

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the three months ended
March 31, 2022**

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from to**

Commission file number 001-37540



HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

47-4168492
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**7905 Quivira Road
Lenexa, KS**
(Address of principal executive offices)

66215
(Zip Code)

(816) 701-4600

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

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

Title of each Class	Ticker Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Class A Common Stock, Par Value of \$0.0001 per share	TWNK	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

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 (§229.405 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, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.:

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

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

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

Shares of Class A common stock outstanding - 138,286,747 shares at May 2, 2022

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
FORM 10-Q
For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2022

INDEX

	<u>Page</u>
	<u>PART I - Financial Information</u>
Item 1.	<u>Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets</u> (Unaudited) <u>4</u>
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations</u> (Unaudited) <u>5</u>
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)</u> (Unaudited) <u>6</u>
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity</u> (Unaudited) <u>7</u>
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u> (Unaudited) <u>8</u>
	<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u> (Unaudited) <u>9</u>
Item 2.	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> <u>16</u>
Item 3.	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u> <u>19</u>
Item 4.	<u>Controls and Procedures</u> <u>19</u>
	<u>PART II - Other Information</u>
Item 1.	<u>Legal Proceedings</u> <u>20</u>
Item 1A.	<u>Risk Factors</u> <u>20</u>
Item 2.	<u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u> <u>20</u>
Item 3.	<u>Default Upon Senior Securities</u> <u>20</u>
Item 4.	<u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u> <u>20</u>
Item 5.	<u>Other Information</u> <u>20</u>
Item 6.	<u>Exhibits</u> <u>21</u>

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains statements reflecting our views about our future performance that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. All statements contained in this Quarterly Report other than statements of historical fact, including statements regarding our future results of operations and financial position, our business strategy and plans, and our objectives for future operations, are forward-looking statements. Statements that constitute forward-looking statements are generally identified through the inclusion of words such as "believes," "expects," "intends," "estimates," "projects," "anticipates," "will," "plan," "may," "should," or similar language. Statements addressing events and developments that we expect or anticipate will occur are also considered forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements included herein are made only as of the date hereof. It is routine for our internal projections and expectations to change throughout the year, and any forward-looking statements based upon these projections or expectations may change prior to the end of the next quarter or year. Readers of this Quarterly Report are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. As a result of a number of known and unknown risks and uncertainties, our actual results or performance may be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties are identified under "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, as updated by subsequent filings. All subsequent written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by these risk factors. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited, amounts in thousands, except shares and per share data)

	March 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 238,431	\$ 249,159
Accounts receivable, net	193,085	148,180
Inventories	59,867	52,813
Prepays and other current assets	6,972	10,564
Total current assets	498,355	460,716
Property and equipment, net	354,055	335,305
Intangible assets, net	1,938,514	1,944,392
Goodwill	706,615	706,615
Other assets, net	42,821	19,283
Total assets	\$ 3,540,360	\$ 3,466,311
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Long-term debt and lease obligations payable within one year	\$ 14,126	\$ 14,170
Tax receivable agreement payments payable within one year	10,200	11,600
Accounts payable	90,591	68,104
Customer trade allowances	63,329	52,746
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	36,873	47,009
Total current liabilities	215,119	193,629
Long-term debt and lease obligations	1,096,867	1,099,975
Tax receivable agreement obligations	134,222	134,265
Deferred tax liability	331,658	317,847
Other long-term liabilities	1,615	1,605
Total liabilities	1,779,481	1,747,321
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 9)		
Class A common stock, \$0.0001 par value, 200,000,000 shares authorized, 142,487,326 shares issued and 138,275,493 shares outstanding as of March 31, 2022 and 142,031,329 shares issued and 138,278,573 shares outstanding as of December 31, 2021		
	14	14
Additional paid in capital	1,302,039	1,303,254
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	17,720	(506)
Retained earnings	509,958	475,400
Treasury stock	(68,852)	(59,172)
Stockholders' equity	1,760,879	1,718,990
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 3,540,360	\$ 3,466,311

