### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

#### FORM 8-K

#### **CURRENT REPORT** Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)

of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 28, 2016

### Hostess Brands, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 1-37540 (Commission File Number)

1 East Armour Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri (Address of principal executive offices) 47-4168492 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> 64111 (Zip Code)

(816) 701-4600 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

#### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

On November 28, 2016, Hostess Brands, Inc. (the "Company") issued an investor presentation that will be used by the Company in making presentations to certain investors. A copy of the investor presentation is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information furnished in this Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1, is being furnished and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any registration statement filed pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as may be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

The Company expressly disclaims any obligation to update or revise any of the information contained in the investor presentation.

The investor presentation is available on the Company's website located at <u>www.hostessbrands.com</u>, although the Company reserves the right to discontinue that availability at any time.

#### **Forward Looking Statements**

This Current Report on Form 8-K contain statements reflecting our views about our future performance that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the Reform Act) that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. Statements that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Reform Act 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 our future operating performance and statements addressing events and developments that we expect or anticipate will occur are also considered as forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements included herein are made only as of the date hereof. These statements inherently involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipate due hor or expectations or 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 are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibits
99.1	Investor Presentation of the Company dated November 28, 2016.

#### 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 hereunto duly authorized.

#### HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.

Date: November 28, 2016

By: Name: Title: /s/ Thomas Peterson

Thomas Peterson Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

#### Exhibit List

Exhibit No.

Description of Exhibits

99.1

Investor Presentation of the Company dated November 28, 2016.

# THE ORIGINAL.

### HOSTESS BRANDS INVESTOR PRESENTATION



November 2016

### DISCLAIMER

#### Forward Looking Statements

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These statements inherently involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, maintaining, extending and expanding our reputation and brand image; protecting our intellectual property rights; leveraging our brand value to compete against lower-priced alternative brands; correctly predicting, identifying and interpreting changes in consumer preferences and demand and offering new products to meet those changes; operating in a highly competitive industry; our continued ability to produce and successfully market products with extended shelf life; our ability to drive revenue growth in our key products or add products that are faster-growing and more profitable; volatility in commodity, energy, and other input prices; our dependence on our major customers; our geographic focus could make us particularly vulnerable to economic and other events and trends in North America; increased costs in order to comply with governmental regulation; general political, social and economic conditions; a portion of our workforce belongs to unions and strikes or work stoppages could cause our business to suffer; product liability claims, product recalls, or regulatory enforcement actions; unanticipated business disruptions; dependence on third parties for significant services; our insurance may not provide adequate levels of coverage against claims; failures, unavailability, or disruptions of our information technology systems; our ability to finance our indebtedness on terms favorable to us; and other risks as set forth from time to time in our set our ability to finance our indebtedness on terms favorable to us; and other risks as set forth from time to time in our set our side induces on terms favorable to us; and other risks as set forth from time to time in our set our formation.

#### Industry and Market Data

In this Investor Presentation, Hostess relies on and refers to information and statistics regarding market shares in the sectors in which it competes and other industry data. Hostess obtained this information and statistics from third-party sources, including reports by market research firms, such as Nielsen. Hostess has supplemented this information where necessary with information from discussions with Hostess customers and its own internal estimates, taking into account publicly available information about other industry participants and Hostess' management's best view as to information that is not publicly available.

#### Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

This Investor Presentation includes non-GAAP financial measures, including earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("Adjusted EBITDA"), Adjusted EBITDA Margin and Free Cash Flow. In this Investor Presentation, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA Margin exclude certain add-backs. Adjusted EBITDA Margin represents Adjusted EBITDA divided by total revenues. Free Cash Flow conversion is defined as Adjusted EBITDA minus capital expenditures divided by Adjusted EBITDA. You can find the reconciliation of these measures to the nearest comparable GAAP measures in the Appendix.

Hostess believes that these non-GAAP measures of financial results provide useful information to management and investors regarding certain financial and business trends relating to Hostess' financial condition and results of operations. Hostess' management uses these non-GAAP measures to compare Hostess' performance to that of prior periods for trend analyses, for purposes of determining management incentive compensation, and for budgeting and planning purposes. These measures are used in monthly financial reports prepared for management and Hostess' board of directors.

Hostess believes that the use of these non-GAAP financial measures provides an additional tool for investors to use in evaluating ongoing operating results and trends. Management of Hostess does not consider these non-GAAP measures in isolation or as an alternative to financial measures determined in accordance with GAAP.

