### 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): February 21, 2017

### Hostess Brands, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-37540 (Commission File Number) 47-4168492 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1 East Armour Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri (Address of principal executive offices) 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	3-K filing is intended to simulta	aneously satisfy the filing obligati	on 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 February 21, 2017, Hostess Brands, Inc. (the "Company") will issue 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 <a href="https://www.hostessbrands.com">www.hostessbrands.com</a>, although the Company reserves the right to discontinue that availability at any time. The information contained on our website shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein.

#### **Forward Looking Statements**

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

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 Securities Act and Exchange Act that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. 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 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 anticipated in such forward-looking statements. It is routine for the Company's 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 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.

Exhibits	
Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibits
99.1	Investor Presentation of the Company dated February 21, 2017.

#### **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	y authorized.
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HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.

Date: February 21, 2017 By: /s/ Thomas Peterson

Name: Thomas Peterson

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

#### **Exhibit List**

Exhibit			
No.	Description of Exhibits		
			-

99.1 Investor Presentation of the Company dated February 21, 2017.



### DISCLAIMER

Forward Looking Statements
This investor presentation contains statements reflecting our views about our future performance that constitute "forward-looking statements" that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. 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 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. Hostess undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise

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 achieve expected synergies and benefits and performance from our strategic acquisitions; dependence on key personnel or a highly skilled and diverse workforce; and our ability to finance our indebtedness on terms favorable to us; and other risks as set forth from time to time in our Securities and Exchange Commission fillings.

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.

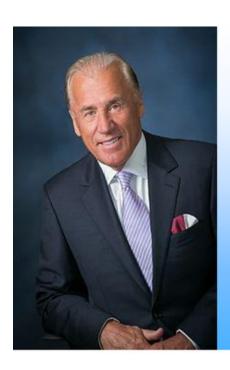
This Investor Presentation includes non-GAAP financial measures, including earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("Adjusted EBITDA"), Adjusted EBITDA Margin and Free Cash Flow.

In this Investor Presentation, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA Margin exclude crain 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 viou can find the reconcilitation 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





### **DEAN METROPOULOS**

**Executive Chairman** 

Founder and Executive Chairman of Metropoulos & Co.

More than 30 years of successful experience revamping iconic brands throughout the consumer space

Strong track record of growing revenues, reducing costs and enhancing capital efficiency of portfolio companies







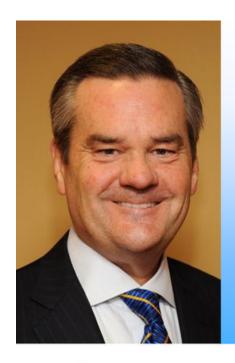












BILL TOLER
President & CEO

Former CEO and President of **AdvancePierre Foods** and former President of **Pinnacle Foods** 

More than 30 years of executive experience in the food and consumer sector

Proven track record for brand growth, strategic planning and operations



























### **EMOTIONAL BRAND CONNECTION**

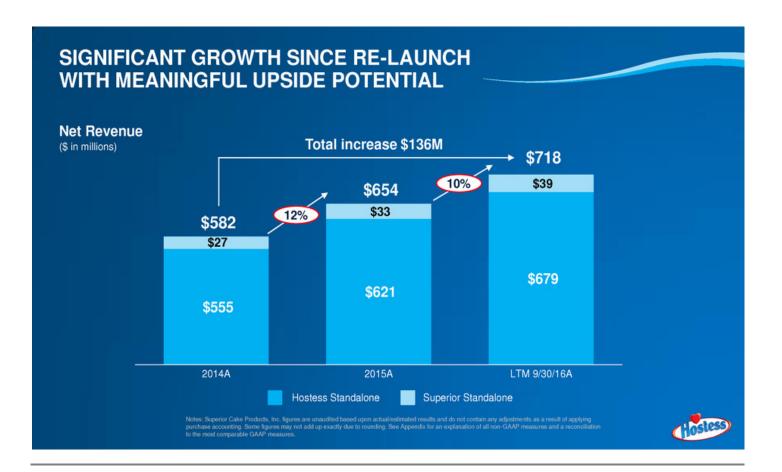
U.S. consumers share a special emotional relationship with the 96 year old Hostess, a brand that defines the rapidly growing "Indulgent Snacking" trend

96 Year history 90%+
Brand awareness





lotes: Harmon Atchison, Awareness, Use and Status Perception Study, 12/8/14



### SINCE THE RELAUNCH, HOSTESS HAS...

### Established a 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

- (1) See Appendix for an explanation of all non-GAAP measures and a reconciliation to the most comparable GAAP measures.
- (2) Defined as (Adj. EBITDA Capex) / Adj. EBITDA. Capex includes maintenance capex and expansion capex.



