

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

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2024

or

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 1-15399



(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

36-4277050

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

1 North Field Court, Lake Forest, Illinois

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

60045

(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code
(847) 482-3000**

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted 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 such files). Yes No

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

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

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

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

As of May 3, 2024, the Registrant had outstanding 89,797,979 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share.

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	PKG	New York Stock Exchange

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All reports we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) are available free of charge via the Electronic Data Gathering Analysis and Retrieval (EDGAR) System on the SEC website at www.sec.gov. We also provide copies of our SEC filings at no charge upon request and make electronic copies of our reports available through our website at www.packagingcorp.com as soon as reasonably practicable after filing such material with the SEC.

PART I
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Packaging Corporation of America
Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income
(unaudited, dollars in millions, except per-share data)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2024	2023
Statements of Income:		
Net sales	\$ 1,979.5	\$ 1,976.3
Cost of sales	(1,609.1)	(1,544.9)
Gross profit	370.4	431.4
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(151.9)	(148.2)
Other expense, net	(22.5)	(12.5)
Income from operations	196.0	270.7
Non-operating pension income (expense)	1.1	(2.0)
Interest expense, net	(9.6)	(15.4)
Income before taxes	187.5	253.3
Provision for income taxes	(40.6)	(63.2)
Net income	\$ 146.9	\$ 190.1
Net income per common share:		
Basic	\$ 1.64	\$ 2.12
Diluted	\$ 1.63	\$ 2.11
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.25
Statements of Comprehensive Income:		
Net income	\$ 146.9	\$ 190.1
Other comprehensive income, net of tax:		
Changes in unrealized (losses) gains on marketable debt securities, net of tax of \$0.0 million and (\$0.2) million for 2024 and 2023, respectively	(0.1)	0.5
Amortization of pension and postretirement plans actuarial loss and prior service cost, net of tax of (\$0.4) million and (\$0.6) million for 2024 and 2023, respectively	1.0	1.6
Other comprehensive income	0.9	2.1
Comprehensive income	\$ 147.8	\$ 192.2

See accompanying condensed notes to unaudited quarterly consolidated financial statements.

Packaging Corporation of America

Consolidated Balance Sheets

(unaudited, dollars and shares in millions, except per-share data)

	March 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 692.4	\$ 648.0
Short-term marketable debt securities (\$92.3 million and \$93.5 million measured at fair value as of March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively)	492.3	493.5
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for credit losses and customer deductions of \$12.1 million and \$13.1 million as of March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively	1,045.1	1,033.2
Inventories	1,003.6	1,013.1
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	211.7	62.3
Federal and state income taxes receivable	—	4.3
Total current assets	3,445.1	3,254.4
Property, plant, and equipment, net	3,864.5	3,863.8
Goodwill	922.4	922.4
Other intangible assets, net	220.1	229.6
Operating lease right-of-use assets	269.4	279.6
Long-term marketable debt securities	68.5	64.1
Other long-term assets	67.0	67.2
Total assets	\$ 8,857.0	\$ 8,681.1
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 399.8	\$ 399.6
Operating lease obligations	79.2	78.6
Finance lease obligations	2.0	2.0
Accounts payable	449.6	402.4
Dividends payable	114.9	115.9
Accrued liabilities	304.0	253.5
Accrued interest	33.3	13.7
Federal and state income taxes payable	17.5	—
Total current liabilities	1,400.3	1,265.7
Long-term liabilities:		
Long-term debt	2,472.7	2,472.2
Operating lease obligations	200.7	212.1
Finance lease obligations	8.3	8.7
Deferred income taxes	566.5	558.0
Compensation and benefits	112.1	106.4
Other long-term liabilities	65.4	60.7
Total long-term liabilities	3,425.7	3,418.1
Commitments and contingent liabilities (Note 19)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, 300.0 million shares authorized, 89.8 million and 89.6 million shares issued as of March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively	0.9	0.9
Additional paid in capital	640.5	620.1
Retained earnings	3,459.6	3,447.2
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(70.0)	(70.9)
Total stockholders' equity	4,031.0	3,997.3
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 8,857.0	\$ 8,681.1

See accompanying condensed notes to unaudited quarterly consolidated financial statements.

Packaging Corporation of America
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(unaudited, dollars in millions)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2024	2023
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 146.9	\$ 190.1
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation, depletion, and amortization of intangibles	128.4	129.5
Amortization of deferred financing costs	0.6	0.5
Share-based compensation expense	19.4	15.3
Deferred income tax provision	8.4	2.7
Net loss on asset disposals	5.2	1.8
Pension and post-retirement benefits expense, net of contributions	1.5	5.0
Other, net	8.2	6.8
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in assets —		
Accounts receivable	(11.9)	0.4
Inventories	9.5	(26.1)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(149.4)	(29.3)
Increase (decrease) in liabilities —		
Accounts payable	1.5	(5.0)
Accrued liabilities	70.3	(65.0)
Federal and state income taxes payable/receivable	21.8	53.7
Net cash provided by operating activities	260.4	280.4
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Additions to property, plant, and equipment	(76.7)	(112.4)
Additions to other long-term assets	(1.4)	(1.6)
Proceeds from asset disposals	0.1	0.3
Purchases of available-for-sale debt securities	(32.8)	(29.6)
Proceeds from sales of available-for-sale debt securities	1.5	—
Proceeds from maturities of available-for-sale debt securities	28.3	27.9
Net cash used for investing activities	(81.0)	(115.4)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Repayments of debt and finance lease obligations	(0.5)	(0.5)
Common stock dividends paid	(112.0)	(112.1)
Shares withheld to cover employee restricted stock taxes	(22.5)	(4.7)
Net cash used for financing activities	(135.0)	(117.3)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	44.4	47.7
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	648.0	320.0
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 692.4	\$ 367.7

See accompanying condensed notes to unaudited quarterly consolidated financial statements.

Packaging Corporation of America

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity

(unaudited, dollars in millions and shares in thousands)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount				
Balance at January 1, 2024	89,625	\$ 0.9	\$ 620.1	\$ 3,447.2	\$ (70.9)	\$ 3,997.3
Common stock withheld and retired to cover taxes on vested stock awards	(127)	—	(1.1)	(21.4)	—	(22.5)
Common stock dividends declared	—	—	—	(113.1)	—	(113.1)
Share-based compensation and other	306	—	21.5	—	—	21.5
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	146.9	0.9	147.8
Balance at March 31, 2024	<u>89,804</u>	<u>\$ 0.9</u>	<u>\$ 640.5</u>	<u>\$ 3,459.6</u>	<u>\$ (70.0)</u>	<u>\$ 4,031.0</u>

	Common Stock		Additional Paid in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount				
Balance at January 1, 2023	89,695	\$ 0.9	\$ 581.8	\$ 3,186.8	\$ (102.4)	\$ 3,667.1
Common stock withheld and retired to cover taxes on vested stock awards	(36)	—	(0.3)	(4.4)	—	(4.7)
Common stock dividends declared	—	—	—	(113.2)	—	(113.2)
Share-based compensation and other	273	—	16.3	—	—	16.3
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	190.1	2.1	192.2
Balance at March 31, 2023	<u>89,932</u>	<u>\$ 0.9</u>	<u>\$ 597.8</u>	<u>\$ 3,259.2</u>	<u>\$ (100.3)</u>	<u>\$ 3,757.7</u>

See accompanying condensed notes to unaudited quarterly consolidated financial statements.

Condensed Notes to Unaudited Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Nature of Operations and Basis of Presentation

Packaging Corporation of America ("we," "us," "our," PCA," or the "Company") was incorporated on January 25, 1999. In April 1999, PCA acquired the containerboard and corrugated packaging products business of Pactiv Corporation ("Pactiv"), formerly known as Tenneco Packaging, Inc. We are a large diverse manufacturer of both packaging and paper products. We are headquartered in Lake Forest, Illinois and we operate primarily in the United States.

We report our business in three reportable segments: Packaging, Paper, and Corporate and Other. Our Packaging segment produces a wide variety of containerboard and corrugated packaging products. The Paper segment manufactures and sells a range of communication-based papers. Corporate and Other includes support staff services and related assets and liabilities, transportation assets, and activity related to other ancillary support operations. For more information about our segments, see Note 18, Segment Information.

The consolidated financial statements of PCA as of March 31, 2024 and for the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 are unaudited but include all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) that management considers necessary for a fair presentation of such financial statements. The preparation of the consolidated financial statements involves the use of estimates and accruals. Actual results may vary from those estimates. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for interim financial information and with Article 10 of Regulation S-X of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for complete audited financial statements. Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2024 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2024. These consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of PCA and its majority-owned subsidiaries after elimination of intercompany balances and transactions.