Other companies may calculate Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA Margin, Free Cash Flow and other non-GAAP measures differently, and therefore Hostess' Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA Margin, Free Cash Flow and other non-GAAP measures may not be directly comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies.





### **EXPERIENCED SENIOR LEADERSHIP**

#### Hostess







### **KEY BUSINESS THEMES**

- Iconic brands with nearly 100-year history
- Hostess business transformation:

Shelf-life Technology

Warehouse Model

Hostess Brand

- Significant capital investment (~\$150 million) since the relaunch has driven optimization across manufacturing, distribution and implementation of highly analytical IT systems
- Strong customer support Hostess brand driving Sweet Baked Goods ("SBG") category growth while
  providing retailers the premium brand consumers want, improved penny profits, and higher margins
- The growth potential of this platform is strong and expanding
  - Core: Innovation and Brand extensions Flavors, Forms, Packaging, Bread, Premium, Better For You
  - White-space: In-Store Bakery, Frozen Retail, Foodservice, and International opportunities largely untapped
  - Acquisitions: Recent acquisition of Superior Cake Products ("Superior") aimed at accelerating development in the ISB category
- Best-in-class financial position
  - Strong and sustainable top-line growth
  - Industry-leading EBITDA margins of ~29%<sup>(1)</sup>
  - Significant Adjusted EBITDA to Free Cash Flow Conversion<sup>(2)</sup>
  - Clean balance sheet No legacy issues

### Hostess is a \$1bn+ brand at Retail with upside potential

See Appendix for an explanation of all non-GAAP measures and a reconciliation to the most comparable GAAP measures.
 Delined as (Ad), EBITDA – Capex) / Ad), EBITDA. Capex includes maintenance capex and expansion capex.



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### **BRAND STRENGTH DRIVING GROWTH AND** CATEGORY

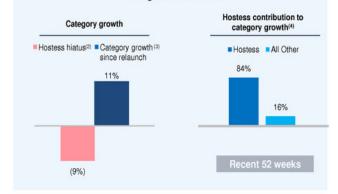
#### Special emotional relationship with consumers

U.S. consumers share a special emotional relationship with the 96 year old Hostess, a brand that defines the rapidly growing "Indulgent Snacking" trend



#### Leading category growth

Hostess has contributed over 70% of the SBG category's growth during recent 52 weeks

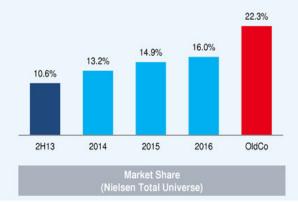


#### Premium price point(1)



#### Strong growth momentum<sup>(5)</sup>





Hostess data does not include Superior. Notes:

(1)

Nielsen U.S. total universe, 52 weeks ending 9/10/2016. Nielsen U.S. total universe, 12 weeks ending 11/3/2012 compared to 12 weeks ending 1/26/2013.

(2) (3) (4) Nielsen U.S. total universe, 52 weeks ending 9/10/2016.

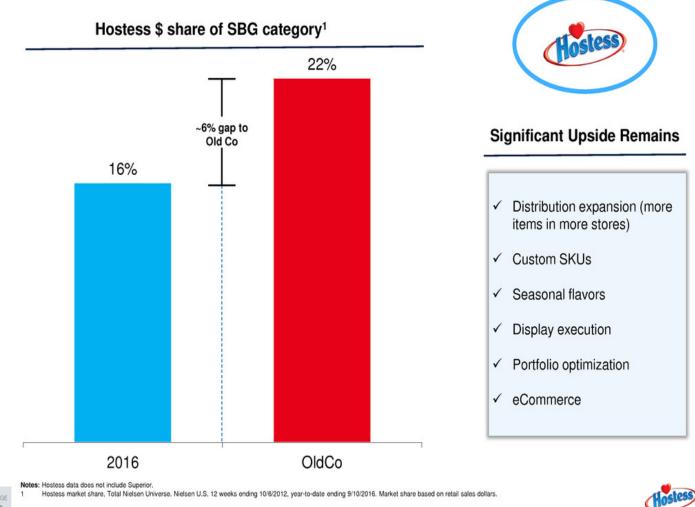
Nielsen U.S. 52 weeks ending 8/13/2016. (5)