## SINCE THE RELAUNCH, HOSTESS HAS...

Created a compelling growth story

Powerful Hostess brand



Aggressive capital investment

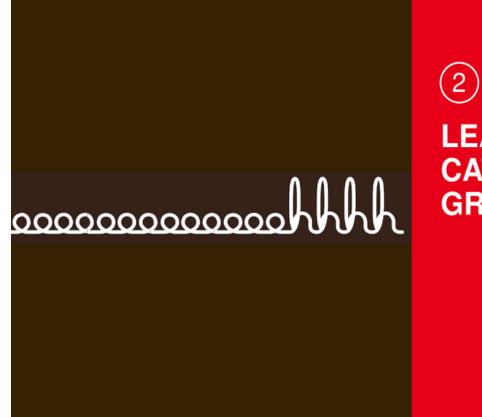


Competitively advantaged business model



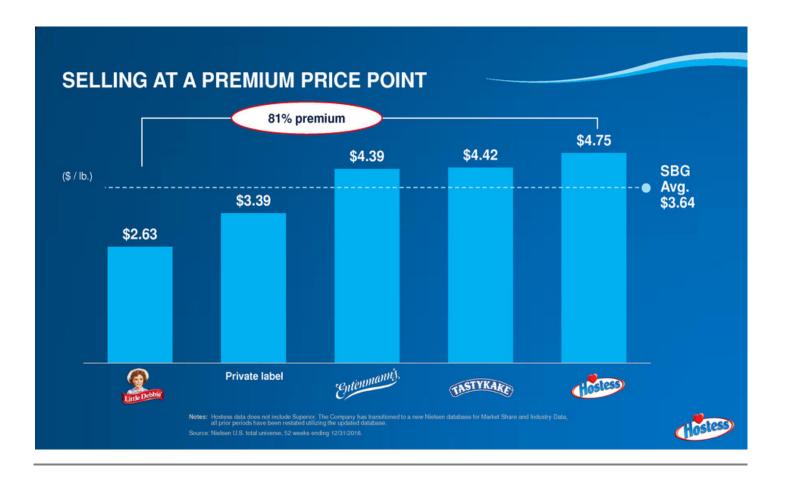
Compelling growth story

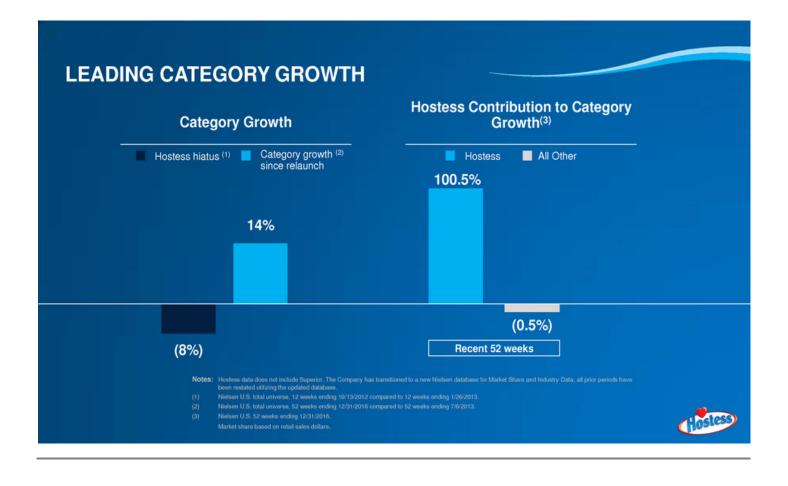




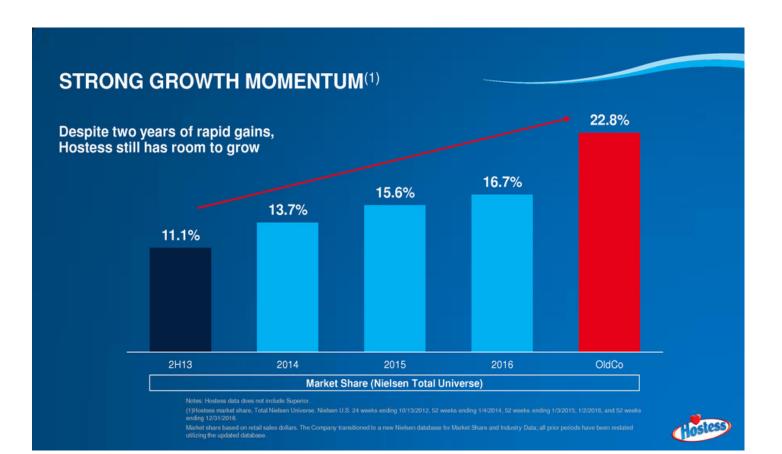
LEADER OF CATEGORY GROWTH







#### STRONG MARKET POSITION IN KEY SEGMENTS 23% 32% SBG - \$6.5 billion of retail sales in 2016, **Donuts** 14% increase \$1.5B Snack Cakes since relaunch Donettes \$1.7B Twinkies<sup>®</sup>, Zingers<sup>®</sup>, CupCakes, Ding Dongs<sup>®</sup>, Ho Hos<sup>®</sup> Pies, Bars Breakfast pastries, & Other 9% Danish \$1.3B \$439M Danish, Honey Buns, \$814M SBG 7% Cookies Mini and Sub-category where Hostess does not \$306M Jumbo Muffins Blondies, \$479M = Hostess Percent Muffins currently participate **Brownies** of Dollar Share 10% 11% Source: Nielsen U.S. total universe, 52 weeks ending 12/31/16 Note: Hostess data does not include Superior. The Company has transitioned to a new Nielsen database for Market Share and Industry Data, all prior periods have been restated utilizing the updated database. Note: Sweet Baked