2. New Accounting Standards

In December 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-09, *Income Taxes (Topic 740): Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures*. This ASU provides for more transparency about income tax information through improvements to income tax disclosures primarily related to the rate reconciliation and income taxes paid information. This ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024 on a prospective basis. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently assessing the impact of the disclosure requirements on its consolidated financial statements.

In November 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-07, *Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures*. This ASU improves reportable segment disclosure requirements, primarily through enhanced disclosures about significant segment expenses. This ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023 and interim periods starting within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024 on a retrospective basis. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently assessing the impact of the disclosure requirements on its consolidated financial statements.

There were no other accounting standards recently issued that had or are expected to have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

3. Revenue

Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized when control of the promised goods or services is transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration expected to be received in exchange for those goods or services. Sales, value added, and other taxes collected concurrently with revenue-producing activities are excluded from revenue.

The following table presents our revenues disaggregated by product line (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2024	2023
Packaging	\$ 1,798.3	\$ 1,808.6
Paper	163.8	150.9
Corporate and Other	17.4	16.8
Total revenue	<u>\$ 1,979.5</u>	<u>\$ 1,976.3</u>

Packaging Revenue

Our containerboard mills produce linerboard and corrugating medium which are papers primarily used in the production of corrugated products. The majority of our containerboard production is used internally by our corrugated products manufacturing facilities. The remaining containerboard is sold to outside domestic and export customers. Our corrugated products manufacturing plants produce a wide variety of corrugated

packaging products and retail merchandise displays. We sell corrugated products to national, regional and local accounts, which are broadly diversified across industries and geographic locations.

The Company recognizes revenue for its packaging products when performance obligations under the terms of a contract with a customer are satisfied. This occurs with the transfer of control of our products at a specific point in time. Based on our express terms and conditions of the sale of products to our customers, as well as terms included in contractual arrangements with our customers, we do not have an enforceable right of payment that includes a reasonable profit throughout the duration of the contract for products that do not have an alternative use. Revenue is recognized when the product is shipped from the mill or from our manufacturing facility to our customer. Certain customers may receive volume-based incentives, which are accounted for as variable consideration. We estimate these amounts based on the expected amount to be provided to customers and reduce revenue recognized.

Certain customers receive a portion of their packaging products as consigned inventory with billing triggered once the customer uses or consumes the designated product. Prior to invoicing, these amounts are handled as unbilled receivables. Total unbilled receivables, which are immaterial in amount, are included in the accounts receivable financial statement caption.

Paper Revenue

We manufacture and sell a range of communication-based papers. Communication papers consist of cut-size office papers, and printing and converting papers.

The Company recognizes revenue for its paper products when performance obligations under the terms of a contract with a customer are satisfied. This occurs with the transfer of control of our products at a specific point in time. Revenue is recognized when the product is shipped from the mill or from our manufacturing facility or distribution center to our customer. Certain customers may receive incentives, which are accounted for as variable consideration. We estimate these amounts based on the expected amount to be provided to customers and reduce revenue recognized.

Corporate and Other Revenue

Revenue in this segment primarily relates to Louisiana Timber Procurement Company, L.L.C. ("LTP"), a variable-interest entity that is 50% owned by PCA and 50% owned by Boise Cascade Company ("Boise Cascade"). PCA is the primary beneficiary of LTP and has the power to direct the activities that most significantly affect the economic performance of LTP. Therefore, we consolidate 100% of LTP in our financial statements. See Note 17, Transactions With Related Parties, for more information related to LTP.

The Company recognizes revenue within this segment when performance obligations under the terms of a contract with a customer are satisfied. This occurs with the transfer of control of our products at a specific point in time.

Practical Expedients and Exemption

Shipping and handling fees billed to a customer are recorded on a gross basis in "Net sales" with the corresponding shipping and handling costs included in "Cost of sales" in the concurrent period as the revenue is recorded. We expense sales commissions when incurred because the amortization period is one year or less. Sales commissions are recorded in "Selling, general, and administrative expenses".

We do not disclose the value of unsatisfied performance obligations for contracts with an original expected duration of one year or less.

4. Earnings Per Share

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted income per common share for the periods presented (dollars and shares in millions, except per share data):

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2024	2023
Numerator:		
Net income	\$ 146.9	\$ 190.1
Less: Distributed and undistributed earnings allocated to participating securities	(1.0)	(1.6)
Net income attributable to common shareholders	<u>\$ 145.9</u>	<u>\$ 188.5</u>
Denominator:		
Weighted average basic common shares outstanding	89.0	89.0
Effect of dilutive securities	0.4	0.4
Weighted average diluted common shares outstanding	<u>89.4</u>	<u>89.4</u>
Basic income per common share	\$ 1.64	\$ 2.12
Diluted income per common share	\$ 1.63	\$ 2.11

5. Other Expense, Net

The components of other income (expense), net, were as follows (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2024	2023
DeRidder litigation (a)	\$ (123.7)	\$ —
DeRidder litigation insurance recovery (a)	123.7	—
Asset disposals and write-offs	(7.4)	(6.6)
Jackson mill conversion-related activities (b)	(8.3)	0.3
Facilities closure and other income (costs) (c)	0.1	(4.7)
Other	(6.9)	(1.5)
Total	\$ (22.5)	\$ (12.5)

- (a) On April 24, 2024, a jury for the remaining DeRidder mill lawsuit that was tried in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana awarded plaintiffs compensatory damages plus prejudgment interest. The amount of the verdict with interest is within the remaining limits of the Company's liability insurance policies. See Note 19, Commitments, Guarantees, Indemnifications, and Legal Proceedings for additional detail.
- (b) Includes charges related to the announced discontinuation of production of uncoated freesheet paper grades on the No. 3 machine at the Jackson, Alabama mill associated with the permanent conversion of the machine to produce linerboard and other paper-to-containerboard conversion related activities.
- (c) For 2024, includes income primarily related to a favorable lease buyout for a closed corrugated products facility, partially offset by closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and design centers. For 2023, includes charges consisting of closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and design centers.

6. Income Taxes

For the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, we recorded \$40.6 million and \$63.2 million of income tax expense and had an effective tax rate of 21.6% and 24.9%, respectively. The decrease in our effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 was primarily due to higher excess tax benefits associated with employee restricted stock and performance unit vests.

Our current effective tax rate is higher than the federal statutory income tax rate of 21.0% due primarily to the effect of state and local income taxes. During the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, cash paid for taxes, net of refunds received, was \$10.3 million and \$6.9 million, respectively. The increase in cash tax payments between the periods is primarily attributable to the 2023 year having been reduced by an applied overpayment of state taxes from the prior year with no equivalent impact in 2024.

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, there were no significant changes to our uncertain tax positions. For more information, see Note 7, Income Taxes, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part II, Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

7. Inventories

We value our raw materials, work in process, and finished goods inventories using lower of cost, as determined by the average cost method, or net realizable value. Supplies and materials are valued at the first-in, first-out (FIFO) or average cost method.

The components of inventories were as follows (dollars in millions):

	March 31,	December 31,
	2024	2023
Raw materials	\$ 322.4	\$ 326.2
Work in process	15.7	14.9
Finished goods	189.9	200.5
Supplies and materials	475.6	471.5
Inventories	\$ 1,003.6	\$ 1,013.1

8. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The components of property, plant, and equipment were as follows (dollars in millions):

	March 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
Land and land improvements	\$ 199.1	\$ 197.8
Buildings	1,091.3	1,090.4
Machinery and equipment	7,021.3	7,006.7
Construction in progress	395.9	335.8
Other	178.6	177.0
Property, plant and equipment, at cost	8,886.2	8,807.7
Less accumulated depreciation	(5,021.7)	(4,943.9)
Property, plant, and equipment, net	<u>\$ 3,864.5</u>	<u>\$ 3,863.8</u>

Depreciation expense for the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 was \$118.1 million and \$118.8 million, respectively. During the three months ended March 31, 2024, we recognized \$1.5 million of incremental depreciation expense as a result of Jackson mill conversion-related activities. We recognized \$6.3 million of incremental depreciation expense during the three months ended March 31, 2023 as a result of corrugated products facilities and design center closures and Jackson mill conversion-related activities.

At March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, purchases of property, plant, and equipment included in accounts payable were \$69.9 million and \$24.2 million, respectively.

9. Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of an acquired business over the fair value of the identifiable tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination. At both March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, we had \$922.4 million of goodwill recorded in our Packaging segment, which represents the entire goodwill balance reported on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Intangible Assets

Intangible assets are primarily comprised of customer relationships and trademarks and trade names. The weighted average remaining useful life, gross carrying amount, and accumulated amortization of our intangible assets were as follows (dollars in millions):

	March 31, 2024			December 31, 2023		
	Weighted Average Remaining Useful Life (in Years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Weighted Average Remaining Useful Life (in Years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization
Customer relationships	7.2	\$ 546.0	\$ 335.8	7.4	\$ 546.0	\$ 326.9
Trademarks and trade names	6.4	41.3	31.4	6.5	41.3	30.9
Other	2.7	4.4	4.4	2.9	4.4	4.3
Total intangible assets (excluding goodwill)	7.1	<u>\$ 591.7</u>	<u>\$ 371.6</u>	7.3	<u>\$ 591.7</u>	<u>\$ 362.1</u>

During the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, amortization expense was \$9.5 million and \$9.6 million, respectively.

10. Accrued Liabilities

The components of accrued liabilities were as follows (dollars in millions):

	March 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
DeRidder litigation (a)	\$ 123.7	\$ —
Compensation and benefits	87.4	154.4
Medical insurance and workers' compensation	28.3	28.4
Customer rebates and other credits	26.0	35.2
Franchise, property, sales and use taxes	23.5	18.6
Environmental liabilities and asset retirement obligations	3.9	4.0
Severance, retention, and relocation	1.4	1.0
Other	9.8	11.9
Total	\$ 304.0	\$ 253.5

- (a) On April 24, 2024, a jury for the remaining DeRidder mill lawsuit that was tried in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana awarded plaintiffs compensatory damages plus prejudgment interest. The amount of the verdict with interest is within the remaining limits of the Company's liability insurance policies. See Note 19, Commitments, Guarantees, Indemnifications, and Legal Proceedings for additional detail.

11. Debt

For the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, cash payments for interest were \$7.3 million and \$7.5 million, respectively.

Included in interest expense, net is the amortization of financing costs, which includes the amortization of debt issuance costs and amortization of bond discount. For the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, amortization of debt issuance costs was \$0.5 million and \$0.4 million, respectively. For both the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, the amortization of bond discount was insignificant.

At March 31, 2024, we had \$2,891.8 million of fixed-rate senior notes outstanding. The fair value of our fixed-rate debt was estimated to be \$2,534.3 million. The difference between the book value and fair value is due to the difference between the period-end market interest rate and the stated rate of our fixed-rate debt. We estimated the fair value of our fixed-rate debt using quoted market prices (Level 2 inputs) within the fair value hierarchy, which is further defined in Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part II, Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

For more information on our long-term debt and interest rates on that debt, see Note 10, Debt, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part II, Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

12. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Marketable Debt Securities

The following table shows the Company's cash, cash equivalents, held-to-maturity ("HTM") debt securities, and available-for-sale ("AFS") debt securities by major asset category at March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 (in millions):

	March 31, 2024						
	Adjusted Cost Basis	Unrealized Gain	Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Cash and Cash Equivalents	Short-Term Marketable Debt Securities	Long-Term Marketable Debt Securities
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 691.9	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 691.9	\$ 691.9	\$ —	\$ —
Time Deposits ^(a) :	400.0	—	—	400.0	—	400.0	—
Level 1 ^(b) :							
U.S. Treasury securities	34.4	—	(0.1)	34.3	—	17.5	16.8
Money market funds	0.5	—	—	0.5	0.5	—	—
Subtotal	34.9	—	(0.1)	34.8	0.5	17.5	16.8
Level 2 ^(c) :							
Corporate debt securities	111.4	0.1	(0.2)	111.3	—	60.4	50.9
U.S. government agency securities	7.7	—	(0.1)	7.6	—	6.8	0.8
Certificates of deposit	7.6	—	—	7.6	—	7.6	—
Subtotal	126.7	0.1	(0.3)	126.5	—	74.8	51.7
Total	\$ 1,253.5	\$ 0.1	\$ (0.4)	\$ 1,253.2	\$ 692.4	\$ 492.3	\$ 68.5

December 31, 2023

	Adjusted Cost Basis	Unrealized Gain	Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Cash and Cash Equivalents	Short-Term Marketable Debt Securities	Long-Term Marketable Debt Securities
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 646.4	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 646.4	\$ 646.4	\$ —	\$ —
Time Deposits ^(a) :	400.0	—	—	400.0	—	400.0	—
Level 1 ^(b) :							
U.S. Treasury securities	29.3	—	—	29.3	—	11.3	18.0
Money market funds	1.6	—	—	1.6	1.6	—	—
Subtotal	30.9	—	—	30.9	1.6	11.3	18.0
Level 2 ^(c) :							
Corporate debt securities	112.5	0.3	(0.4)	112.4	—	68.5	43.9
U.S. government agency securities	10.1	—	(0.1)	10.0	—	7.8	2.2
Certificates of deposit	5.9	—	—	5.9	—	5.9	—
Subtotal	128.5	0.3	(0.5)	128.3	—	82.2	46.1
Total	<u>\$ 1,205.8</u>	<u>\$ 0.3</u>	<u>\$ (0.5)</u>	<u>\$ 1,205.6</u>	<u>\$ 648.0</u>	<u>\$ 493.5</u>	<u>\$ 64.1</u>

- (a) We had \$400.0 million of investments in time deposits classified as HTM debt securities as of both March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023. All these investments mature within one year and are recorded in “Short-term marketable debt securities” on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. We record HTM debt securities at amortized cost, which approximates fair value.
- (b) Valuations based on quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.
- (c) Valuations based on observable inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1, such as quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets and liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

For both the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, net realized gains and losses on the sales and maturities of certain marketable debt securities were insignificant.

The Company invests in highly rated securities, with the primary objective of minimizing the potential risk of principal loss. The Company’s investment policy requires securities to be investment grade and limits the amount of credit exposure to any one issuer. The maturities of the Company’s long-term marketable debt securities generally range from one to two years.

Fair values were determined for each individual marketable debt security in the investment portfolio. When evaluating a marketable debt security for impairment, PCA reviews factors such as the duration and extent to which the fair value of the marketable debt security is less than its cost, the financial condition of the issuer and any changes thereto, the general market condition in which the issuer operates, and PCA’s intent to sell, or whether it will be more likely than not be required to sell, the marketable debt security before recovery of its amortized cost basis.

As of March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, we do not consider any of the impairments related to our marketable debt securities to be the result of credit losses. Therefore, we have not recorded an allowance for credit losses related to our marketable debt securities. All unrealized gains and losses were recorded in other comprehensive income (OCI).

The following tables provide information about the Company’s marketable debt securities that have been in a continuous loss position as of March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 (in millions, except number of marketable debt securities in a loss position):

	March 31, 2024					
	Fair Value of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position < 12 Months	Number of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position < 12 Months	Unrealized Losses < 12 Months	Fair Value of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position ≥ 12 Months	Number of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position ≥ 12 Months	Unrealized Losses ≥ 12 Months
Corporate debt securities	\$ 54.5	61	\$ 0.2	\$ 18.8	30	\$ 0.1
U.S. Treasury securities	21.6	20	0.1	4.8	7	—
U.S. government agency securities	5.4	8	—	2.2	3	—
Certificates of deposit	2.5	3	—	—	—	—
	<u>\$ 84.0</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>\$ 0.3</u>	<u>\$ 25.8</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>\$ 0.1</u>

December 31, 2023

	Fair Value of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position < 12 Months	Number of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position < 12 Months	Unrealized Losses < 12 Months	Fair Value of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position ≥ 12 Months	Number of Marketable Debt Securities in a Loss Position ≥ 12 Months	Unrealized Losses ≥ 12 Months
Corporate debt securities	\$ 27.9	35	\$ 0.1	\$ 36.2	49	\$ 0.3
U.S. Treasury securities	11.4	11	—	6.2	10	0.1
U.S. government agency securities	8.5	14	—	1.5	2	—
	<u>\$ 47.8</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>\$ 0.1</u>	<u>\$ 43.9</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>\$ 0.4</u>

13. Employee Benefit Plans and Other Postretirement Benefits

The components of net periodic benefit cost for our pension plans were as follows (dollars in millions):

	Pension Plans	
	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2024	2023
Service cost	\$ 3.1	\$ 3.6
Interest cost	13.9	14.0
Expected return on plan assets	(16.5)	(14.3)
Net amortization of unrecognized amounts		
Prior service cost	1.4	1.3
Actuarial loss	0.2	1.1
Net periodic benefit cost	<u>\$ 2.1</u>	<u>\$ 5.7</u>

PCA makes pension plan contributions that are sufficient to fund its actuarially determined costs, generally equal to the minimum amounts required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). From time to time, PCA may make additional discretionary contributions based on the funded status of the plans, tax deductibility, income from operations, and other factors. During both the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, payments to our nonqualified pension plans were insignificant. During both the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, we did not make any contributions to our qualified pension plans. We do not have a required minimum contribution amount for 2024, but we expect to make discretionary contributions to our plans.