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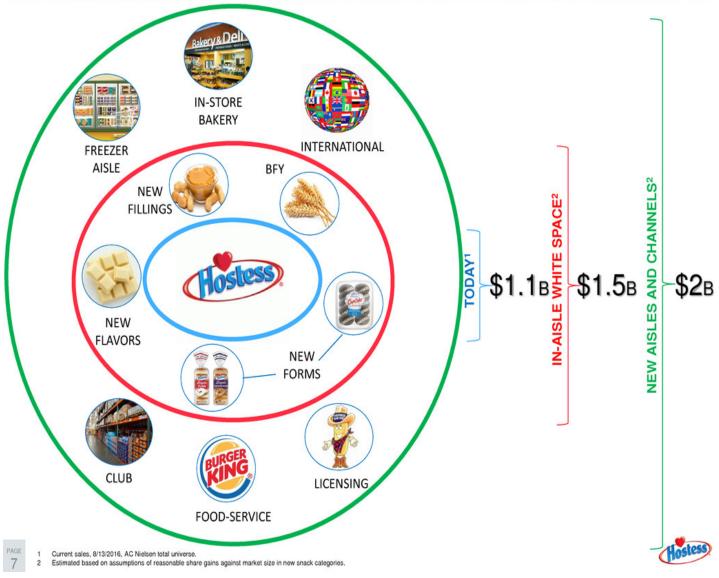
Hostess market share, Total Nelsen Universe. Nielsen U.S. 12 weeks ending 10/6/2012, 24 weeks ending 1/4/2014, 52 weeks ending 12/27/2014, 1/3/2015, and year-to date ending 9/10/2016. Market share based on retail sales dollars.



