is to operate our Trucking and Logistics business with industry-leading margins and growth while providing safe, high-quality, cost-effective solutions for our customers.

The main factors that affect our results are industry-wide economic factors, such as freight demand, truckload and rail intermodal capacity, fuel prices, the number of tractors we operate, our revenue per tractor (which includes primarily our revenue per total mile and our number of miles per tractor), freight volumes brokered to third-party capacity providers (including our rail providers), driver and independent contractor recruitment and retention, and our ability to control costs on a company-wide basis. Our success depends on our ability to efficiently and effectively manage our resources in providing transportation and logistics solutions to our customers in light of such factors. We evaluate the growth opportunities for each of our Trucking and Logistics segments based on customer demand and supply chain trends, availability of drivers and third-party capacity providers, expected returns on invested capital, expected net cash flows, and our company-specific capabilities.

Recent Consolidated Results of Operations and Quarter-End Financial Condition

Our consolidated results of operations for the three months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the three months ended September 30, 2014, were as follows:

Total Revenue increased 10.5%, to \$300.1 million from \$271.5 million;

Revenue, before fuel surcharge, increased 18.5%, to \$269.9 million from \$227.8 million;

Net income attributable to Knight increased 20.6%, to \$30.3 million from \$25.1 million; and

Net earnings attributable to Knight per diluted share increased to \$0.37 per share from \$0.31 per share.

Table of Contents

We grew our consolidated revenues and improved our operating income despite a less robust freight demand environment in the third quarter of 2015, than the same period in 2014. Our efforts to improve yield and drive operational efficiencies, provide industry-leading service, and intensify our cost control efforts also contributed to the positive quarterly results.

During the third quarter of 2015, our Trucking segment increased revenue, excluding trucking fuel surcharge, 21.6%, and improved operating income 20.3%. Productivity, as measured by average revenue per tractor, before fuel surcharge, increased 1.8% in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the third quarter of 2014. This improvement resulted from a 4.6% improvement in revenue per loaded mile and a 2.6% increase in length of haul, slightly offset by a 0.2% decrease in average miles per tractor, and increased non-paid empty mile percent. Our Trucking segment operating ratio (Trucking operating expenses, net of Trucking fuel surcharge, expressed as a percentage of Trucking revenue, before Trucking fuel surcharge), which is a non-GAAP measurement, was 79.8% for the quarter ended September 30, 2015 compared to 79.6% for the same quarter in 2014.

Our Logistics segment continued to grow in the third quarter of 2015 by increasing revenue 8.2%. Our brokerage business, the largest component of our Logistics segment, increased revenue 11.7%, with an 8.8% improvement in operating income, when compared to the same quarter last year. Load volume in the brokerage business increased 64.8%, while revenue per load was negatively impacted primarily by lower fuel surcharge and a shorter length of haul in the third quarter of 2015 compared to the same quarter last year. Our Logistics segment operating ratio was 93.6%, and 92.0% for the third quarter of 2015 and 2014, respectively.

In the third quarter of 2015, we returned \$19.9 million to our shareholders in the form of quarterly cash dividends of \$4.9 million, and stock repurchases of \$15.0 million. We ended the quarter with \$712.6 million of shareholders' equity. In the third quarter of 2015, we generated \$49.2 million in cash flow from operations and used \$69.2 million for capital expenditures net of equipment sales.

Our liquidity is not materially affected by off-balance sheet transactions. See the discussion under "Liquidity and Capital Resources" for a description of our off-balance sheet transactions.

Consolidated Revenue and Expenses

We primarily generate revenue by transporting freight for our customers in our Trucking segment or arranging for the transportation of customer freight in our Logistics segment. Our operating revenue is reported under "Results of Operations" and categorized as (i) Trucking revenue, net of fuel surcharge, (ii) Trucking fuel surcharge revenue, and (iii) Logistics revenue. Trucking revenue, net of fuel surcharge, and Trucking fuel surcharge revenue is largely generated by the trucking services provided by our three Trucking operating units (Dry Van, Refrigerated, and Drayage) whereas Logistics revenue is mostly generated by the logistics services provided by our two Logistics operating units (Brokerage and Intermodal). We also provide logistics, freight management, sourcing, and other non-trucking services, such as used equipment sales and leasing to independent contractors and third-parties, through our Logistics business.

Table of Contents

The operating revenue and operating expenses of our Trucking and Logistics segments are similarly affected by certain factors that generally relate to, among other things, overall economic and weather conditions in the United States, customer inventory levels, specific customer demand, the levels of truckload and rail intermodal capacity, and availability of qualified drivers, independent contractors, and third-party capacity providers.

To lessen our risk related to fuel price fluctuations in our Trucking segment, we have a fuel surcharge program under which we obtain from our customers additional fuel surcharges that generally recover a majority, but not all, of the increased fuel costs; however, we cannot ensure that current recovery levels will continue in the future. In discussing our overall and segment-based results of operations, because changes in fuel costs typically cause fuel surcharge revenue to fluctuate, we identify Trucking fuel surcharge revenue separately and omit fuel surcharge revenue from our statistical calculations. We believe that omitting this potentially volatile source of revenue provides a more meaningful comparison of our operating results from period to period.

The following table sets forth revenue and operating income between the Trucking and Logistics segments for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 (dollars in thousands).

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|---------------------------|--|--------|--|--------|---|--------|---|--------|
| Revenues: | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Trucking Segment | \$ 242,046 | 80.6 | \$ 217,848 | 80.2 | \$ 722,963 | 81.0 | \$ 639,571 | 81.5 |
| Logistics Segment | 62,773 | 20.9 | 54,787 | 20.2 | 181,339 | 20.3 | 148,517 | 18.9 |
| Subtotal | 304,819 | | 272,635 | | 904,302 | | 788,088 | |
| Intersegment Eliminations | | | | | | | | |
| Trucking | (38) | 0.0 | (4) | 0.0 | (116) | 0.0 | (65) | 0.0 |
| Intersegment Eliminations | | | | | | | | |
| Logistics | (4,659) | (1.5) | (1,084) | (0.4) | (11,961) | (1.3) | (3,158) | (0.4) |
| Total | \$ 300,122 | 100 % | \$ 271,547 | 100 % | \$ 892,225 | 100 % | \$ 784,865 | 100 % |
| Operating Income: | | | | | | | | |
| Trucking Segment | \$ 42,710 | 92.0 | \$ 35,514 | 89.3 | \$ 122,800 | 91.4 | \$ 100,491 | 91.4 |
| Logistics Segment | 3,716 | 8.0 | 4,277 | 10.7 | 11,548 | 8.6 | 9,449 | 8.6 |
| Total | \$ 46,426 | 100 % | \$ 39,791 | 100 % | \$ 134,348 | 100 % | \$ 109,940 | 100 % |

Trucking Strategy and Segment Information

Our Trucking operating strategy is to achieve a high level of asset utilization within a highly disciplined operating system while maintaining strict controls over our cost structure. To achieve these goals, we operate primarily in high-density, predictable freight lanes in select geographic regions and attempt to develop and expand our customer base around each of our service centers by providing multiple truckload services for each customer. This operating strategy allows us to take advantage of the large amount of freight transported in regional markets. Our service centers enable us to better serve our customers and work more closely with our driving associates. We operate a premium, modern fleet to appeal to drivers and customers, reduce maintenance expenses and driver and equipment

downtime, and enhance our fuel and other operating efficiencies. We employ technology in a cost-effective manner to assist us in controlling operating costs and in enhancing revenue.