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited, amounts in thousands, except shares and per share data)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
Net revenue	\$ 332,051	\$ 265,421
Cost of goods sold	216,427	169,902
Gross profit	115,624	95,519
Operating costs and expenses:		
Advertising and marketing	11,950	11,781
Selling expense	9,777	8,630
General and administrative	29,672	22,185
Amortization of customer relationships	5,878	5,878
Total operating costs and expenses	57,277	48,474
Operating income	58,347	47,045
Other expense (income):		
Interest expense, net	9,666	10,017
Change in fair value of warrant liabilities	—	(76)
Other expense	436	363
Total other expense	10,102	10,304
Income before income taxes	48,245	36,741
Income tax expense	13,687	10,009
Net income	\$ 34,558	\$ 26,732
Earnings per Class A share:		
Basic	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.20
Diluted	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.19
Weighted-average shares outstanding:		
Basic	138,602,451	130,839,313
Diluted	139,565,136	137,186,889

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(Unaudited, amounts in thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
Net income	\$ 34,558	\$ 26,732
Other comprehensive income:		
Unrealized gain on interest rate swap and foreign currency contracts designated as a cash flow hedge	23,656	7,060
Reclassification into net income	1,062	1,327
Income tax expense	(6,492)	(2,225)
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 52,784</u>	<u>\$ 32,894</u>

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(Unaudited, amounts in thousands)

	Class A Voting Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock		Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount				Shares	Amount	
Balance—December 31, 2021	138,279	\$ 14	\$ 1,303,254	\$ (506)	\$ 475,400	3,753	\$ (59,172)	\$ 1,718,990
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	18,226	34,558	—	—	52,784
Share-based compensation	350	—	2,339	—	—	—	—	2,339
Exercise of employee stock options	105	—	1,662	—	—	—	—	1,662
Payment of taxes for employee stock awards	—	—	(5,216)	—	—	—	—	(5,216)
Repurchase of Common Stock	(459)	—	—	—	—	459	(9,680)	(9,680)
Balance—March 31, 2022	138,275	\$ 14	\$ 1,302,039	\$ 17,720	\$ 509,958	4,212	\$ (68,852)	\$ 1,760,879

	Class A Voting Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock		Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount				Shares	Amount	
Balance—December 31, 2020	130,347	\$ 13	\$ 1,281,018	\$ (10,407)	\$ 356,101	444	\$ (6,000)	\$ 1,620,725
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	6,162	26,732	—	—	32,894
Share-based compensation	146	—	2,723	—	—	—	—	2,723
Exercise of employee stock options	20	—	262	—	—	—	—	262
Payment of taxes for employee stock awards	—	—	(843)	—	—	—	—	(843)
Exercise of public warrants	672	—	7,722	—	—	—	—	7,722
Balance—March 31, 2021	131,185	\$ 13	\$ 1,290,882	\$ (4,245)	\$ 382,833	444	\$ (6,000)	\$ 1,663,483

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Unaudited, amounts in thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
Operating activities		
Net income	\$ 34,558	\$ 26,732
Depreciation and amortization	13,297	12,691
Debt discount amortization	308	311
Change in fair value of warrant liabilities	—	(76)
Unrealized foreign exchange losses	317	123
Non-cash lease expense	125	329
Share-based compensation	2,339	2,723
Deferred taxes	7,322	6,646
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(44,848)	(34,204)
Inventories	(7,054)	(2,796)
Prepays and other current assets	3,735	13,112
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	10,866	6,582
Customer trade allowances	10,561	680
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>31,526</u>	<u>32,853</u>
Investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment	(23,034)	(10,251)
Acquisition and development of software assets	(1,825)	(634)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(24,859)</u>	<u>(10,885)</u>
Financing activities		
Repayments of long-term debt and lease obligations	(2,792)	(2,792)
Repurchase of common stock	(9,680)	—
Tax payments related to issuance of shares to employees	(5,216)	(843)
Cash received from exercise of options and warrants	1,662	7,984
Payments on tax receivable agreement	(1,443)	(1,600)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>(17,469)</u>	<u>2,749</u>
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	74	95
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(10,728)	24,812
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	249,159	173,034
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 238,431	\$ 197,846
Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flow Information:		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest	\$ 9,678	\$ 9,807
Net taxes paid (refunded)	\$ (514)	\$ (8,191)
Supplemental disclosure of non-cash investing:		
Accrued capital expenditures	\$ 5,433	\$ 4,026