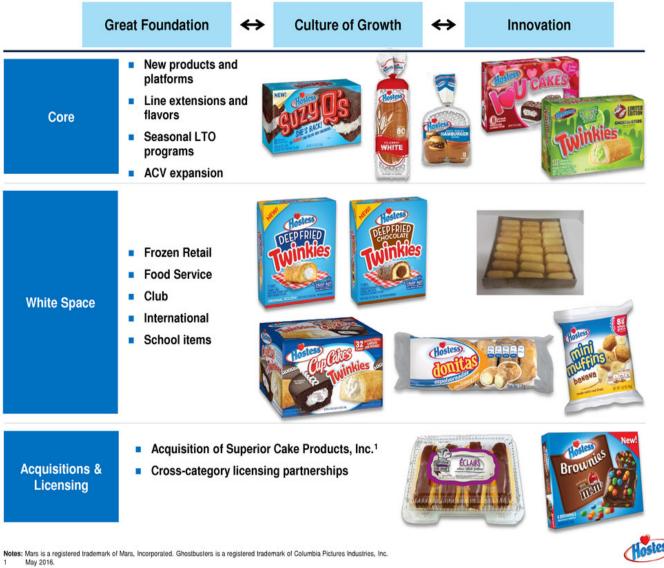
### HOSTESS STILL HAS SIGNIFICANT HEADROOM FOR GROWTH AND SHARE GAINS



### HOSTESS HAS SIGNIFICANT ROOM FOR GROWTH BOTH IN AND BEYOND SBG

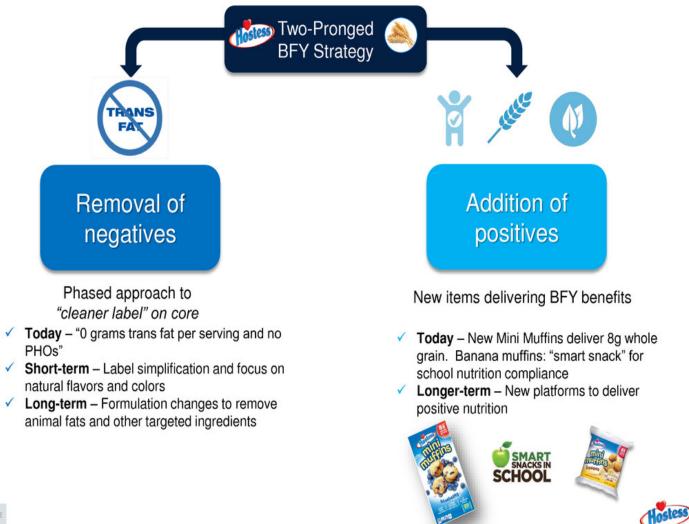


### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE**

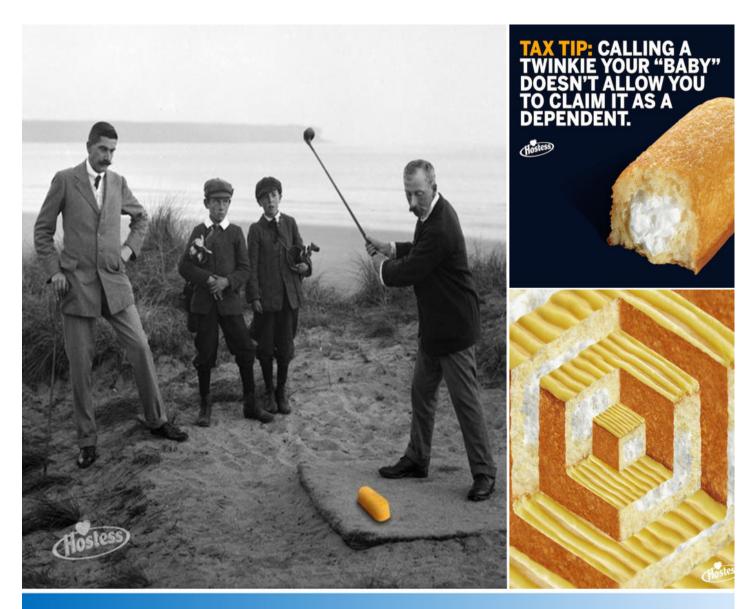


# **HOSTESS' APPROACH TO BETTER-FOR-YOU**

Objective: provide better-for-you options for consumers while maintaining brand equity and taste credentials



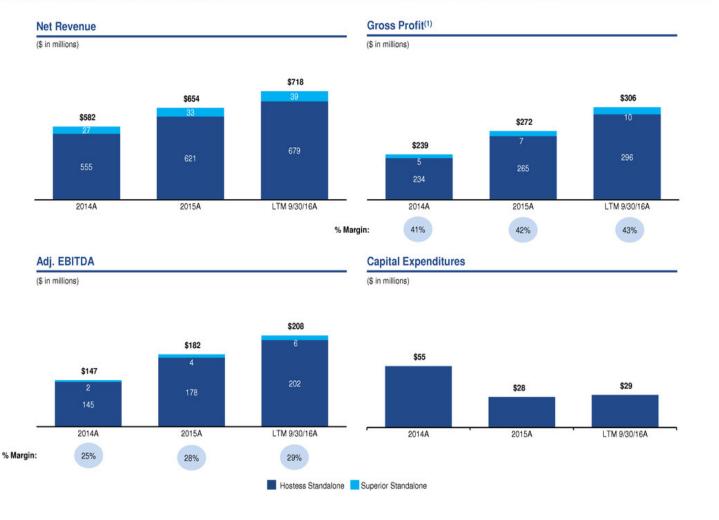
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### **II. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**



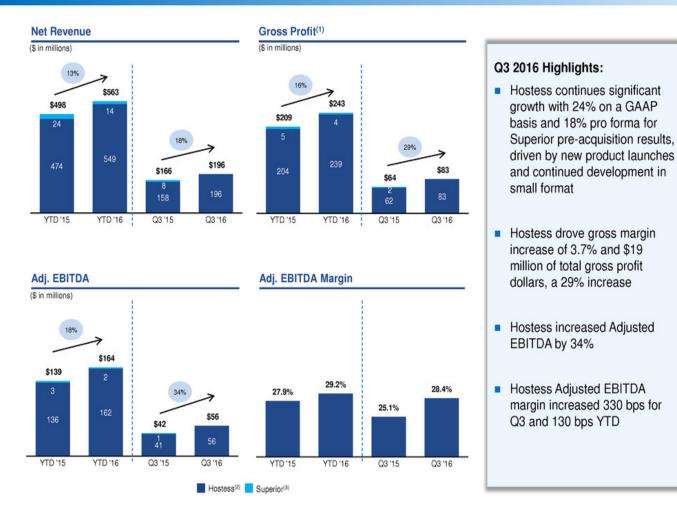
### SIGNIFICANT GROWTH SINCE RE-LAUNCH WITH MEANINGFUL UPSIDE POTENTIAL



Notes: Superior Cake Products, Inc. figures are unaudited based upon actual/estimated results and do not contain any adjustments as a result of applying purchase accounting. Some figures may not add up exactly due to rounding. See Appendix for an explanation of all non-GAAP measures and a reconciliation to the most comparable GAAP measures. (1) Gross profit figures exclude special employee incentive compensation as well as costs associated with Recall.