Trucking revenue is generated by our Dry Van, Refrigerated, and Drayage operating units. Generally, we are paid a predetermined rate per mile or per load for our Trucking services. Additional revenues are generated by charging for tractor and trailer detention, loading and unloading activities, dedicated services, and other specialized services, as well as through the collection of fuel surcharges to mitigate the impact of increases in the cost of fuel. The main factors that affect our Trucking revenue are the revenue per mile we receive from our customers, the percentage of miles for which we are compensated, and the number of loaded miles we generate with our equipment.

Table of Contents

Effectively controlling our expenses is an important element of maximizing our profitability. The most significant expenses of our Trucking segment are primarily variable and include fuel and fuel taxes, driver-related expenses (such as wages, benefits, training, and recruitment) and costs associated with independent contractors (which are primarily included in purchased transportation expense recorded on the "Purchased transportation" line of our condensed consolidated statements of income). Expenses that have both fixed and variable components include maintenance expense (which includes costs for replacement tires for our revenue equipment) and our total cost of insurance and claims. These expenses generally vary with the miles we travel but also have a controllable component based on safety, fleet age, efficiency, and other factors. The main fixed costs for our Trucking segment are the acquisition and depreciation of long-term assets (such as revenue equipment and service centers) and the compensation of non-driver personnel.

The primary measure we use to evaluate the profitability of our Trucking segment is operating ratio, measured both on a GAAP basis (operating expenses expressed as a percentage of revenue) and on a non-GAAP basis that many in our industry use (Trucking operating expenses, net of Trucking fuel surcharge revenue, expressed as a percentage of Trucking revenue, excluding Trucking fuel surcharge revenue). We believe the second method allows us to more effectively compare periods while excluding the potentially volatile effect of changes in fuel prices. Non-GAAP operating ratio is not a substitute for or superior to, and should be considered in addition to, the GAAP operating ratio. Pursuant to the requirements of the SEC's Regulation G, the tables below compare our operating ratio using both methods.

The following table sets forth the Trucking segment operating ratio on a GAAP basis (dollars in thousands).

| GAAP Presentation: | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|--------------------|--|------|--|------|---|------|---|------|
| Trucking Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$ 242,046 | | \$ 217,848 | | \$ 722,963 | | \$ 639,571 | |
| Operating expenses | 199,336 | 82.4 | 182,334 | 83.7 | 600,163 | 83.0 | 539,080 | 84.3 |
| Operating income | \$ 42,710 | | \$ 35,514 | | \$ 122,800 | | \$ 100,491 | |

The following table sets forth the Trucking segment operating ratio as if fuel surcharges are excluded from total revenue and instead reported as a reduction of operating expenses, excluding intersegment activity (dollars in thousands).

| Non-GAAP Presentation(1): | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trucking Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$ 242,046 | | \$ 217,848 | | \$ 722,963 | | \$ 639,571 | |
| Less: Trucking fuel surcharge revenue | (30,192) | | (43,718) | | (96,458) | | (132,532) | |
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (38) | | (4) | | (116) | | (65) | |
| Revenue, net of fuel surcharge and intersegment transactions | 211,816 | | 174,126 | | 626,389 | | 506,974 | |
| Operating expenses | 199,336 | | 182,334 | | 600,163 | | 539,080 | |
| Less: Trucking fuel surcharge revenue | (30,192) | | (43,718) | | (96,458) | | (132,532) | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|------|-----------|------|------------|------|------------|------|
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (38) | | (4) | | (116) | | (65) | |
| Operating expenses, net of fuel surcharge and intersegment transactions | 169,106 | 79.8 | 138,612 | 79.6 | 503,589 | 80.4 | 406,483 | 80.2 |
| Operating income | \$ 42,710 | | \$ 35,514 | | \$ 122,800 | | \$ 100,491 | |

(1) These items represent non-GAAP financial measures and are not substitutes for or superior to, and should be considered in addition to, the GAAP financial measures presented in the previous table. Although we believe that this non-GAAP presentation of our operating ratio can make an evaluation of our operating performance more consistent because it removes items that, in our opinion, do not reflect our core operating performance, other companies in the transportation industry may define the non-GAAP operating ratio differently. As a result, it may be difficult to use non-GAAP measures that other companies may use to compare the performance of those companies to our performance.

Table of Contents

When evaluating Trucking revenue, we consider the following key operating statistics for each period: (i) average revenue per tractor; (ii) average length of haul (miles with loaded trailer cargo); (iii) average percentage of empty miles (miles without trailer cargo); and (iv) average number of tractors and trailers in operation. The following table sets forth certain key operating statistics and certain other statistical data of the Trucking segment for the indicated periods.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|---|---|--------|---|--------|--|---------|--|---------|
| Average revenue per tractor(1) | \$ | 43,863 | \$ | 43,100 | \$ | 130,398 | \$ | 126,648 |
| Average length of haul (miles) | | 505 | | 492 | | 505 | | 497 |
| Non-paid empty mile percent | | 12.1 % | | 9.8 % | | 11.7 % | | 9.6 % |
| Average tractors in operation during period | | 4,829 | | 4,040 | | 4,804 | | 4,003 |
| Average trailers in operation during period | | 12,021 | | 9,381 | | 11,668 | | 9,163 |

(1) Average revenue per tractor is based on trucking revenue, net of intersegment elimination, and does not include fuel surcharge revenue.

Our Trucking segment requires substantial capital expenditures for purchases of new revenue equipment. We fund these purchases with cash flows from operations and financing available under our existing line of credit. We operated an average of 4,829 tractors in the third quarter of 2015, of which 4,360 were company-owned tractors as of September 30, 2015. The average age of our company-owned tractor fleet was 1.7 years at September 30, 2015, which we expect to maintain approximately the same for the remainder of 2015. We also operated an average of 12,021 trailers in the third quarter of 2015, with an average age of 4.6 years as of September 30, 2015. We expect the average age of our trailers to remain approximately the same or decrease slightly during the remainder of 2015 as we refresh our fleet. Our net property, plant, and equipment at September 30, 2015, was \$804.2 million, most of which relates to our Trucking segment.