Goods category includes items determined to be 'Commercial Sweet Baked Goods' (items wrapped for individual sale); All Fresh Bakery products are excluded from the scope; Sunbett Granola Bars are the only Granola Bars included – because they are a part of McKee's total SBG business and targeted for sale with SBG items. Only SBG Cookies or non-traditional aisle-cookies are included (e.g., Nutty Fudge Bars, Oatmeal Cream Sandwiches, Whoogie Pies)

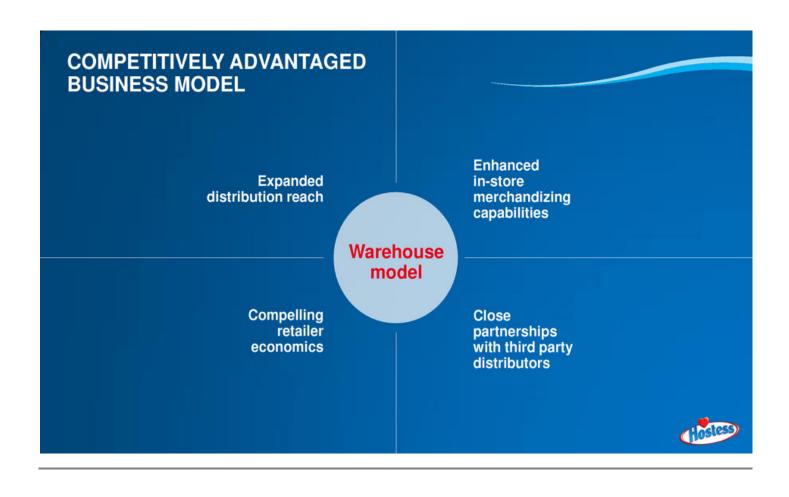




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**GROWTH** DRIVERS









## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE**

Rebuild Core Business Innovation & Line Extensions

White Space



### **REBUILD CORE PRODUCTS**











More items in more stores

Continue to build distribution

Drive penetration in channels unlocked by our warehouse model



# 2016 INNOVATION & LINE EXTENSIONS

### The Return of Suzy Q



New & Improved Whole Grain Mini Muffins



**Brownie Innovation** 



**Premium Seasonal** 



**Twinkies Innovation** 





E-Commerce





Notes: M&M's is a registered trademarks of Mars, Incorporated. Ghostbusters is a registered trademark of Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc.