### **STRONG MOMENTUM CONTINUES IN Q3 2016**



Notes: Some figures may not add up exactly due to rounding. See Appendix for an explanation of all non-GAAP measures and a reconciliation to the most comparable GAAP measures.

Gross profit figures exclude costs associated with Recall.

(1) (2) (3) Notes sy TD/16 financials include the performance of Superior from 5/10/2016 through 9/30/2016 (correspondingly excluded from YTD'16 Superior results). Superior YTD'16 financials include the performance of Superior from 1/1/2016 through 5/9/2016.



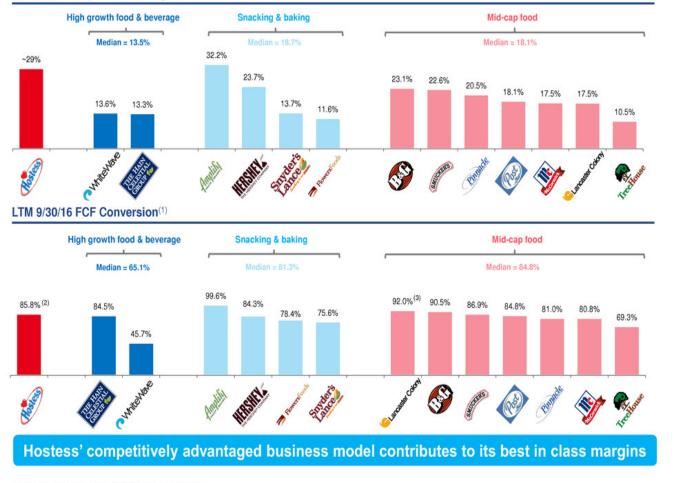
# SUSTAINABILITY OF MARGINS

Driver	Commentary
Pricing	<ul> <li>No material change in retail pricing model relative to legacy business</li> <li>Hostess is the leading brand in the premium segment</li> <li>As a category leader, retailers are supportive of our price structure since it generates a higher penny profit and profit margin for them relative to other brands</li> </ul>
Manufacturing	<ul> <li>~\$150 million invested to create state-of-the-art manufacturing capabilities</li> <li>Hostess has a 3 bakery model that concentrates production of items to individual production lines</li> <li>Hostess has significant future cost savings potential and cost avoidance opportunities as we grow:         <ul> <li>~\$25m of annual manufacturing costs are fixed overhead that can be leveraged</li> <li>Less than 80% capacity utilization today</li> <li>Significant automation opportunities available</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
SG&A and Distribution	<ul> <li>SG&amp;A functions fully built out with no legacy costs, pension obligations, etc.</li> <li>~40% of SG&amp;A is fixed (e.g., corporate) that can scale with incremental sales</li> <li>Third party warehouse and common carrier transportation provides scale and efficiency</li> </ul>
leading	margin profile driven by: (i) the health of the SBG category combined with (ii) Hostess' brand position in the premium segment and (iii) a highly efficient operating model that ould only be implemented through the unique circumstances around the relaunch