Our capital expenditures can also affect depreciation expense. Trucking depreciation relates primarily to our owned tractors, trailers, electronic logging devices and other communication units, and other similar assets. Changes to this fixed cost are generally attributed to increases or decreases to company-owned equipment and fluctuations in new equipment purchase prices, which have historically been precipitated in part by new or proposed federal and state regulations (such as the EPA engine emissions requirements relating to post-2014 model tractors and the California trailer efficiency requirements). Depreciation can also generally be affected by the cost of used equipment that we sell or trade and the replacement of older used equipment. Our management periodically reviews the condition, average age, and reasonableness of estimated useful lives and salvage values of our equipment and considers such factors in light of our experience with similar assets, used equipment market conditions, and prevailing industry practice. Total Trucking segment depreciation and amortization expense was approximately \$27.2 million in the third quarter of 2015, and approximately \$79.7 million in the first nine months of 2015.

Table of Contents

Logistics Strategy and Segment Information

Logistics revenue is generated primarily by our Brokerage and Intermodal operating units. We also provide logistics, freight management and other non-trucking services to our customers through our Logistics business. We are generally paid a predetermined rate per mile or per load for arranging freight transportation for our customers and providing other Logistics services. Additional revenue is generated by offering specialized logistics solutions (including, but not limited to, origin management, surge volumes, disaster relief, special projects, and other logistics needs). Our Logistics revenue is mainly affected by the rates we obtain from customers, the freight volumes we ship through our third-party capacity providers, and our ability to secure qualified third-party capacity providers to transport customer freight. Increases in shipments serviced by our Brokerage operating unit and continued increases in the number of customers utilizing our Logistics services contributed to the improved revenue realized in the third quarter of 2015.

Our Logistics segment is less asset-intensive and is instead dependent upon capable non-driver personnel, modern and effective information technology, and qualified third-party capacity providers. The most significant expense of our Logistics segment, which is primarily variable, is the cost of purchased transportation that we pay to third-party capacity providers (including our rail providers) which is included in the "Purchased transportation" line in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of income. This expense generally varies depending upon truckload and rail capacity, availability of third-party capacity providers, rates charged to customers, and current freight demand and customer shipping needs. Other Logistics operating expenses are generally fixed and primarily include the compensation and benefits of non-driver personnel (included in salaries, wages and benefits expense recorded on the "Salaries, wages and benefits" line of our condensed consolidated statements of income) and depreciation and amortization expense.

The following table sets forth the Logistics segment revenue, operating expenses, and operating income (dollars in thousands).

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|--------------------|--|------|--|------|---|------|---|------|
| Logistics Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$62,773 | | \$54,787 | | \$181,339 | | \$148,517 | |
| Operating expenses | 59,057 | 94.1 | 50,510 | 92.2 | 169,791 | 93.6 | 139,068 | 93.6 |
| Operating income | \$3,716 | | \$4,277 | | \$11,548 | | \$9,449 | |

The following table sets forth the Logistics segment revenue, operating expenses, and operating income, excluding intersegment transactions (dollars in thousands).

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Logistics Segment | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Revenue | \$62,773 | | \$54,787 | | \$181,339 | | \$148,517 | |
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (4,659) | | (1,084) | | (11,961) | | (3,158) | |
| Revenue excluding intersegment transactions | 58,114 | | 53,703 | | 169,378 | | 145,359 | |
| Operating expenses | 59,057 | | 50,510 | | 169,791 | | 139,068 | |
| Less: Intersegment transactions | (4,659) | | (1,084) | | (11,961) | | (3,158) | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|------|---------|------|----------|------|---------|------|
| Operating expenses excluding intersegment transactions | 54,398 | 93.6 | 49,426 | 92.0 | 157,830 | 93.2 | 135,910 | 93.5 |
| Operating income | \$3,716 | | \$4,277 | | \$11,548 | | \$9,449 | |

26

Table of Contents

We primarily measure the Logistics segment's profitability by reviewing the gross margin percentage (revenue net of intersegment elimination, less purchased transportation expense, expressed as a percentage of revenue, net of intersegment elimination) and the operating ratio. The gross margin percentage can be affected by customer rates and the costs of securing third-party capacity providers. Our third-party capacity providers generally are not subject to long-term or predetermined contracted rates, and our operating results could be affected if the availability of third-party capacity providers or the rates for such providers change in the future. The following table lists the gross margin percentage for our Brokerage and Intermodal businesses combined.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Combined Brokerage and Intermodal gross margin percentage(1) | 16.0% | 15.2% | 16.1% | 14.2% |

(1)Gross margin percentage is based on revenue net of intersegment eliminations.

Our Logistics segment does not require significant capital expenditures and is not asset-intensive like our Trucking segment. Rather, our Logistics segment depends on effective usage of information systems and technology that enable us to efficiently arrange for the transportation of our customers' freight and remain resourceful and responsive in meeting customer shipping needs. As our Logistics services evolve, we may incur costs to upgrade, integrate, or expand our information systems and technology. Total Logistics segment depreciation and amortization expense was approximately \$1.0 million in the third quarter of 2015, and \$3.0 million in the first nine months of 2015, which is primarily attributed to equipment leased to third parties.

Trends and Outlook

For the remainder of 2015, we expect truckload freight demand will be less robust than the demand levels of the fourth quarter of 2014. Truckload capacity is somewhat less constricted currently than it was in 2014, due to a combination of several factors, such as higher than expected tractor orders in the fourth quarter of 2014, inventory build-up, and depressed activity in the industrial sectors. In the short term, these factors may limit opportunities in the spot market for our trucking and logistics business units, and they also might affect the timing or magnitude of contractual rate increases. Over the medium to longer term, we expect capacity in the truckload industry will remain balanced by economic and regulatory factors. Our industry has been significantly challenged by an increasingly competitive driver market. Driver shortages could negatively impact equipment utilization, even in a stronger demand environment. Our driver development program remains a primary focus for our management team. In such an environment, we believe carriers that are well-positioned to develop and retain drivers, withstand supply and demand fluctuations, and provide safe, dependable, and high-quality service to customers will have opportunities to increase freight rates and market share over time. We believe domestic and global economic and political conditions present the most direct challenges to improved freight demand. These threats include the possibility of an economic or industrial recession, sharp swings in energy prices that cause market dislocations, an inability of the United States government to timely and adequately address fiscal issues, currency fluctuations (such as the currently strong dollar that is limiting some exports), or other factors outside our control could reduce consumer spending or industrial investment, thus negatively affecting freight volumes.

Several issues impacting the trucking industry could also cause our costs to increase for the remainder of 2015. These issues include driver and independent contractor availability, fuel price fluctuations, increases to new tractor and

trailer purchase prices, and compliance with new and proposed federal and state regulations. From a cost perspective, recruiting and retaining sufficient numbers of qualified drivers, independent contractors, and third-party capacity providers may become increasingly costly, equipment prices may continue to rise, and potentially higher fuel prices may not be fully offset by fuel surcharges. In the current economic and regulatory environments, it will be important to allocate equipment to more compensatory shipments, use technology to generate efficiencies, continue to grow our Logistics segment, and effectively manage fuel and other costs. We believe we have the service center network, modern tractor fleet, comprehensive truckload and logistics services, management team and qualified personnel, technology, intense focus on cost control, and capital resources to successfully overcome these challenges and capitalize on future opportunities.