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Description of Business

Hostess Brands, Inc. is a Delaware corporation headquartered in Lenexa, Kansas. The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Hostess Brands, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “Company”). The Company is a leading sweet snacks company focused on developing, manufacturing, marketing, selling and distributing snacks in North America under the Hostess® and Voortman® brands. The Company produces a variety of new and classic treats including iconic Hostess® Donettes®, Twinkies®, CupCakes, Ding Dongs® and Zingers®, as well as a variety of Voortman® branded cookies and wafers.

Basis of Presentation

The Company’s operations are conducted through wholly-owned operating subsidiaries. The condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). The results of operations for any quarter or a partial fiscal year period are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for other periods or the full fiscal year. For the periods presented, the Company has one reportable segment.

Adoption of New Accounting Standards

In March 2020, the FASB issued ASU No. 2020-04, Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848): Facilitation of the Effects of Reference Rate Reform on Financial Reporting, which provides practical expedients and exceptions for applying GAAP to contracts, hedging relationships, and other transactions affected by reference rate reform if certain criteria are met. The expedients and exceptions provided by the amendments in this update apply only to contracts, hedging relationships, and other transactions that reference the London interbank offered rate (“LIBOR”) or another reference rate expected to be discontinued as a result of reference rate reform. ASU No. 2020-04 is elective and effective as of March 12, 2020 through December 31, 2022. Once elected, this ASU must be applied prospectively for all eligible contract modifications. The Company will adopt Topic 848 when its relevant contracts are modified upon transition to alternative reference rates. The Company does not expect the adoption of Topic 848 to have a material impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements.

Principles of Consolidation

All intercompany balances and transactions related to activity between the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries have been eliminated in consolidation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and for the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable represents amounts invoiced to customers for performance obligations which have been satisfied. As of March 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the Company’s accounts receivable were \$193.1 million and \$148.2 million, respectively, which have been reduced by an allowance for damages occurring during shipment, quality claims and doubtful accounts in the amount of \$4.4 million and \$3.0 million for the periods ending March 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively.

The allowance for doubtful accounts represents the Company’s estimate of expected credit losses related to trade receivables. To estimate the allowance for doubtful accounts, the Company leverages information on historical losses, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts of future conditions. Account balances are written off against the allowance when the Company deems the amount is uncollectible.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net-realizable value on a first-in first-out basis. Abnormal amounts of idle facility expense, freight, handling costs, and wasted material (spoilage) are expensed in the period they are incurred.

The components of inventories are as follows:

(In thousands)	March 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Ingredients and packaging	\$ 27,369	\$ 22,607
Finished goods	28,825	26,988
Inventory in transit to customers	3,673	3,218
	<u>\$ 59,867</u>	<u>\$ 52,813</u>

Software Costs

Capitalized software is included in other assets in the condensed consolidated balance sheets in the amount of \$15.6 million and \$14.7 million as of March 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively. Capitalized software costs are amortized over their estimated useful life of up to five years commencing when such assets are ready for their intended use. Software amortization expense included in general and administrative operating expense was \$1.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to \$0.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021.

Disaggregation of Revenue

Net revenue consists of sales of packaged food products primarily within the Sweet Baked Goods category in the United States, as well as in the Cookie category in the United States and Canada.

The following tables disaggregate revenue by geographical market and category.

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31, 2022		
	Sweet Baked Goods	Cookies	Total
United States	\$ 296,372	\$ 30,916	\$ 327,288
Canada	—	4,763	4,763
	<u>\$ 296,372</u>	<u>\$ 35,679</u>	<u>\$ 332,051</u>

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31, 2021		
	Sweet Baked Goods	Cookies	Total
United States	\$ 237,700	\$ 23,803	\$ 261,503
Canada	—	3,918	3,918
	<u>\$ 237,700</u>	<u>\$ 27,721</u>	<u>\$ 265,421</u>

Concentrations

For the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company had one customer (together with its affiliates) that accounted for 20.7% and 20.5% of total net revenue, respectively.