For both the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, the net periodic benefit cost for our postretirement plans was insignificant.

14. Share-Based Compensation

The Company has a long-term equity incentive plan, which allows for grants of restricted stock, performance awards, stock appreciation rights, and stock options to directors, officers, and employees, as well as others who engage in services for PCA. On February 28, 2024, our board of directors approved, and, on May 8, 2024, our stockholders approved, the amendment and restatement of the plan. The amendment extended the plan's term to May 8, 2034 and increased the number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the plan by 2.4 million shares. The total number of shares authorized for past and future awards is 14.3 million shares.

As of March 31, 2024, assuming performance units are paid out at the target level of performance, 0.4 million shares were available for future grants under the current plan. Forfeitures are added back to the pool of shares of common stock available to be granted at a future date.

The following table presents restricted stock and performance unit award activity for the three months ended March 31, 2024:

	Restricted Stock		Performance Units	
	Shares	Weighted Average Grant- Date Fair Value	Shares	Weighted Average Grant- Date Fair Value
Outstanding at January 1, 2024	671,723	\$ 127.15	372,777	\$ 119.22
Granted	156,916	176.36	128,613	189.00
Vested (a)	(173,248)	94.65	(138,193)	182.67
Forfeitures	(939)	137.80	—	—
Outstanding at March 31, 2024	<u>654,452</u>	<u>\$ 147.54</u>	<u>363,197</u>	<u>\$ 119.79</u>

(a) Upon payout of the performance unit awards that vested during the period, PCA issued 150,238 shares, which included 12,045 shares for dividends accrued during the performance period.

Compensation Expense

Our share-based compensation expense is primarily recorded in "Selling, general, and administrative expenses." Compensation expense for share-based awards recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income, net of forfeitures, was as follows (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2024	2023
Restricted stock	\$ 14.0	\$ 11.9
Performance units	5.4	3.4
Total share-based compensation expense	19.4	15.3
Income tax benefit	(4.8)	(3.8)
Share-based compensation expense, net of tax benefit	\$ 14.6	\$ 11.5

The fair value of restricted stock is determined based on the closing price of the Company's stock on the grant date. Compensation expense, net of estimated forfeitures, is recorded over the requisite service period. As PCA's Board of Directors has the ability to accelerate the vesting of these awards upon an employee's retirement, the Company accelerates the recognition of compensation expense for certain employees approaching normal retirement age.

Performance unit awards granted to certain key employees are earned based on the achievement of defined performance rankings of Return on Invested Capital (ROIC) or Total Shareholder Return (TSR) compared to ROIC and TSR for peer companies. For performance unit awards made in 2024 and 2023, in terms of grant date value, 50% used TSR as the performance measure and 50% used ROIC as the performance measure. The ROIC component of performance unit awards is valued based on the closing price of the stock on the grant date. As the ROIC component contains a performance condition, compensation expense, net of estimated forfeitures, is recorded over the requisite service period based on the most probable number of awards expected to vest. The TSR component of performance unit awards is valued using a Monte Carlo simulation as the TSR component contains a market condition. The Monte Carlo simulation estimates the fair value of the TSR component based on the expected term of the award, a risk-free interest rate, expected dividends, and expected volatility of the Company's common stock and the common stock of the peer companies. Compensation expense is recorded ratably over the expected term of the award.

The unrecognized compensation expense for all share-based awards at March 31, 2024 was as follows (dollars in millions):

	March 31, 2024	
	Unrecognized Compensation Expense	Remaining Weighted Average Recognition Period (in years)
Restricted stock	\$ 42.1	2.9
Performance units	35.5	2.7
Total unrecognized share-based compensation expense	\$ 77.6	2.8

15. Stockholders' Equity

Dividends

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, we paid \$112.0 million of dividends to shareholders. On February 28, 2024, PCA's Board of Directors declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$1.25 per share of common stock, which was paid on April 15, 2024 to shareholders of record as of March 15, 2024. The dividend payment was \$112.2 million.

Repurchases of Common Stock

On January 26, 2022, PCA announced that its Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of an additional \$1 billion of the Company's outstanding common stock. Repurchases may be made from time to time in open market or privately negotiated transactions in accordance with applicable securities regulations. The timing and amount of repurchases will be determined by the Company in its discretion based on factors such as PCA's stock price and market and business conditions.

The company did not repurchase any shares of its common stock under this authority during the three months ended March 31, 2024. At March 31, 2024, \$436.0 million of the authorized amount remained available for repurchase of the Company's common stock.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Changes in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (AOCI) by component were as follows (dollars in millions). Amounts in parentheses indicate losses:

	Unrealized Loss On Foreign Exchange Contracts	Unrealized Loss on Marketable Debt Securities	Unfunded Employee Benefit Obligations	Total
Balance at January 1, 2024	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.1)	\$ (70.7)	\$ (70.9)
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications, net of tax	—	(0.1)	—	(0.1)
Amounts reclassified from AOCI, net of tax	—	—	1.0	1.0
Balance at March 31, 2024	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.2)	\$ (69.7)	\$ (70.0)

Reclassifications out of AOCI were as follows (dollars in millions). Amounts in parentheses indicate expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Income:

Details about AOCI Components	Amounts Reclassified from AOCI		
	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2024	2023	
Unfunded employee benefit obligations (a)			
Amortization of prior service costs	\$ (1.3)	\$ (1.2)	See (a) below
Amortization of actuarial losses	(0.1)	(1.0)	See (a) below
	(1.4)	(2.2)	Total before tax
	0.4	0.6	Tax benefit
	\$ (1.0)	\$ (1.6)	Net of tax

- (a) These AOCI components are included in the computation of net pension and postretirement benefit costs. See Note 13, Employee Benefit Plans and Other Postretirement Benefits, for additional information.

16. Concentrations of Risk

ODP Corporation ("ODP"), formerly Office Depot Inc., along with its subsidiaries and affiliates, is our largest customer in the Paper segment. Our Paper segment has had a long-standing commercial and contractual relationship with ODP. This relationship exposes us to a significant concentration of business and financial risk. Our sales to ODP represented approximately 5% of our total Company sales for both the three month periods ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 and approximately 58% and 64% of our Paper segment sales for those periods, respectively. For the full year 2023, sales to ODP represented about 61% of our Paper segment sales.

At March 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, we had \$48.6 million and \$46.5 million of accounts receivable due from ODP, respectively, which represents approximately 5% and 4% of our total Company receivables for those periods, respectively.

17. Transactions With Related Parties

Louisiana Timber Procurement Company, L.L.C. ("LTP") is a variable-interest entity that is 50% owned by PCA and 50% owned by Boise Cascade Company ("Boise Cascade"). LTP procures sawtimber, pulpwood, residual chips, and other residual wood fiber to meet the wood and fiber requirements of PCA and Boise Cascade in Louisiana. PCA is the primary beneficiary of LTP and has the power to direct the activities that most significantly affect the economic performance of LTP. Therefore, we consolidate 100% of LTP in our financial statements in our Corporate and Other segment. The carrying amounts of LTP's assets and liabilities (which relate primarily to non-inventory working capital items) on our Consolidated Balance Sheets were \$3.1 million at March 31, 2024 and \$3.3 million at December 31, 2023. During the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, we recorded \$19.8 million and \$20.1 million, respectively, of LTP sales to Boise Cascade in "Net Sales" in the Consolidated Statements of Income and approximately the same amount of expenses in "Cost of Sales".

During the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, fiber purchases from related parties were \$2.6 million and \$2.9 million, respectively. Most of these purchases related to chip and log purchases by LTP from Boise Cascade's wood products business. These purchases are recorded in "Cost of Sales" in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

18. Segment Information

We report our business in three reportable segments: Packaging, Paper, and Corporate and Other. These segments represent distinct businesses that are managed separately because of differing products and services. Each of these businesses requires distinct operating and marketing strategies.

Each segment's profits and losses are measured on operating profits before interest expense, net, non-operating pension (expense) income, and income taxes. For certain allocated expenses, the related assets and liabilities remain in the Corporate and Other segment.