We will continue to utilize the flexibility of our model to react and adapt to market conditions. We continue to optimize our model and refine our execution in reaction to, or in anticipation of, transportation market dynamics, particularly the markets for truckload and logistics services that we offer. The improving trucking environment has provided more acquisition opportunities. We will continue to evaluate acquisition candidates and other opportunities that create value for our shareholders and further advance our long-term strategy.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth the condensed consolidated statements of income in dollars and as a percentage of total consolidated revenue and the percentage increase or decrease in the dollar amounts of those items compared to the prior year (dollars in thousands).

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | % Change | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | % Change |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| | \$ | % | \$ | % | | \$ | % | \$ | % | |
| Trucking revenue | \$211,816 | 70.6 % | \$174,126 | 64.1 % | 21.6 % | \$626,389 | 70.2 % | \$506,974 | 64.6 % | 23.6 % |
| Trucking fuel surcharge revenue | 30,192 | 10.1 | 43,718 | 16.1 | (30.9) | 96,458 | 10.8 | 132,532 | 16.9 | (27.2) |
| Logistics revenue | 58,114 | 19.3 | 53,703 | 19.8 | 8.2 | 169,378 | 19.0 | 145,359 | 18.5 | 16.5 |
| Consolidated revenue | 300,122 | 100.0 | 271,547 | 100.0 | 10.5 | 892,225 | 100.0 | 784,865 | 100.0 | 13.7 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Salaries, wages and benefits | 85,514 | 28.5 | 65,296 | 24.0 | 31.0 | 249,921 | 28.0 | 190,779 | 24.3 | 31.0 |
| Fuel | 39,795 | 13.2 | 51,221 | 18.9 | (22.3) | 120,247 | 13.5 | 155,422 | 19.8 | (22.6) |
| Operations and maintenance | 20,390 | 6.8 | 17,305 | 6.4 | 17.8 | 62,065 | 7.0 | 51,481 | 6.5 | 20.6 |
| Insurance and claims | 8,149 | 2.7 | 7,530 | 2.8 | 8.2 | 25,076 | 2.8 | 22,414 | 2.9 | 11.9 |
| Operating taxes and licenses | 3,373 | 1.1 | 4,338 | 1.6 | (22.2) | 13,954 | 1.5 | 12,265 | 1.6 | 13.8 |
| Communications | 849 | 0.3 | 1,164 | 0.4 | (27.1) | 3,066 | 0.3 | 3,621 | 0.5 | (15.3) |
| Depreciation and amortization | 28,204 | 9.4 | 22,684 | 8.4 | 24.3 | 82,728 | 9.3 | 66,422 | 8.5 | 24.5 |
| Purchased transportation(1) | 62,115 | 20.7 | 60,017 | 22.1 | 3.5 | 182,279 | 20.4 | 168,305 | 21.4 | 8.3 |
| Miscellaneous operating expenses | 5,307 | 1.8 | 2,201 | 0.8 | 141.1 | 18,541 | 2.1 | 4,216 | 0.5 | 339.8 |
| Total operating expenses | 253,696 | 84.5 | 231,756 | 85.4 | 9.5 | 757,877 | 84.9 | 674,925 | 86.0 | 12.3 |
| Operating income | 46,426 | 15.5 | 39,791 | 14.6 | 16.7 | 134,348 | 15.1 | 109,940 | 14.0 | 22.2 |
| Interest income | 140 | 0.0 | 104 | 0.0 | 34.6 | 377 | 0.0 | 326 | 0.0 | 15.6 |
| Interest expense | (220) | (0.1) | (135) | 0.0 | 63.0 | (714) | (0.1) | (339) | 0.0 | 110.6 |
| Other income | 2,335 | 0.8 | 2,399 | 0.9 | (2.7) | 7,234 | 0.8 | 5,856 | 0.7 | 23.5 |
| Total other income | 2,255 | 0.7 | 2,368 | 0.9 | (4.8) | 6,897 | 0.7 | 5,843 | 0.7 | 18.0 |
| Income before income taxes | 48,681 | 16.2 | 42,159 | 15.5 | 15.5 | 141,245 | 15.8 | 115,783 | 14.7 | 22.0 |

Edgar Filing: KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION INC - Form 10-Q

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|--------|
| Income taxes | 17,946 | 6.0 | 16,786 | 6.2 | 6.9 | 52,379 | 5.9 | 45,062 | 5.7 | 16.2 |
| Net income | \$30,735 | 10.2 % | \$25,373 | 9.3 % | 21.1 % | \$88,866 | 9.9 % | \$70,721 | 9.0 % | 25.7 % |
| Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest | (452) | (0.1) | (273) | (0.1) | 65.6 | (1,382) | (0.1) | (797) | (0.1) | 73.4 |
| Net income attributable to Knight Transportation | \$30,283 | 10.1 % | \$25,100 | 9.2 % | 20.6 % | \$87,484 | 9.8 % | \$69,924 | 8.9 % | 25.1 % |

(1) Purchased transportation expense is comprised of (a) payments to independent contractors, which is primarily attributed to our Trucking segment; (b) payments to third-party capacity providers, which is primarily attributed to our Logistics segment; and (c) payments relating to our logistics, freight management and non-trucking services.

Table of Contents

A discussion of our results of operations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014, is set forth below.

Comparison of Three Months and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 to Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014.

Total revenue increased 10.5% and 13.7% for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, to \$300.1 million from \$271.5 million, and to \$892.2 million from \$784.9 million, for the same periods in 2014, respectively. Both our Trucking and Logistics segments experienced revenue growth and contributed to the increase in total revenue.

Trucking revenue excluding fuel surcharge increased 21.6% to \$211.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2015, from \$174.1 million for the same three months in 2014, and 23.6% to \$626.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 from \$507.0 million for the same nine months in 2014. Tractor productivity, as measured by average revenue, before fuel surcharge, per tractor, increased 1.8% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, and 3.0% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same periods in 2014. Several factors positively impacted our average revenue per tractor including improving contract rates and increasing our average length of haul. Average revenue per loaded mile increased 4.6% and 6.5% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, from the same periods a year ago, and offset by increases in non-paid empty mile percent as well as a 0.2% and 1.0% decrease in average miles per tractor in the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively. We expect rates to continue to improve year over year in the fourth quarter of 2015 and beyond. However, the current environment indicates the rate of yield improvement may slow, and further adverse changes in either of these factors, among others, could slow rate increases and negatively affect existing rates.