Foreign Currency Remeasurement

Certain Voortman Cookies Limited (“Voortman”) sales and costs are denominated in the Canadian dollar (“CAD”). CAD transactions have been remeasured into U.S. dollars (“USD”) on the condensed consolidated statements of operations using the average exchange rate for the reporting period. Balances expected to be settled in CAD have been remeasured into USD on the condensed consolidated balance sheets using the exchange rate at the end of the

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

period. During the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company recognized losses on remeasurement of \$0.3 million and \$0.1 million, respectively, which is reported within other expense on the condensed consolidated statement of operations.

2. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment consists of the following:

<u>(In thousands)</u>	<u>March 31, 2022</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>
Land and buildings	\$ 72,110	\$ 70,692
Right of use assets, operating	32,192	32,192
Machinery and equipment	300,658	299,071
Construction in progress	49,024	26,027
	<u>453,984</u>	<u>427,982</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(99,929)	(92,677)
	<u>\$ 354,055</u>	<u>\$ 335,305</u>

Depreciation expense was \$6.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to \$5.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021.

3. Accrued Expenses and Other Current Liabilities

Included in accrued expenses and other current liabilities are the following:

<u>(In thousands)</u>	<u>March 31, 2022</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>
Payroll, vacation and other compensation	\$ 10,575	\$ 7,791
Incentive compensation	7,041	21,172
Accrued interest	4,528	4,828
Interest rate swap and foreign currency contracts	185	2,042
Other	14,544	11,176
	<u>\$ 36,873</u>	<u>\$ 47,009</u>

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4. Debt and Lease Obligations

A summary of the carrying value of the debt and lease obligations are as follows:

(In thousands)	March 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Term loan (3.0% as of March 31, 2022)		
Principal	\$ 1,088,804	\$ 1,091,596
Unamortized debt premium and issuance costs	(3,371)	(3,679)
	1,085,433	1,087,917
Lease obligations	25,560	26,228
Total debt and lease obligations	1,110,993	1,114,145
Less: Current portion of long term debt and lease obligations	(14,126)	(14,170)
Long-term portion	<u>\$ 1,096,867</u>	<u>\$ 1,099,975</u>

At March 31, 2022, minimum debt repayments under the term loan are due as follows:

(In thousands)	
2022	\$ 8,375
2023	11,167
2024	11,167
2025	1,058,095

Leases

The Company has entered into operating leases for certain properties which expire at various times through 2026. The Company determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception.

At March 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, right of use assets related to operating leases are included in property and equipment, net on the condensed consolidated balance sheets (see Note 2. Property and Equipment). As of March 31, 2022 and December 31 2021, the Company has no outstanding financing leases. Lease liabilities for operating leases are included in the current and non-current portions of long-term debt and lease obligations on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

The table below shows the composition of lease expense:

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
Operating lease expense	\$ 1,603	\$ 1,653
Short-term lease expense	373	203
Variable lease expense	382	357
	<u>\$ 2,358</u>	<u>\$ 2,213</u>

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5. Derivative Instruments

Interest Rate Swap and Foreign Currency Contracts

The Company entered into interest rate swap contracts with counter parties to make a series of payments based on fixed rates ranging from 1.11% to 2.06% in addition to the term loan margin of 2.25% and receive a series of payments based on the greater of LIBOR or 0.75%. Both the fixed and floating payment streams are based on the March 31, 2022 notional amount of \$800 million which will reduce by \$100 million in May 2022, with the remaining \$700 million outstanding through August 2025. The Company entered into these transactions to reduce its exposure to changes in cash flows associated with its variable rate debt and has designated these derivatives as cash flow hedges. At March 31, 2022, the interest on the Company's variable rate debt hedged by these contracts is effectively fixed at rates ranging from 3.36% to 4.31%.

To reduce the effect of fluctuations in CAD denominated expenses relative to their U.S. dollar equivalents originating from its Canadian operations, the Company entered into CAD purchase contracts. The contracts provide for the Company to sell a total of \$13.4 million USD for \$16.8 million CAD at varying defined settlement dates through March 2023. The Company has designated these contracts as cash flow hedges.