Selected financial information by reportable segment was as follows (dollars in millions):

Three Months Ended March 31, 2024	Sales, net			Operating Income (Loss)
	Trade	Intersegment	Total	
Packaging	\$ 1,793.5	\$ 4.8	\$ 1,798.3	\$ 203.8 (a)
Paper	163.8	—	163.8	29.7 (a)
Corporate and Other	22.2	39.4	61.6	(37.5)
Intersegment eliminations	—	(44.2)	(44.2)	—
	<u>\$ 1,979.5</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,979.5</u>	<u>196.0</u>
Non-operating pension income				1.1
Interest expense, net				(9.6)
Income before taxes				<u>\$ 187.5</u>

Three Months Ended March 31, 2023	Sales, net			Operating Income (Loss)
	Trade	Intersegment	Total	
Packaging	\$ 1,803.5	\$ 5.1	\$ 1,808.6	\$ 268.0 (b)
Paper	150.9	—	150.9	34.1 (b)
Corporate and Other	21.9	38.6	60.5	(31.4)
Intersegment eliminations	—	(43.7)	(43.7)	—
	<u>\$ 1,976.3</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,976.3</u>	<u>270.7</u>
Non-operating pension expense				(2.0)
Interest expense, net				(15.4)
Income before taxes				<u>\$ 253.3</u>

(a) The three months ended March 31, 2024 include the following:

- \$10.4 million of charges related to the announced discontinuation of production of UFS paper grades on the No. 3 machine at the Jackson, Alabama mill associated with the permanent conversion of the machine to produce linerboard and other paper-to-containerboard conversion related activities.
- \$0.1 million of income primarily related to a favorable lease buyout for a closed corrugated products facility, partially offset by closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and design centers.

(b) The three months ended March 31, 2023 include the following:

- \$9.7 million of charges consisting of closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and design centers.
- \$1.2 million of charges related to the announced discontinuation of production of UFS paper grades on the No. 3 machine at the Jackson, Alabama mill associated with the permanent conversion of the machine to produce linerboard and other paper-to-containerboard conversion related activities.

19. Commitments, Guarantees, Indemnifications and Legal Proceedings

We have financial commitments and obligations that arise in the ordinary course of our business. These include lease obligations, long-term debt, capital additions, purchase commitments for goods and services, and legal proceedings, all of which are discussed in Note 3, Leases; Note 10, Debt; and Note 19, Commitments, Guarantees, Indemnifications, and Legal Proceedings, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part II, Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Guarantees and Indemnifications

We provide guarantees, indemnifications, and other assurances to third parties in the normal course of our business. These include tort indemnifications, environmental assurances, and representations and warranties in commercial agreements. At March 31, 2024, we are not aware of any material liabilities arising from any guarantee, indemnification, or financial assurance we have provided. If we determined such a liability was probable and subject to reasonable determination, we would accrue for it at that time.

DeRidder Mill Incident

On February 8, 2017, a tank located in the pulp mill at the Company's DeRidder, Louisiana facility exploded, resulting in three contractor fatalities and other injuries. The Company was served with multiple lawsuits involving the decedents and other allegedly injured parties, alleging negligence on the part of the Company and claiming compensatory and punitive damages. The Company believes that these suits are covered by its liability insurance policies, subject to an aggregate \$1.0 million deductible. The majority of these lawsuits were settled by the Company and its insurers. The Company has not paid any losses in excess of its insurance deductible in connection with these settlements, and its insurance deductible has been satisfied in full. To date, all settlements in excess of the deductible have been paid out by one of the Company's insurers. The Company is vigorously defending the remaining lawsuit, which involves nine plaintiffs and was tried in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in April 2024. On April 24, 2024, a jury awarded these plaintiffs approximately \$91.8 million in compensatory damages. The verdict is subject to prejudgment interest. The amount of the verdict with interest is within the remaining limits of the Company's liability insurance policies. The matter is in the post-trial stage, and the Company intends to appeal the decision. While the Company cannot predict the outcome of the appeal and the ultimate outcome of this matter, the Company believes that it has sufficient insurance to cover the verdict and prejudgment interest. At March 31, 2024, the Company recorded an accrual of \$123.7 million including the compensatory damages as well as interest of \$31.9 million in "Accrued liabilities" in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Additionally, a receivable of \$123.7 million for the insurance recovery was recorded in "Prepays and other current assets" in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

In May 2017, the EPA conducted an on-site inspection of the DeRidder facility to assess compliance with the Clean Air Act, Risk Management Program ("RMP"). The Company provided additional information to the EPA promptly after the inspection to address certain areas of concern ("AOCs") observed during the inspection. Since the inspection in 2017, PCA performed several voluntary activities to address the AOCs presented in the EPA's inspection report and has removed the RMP covered process from the facility. In January 2021, the EPA and U.S. Department of Justice ("DOJ") initiated civil judicial enforcement discussions with PCA. During the third quarter of 2022, we reached a settlement with the agencies, resulting in an agreed civil penalty of \$2.5 million. The Company did not admit liability for violation of the Clean Air Act in connection with the settlement. The settlement was approved by the federal district court for the Western District of Louisiana in December 2022, and the agreed civil penalty was paid out in January 2023.

Legal Proceedings

We are also a party to various legal actions arising in the ordinary course of our business. These legal actions include commercial liability claims, premises liability claims, and employment-related claims, among others. As of the date of this filing, we believe it is not reasonably possible that any of the legal actions against us will, either individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

20. Subsequent Event

The Company has disclosed the following subsequent event in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 855, *Subsequent Events*. Subsequent events have been evaluated through the filing date of this Form 10-Q.

On April 24, 2024, a jury for the remaining DeRidder mill lawsuit that was tried in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana awarded plaintiffs approximately \$91.8 million in compensatory damages plus prejudgment interest. The amount of the verdict with interest is within the remaining limits of the Company's liability insurance policies. See Note 19, Commitments, Guarantees, Indemnifications, and Legal Proceedings for additional detail.

Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

This management's discussion and analysis includes statements regarding our expectations with respect to our future performance, expected business conditions, liquidity, and capital resources. Such statements, along with any other statements that are not historical in nature, are forward-looking. These forward-looking statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, the risks and uncertainties described in our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K, as well as those factors listed in other documents we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). We do not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statement. Our actual results may differ materially from those contained in or implied by any of the forward-looking statements in this Form 10-Q. Please see "Forward Looking Statements" elsewhere in this Item 2.

Overview

PCA is the third largest producer of containerboard products and a leading producer of UFS paper in North America. We operate eight mills and 86 corrugated products manufacturing plants. Our containerboard mills produce linerboard and corrugating medium, which are papers primarily used in the production of corrugated products. Our corrugated products manufacturing plants produce a wide variety of corrugated packaging products, including conventional shipping containers used to protect and transport manufactured goods, multi-color boxes and displays with strong visual appeal that help to merchandise the packaged product in retail locations, and honeycomb protective packaging. In addition, we are a large producer of packaging for meat, fresh fruit and vegetables, processed food, beverages, and other industrial and consumer products. We also manufacture and sell UFS papers, including both commodity and specialty papers, which may have custom or specialized features such as colors, coatings, high brightness, and recycled content. We are headquartered in Lake Forest, Illinois and operate primarily in the United States.

This Item 2 is intended to supplement, and should be read in conjunction with, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included in our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Executive Summary

First quarter net sales were \$2.0 billion in both 2024 and 2023. We reported \$147 million of net income, or \$1.63 per diluted share, during the first quarter of 2024, compared to \$190 million, or \$2.11 per diluted share, during the same period in 2023. Net income included \$8 million of expense for special items in both the first quarter of 2024 and the first quarter of 2023 (discussed below). Excluding special items, net income was \$155 million, or \$1.72 per diluted share, during the first quarter of 2024, compared to \$198 million, or \$2.20 per diluted share, in the first quarter of 2023. The decrease in net income was driven primarily by lower prices and mix in the Packaging and Paper segments, higher scheduled mill outage expenses, higher depreciation, higher expenses related to corrugated plant capital projects, and other expenses. These items were partially offset by higher volume in the Packaging and Paper segments, lower operating and converting costs, lower freight and logistics expenses, lower interest expense, and a lower tax rate. For additional detail on special items included in reported GAAP results, as well as segment income (loss) excluding special items, earnings before non-operating pension income (expense), interest, income taxes, and depreciation, amortization, and depletion ("EBITDA"), and EBITDA excluding special items, see "Item 2. Reconciliations of Non-GAAP Financial Measures to Reported Amounts."

Packaging segment income from operations was \$204 million in the first quarter of 2024, compared to \$268 million in the first quarter of 2023. Packaging segment EBITDA excluding special items was \$326 million in the first quarter of 2024 compared to \$392 million in the first quarter of 2023. The decrease was due to lower prices and mix, higher scheduled mill outage expenses, higher expenses related to corrugated plant capital projects, and other expenses, partially offset by higher sales and production volumes, lower operating and converting costs, and lower freight and logistics expense. Our demand remained strong as corrugated products shipments increased 11.0% per workday compared to the first quarter of 2023. We began to implement price increases on our containerboard and corrugated products during the quarter. Throughout our mills and corrugated products facilities, operational benefits were achieved through emphasis on cost management and process efficiencies.