Trucking fuel surcharge decreased 30.9% to \$30.2 million in the third quarter of 2015, from \$43.7 million in the same quarter of 2014, and decreased 27.2% to \$96.5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 from \$132.5 million in the same nine months in 2014. Typical fuel surcharge programs involve a computation based on the change in national or regional fuel prices. These programs may update as often as weekly, but typically require a specified minimum change in fuel cost to prompt a change in fuel surcharge revenue for our Trucking segment. Therefore, many of these programs have a time lag between when fuel costs change and when the change is reflected in fuel surcharge revenue for our Trucking segment. National average fuel prices decreased in the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, by 31.5% and 28.5%, respectively, from the same periods of 2014, causing fuel surcharge to decrease overall as well.

Table of Contents

Logistics revenue is primarily generated by our Brokerage and Intermodal operating units. Logistics revenue was \$58.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2015, and \$169.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015. Logistics revenue increased 8.2% and 16.5% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2014. Our Brokerage business, the largest component of our Logistics segment, achieved revenue growth of 11.7%, and 27.9% in the three month and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2014. We achieved the increase in revenue by providing more capacity to our customers through our third-party carriers and rail providers. We continued to increase our buyer pool, which led to increased access to third-party capacity and increased shipment volume growth in our Brokerage business by 64.8%.

Salaries, wages and benefits expense, as a percentage of revenue, increased to 28.5% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, compared to 24.0% for the same period in 2014, and increased to 28.0% from 24.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. Factors contributing to the increase include increases in driver base pay and a shift from purchased transportation expense to driver salaries and wages expense as a greater percentage of our tractor fleet was comprised of company tractors rather than independent contractors in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same periods in 2014. Our office personnel salaries and wages increased as did our associated payroll taxes and costs associated with benefits provided as we increased our number of employees period over period in part due to growth in our Logistics segment. We continue to develop strategies designed to attract and retain qualified driving associates, including investing in technology and service centers that improve the experience of drivers, and we are encouraged by the favorable turnover rates experienced this year. To the extent these trends continue, these expenses may continue to grow as a percentage of revenue.

Fuel expense, as a percentage of revenue, decreased to 13.2% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, from 18.9% in same period in 2014, and decreased to 13.5% from 19.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015. These decreases were primarily due to the U.S. National Average Diesel Fuel Price decreasing in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same periods in 2014 by 31.5% and 28.5%, respectively. The increase in overall revenue and the revenue growth of our Logistics segment, where no fuel expense is incurred, also contributed to the decrease in fuel expense as a percentage of revenue. The effectiveness of our fuel efficiency initiatives such as trailer blades, idle-control, updating our fleet with more fuel efficient engines and driver training programs further contributed to the reduction in fuel expense. Our fuel surcharge program helps to offset our fuel expense, but applies only to loaded miles and typically does not offset empty miles, idle time, and out of route miles driven. Typical fuel surcharge programs involve a computation based on the change in national or regional fuel prices. These programs may update as often as weekly, but typically require a specified minimum change in fuel cost to prompt a change in fuel surcharge revenue for our Trucking segment. Therefore, many of these programs have a time lag between when fuel costs change and when the change is reflected in fuel surcharge revenue for our Trucking segment. Due to this time lag, our fuel expense, net of fuel surcharge, negatively impacts our operating income during periods of sharply rising fuel costs and positively impacts our operating income during periods of falling fuel costs.

Operations and maintenance expense, as a percentage of revenue, increased to 6.8% from 6.4% in the three months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period in 2014, and increased to 7.0% from 6.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. Operations and maintenance expense consists of direct operating expense, maintenance, and tire expense. The increases in operations and maintenance expense as a percentage of revenue, in both the three month and nine month periods ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same periods in 2014, are primarily due to the decrease in the fuel surcharge revenue component of consolidated revenue in both periods. Operations and maintenance expense, as a percentage of revenue excluding fuel surcharge, remained flat in the three months ended September 30, 2015, while slightly decreasing in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, as compared to the same periods in 2014. Improvements in maintenance and tire cost, as a percentage of revenue excluding fuel surcharge, were offset by increases in direct operating expenses including road expense, operating supplies, and driver development and recruiting costs in the same periods. We continue to

experience tight driver market conditions, which contributed to the increased driver development and recruiting costs, and we expect the driver market to remain competitive in 2015, which could further increase driver development and recruiting costs.

Table of Contents

Insurance and claims expense, as a percentage of revenue, decreased slightly to 2.7% in the three months ended September 30, 2015 from 2.8% for the same period in 2014, and decreased slightly to 2.8% in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 from 2.9% for the same period in 2014. The improvement is due to the increased revenue, including our Logistics segment, where related insurance and claims costs are typically lower as a percentage of revenue than our larger Trucking segment.

Operating taxes and license expense, as a percentage of revenue, decreased in the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same periods in 2014, to 1.1% from 1.6%, and to 1.5% from 1.6%, respectively. This improvement was primarily due to the decrease in the fuel surcharge component of consolidated revenue as a result of the lower average fuel price in the first nine months of 2015 compared to the same period in 2014. This expense line is impacted by changes in various fuel tax rates and registration fees associated with our truck fleet and operating regions.

Communications expense, as a percentage of revenue, decreased slightly to 0.3% in the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to 0.4% and 0.5% for the same periods in 2014, respectively. Communications expense is comprised of our tractor and trailer tracking systems, information technology systems, and phone systems.

Depreciation and amortization expense, as a percentage of revenue, increased to 9.4% and 9.3% in the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, from 8.4% and 8.5% in the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2014. This fixed cost as a percentage of total revenue was higher for both the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2015, primarily due to the decrease in fuel surcharge revenue driven by the fall in fuel prices. Depreciation expense as a percentage of revenue, excluding fuel surcharge, increased to 10.4% from 10.0% in the three months ended September 30, 2015, and to 10.4% from 10.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 as compared to the same periods in 2014. Depreciation expense increased as we grew our truck fleet 20.0%, primarily from our October 2014 acquisition of Barr-Nunn, and we experienced a shift from independent contractor tractors to company tractors. Depreciation and amortization expense for our Trucking segment as a percentage of Trucking revenue, excluding fuel surcharge, increased to 12.8% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, from 12.3% for the same three months of 2014, and increased to 12.7% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 12.4% for the same nine months in 2014. Our average revenue per tractor improved 1.8% in the three months ended September 30, 2015 and improved 3.0% in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same periods in 2014, which offset increases in depreciation as we added capacity and continued to renew our fleet with higher-priced EPA compliant engines. The majority of our company-owned tractor fleet is comprised of tractors with 2010 EPA compliant engines that provide substantial emissions reductions, and we believe this investment will contribute to our strategy of maintaining efficiency in our operations by adhering to a relatively consistent tractor trade-in schedule. Absent offsetting improvements in average revenue per tractor or continued growth in our Logistics operations, our expense as a percentage of revenue in this category could increase going forward if equipment prices continue to rise. In addition, the 2014 and newer model year tractors are more expensive than previous model year tractors due to compliance with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and EPA emissions standards. Although the higher cost of these newer tractors is expected to result in higher depreciation and amortization going forward, we expect an offsetting benefit in fuel expense as we realize fuel efficiencies from the newer model tractors.