A summary of the fair value of interest rate and foreign currency instruments is as follows:

(In thousands)		March 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Asset derivatives	Location		
Interest rate swap contracts (1)	Other non-current assets	\$ 24,516	\$ 1,803
Foreign currency contracts (2)	Other current assets	194	—
		<u>\$ 24,710</u>	<u>\$ 1,803</u>
Liability derivatives	Location		
Interest rate swap contracts (1)	Accrued expenses	\$ 80	\$ 1,798
Foreign currency contracts (2)	Accrued expenses	105	244
		<u>\$ 185</u>	<u>\$ 2,042</u>

(1) The fair values of interest rate swap contracts are measured on a recurring basis by netting the discounted future fixed cash payments and the discounted expected variable cash receipts. The variable cash receipts are based on the expectation of future interest rates (forward curves) derived from observed market interest rate curves (Level 2).

(2) The fair values of foreign currency contracts are measured at each reporting period by comparison to available market information on similar contracts (Level 2).

A summary of the gains and losses related to interest rate and foreign currency instruments in the condensed consolidated statements of operations is as follows:

(In thousands)		Three Months Ended	
		March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
Loss on derivative contracts designated as cash flow hedges	Location		
Interest rate swap contracts	Interest expense, net	\$ 1,062	\$ 1,327

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

6. Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing net income for the period by the weighted average number of shares of Class A common stock outstanding for the period excluding non-vested share-based awards. In computing diluted earnings per share, basic earnings per share is adjusted for the assumed issuance of all applicable potentially dilutive share-based awards including RSUs and stock options as well as public and private placement warrants.

Below are basic and diluted net income per share:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
Numerator:		
Net income (in thousands) - basic	\$ 34,558	\$ 26,732
Less: Change in fair value of warrant liabilities	—	(76)
Numerator - diluted	34,558	26,656
Denominator:		
Weighted-average Class A shares outstanding - basic	138,602,451	130,839,313
Dilutive effect of warrants	—	5,830,238
Dilutive effect of RSUs	484,295	414,314
Dilutive effect of stock options	478,390	103,024
Weighted-average shares outstanding - diluted	139,565,136	137,186,889
Net income per Class A share - basic	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.20
Net income per Class A share - diluted	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.19

For warrants that are liability-classified, during periods when the impact would be dilutive, the Company assumes share settlement of the instruments as of the beginning of the reporting period and adjusts the numerator to remove the change in fair value of the warrant liability and adjusts the denominator to include the dilutive shares calculated using the treasury stock method.

There were no stock options that were excluded from the computation of diluted weighted average shares for the three months ended March 31, 2022 compared to 23,998 excluded for the three months ended March 31, 2021, because their effect was anti-dilutive.

7. Income Taxes

The Company is subject to U.S. federal, state and local income taxes as well as Canadian income tax on its controlled foreign subsidiary. The income tax provision is determined based on the estimated full year effective tax rate, adjusted for infrequent or unusual items, which are recognized on a discrete basis in the period they occur. The Company's estimated annual effective tax rate is 27.1% prior to taking into account any discrete items. As of March 31, 2022 income taxes payable were \$5 million as compared to income taxes receivable as of December 31, 2021 were \$3.1 million.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8. Tax Receivable Agreement Obligations

The following table summarizes activity related to the tax receivable agreement for the three months ended March 31, 2022:

(In thousands)		
Balance December 31, 2021	\$	145,865
Payments		<u>(1,443)</u>
Balance March 31, 2022	\$	<u>144,422</u>

As of March 31, 2022 the future expected payments under the tax receivable agreement are as follows:

(In thousands)		
2022	\$	10,200
2023		9,600
2024		10,100
2025		9,400
2026		9,600
Thereafter		95,522

9. Commitments and Contingencies

Liabilities related to legal proceedings are recorded when it is probable that a liability has been incurred and the associated amount can be reasonably estimated. Where the estimated amount of loss is within a range of amounts and no amount within the range is a better estimate than any other amount, the minimum amount is accrued. As additional information becomes available, potential liabilities are reassessed and the estimates revised, if necessary. Any accrued liabilities are subject to change in the future based on new developments in each matter, or changes in circumstances, which could have a material effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion summarizes the significant factors affecting the consolidated operating results, financial condition, liquidity and capital resources of Hostess Brands, Inc. This discussion should be read in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included herein, and our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021. The terms “our”, “we,” “us,” and “Company” as used herein refer to Hostess Brands, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Overview

We are a leading North America sweet snacks company that produces sweet baked goods (“SBG”) and cookie and wafer products, primarily under the Hostess® and Voortman® brands. Our direct-to-warehouse (“DTW”) product distribution system allows us to deliver to our customers’ warehouses. Our customers in turn distribute to the retail stores.