Paper segment income from operations was \$30 million in the first quarter of 2024, compared to \$34 million in the first quarter of 2023. Paper segment EBITDA excluding special items was \$41 million in the first quarter of 2024 and in the first quarter of 2023. Higher sales volumes, lower operating costs, and lower freight and logistics expense were offset by lower prices and mix. We experienced increased demand from both existing customers as well as incremental volume from some new customers acquired towards the end of 2023.

Special Items and Earnings per Diluted Share, Excluding Special Items

A reconciliation of reported earnings per diluted share to earnings per diluted share, excluding special items, for the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 is as follows:

	Three Months Ended			
	March 31,		March 31,	
	2024		2023	
Earnings per diluted share, as reported	\$	1.63	\$	2.11
Special items:				
Jackson mill conversion-related activities (a)		0.09		0.01
Facilities closure and other costs (b)		—		0.08
Total special items		0.09		0.09
Earnings per diluted share, excluding special items	\$	1.72	\$	2.20

- (a) For the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, includes \$10.4 million and \$1.2 million, respectively, of charges related to the announced discontinuation of production of UFS paper grades on the No. 3 machine at the Jackson, Alabama mill associated with the permanent conversion of the machine to produce linerboard and other paper-to-containerboard conversion related activities.
- (b) For the three months ended March 31, 2024, includes \$0.1 million of income primarily related to a favorable lease buyout for a closed corrugated products facility, partially offset by closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and design centers. For the three months ended March 31, 2023, includes \$9.7 million of closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and design centers.

Included in this Item 2 are various non-GAAP financial measures, including diluted EPS excluding special items, segment income excluding special items and EBITDA excluding special items. Management excludes special items as it believes these items are not necessarily reflective of the ongoing results of operations of our business. We present these measures because they provide a means to evaluate the performance of our segments and our Company on an ongoing basis using the same measures that are used by our management, because these measures assist in providing a meaningful comparison between periods presented and because these measures are frequently used by investors and other interested parties in the evaluation of companies and the performance of their segments. A reconciliation of diluted EPS to diluted EPS excluding special items is included above and the reconciliations of other non-GAAP measures used in this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, to the most comparable measure reported in accordance with GAAP, are included in Item 2 under "Reconciliations of Non-GAAP Financial Measures to Reported Amounts." Any analysis of non-GAAP financial measures should be done in conjunction with results presented in accordance with GAAP. The non-GAAP measures are not intended to be substitutes for GAAP financial measures and should not be used as such.

Industry and Business Conditions

Trade publications reported North American industry-wide corrugated products shipments were down (1.1%) in total and up 0.5% per workday with one less shipping day during the first quarter of 2024 compared to the same quarter of 2023. Reported industry containerboard production increased 7.1% compared to the first quarter of 2023. Reported industry containerboard inventories at the end of the first quarter of 2024 were approximately 2.8 million tons, up 3.1% compared to the same period in 2023. Reported containerboard export shipments were up 38.7% compared to the first quarter of 2023. In February 2024, index prices increased \$40 per ton for linerboard and \$60 per ton for corrugating medium.

The market for communication papers competes heavily with electronic data transmission and document storage alternatives. Increasing shifts to these alternatives have reduced usage of traditional print media and communication papers. Trade publications reported North American UFS paper shipments were down (1.1%) in the first quarter of 2024 compared to the same quarter of 2023. Average prices reported by a trade publication for cut size office papers were lower by \$90 per ton, or (6.0%) in the first quarter of 2024, compared to the first quarter of 2023. In January 2024, index prices declined \$40 per ton for cut size office papers and \$20 per ton for offset printing papers.

Outlook

Looking ahead into the second quarter, in our Packaging segment we expect continued strong demand and higher corrugated products and containerboard shipments. Prices and mix will move higher due to our announced price increases and the increase in published domestic index prices, as well as higher export prices. Orders in our Paper segment are expected to remain strong however, volume will be lower due to a scheduled maintenance outage at our International Falls, MN mill during the quarter. Although we are implementing our recently announced paper price increases, average prices and mix are expected to be slightly lower due to the published decrease in index prices earlier this year and how that impacts contract triggers with certain customers. Operating and converting costs should be slightly lower primarily due to the sequential improvement in seasonal weather and wage and benefit timing expenses that we incurred in the first quarter, and scheduled maintenance outage expenses will be lower. Rail rate increases at six of our mills during the first and second quarters will result in higher freight and logistics expenses, and depreciation expense will be higher. Finally, our tax rate will be sequentially higher due to the tax-related benefit of share-based compensation vests in the first quarter. Considering these items, we expect second quarter earnings to be higher than the first quarter.

Results of Operations

Three Months Ended March 31, 2024, compared to Three Months Ended March 31, 2023

The historical results of operations of PCA for the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 are set forth below (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Change
	2024	2023	
Packaging	\$ 1,798.3	\$ 1,808.6	\$ (10.3)
Paper	163.8	150.9	12.9
Corporate and Other	61.6	60.5	1.1
Intersegment eliminations	(44.2)	(43.7)	(0.5)
Net sales	\$ 1,979.5	\$ 1,976.3	\$ 3.2
Packaging	\$ 203.8	\$ 268.0	\$ (64.2)
Paper	29.7	34.1	(4.4)
Corporate and Other	(37.5)	(31.4)	(6.1)
Income from operations	\$ 196.0	\$ 270.7	\$ (74.7)
Non-operating pension income (expense)	1.1	(2.0)	3.1
Interest expense, net	(9.6)	(15.4)	5.8
Income before taxes	187.5	253.3	(65.8)
Income tax provision	(40.6)	(63.2)	22.6
Net income	\$ 146.9	\$ 190.1	\$ (43.2)
<i>Non-GAAP Measures (a)</i>			
Net income excluding special items	\$ 154.6	\$ 198.3	\$ (43.7)
Consolidated EBITDA	324.4	400.3	(75.9)
Consolidated EBITDA excluding special items	333.2	404.9	(71.7)
Packaging EBITDA	322.3	387.0	(64.7)
Packaging EBITDA excluding special items	326.2	391.6	(65.4)
Paper EBITDA	35.7	41.0	(5.3)
Paper EBITDA excluding special items	40.6	41.0	(0.4)

(a) See “Reconciliations of Non-GAAP Financial Measures to Reported Amounts” included in this Item 2 for a reconciliation of non-GAAP measures to the most comparable GAAP measure.

Net Sales

Net sales increased \$3 million, or 0.1%, to \$1,979 million during the three months ended March 31, 2024, compared to \$1,976 million during the same period in 2023.

Packaging. Net sales decreased \$10 million, or (0.5%), to \$1,799 million, compared to \$1,809 million in the first quarter of 2023 due to lower containerboard and corrugated products prices and mix (\$168 million), partially offset by higher volume (\$158 million). In the first quarter of 2024, export and domestic containerboard outside shipments increased 22.1% compared to the first quarter of 2023. Our total corrugated products shipments were up 9.2% in total and up 11.0% per workday, with one less shipping day, compared to the same period in 2023. In the first quarter of 2024, our domestic containerboard prices were (1.7%) lower, while export prices were (25.6%) lower, than the same period in 2023.

Paper. Net sales increased \$13 million, or 8.5%, to \$164 million, compared to \$151 million in the first quarter of 2023, due to higher volume (\$23 million), partially offset by lower prices and mix (\$10 million).

Gross Profit

Gross profit decreased \$61 million during the three months ended March 31, 2024, compared to the same period in 2023. The decrease was driven primarily by lower prices and mix in the Packaging and Paper segments, higher scheduled mill outage expenses, higher depreciation, higher expenses related to corrugated plant capital projects, and other expenses, partially offset by higher volume in the Packaging and Paper segments, lower operating and converting costs, and lower freight and logistics expenses. In the three months ended March 31, 2024, gross profit included \$2 million of special items related to Jackson mill conversion-related activities. In the three months ended March 31, 2023, gross profit included \$6 million of special items primarily related to closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and Jackson mill conversion-related activities.

Selling, General, and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general, and administrative expenses (“SG&A”) increased \$4 million during the three months ended March 31, 2024, compared to the same period in 2023. The increase was primarily due to bad debt expense.

Other Income (Expense), Net

Other income (expense), net, for the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 are set forth below (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2024	2023
DeRidder litigation	\$ (123.7)	\$ —
DeRidder litigation insurance recovery	123.7	—
Asset disposals and write-offs	(7.4)	(6.6)
Jackson mill conversion-related activities	(8.3)	0.3
Facilities closure and other income (costs)	0.1	(4.7)
Other	(6.9)	(1.5)
Total	\$ (22.5)	\$ (12.5)

We discuss these items in more detail in Note 5, Other Income (Expense), Net, of the Condensed Notes to Unaudited Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements in “Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements” of this Form 10-Q.