# 2017 INNOVATION & LINE EXTENSIONS

### **Cinnamon Sugar Crunch Donettes**



**Peanut Butter** 



White Fudge



**Apple Streusel** 



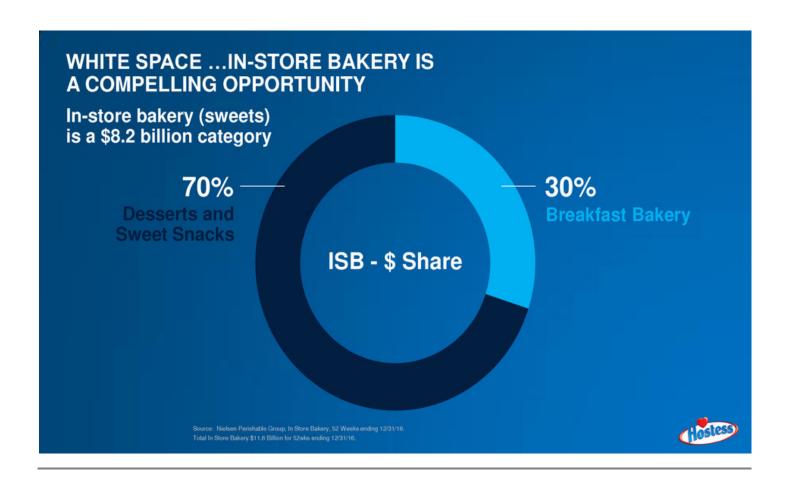
**Twinkies Innovation** 



**Cupcake Expansion** 







# WHITE SPACE ...IN-STORE BAKERY IS A COMPELLING OPPORTUNITY



















## WHITE SPACE

Frozen Aisle



Licensing



**Schools** 



Canada



Club Channel



Foodservice





## DIFFERENTIATED BUSINESS MODEL DRIVES CONTINUED GROWTH

Hostess is well positioned for future growth...

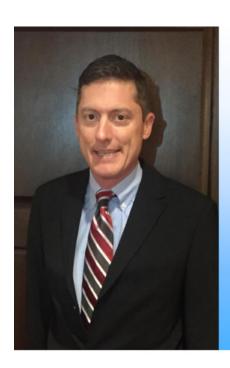
Warehouse distribution unique in SBG category

Supports strength of innovation pipeline and speed-to-market

Compelling opportunity for continued market share and volume gains across distribution channels







**TOM PETERSON** 

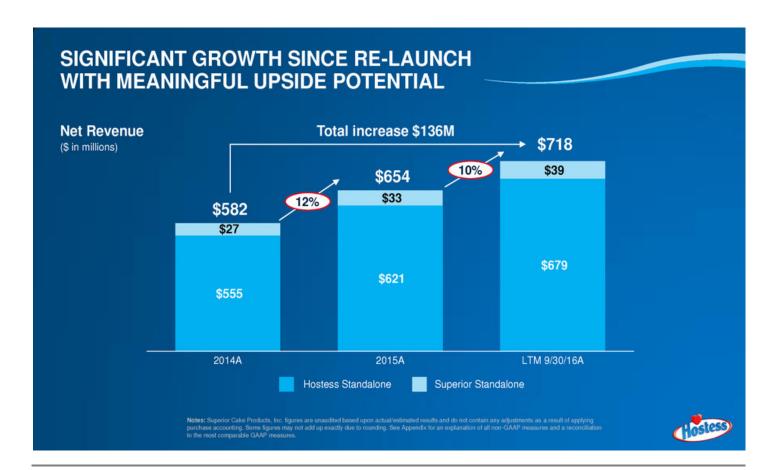
**EVP & CFO** 

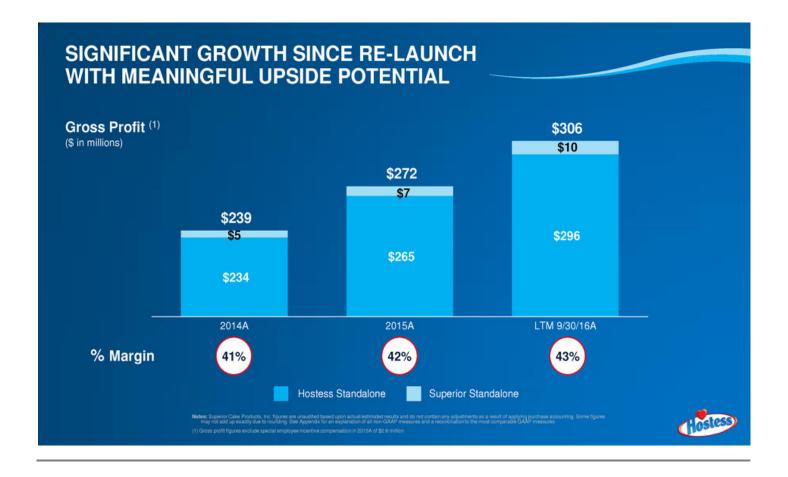
Served as Hostess Corporate Controller since relaunch and promoted to CFO in March 2016