Table of Contents

Purchased transportation expense, as a percentage of revenue, decreased to 20.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2015 from 22.1% for the same three months in 2014, and decreased to 20.4% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 21.4% for the same nine months in 2014. Purchased transportation expense is comprised of (i) payments to independent contractors for our Dry Van, Refrigerated, and Drayage operations in our Trucking segment; (ii) payments to third-party capacity providers for our Brokerage operations and to railroads for our Intermodal operations; and (iii) payments relating to logistics, freight management and non-trucking services in our Logistics segment. Although purchased transportation expense increased as expected with the continued growth of our Logistics segment, it decreased as a percentage of revenue, primarily due to the significant growth in our larger Trucking segment operations, which grew revenues 21.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, and 23.6% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015. Purchased transportation expense attributed to payments to independent contractors in our Trucking segment decreased as more of our tractor fleet was comprised of company tractors in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014. Furthermore, purchased transportation costs generally take into account changes in diesel fuel prices, resulting in lower payments during periods of declining fuel prices.

Miscellaneous operating expenses, as a percentage of revenue, increased to 1.8% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, from 0.8% for the same three months during 2014, and increased to 2.1% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 0.5% for the same nine months in 2014. The increase in the three and nine month periods is due in part to the decrease in the fuel surcharge component of consolidated revenue, and less gain on sale of equipment to offset these costs. The increase in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 is primarily due to the infrequent expense recorded in the second quarter of 2015 for \$7.2 million pretax (\$4.4 million after tax) relating to expected settlement costs for two class action lawsuits involving employment-related claims in California and Oregon. Excluding this infrequent expense, and excluding the effect of the decrease in the fuel surcharge component of consolidated revenue, miscellaneous operating expenses increased in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 as compared to the same period in 2014 due to increased legal expense associated with the infrequent claim expense, an increase in costs associated with technology and our management information systems, and revenue equipment operating lease expense. Gains from the sale of used equipment are included in miscellaneous operating expenses and decreased to \$2.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2015, from \$4.3 million for the same three months in 2014, and decreased to \$12.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from \$13.2 million for the same nine months in 2014. We believe the used equipment market will continue to help offset other miscellaneous operating expenses, but not to the extent as in previous quarters, as the used equipment market softened in the third quarter of 2015 and we expect a similar environment through the remainder of 2015.

As a result of the above factors, our GAAP operating ratio (operating expenses expressed as a percentage of revenue) was 84.5% for the third quarter of 2015, compared to 85.4% for the same quarter of 2014, and 84.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to 86.0% for the same nine months in 2014. Our adjusted operating ratio, which is a non-GAAP measure based upon total operating expenses, net of fuel surcharge, as a percentage of revenue before fuel surcharge, was 82.8% for the third quarter of 2015, compared to 82.5% for the same quarter of 2014, and 83.1% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, and 2014. Please see the reconciliation tables included in our segments discussion for a reconciliation of GAAP operating ratio to non-GAAP operating ratio. Excluding the \$7.2 million infrequent expense related to expected settlement costs, our non-GAAP consolidated operating ratio was 82.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Interest income and expense remained relatively flat as a percentage of revenue. Our maximum borrowing limit under our revolving credit facility remains at \$300.0 million. Our debt balance was decreased by \$14.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, to \$120.0 million from \$134.4 million at December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

Other income, as a percentage of revenue, decreased slightly to 0.8% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, from 0.9% for the same three months in 2014, and increased slightly to 0.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, from 0.7% for the same nine months in 2014. These changes are primarily due to investment activity and realized gains on sale of available-for-sale securities.

We provide for income taxes at the statutory federal and state rates, adjusted for certain permanent differences between financial statement income and income for tax reporting. Our effective tax rate was 37.2% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, and 40.1% for the same three months in 2014, while our effective tax rate was 37.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, and 39.2% for the same nine months in 2014.

Due to the net result of the preceding financial results, our net income attributable to Knight Transportation increased 20.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2015, and increased 25.1% for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to the same periods during 2014.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The growth of our business has required, and will continue to require, significant investment in new revenue equipment. In our Trucking business, where investments are substantial, the primary investments are in new tractors and trailers and to a lesser extent, in technology, service centers, and working capital. In our Logistics business, where investments are modest, the primary investments are in technology and working capital. Our primary sources of liquidity have been funds provided by operations, issuances of our common stock, and borrowings under our line of credit.

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$156.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to \$117.1 million provided during the same period in 2014.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$97.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to net cash used of \$113.8 million for the same period in 2014. Capital expenditures for the purchase of revenue equipment, office equipment, and land and leasehold improvements, net of equipment sales, was \$108.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to \$121.3 million for the same period in 2014. Excluding acquisitions, we currently anticipate capital expenditures, net of trade-ins, of approximately \$6.0 million to \$21.0 million for the remainder of 2015. We expect to use our capital expenditures primarily to acquire new revenue equipment.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$63.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to \$2.7 million for the same period in 2014. Net cash payments towards line of credit borrowings were \$14.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to \$1.0 million in the same period of 2014. We repurchased approximately 1.6 million company shares for \$45.3 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015 with no corresponding purchases in the same period of 2014. We also paid \$15.0 million for dividends in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, and \$14.7 million for the same period of 2014. Proceeds from exercises of stock options were \$9.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2015, compared to \$12.6 million in the same period of 2014. We currently expect to continue to pay quarterly cash dividends in the future. Future payment of cash dividends, and the amount of any such dividends, will depend upon our financial condition, results of operations, cash requirements, tax treatment, and certain corporate law requirements, as well as other factors deemed relevant by our Board of Directors.

We currently maintain a line of credit that permits revolving borrowings and letters of credit up to an aggregate of \$300.0 million. The aggregate amount outstanding under our line of credit was \$120.0 million as of September 30, 2015, compared to \$134.4 million as of December 31, 2014. Our borrowings under the line of credit are classified as a

long-term liability in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. We also utilized a portion of our line of credit for letters of credit, which are issued to various regulatory authorities in connection with our self-insurance programs. The issued but unused letters of credit totaled \$27.2 million as of September 30, 2015, and \$24.3 million as of December 31, 2014. Combining the amounts borrowed and letters of credit issued, we had \$152.8 million available at September 30, 2015, for future borrowing under our existing line of credit, compared to \$141.3 million as of December 31, 2014. Under our current line of credit agreement, we are obligated to comply with certain financial and other covenants and were in compliance with those covenants as of September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

In 2013 we acquired 1,304,517 shares of the common stock of USA Truck for the purpose of exploring a business combination with USA Truck. USA Truck's common stock is publicly traded on NASDAQ, and market prices for equity securities are subject to fluctuation and volatility. As of September 30, 2015, we held 573,910 shares of USA Truck stock, representing less than 10% of the outstanding stock of USA Truck. The recorded value of our USA Truck stock as of September 30, 2015, was \$9.9 million, based on the \$17.23 closing price of the stock on such date.