Hostess® is the second leading brand by market share within the SBG category, according to Nielsen U.S. total universe. For the 13-week period ended April 2, 2022, our branded SBG (which includes Hostess®, Dolly Madison®, Cloverhill® and Big Texas®) market share was 22.0% per Nielsen’s U.S. SBG category data.

Factors Impacting Recent Results

There have been constraints in certain aspects of the global supply chain that have and continue to impact our operations, including cost and availability of labor, transportation and raw materials. These constraints have resulted from various macro factors, including, but not limited to, the COVID-19 pandemic, trends in labor markets, the conflict in Ukraine, the Avian Influenza and overall elevated demand for goods. We manage the impact of cost increases, wherever possible, by locking in prices on ingredients and packaging. We expect to partially mitigate the inflationary cost increases through pricing actions implemented in 2021 and the first quarter of 2022, as well as those we plan to implement throughout the remainder of 2022.

While these constraints have not significantly disrupted our operations to date, it is possible that they could materially impact our ability to source ingredients and packaging for our production facilities or our ability to ship products to our customers. We continue to work closely with all of our vendors, distributors, contract manufacturers, and other external business partners to maintain availability of our products for our customers and consumers.

Operating Results

(In thousands, except per share data)	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2022	March 31, 2021
Net revenue	\$ 332,051	\$ 265,421
Gross profit	115,624	95,519
<i>As a % of net revenue</i>	<i>34.8 %</i>	<i>36.0 %</i>
Operating costs and expenses	57,277	48,474
Operating income	58,347	47,045
Other expense	10,102	10,304
Income tax expense	13,687	10,009
Net income	34,558	26,732
Earnings per Class A share:		
Basic	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.20
Diluted	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.19

Results of Operations

Net Revenue

Net revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2022 increased \$66.7 million, or 25.1%, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, with higher volumes accounting for approximately 15% of the quarterly growth and the remaining increase attributed to planned pricing action and favorable product mix. Compared to the same period last year, SBG net revenue increased \$58.7 million or 24.7%, while Cookies net revenue increased \$8.0 million or 28.9%.

Gross Profit

Gross profit was 34.8% of net revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2022, a decrease of 117 basis points from a gross margin of 36.0% for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The decrease in gross margin was attributed to increased transportation, labor and other input cost inflation, partially offset by pricing actions and productivity initiatives.

Operating Costs and Expenses

Operating costs and expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2022 were \$57.3 million, compared to \$48.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The increase was primarily attributed to higher incentive compensation and other investments in workforce as well as project consulting costs.

Other (Income) Expense

Other expense for the three months ended March 31, 2022 was \$10.1 million compared to other expense of \$10.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The decrease in other expense was primarily due to interest expense on our term loans, which was \$9.4 million and \$9.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2022 was 28.4% compared to 27.2% for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The increase in the tax rate is attributed to a discrete expense of \$0.6 million recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2022, related to share-based compensation.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our primary sources of liquidity are from cash on hand, future cash flow generated from operations, and availability under our revolving credit agreement (“Revolver”). We believe that cash flows from operations and the current cash and cash equivalents on the balance sheet will be sufficient to satisfy the anticipated cash requirements associated with our existing operations for at least the next 12 months. Our future cash requirements include, but are not limited to, the purchase commitments for certain raw materials and packaging used in our production process, scheduled rent on leased facilities, scheduled debt service payments on our term loan and settlements on related interest rate swap contracts, payments on our tax receivable agreement, settlements on our outstanding foreign currency contracts and outstanding purchase orders on capital projects.