Income from Operations

Income from operations decreased \$75 million, or (27.6%), during the three months ended March 31, 2024, compared to the same period in 2023. The first quarter of 2024 included \$10 million of special items expense primarily related to Jackson mill conversion-related activities, compared to \$11 million of special items expense primarily related to closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and Jackson mill conversion-related activities in the first quarter of 2023.

Packaging. Packaging segment income from operations decreased \$64 million to \$204 million, compared to \$268 million during the three months ended March 31, 2023. The decrease related primarily to lower containerboard and corrugated products prices and mix (\$158 million), higher annual outage expenses (\$12 million), higher expenses related to corrugated plant capital projects other costs (\$6 million), and higher depreciation expense (\$4 million), partially offset by higher sales and production volumes (\$87 million), lower operating and converting costs (\$20 million), and lower freight expenses (\$3 million). Special items during the first quarter of 2024 included \$4 million of expense primarily related to Jackson mill conversion-related activities, compared to \$9 million of expense primarily related to closure costs related to corrugated products facilities in the first quarter of 2023.

Paper. Paper segment income from operations decreased \$4 million to \$30 million, compared to \$34 million during the three months ended March 31, 2023. The decrease primarily related to lower prices and mix (\$10 million), partially offset by higher sales and production volumes (\$6 million), lower operating costs (\$3 million) and lower freight expenses (\$1 million). Special items during the first quarter of 2024 and 2023 included \$6 million and \$1 million, respectively, of expense for Jackson mill conversion-related activities.

Non-Operating Pension Income, Interest Expense, Net and Income Taxes

Non-operating pension income increased \$3 million during the three months ended March 31, 2024, compared to the same period in 2023. The increase in non-operating pension income was related to favorable 2023 asset performance and favorable assumption changes.

Interest expense, net for the three months ended March 31, 2024 decreased \$6 million when compared to the same period in 2023. The decrease in interest expense, net was primarily due to higher interest income in 2024 due to higher rates on invested cash balances, partially offset by higher interest expense in 2024 related to the Company's November 2023 debt refinancing.

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, we recorded \$41 million of income tax expense, compared to \$63 million of expense during the three months ended March 31, 2023. The effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 was 21.6% and 24.9%, respectively. The decrease in our effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 was primarily due to higher excess tax benefits associated with employee restricted stock and performance unit vests.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Sources and Uses of Cash

Our primary sources of liquidity are net cash provided by operating activities and available borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility. At March 31, 2024, we had \$692 million of cash and cash equivalents, \$561 million of marketable debt securities, and \$323 million of unused borrowing capacity under the revolving credit facility, net of letters of credit. Currently, our primary uses of cash are for operations, capital expenditures, acquisitions, debt service, common stock dividends, and repurchases of common stock. We believe that net cash generated from operating activities, cash on hand, available borrowings under our revolving credit facility, and available capital through access to capital markets will be adequate to meet our liquidity and capital requirements, including payments of any declared common stock dividends, for the foreseeable future. As our debt or credit facilities become due, we will need to repay, extend, or replace such facilities. Our ability to do so will be subject to future economic conditions and financial, business, and other factors, many of which are beyond our control.

Below is a summary table of our cash flows, followed by a discussion of our sources and uses of cash through operating activities, investing activities, and financing activities (dollars in millions):

	March 31,		Change
	2024	2023	
Net cash provided by (used for):			
Operating activities	\$ 260.4	\$ 280.4	\$ (20.0)
Investing activities	(81.0)	(115.4)	34.4
Financing activities	(135.0)	(117.3)	(17.7)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 44.4</u>	<u>\$ 47.7</u>	<u>\$ (3.3)</u>

Operating Activities

Our operating cash flow is primarily driven by our earnings and changes in operating assets and liabilities, such as accounts receivable, inventories, accounts payable and other accrued liabilities, as well as factors described below. Cash requirements for operating activities are subject to PCA's operating needs and the timing of collection of receivables and payments of payables and expenses.

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, net cash provided by operating activities was \$260 million, compared to \$280 million in the same period in 2023, a decrease of \$20 million. Cash from operations excluding changes in cash used for operating assets and liabilities decreased \$33 million primarily due to lower income from operations in 2024 as discussed above. Cash from operations increased by \$13 million due to changes in operating assets and liabilities primarily due to the following:

- a) a net favorable change in accrued liabilities during the first three months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 primarily related to the accrued liability for the DeRidder trial compensatory damages and prejudgment interest recorded in the first quarter of 2024; and
- b) a net favorable change in inventories during the first three months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 primarily due to a decrease in raw materials inventory levels in the Packaging segment and a decrease in finished goods in the Paper segment due to strong demand.

These favorable changes were partially offset by the following:

- c) a net unfavorable change in prepaid expenses and other current assets during the first three months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 primarily due to the accrued receivable for the insurance recovery related to the DeRidder litigation recorded in the first quarter of 2024;
- d) a net unfavorable change in income taxes due to a larger decrease in income tax receivables in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the first quarter of 2024; and
- e) a net unfavorable change in accounts receivable levels during the first three months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 primarily related to a larger increase in accounts receivable levels in the Paper segment in 2024 due to higher sales volumes and an increase in interest receivables in the Corporate and Other segment during the first quarter of 2024 related to accrued interest on the proceeds received from the November 2023 debt refinancing.

Investing Activities

We used \$81 million for investing activities during the three months ended March 31, 2024 compared to \$115 million during the same period in 2023. We spent \$77 million for internal capital investments during the three months ended March 31, 2024, compared to \$112 million during the same period in 2023.

We expect capital investments in 2024 to be between \$470 million and \$490 million. These expenditures could increase or decrease as a result of a number of factors, including our financial results, strategic opportunities, future economic conditions, and our regulatory compliance requirements. We currently estimate capital expenditures to comply with environmental regulations will be about \$15 million in 2024. Our estimated environmental expenditures could vary significantly depending upon the enactment of new environmental laws and regulations. For additional information, see "Environmental Matters" in "Part II, Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Financing Activities

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, net cash used for financing activities was \$135 million, compared to \$117 million of net cash used for financing activities during the same period in 2023. We paid \$112 million of dividends during the first three months of both 2024 and 2023. In addition, we withheld shares to cover \$23 million of employee restricted stock taxes during the first three months of 2024 compared to \$5 million of employee restricted stock taxes withheld during the same period in 2023.

In addition to the items discussed in Note 11, Debt, of the Condensed Notes to Unaudited Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Form 10-Q, see Note 10, Debt, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part II, Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K for more information.

Contractual Obligations

There have been no material changes to the contractual obligations disclosed in Item 7. "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Reconciliations of Non-GAAP Financial Measures to Reported Amounts

Income from operations excluding special items, net income excluding special items, EBITDA, and EBITDA excluding special items are non-GAAP financial measures. Management excludes special items, as it believes that these items are not necessarily reflective of the ongoing operations of our business. These measures are presented because they provide a means to evaluate the performance of our segments and our Company on an ongoing basis using the same measures that are used by our management, because these measures assist in providing a meaningful comparison between periods and because these measures are frequently used by investors and other interested parties in the evaluation of companies and the performance of their segments. Any analysis of non-GAAP financial measures should be done in conjunction with results presented in accordance with GAAP. The non-GAAP measures are not intended to be substitutes for GAAP financial measures and should not be used as such. Reconciliations of the non-GAAP measures to the most comparable measure reported in accordance with GAAP for the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023 follow (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended March 31,					
	2024			2023		
	Income before Taxes	Income Taxes	Net Income	Income before Taxes	Income Taxes	Net Income
As reported in accordance with GAAP	\$ 187.5	\$ (40.6)	\$ 146.9	\$ 253.3	\$ (63.2)	\$ 190.1
Special items:						
Jackson mill conversion-related activities (a)	10.4	(2.6)	7.8	1.2	(0.3)	0.9
Facilities closure and other (income) costs (b)	(0.1)	—	(0.1)	9.7	(2.4)	7.3
Total special items	10.3	(2.6)	7.7	10.9	(2.7)	8.2
Excluding special items	\$ 197.8	\$ (43.2)	\$ 154.6	\$ 264.2	\$ (65.9)	\$ 198.3

(a) Includes charges related to the announced discontinuation of production of UFS paper grades on the No. 3 machine at the Jackson, Alabama mill associated with the permanent conversion of the machine to produce linerboard and other paper-to-containerboard conversion related activities.

(b) For 2024, includes income primarily related to a favorable lease buyout for a closed corrugated products facility, partially offset by closure costs related to corrugated products facilities and design centers. For 2023, includes charges consisting of closure costs related to the closure of corrugated products facilities and design centers.