### **ATTRACTIVE MARGIN PROFILE RELATIVE TO PEERS**

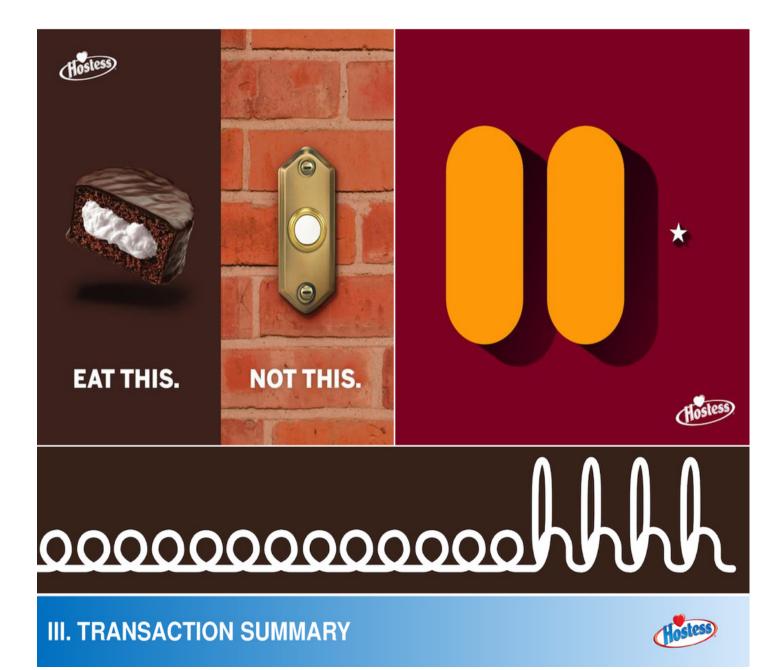
#### LTM 9/30/16 Adj. EBITDA Margins



Source: Company and public filings; WallStreet Research; FactSet. Notes: LTM as of 9/30/2016. (1) (2)

FCF conversion defined as (Adj. EBITDA-Capex) / Adj. EBITDA. Represents LTM 9/30/2016 Hostess FCF Conversion; Adj. EBITDA - \$207.4 million; Capex \$29.4 million; Hostess LTM 9/30/16 FCF Conversion of 85.8%





### **SPAC TRANSACTION TERMS**

- Acquisition enterprise value of \$2,292 million •
- . Net Debt of approximately \$991M, recapitalized to an all first lien structure at LIBOR + 300 bps
- C. Dean Metropoulos (CDM) is Executive Chairman. .
- C. Dean Metropoulos and family affiliates continue to have over \$300 million invested in the company .
- . Completed \$350 million private placement (includes \$50mm of additional roll-over contribution from C. Dean Metropoulos) with additional PIPE investors
- Transaction completed on November 4, 2016 .

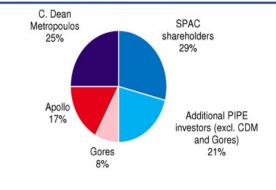
Valuation	
(\$ in millions, except per share values)	At transaction close
Gores share price	\$10.00
Shares outstanding (millions) <sup>2</sup>	130.0
Total equity value	\$1,300.4
Net debt	\$991.8
Acquisition enterprise value	\$2,292.2

#### Sources & uses

(\$ in millions)	
Sources	
Gores Holdings cash	\$375
Additional PIPE investors (excluding \$50mm additional roll-over contribution from CDM)	\$300
CDM additional roll-over contribution	\$50
Total sources	\$725

Uses	
Cash consideration	\$522
Cash to de-lever	\$173
Gores Holdings transaction costs	\$30
Total uses	\$725

#### Post-transaction ownership breakdown



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Cash consideration is prior to \$50mm additional roll-over contribution by CDM and before transaction costs incurred by Hostess. Post-transaction share count includes 37.5mm Gores Holdings public shares, 5.3mm Gores Holdings Founder shares, 46.6mm rollover shares issued to sellers, 32.7mm shares issued to additional PIPE investors (including 5.4mm to Gores), and 7.9mm shares issued to CDM (including his additional roll-over contribution). 2