Our ability to generate sufficient cash from our operating activities depends on our future performance, which is subject to general economic, political, financial, competitive and other factors beyond our control. In addition, future cash requirements could be higher than we currently expect as a result of various factors, including any expansion of our business that we undertake, such as acquisitions. We consider all highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

We had working capital, excluding cash, as of March 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 of \$44.8 million and \$17.9 million, respectively. We have the ability to borrow under the Revolver to meet obligations as they come due. As of March 31, 2022, we had approximately \$94.0 million available for borrowing, net of letters of credit, under our Revolver.

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cash flows provided by operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021 were \$31.5 million and \$32.9 million, respectively. Despite an increase in earnings, operating cash flow decreased slightly due to an increase in working capital in the current year and additional tax refunds of \$7.7 million received in the prior-year period.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

Investing activities used \$24.9 million and \$10.9 million of cash for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. On February 22, 2022, we purchased a facility in Arkadelphia, Arkansas for a total purchase price of \$11.5 million. Additional capital expenditures were incurred on this project during the three months ended March 31, 2022, and we expect elevated capital expenditures due to this project throughout the remainder of 2022.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

Financing activities used \$17.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and provided \$2.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The net outflow for the current-year period consisted of cash used to repurchase 0.5 million shares of our common stock under existing securities repurchase authorizations as well as scheduled payments under the tax receivable agreement and term loan. The net inflow in the prior-year period reflects proceeds on exercise of employee stock options and proceeds from the exercise of public warrants, offset by scheduled payments under the tax receivable agreement and term loan.

Long-Term Debt

As of March 31, 2022, \$1,088.8 million aggregate principal amount of the term loan was outstanding and letters of credit worth up to \$6.0 million aggregate principal amount were available, reducing the amount available under the Revolver. We had no outstanding borrowings under our Revolver as of March 31, 2022. As of March 31, 2022, we were in compliance with the covenants under the term loan and the Revolver.

Contractual Obligations and Commitments

There were no material changes, outside the ordinary course of business, in our outstanding contractual obligations from those disclosed within “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

For quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk, see Item 7A “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021. Our exposures to market risk have not changed materially since December 31, 2021.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Interim Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e)) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act) as of March 31, 2022, the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2022 to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and that information relating to the Company is accumulated and communicated to management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

During the three months ended March 31, 2022, there was no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are involved from time to time in lawsuits, claims and proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. These matters typically involve personnel and employment issues, personal injury claims, contract matters and other proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Although we do not expect the outcome of these matters to have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations, litigation is inherently unpredictable. Therefore, we could incur judgments, enter into settlements or be subject to claims that could materially impact our results.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Our risk factors are set forth in the “Risk Factors” section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 1, 2022. There have been no material changes to our risk factors since the filing of the Form 10-K.

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

Not applicable.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
31.1	<u>Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>
31.2	<u>Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>
32.1	<u>Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>
32.2	<u>Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>
101.INS	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	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
104	The cover page from the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2022, formatted in Inline XBRL

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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, on May 4, 2022.

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.

By:

/s/ Michael J. Gernigin

Michael J. Gernigin
Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF
THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Andrew P. Callahan, certify that:

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

Date: May 4, 2022

/s/ Andrew P. Callahan

*President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)*

**CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF
THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Michael J. Gernigin, certify that:

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

Date: May 4, 2022

/s/ Michael J. Gernigin

*Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)*

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

In connection with the quarterly report of Hostess Brands, Inc., (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2022 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Andrew P. Callahan, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, based on my knowledge, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a) or 78o(d)); and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: May 4, 2022

/s/ Andrew P. Callahan

*President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)*

This certification accompanies the Report to which it relates, is not deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is not to be incorporated by reference into any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (whether made before or after the date of the Form 10-K), irrespective of any general incorporation language contained in such filing.

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

In connection with the quarterly report of Hostess Brands, Inc., (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2022 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Michael J. Gernigin, Principal Financial Officer of the Company, certify, based on my knowledge, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a) or 78o(d)); and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: May 4, 2022

/s/ Michael J. Gernigin

*Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)*

This certification accompanies the Report to which it relates, is not deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is not to be incorporated by reference into any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (whether made before or after the date of the Form 10-K), irrespective of any general incorporation language contained in such filing.