Formerly a Managing Director at FTI Consulting and on the restructuring team of Legacy Hostess

More than 20 years of accounting and finance expertise in a broad range of industries







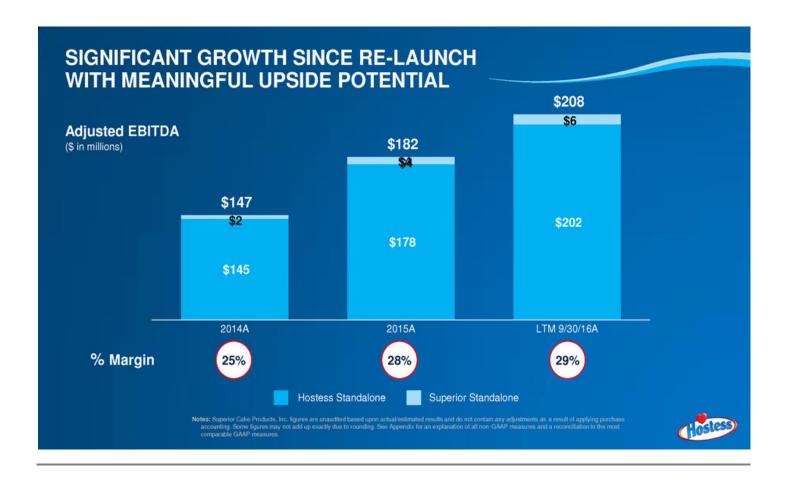
## STRONG MARGIN PROFILE

Established margin structure driven by...

The health of the SBG category Hostess is a leading brand sold at a premium price

Highly efficient operating model









### **ATTRACTIVE MARGINS RELATIVE TO PEERS**

### Best-in-class financial position

Approximately 29% LTM 9/30/16 Adjusted EBITDA Margins

85.8% LTM 9/30/16 Free Cash Flow Conversion (1)

Hostess' competitively advantaged business model contributes to its best in class margins

Notes: LTM as of 9/30/2016.

(1) 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%





# 5 APPENDIX



# HOSTESS NON-GAAP RECONCILIATIONS (UNAUDITED)

OITAODI I EDI								
	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(1)	-	-	-	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(2)	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	-	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	-	-	-	-		
Adjusted EBITDA(%)	\$204.5	\$162.4	\$55.6	\$177.9	\$135.9	\$40.7	\$145.3	
Superior Adjusted EBITDA(%(?)	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%	

Footnotes on next page



# HOSTESS NON-GAAP RECONCILIATIONS (UNAUDITED)

#### Footnotes from prior page

- (1) 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 \$9.9 million and write-off of deferred financing costs of \$16.0 million.
- (2) For the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and the year ended September 30, 2016, other expense of \$9.4 million primarily consisted of legal and professional fees related to Hostess Holdings' business combination agreement with Gores Holdings, Inc., transaction costs attributable to 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, partially offset by \$3.3 million for professional service fees related to Hostess Holdings' pursuit of a potential sale of Hostess. For the three months ended September 30, 2016, the three months ended September 30, 2015, and the year ended December 31, 2014 other expense was \$0.3 million and \$0.6 million, respectively.
- (3) For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, Hostess Holdings incurred a loss on sale/abandonment of property and equipment and bakery shutdown costs of \$0.4 million, primarily due to utilities, insurance, taxes and maintenance expenses related to the Schiller Park, Illinois bakery. For the nine months ended September 30, 2015, Hostess Holdings incurred bakery shutdown costs of \$1.0 million associated with the closure and relocation of assets. For the years ended December 31, 2014 Hostess Holdings incurred bakery shutdown costs associated with the closure and relocation of assets of \$1.2 million and \$1.4 million, respectively. Also, for the year ended December 31, 2014, Hostess Holdings incurred bakery shutdown costs associated with the property and with respective severance and Worker Adjustment and Retraitment and Partition (WARN) Act payments of \$2.9 million. Hostess Holdings recorded a loss on sale and abandonment of property and equipment of \$3.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, and December 31, 2014, respectively.
- (4) For the year ended December 31, 2015, a one-time special bonus 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 the successful recapitalization of Hostess.
- (5) Adjusted EBITDA does not addback related party expenses, which consists of expenses associated with the employment agreement with Mr. Metropoulos as the Chief Executive Officer/Executive Chairman. Upon consummation of the transaction with Gores Holdings, Inc., Mr. Metropoulos's employment agreement was terminated and a new employment agreement was entered into with cash payments for



# **GLOSSARY**

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