The following table reconciles net income to EBITDA and EBITDA excluding special items for the periods indicated (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2024	2023
Net income	\$ 146.9	\$ 190.1
Non-operating pension (income) expense	(1.1)	2.0
Interest expense, net	9.6	15.4
Income tax provision	40.6	63.2
Depreciation, amortization, and depletion	128.4	129.6
EBITDA	\$ 324.4	\$ 400.3
Special items:		
Jackson mill conversion-related activities	8.9	(0.3)
Facilities closure and other (income) costs	(0.1)	4.9
Total special items	8.8	4.6
EBITDA excluding special items	\$ 333.2	\$ 404.9

The following table reconciles segment income (loss) to EBITDA and EBITDA excluding special items for the periods indicated (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2024	2023
Packaging		
Segment income	\$ 203.8	\$ 268.0
Depreciation, amortization, and depletion	118.5	119.0
EBITDA	322.3	387.0
Jackson mill conversion-related activities	4.0	(0.3)
Facilities closure and other (income) costs	(0.1)	4.9
EBITDA excluding special items	<u>\$ 326.2</u>	<u>\$ 391.6</u>
Paper		
Segment income	\$ 29.7	\$ 34.1
Depreciation, amortization, and depletion	6.0	6.9
EBITDA	35.7	41.0
Jackson mill conversion-related activities	4.9	—
EBITDA excluding special items	<u>\$ 40.6</u>	<u>\$ 41.0</u>
Corporate and Other		
Segment loss	\$ (37.5)	\$ (31.4)
Depreciation, amortization, and depletion	3.9	3.7
EBITDA	(33.6)	(27.7)
EBITDA excluding special items	<u>\$ (33.6)</u>	<u>\$ (27.7)</u>
EBITDA	<u>\$ 324.4</u>	<u>\$ 400.3</u>
EBITDA excluding special items	<u>\$ 333.2</u>	<u>\$ 404.9</u>

Market Risk and Risk Management Policies

PCA is exposed to the impact of commodity price changes, interest rate changes, and changes in the market value of its financial instruments. To manage these risks, we may from time to time enter into transactions, including certain physical commodity transactions, that are determined to be derivatives. As of March 31, 2024, we are party to certain physical commodity transactions related to natural gas supply contracts. These contracts qualify for the normal purchase normal sale ("NPNS") exception, and we have elected that exception. For a discussion of derivatives and hedging activities, see Note 2, Summary of Significant Account Policies, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part II, Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

At March 31, 2024, interest rates on 100% of PCA's outstanding debt are fixed.

Off-Balance-Sheet Activities

The Company does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements as of March 31, 2024.

Environmental Matters

There have been no material changes to the disclosure set forth in Item 7. "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Environmental Matters" filed with our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based upon the Company's consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, PCA evaluates its estimates, including those related to business combinations, pensions and other postretirement benefits, goodwill and intangible assets, long-lived asset impairment, environmental liabilities, and income taxes, among others. PCA bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

PCA has included in its 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K a discussion of its critical accounting policies and estimates which require management's most difficult, subjective, or complex judgments used in the preparation of its consolidated financial statements. PCA has not had any changes to these critical accounting estimates during the first three months of 2024.

New and Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

For a listing of our new and recently adopted accounting standards, see Note 2, New and Recently Adopted Accounting Standards, of the Condensed Notes to Unaudited Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Form 10-Q.

Forward-Looking Statements

Some of the statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and in particular, statements found in this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, that are not historical in nature are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include statements about our expectations regarding our future liquidity, earnings, expenditures, and financial condition. These statements are often identified by the words "will," "should," "anticipate," "believe," "expect," "intend," "estimate," "hope," or similar expressions. These statements reflect management's current views with respect to future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties. There are important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements, many of which are beyond our control. These factors, risks and uncertainties include the following:

- the impact of general economic conditions;
- the impact of acquired businesses and risks and uncertainties regarding operation, expected benefits and integration of such businesses;
- containerboard, corrugated products, and white paper general industry conditions, including competition, product demand, product pricing, and input costs;
- fluctuations in wood fiber and recycled fiber costs;
- fluctuations in purchased energy costs;
- the possibility of unplanned outages or interruptions at our principal facilities; and
- legislative or regulatory actions or requirements, particularly concerning environmental or tax matters.

Our actual results, performance or achievement could differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements, and accordingly, we can give no assurances that any of the events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will transpire or occur, or if any of them do occur, what impact they will have on our results of operations or financial condition. Given these uncertainties, investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We expressly disclaim any obligation to publicly revise any forward-looking statements that have been made to reflect the occurrence of events after the date hereof. For a discussion of other factors, risks and uncertainties that may affect our business, see Item 1A. Risk Factors included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Item 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

For a discussion of market risks related to PCA, see Part I, Item 2, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Market Risk and Risk Management Policies” in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

PCA maintains disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in PCA’s filings under the Securities Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC and that such information is accumulated and communicated to PCA’s management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Prior to filing this report, PCA completed an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of PCA’s management, including PCA’s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of PCA’s disclosure controls and procedures as of March 31, 2024. The evaluation of PCA’s disclosure controls and procedures included a review of the controls’ objectives and design, PCA’s implementation of the controls, and the effect of the controls on the information generated for use in this report. Based on this evaluation, PCA’s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that PCA’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level as of March 31, 2024.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) that occurred during the most recent fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2024 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II
OTHER INFORMATION**

Item 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The disclosure set forth under the caption "Legal Proceedings" in Note 19, Commitments, Guarantees, Indemnifications and Legal Proceedings, of the Condensed Notes to Unaudited Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements in "Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Form 10-Q is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

There have been no material changes to the risk factors disclosed in "Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Item 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The following table presents information related to our repurchases of common stock made under repurchase plans authorized by PCA's Board of Directors, and shares withheld to cover taxes on vesting of equity awards, during the three months ended March 31, 2024:

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities				
Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (a)	Average Price Paid Per Share (b)	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (in millions)
January 1-31, 2024	141	\$ 163.89	—	\$ 436.0
February 1-29, 2024	89,263	174.78	—	436.0
March 1-31, 2024	36,963	187.10	—	436.0
Total	126,367	\$ 178.37	—	\$ 436.0

(a) All shares were withheld from employees to cover income and payroll taxes on equity awards that vested during the period.

Item 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

Item 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

Item 5. OTHER INFORMATION

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, none of the Company's directors or officers adopted or terminated any contract, instruction, or written plan for the purchase or sale of our securities intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c) under the Exchange Act or any non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangements as defined in Item 408(a) of Regulation S-K.

Item 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. †
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. †
32	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. †
101.INS	Inline XBRL Instance Document – the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document. †
101.SCH	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document. †
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101). †

† Filed herewith.

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.

Packaging Corporation of America

/s/ ROBERT P. MUNDY

Robert P. Mundy

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: May 8, 2024

**CEO CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Mark W. Kowlzan, certify that:

(1) I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Packaging Corporation of America (PCA);

(2) Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

(3) Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of PCA as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

(4) PCA's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for PCA and have:

a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to PCA, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

c) evaluated the effectiveness of PCA's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

d) disclosed in this report any change in PCA's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during PCA's most recent fiscal quarter (PCA's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, PCA's internal control over financial reporting; and

(5) PCA's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to PCA's auditors and the Audit Committee of PCA's Board of Directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect PCA's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and

b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in PCA's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Mark W. Kowlzan

Mark W. Kowlzan

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 8, 2024

**CFO CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Robert P. Mundy, certify that:

(1) I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Packaging Corporation of America (PCA);

(2) Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

(3) Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of PCA as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

(4) PCA's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for PCA and have:

a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to PCA, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

c) evaluated the effectiveness of PCA's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

d) disclosed in this report any change in PCA's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during PCA's most recent fiscal quarter (PCA's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, PCA's internal control over financial reporting; and

(5) PCA's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to PCA's auditors and the Audit Committee of PCA's Board of Directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect PCA's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and

b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in PCA's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Robert P. Mundy

Robert P. Mundy

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: May 8, 2024

**CERTIFICATIONS OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. §1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Mark W. Kowlzan, Chief Executive Officer of Packaging Corporation of America (the “Company”), certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

(1) The Quarterly Report of the Company on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2024 fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

(2) The information contained in such Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Mark W. Kowlzan

Mark W. Kowlzan

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 8, 2024

I, Robert P. Mundy, Chief Financial Officer of Packaging Corporation of America (the “Company”), certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

(1) The Quarterly Report of the Company on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2024 fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

(2) The information contained in such Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Robert P. Mundy

Robert P. Mundy

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: May 8, 2024