As of September 30, 2015, our cash and cash equivalents totaled approximately \$12.7 million compared to \$17.1 million as of December 31, 2014. During the next twelve months and beyond, we believe that we will be able to finance our short-term needs for working capital and acquisitions of revenue equipment with cash, cash flows from operations, and financing available under our existing line of credit. We expect to have significant capital requirements over the long-term, which may require us to incur debt or seek additional equity capital. The availability of additional capital will depend upon prevailing market conditions, the market price of our common stock, our financial condition and results of operations, and several other factors over which we have limited control. Nevertheless, based on our recent operating results, current cash position, anticipated future cash flows, and sources of available financing, we do not expect that we will experience any significant liquidity constraints in the foreseeable future.

Off-Balance Sheet Transactions

Our liquidity is not materially affected by off-balance sheet transactions. Like many other transportation companies, we have periodically utilized operating leases to finance a portion of our revenue equipment requirements and terminal facilities requirements. We lease revenue equipment under non-cancellable operating leases, and we lease some of our service centers and temporary trailer storage under non-cancellable operating leases. Operating lease expense for such equipment, facilities and trailer storage is reflected in the "Miscellaneous operating expenses" line in our condensed consolidated statements of income, and totaled \$1.2 million, and \$0.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively, and \$3.6 million, and \$1.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires that management make a number of assumptions and estimates that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses in our consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Management bases its estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions believed to be reasonable. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions that may impact us in the future, actual results may differ from these estimates and assumptions. Our critical accounting policies are those that affect, or could affect, our financial statements materially and involve a significant level of judgment by management. The accounting policies we deem most critical to us include revenue recognition, which we recognize when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, delivery has occurred, the fee is fixed or determinable, and collectability is probable. These conditions are met upon delivery. Furthermore, in accordance with ASC 605-45, Revenue Recognition – Principal Agent Consideration, we account for revenue from our Trucking operations, our Logistics operations, and revenue on freight transported by independent contractors within our Trucking operations on a gross basis. We are the primary obligor in these arrangements, we have the ability to establish prices, we have discretion in selecting the independent contractor or other third party that will perform the service, we have the risk of loss in the event of cargo claims, and we bear the credit risk associated with customer payments. Accordingly, all such revenue billed to customers is classified as operating revenue and all corresponding payments to carriers for transportation services we arrange in connection with brokerage and intermodal activities, and to independent contractor providers of revenue equipment, are classified as purchased transportation expense in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of income. Other accounting policies deemed critical include allowance for

doubtful accounts, depreciation, claims accrual, accounting for income taxes, and share based payments. There have been no significant changes to our critical accounting policies and estimates during the three months ended September 30, 2015, compared to those disclosed in Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation," included in our 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

Seasonality

In the transportation industry, results of operations generally follow a seasonal pattern. Freight volumes in the first quarter are typically lower due to less consumer demand and customers reducing shipments following the holiday season. In the first quarter of 2015 we experienced greater demand for our capacity than in a typical first quarter as the economy strengthened and truck capacity continued to be constrained due to an increasingly challenging driver recruiting market. We also believe increased regulation in the industry has resulted in less capacity in the full truckload market, which further increased the demand for our available capacity as well as the capacity of our third-party carriers. Operating expenses generally increase, and the tractor productivity of our fleet, independent contractors, and third-party carriers decreases, in the winter months because of decreased fuel efficiency, increased cold weather-related equipment maintenance and repairs, and increased insurance claims and costs attributed to higher accident frequency from harsh weather. During this period, the profitability of our Trucking operations is generally lower than during other parts of the year. In our Logistics operations, profitability may be lower due to shipping volumes or may improve if we are able to achieve higher gross margins due to the willingness of third-party capacity providers to accept lower rates from us.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

We are exposed to market risk changes in interest rate on debt and from changes in commodity prices.

Under Financial Accounting Reporting Release Number 48 and SEC rules and regulations, we are required to disclose information concerning market risk with respect to foreign exchange rates, interest rates, and commodity prices. We have elected to make such disclosures, to the extent applicable, using a sensitivity analysis approach, based on hypothetical changes in interest rates and commodity prices. We do not enter into derivatives for speculative purposes, or for which there are no underlying related exposures. Because our operations are mostly confined to the United States, we are not subject to a material amount of foreign currency risk.

Interest Rate Risk

We have interest rate risk to the extent we borrow against our line of credit or incur other debt. At September 30, 2015, our line of credit incurred a variable interest rate either at the prime rate or LIBOR, plus 0.625%, determined by us at the time of borrowing.

Our earnings would be affected by changes in these short-term interest rates. Risk can be quantified by measuring the financial impact of a near-term adverse increase in short-term interest rates. At our average level of borrowing for the first nine months of 2015, a 1.0% increase in our applicable rate would reduce pretax earnings by approximately \$0.9 million on an annualized basis.

Table of Contents

Historically, we have invested our excess cash primarily in highly liquid debt instruments of the U.S. government and its agencies, municipalities in the U.S., money market funds, and equity securities (e.g., common stock). Investments in both fixed rate and floating rate interest earning securities carry a degree of interest rate risk. Fixed rate securities may have their fair market value adversely impacted due to a rise in interest rates, while floating rate securities may produce less income than predicted if interest rates fall. Due in part to these factors, our income from investments may decrease in the future.

Commodity Price Risk

We are subject to commodity price risk with respect to purchases of fuel. The price and availability of diesel fuel can fluctuate due to market factors that are beyond our control. Because we do not recover the full amount of fuel price increases, we believe fuel surcharges are effective at mitigating some, but not all, of the risk of high fuel prices. As of September 30, 2015, and December 31, 2014, we did not have any derivative financial instruments to reduce our exposure to fuel price fluctuations but may use such instruments in the future. At our average level of fuel purchasing during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, a 10.0% increase in the average price per gallon, net of fuel surcharge collection, would decrease pretax earnings, on an annualized basis, by approximately \$5.7 million.