### **IV. APPENDIX**



## **HOSTESS NON-GAAP RECONCILIATIONS (UNAUDITED)**

(\$ in millions)	Twelve Months Ended 30-Sep-16	Nine Months Ended 30-Sep-16	Three Months Ended 30-Sep-16	Twelve Months Ended 31-Dec-15	Nine Months Ended 30-Sep-15	Three Months Ended 30-Sep-15	Twelve Months Ended 31-Dec-14
Net income (loss)	\$98.7	\$81.5	\$33.5	\$88.8	\$71.6	(\$4.1)	\$81.5
Plus non-GAAP adjustments:							
Interest expense, net	71.9	53.8	18.0	50.0	31.8	32.3	37.4
Loss on debt extinguishment <sup>(1)</sup>	-	-	-	25.9	25.9	-	-
Depreciation and amortization	11.7	9.1	3.4	9.8	7.2	2.6	7.1
Unit-based compensation	0.8	0.7	0.3	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.4
Other (income) expense <sup>(2)</sup>	9.4	9.4	0.2	(8.7)	(4.8)	7.3	0.6
Impairment of property and equipment	11.2	7.5	0.2	2.7	1.9	1.5	13.2
Loss on sale/abandonment of property and equipment and bakery shutdown costs <sup>(3)</sup>	0.4	0.3	0.0	4.2	1.0	0.2	5.2
Special employee incentive compensation <sup>(4)</sup>	-	-	-	3.9	-	-	-
Distributions for Cash taxes and tax sharing and income tax provision	0.3	0.3	0.0	-	-	=	-
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(5)</sup>	\$204.5	\$162.4	\$55.6	\$177.9	\$135.9	\$40.7	\$145.3
Superior Adjusted EBITDA(6)(7)	3.0	2.0	-	4.2	3.3	0.9	2.1
Adjusted EBITDA (incl. Superior)	\$207.4	\$164.5	\$55.6	\$182.2	\$139.2	\$41.6	\$147.5
Revenue (incl. Superior)	\$717.9	\$562.5	\$196.2	\$653.7	\$498.3	\$166.2	\$582.2
EBITDA Margin (Adjusted EBITDA divided by Revenue)	28.9%	29.2%	28.4%	27.9%	27.9%	25.1%	25.3%
Capital Expenditures (incl. Superior)	\$29.4	\$26.0	\$11.0	\$27.7	\$24.3	\$6.9	\$55.1
FCF Conversion (Adjusted EBITDA incl. Superior – Capital Expenditures divided by Adjusted EBITDA incl. Superior)	85.8%	84.2%	80.2%	84.8%	82.5%	83.3%	62.6%

For the nine months ended September 30, 2015, Hostess Holdings recorded a loss on a partial extinguishment of Hostess Holdings' original Term Loan of \$25.9 million, which consisted of prepayment penalties of \$9.9 million and write-off of deferred financing costs of \$16.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2015, Hostess Holdings' recorded a loss on extinguishment related to Hostess Holdings' original Term Loan of \$25.9 million, which consisted of prepayment penalties of (1)

(2)

deferred financing costs of \$16.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2015, Hostess Holdings recorded a loss on extinguishment related to Hostess Holdings' original Term Loan of \$25.9 million, which consisted of prepayment penalties of \$9.9 million and write-off of deferred financing costs of \$16.0 million. The mean the acquisition of superior, and the pursuit of a potential acquisition that has since been abandoned. Other income for the nine months ended September 30, 2015, primarily consisted of \$12.0 million of proceeds from the sale of foreign trademark rights and perpetual irrevocable licenses to certain "know how" in certain countries in the Middle East. For the year ended December 31, 2015, other expense of \$3.1 (incertain "know how" in certain countries in the Middle East. For the year ended December 31, 2015, other income consisted of \$12.0 million of proceeds from the sale of foreign trademark rights and perpetual irrevocable licenses to certain "know how" in certain countries in the Middle East, partially offset by \$3.3 million for professional service fees related to Hostess Holdings' pursuit of a potential also of hostess. For the year ended December 31, 2014 and the period February 6, 2013 (inception) through December 31, 2014, partially offset by \$3.3 million for professional service fees related to Hostess Holdings incurred a loss on sale/abandomment of property and equipment and bakery shutdown costs of \$1.0 million, primarily cue to utilities, insurance, taxes and maintenance expenses related to the Schiller Park, Illinois bakery, For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, Hostess Holdings incurred a loss on sale/abandomment of property and equipment and \$1.0 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. 2015 and December 31, 2014, Hostess Holdings incurred bakery shutdown costs of \$1.0 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. Also, for the year ended December 31, 2014, Hostess Holdings incurred bakery shutdown costs associated with the closure and relocatin of assets. For the year ended Dec (3)

equipment of \$3.0 million and \$0.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2015, a one-time special borus payment of \$2.6 million and \$1.3 million was paid to employees at Hostess Holdings' bakery facilities and corporate employees, respectively, as compensation for their efforts in (4) the successful recapitalization of Hostess.

(5)

Adjusted EBITOA is as presented in public filings with SEC, unlike in prior presentations, CDM's compensation is not added back. Hostess YTD'16 financials include the performance of Superior from May 10, 2016 through September 30, 2016 (correspondingly excluded from Superior results). Superior YTD'16 financials include the performance of Superior from January 1, 2016 through May 9, 2016. (6) (7)



# GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
ACV	All-commodity volume (%)
BFY	Better-for-you
C-store	Convenience store
ISB	In-store bakery
LTO	Limited time offer
РНО	Partially hydrogenated oils
SBG	Sweet baked goods
SKU	Stock keeping unit