Equity Price Risk

In 2013 we acquired 1,304,517 shares of the common stock of USA Truck for the purpose of exploring a business combination with USA Truck. As of September 30, 2015, we held 573,910 shares of USA Truck stock. USA Truck's common stock is publicly traded on NASDAQ, and market prices for equity securities are subject to fluctuation and volatility. Consequently, the amount realized in the subsequent sale of an investment may significantly differ from the reported market value. Fluctuation in the market price of a security may result from perceived changes in the underlying economic characteristics of the investee, the relative price of alternative investments and general market conditions. Further, our significant holdings in USA Truck common stock make it difficult to quickly liquidate shares without negatively affecting the market price. Given the \$17.23 closing price on September 30, 2015, a 30.0% reduction in the market price of USA Truck common stock would decrease the value of our holdings by \$3.0 million and reduce our shareholders' equity by 0.3%.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

We have established disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) to ensure that material information relating to us, including our consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to the officers who certify our financial reports and to other members of senior management and the Board of Directors. Our management, with the participation of our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures. Based on this evaluation, as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is (i) recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC rules and forms, and (ii) accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during the quarter ended September 30, 2015, that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting. We base our internal control over financial reporting on the criteria set forth in the 2013 COSO Internal Control: Integrated Framework.

Table of Contents

We have confidence in our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting. Nevertheless, our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting will prevent all errors, misstatements, or fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived 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 controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, have been detected.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are a party to certain claims and pending litigation arising in the normal course of business. These proceedings primarily involve claims for personal injury or property damage incurred in the transportation of freight or for personnel matters, as well as certain class action litigation in which the plaintiffs allege claims for failure to provide meal and rest breaks, unpaid wages, unauthorized deductions, and other items. We maintain insurance to cover liabilities arising from the transportation of freight in amounts in excess of self-insurance retentions.

We are a defendant in a class action lawsuit which was filed on May 8, 2008, in the California Superior Court for Tulare County. The plaintiffs, who are current and former drivers and who worked for us during the period of May 8, 2004 through August 6, 2015, allege claims for failure to provide meal periods, inaccurate itemized pay statements and other items under the California Labor Code. During the second quarter of 2015, we reached a preliminary settlement with the plaintiffs. Should the settlement not be approved by the court, further negotiations may take place that could result in a different settlement, or the case may continue on to trial, which could result in a judgment for a different amount.

We are also a defendant in a class action lawsuit which was filed on June 10, 2010, in the Oregon Circuit Court for Multnomah County. The plaintiffs, who are current and former drivers who worked for us during the period of June 10, 2004 through June 10, 2010, allege the Company failed to pay minimum wage for attending pre-employment orientation and failed to pay minimum wage for work performed during certain pay periods after the start of employment. On July 2, 2015, the court, following a bench trial, issued a decision finding that we failed to pay minimum wage to some class members for work performed during certain pay periods and assessed statutory penalties and prejudgment interest related to our failure to comply with minimum wage obligations. A final judgment has not yet been entered. Shortly after the end of the third quarter of 2015, we reached a preliminary settlement with the plaintiffs and the current and former drivers who worked for us during the period June 11, 2010 through September 30, 2015. Should the settlement not be approved by the court, further negotiations may take place that could result in a different settlement, or a final judgment may be entered, which could result in a judgment for a different amount.

As a result of the California settlement and the Oregon decision, during the second quarter of 2015, we accrued a total of \$7.2 million, including the plaintiffs' estimated attorneys' fees and related costs and excluding attorneys' fees and costs related to our defense, in our condensed consolidated financial statements. We had previously accrued \$0.2 million as of December 31, 2014 related to these cases.

Based on our present knowledge of the facts and in certain cases, advice of outside counsel, management believes the resolution of open claims and pending litigation, taking into account existing reserves and accrued liabilities recorded, is not likely to have a materially adverse effect on us.

Table of Contents

Item 1A. Risk Factors

While we attempt to identify, manage, and mitigate risks and uncertainties associated with our business, some level of risk and uncertainty will always be present. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, in the section entitled "Item 1A. Risk Factors," describes some of the risks and uncertainties associated with our business. These risks and uncertainties have the potential to materially affect our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows, projected results, and future prospects.

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

| Period | (a) Total Number of Shares Purchased | (b) Average Price Paid per Share | (c) Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | (d) Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Publicly Announced Plans or Programs |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| July 1-31, 2015 | | | | |
| Common Stock Repurchase Program (1) | 126,968 | \$ 25.80 | 126,968 | 6,268,814 |
| Other Transactions (2) | - | - | - | - |
| August 1-31, 2015 | | | | |
| Common Stock Repurchase Program (1) | 272,493 | \$ 26.68 | 272,493 | 5,996,321 |
| Other Transactions (2) | 2,635 | \$ 27.20 | - | - |
| September 1-30, 2015 | | | | |
| Common Stock Repurchase Program (1) | 164,555 | \$ 27.07 | 164,555 | 5,831,766 |
| Other Transactions (2) | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 566,651 | \$ 26.60 | 564,016 | 5,831,766 |

(1) In May 2011, our Board of Directors unanimously authorized the repurchase of up to 10.0 million shares of our common stock. The repurchase authorization will remain in effect until the share limit is reached or the program is terminated. See Note 14 to the Condensed Consolidated Unaudited Financial Statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for additional information with respect to our share repurchases.

(2) Other Transactions include restricted shares of our common stock withheld and used to offset tax withholding obligations that occurred upon vesting and release of restricted shares. The withholding of shares was permitted under the applicable award agreement and was not part of any stock repurchase program.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

Not Applicable

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not Applicable

Item 5. Other Information

Not Applicable

38

Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| Exhibit 3 | Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws |
| (3.1) | Second Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company. (Incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed April 20, 2007.) |
| (3.2) | 2013 Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K dated February 7, 2013 and filed on February 13, 2013.) |
| Exhibit 4 | Instruments defining the rights of security holders, including indentures |
| (4.1) | Articles 4, 10, and 11 of the Second Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to this Report on Form 10-Q.) |
| (4.2) | Sections 2 and 5 of the 2013 Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to this Report on Form 10-Q.) |
| Exhibit 31 | Section 302 Certifications |
| (31.1)* | Certification pursuant to Item 601(b)(31) of Regulation S-K, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, by David A. Jackson, the Company's Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer). |
| (31.2)* | Certification pursuant to Item 601(b)(31) of Regulation S-K, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, by Adam W. Miller, the Company's Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer). |
| Exhibit 32 | Section 906 Certifications |
| (32.1)* | Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, by David A. Jackson, the Company's Chief Executive Officer. |
| (32.2)* | Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, by Adam W. Miller, the Company's Chief Financial Officer. |
| Exhibit 101 | Interactive Data File |
| (101.INS)** | XBRL Instance Document. |
| (101.SCH)** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document. |
| (101.CAL)** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document. |
| (101.DEF)** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document. |
| (101.LAB)** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document. |
| (101.PRE)** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document. |
| | *Filed herewith |
| | **In accordance with Regulation S-T, the XBRL-related information in Exhibit 101 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q shall be deemed to be "furnished" and not "filed." |

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

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

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION,
INC.

Date: November 9, 2015

By: /s/ David A. Jackson
David A. Jackson
Chief Executive Officer and
President, in his capacity as such
and on behalf of the registrant

Date: November 9, 2015

By: /s/ Adam W. Miller
Adam W. Miller
Chief Financial Officer, in his
capacity as such and on behalf of
the registrant