## 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): April 18, 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)

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

> 64111 (Zip Code)

(Zip Co

(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)

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Emerging growth company.  $\Box$  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.

### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

On April 18, 2017, 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 contains statements reflecting our views about our future performance that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, 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.

### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

 
 (d) Exhibits

 Exhibit No.
 Description of Exhibits

 99.1
 Investor Presentation of the Company dated April 18, 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 authorized.

By:

HOSTESS BRANDS, INC.

Date: April 18, 2017

/s/ Thomas Peterson Name: Thomas Peterson Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer Exhibit List

Description of Exhibits

99.1

Investor Presentation of the Company dated April 18, 2017.

Exhibit No.

# THE ORIGINAL.

# **HOSTESS BRANDS**

April 2017



## DISCLAIMERS

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," "hull," "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 to drive revenue growth in our key products for add products that are faster-growing and more profitable; validity in commodity, energy, and other input prices; our levendendend of derive vents and there events and tends in North America; increased costs in order to comply with governmental regulation; general policial, 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 receils, 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 independence on key personnel or as highly skilled and diverse workforce; and our ability to finance our independence on key personnel or as highly skilled and diverse workforce; and our ability to finance exchanges. Commission filings.

### Industry and Market Data

industry and market bata 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 Nelsen. 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. Hostess has transitioned to a new Nelsen database for Market Share and Industry Data. All prior periods have been restated utilizing the updated database.

Pro Forma Combined Financial Information Hostess Brands, Inc. acquired a controlling interest in Hostess on November 4, 2016 (the "Business Combination"). Unless otherwise noted, financial information for 2016 is presented on a pro forma combined basis given effect to the Business Combination as if it occurred on January 1, 2016.

### Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

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, Adjusted Gross Profit, Adjusted
Gross Profit Margin, Free Cash Flow and Free Cash Flow Conversion. In this Investor Presentation, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Gross Profit exclude certain add-backs. Adjusted EBITDA Margin represents Adjusted
EBITDA divided by net revenues. Adjusted Gross Profit Margin represents Adjusted Gross Profit Adjusted Gross Profit Margin Represents Adjusted Gro comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies

Totals in this Investor Presentation may not add up due to rounding.



# AGENDA

- (1) COMPANY OVERVIEW
- 2 INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS
- **GROWTH DRIVERS**
- **4 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

APPENDIX





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# 1 COMPANY OVERVIEW



# **HOSTESS BRANDS AT A GLANCE**

Iconic American brand delivering new and classic sweet treats to our customers for generations

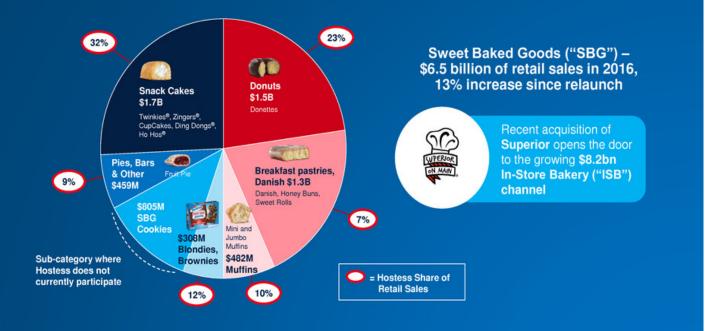




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# **STRONG MARKET POSITION IN KEY SEGMENTS**



Source: Nielsen U.S. total universe, 52 weeks ending 2/25/17. Nielsen Perishable Group, In-Store Bakery, 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. 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; Sunbelt 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 included (e.g., Nutty Fudge Bars, Oatmeal Cream Sandwiches, Whoopie Pies).



# **BRAND STRENGTH DRIVING GROWTH AND CATEGORY**

Special emotional relationship with consumers

Selling at a premium price point to the competition<sup>(1)</sup>



### Significant runway for further growth<sup>(2)</sup>

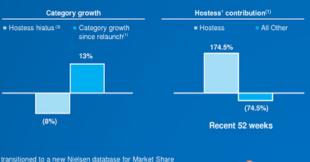
Despite two years of rapid gains, a ~6% gap remains to OldCo





### Driving category growth

Hostess has contributed over 100% of SBG's recent 52 week category growth

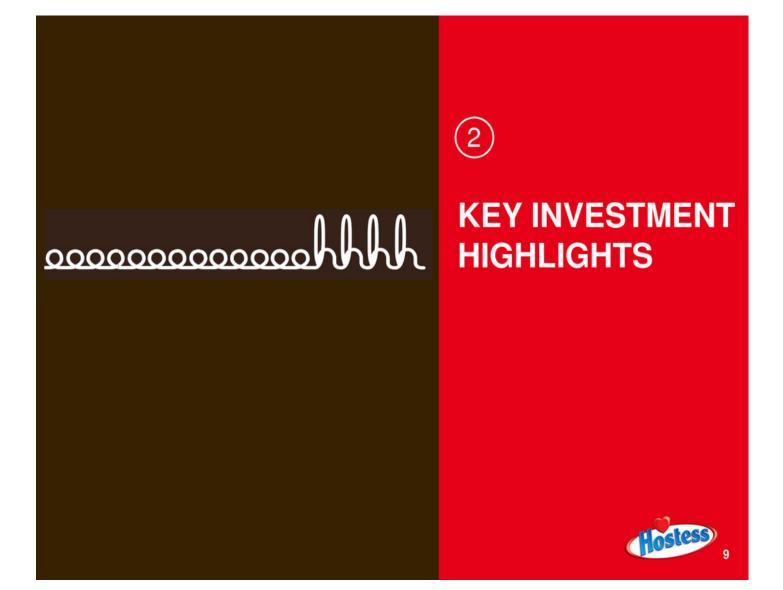


Note:

(1) (2)

Market share based on retail sales dollars. 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. Nielsen U.S. total universe, 52 weeks ending 1/25/2017. Hostess business as "OldCo"), 24 weeks ending 1/4/2014, 52 weeks ending 10/13/2012 (we refer to the 12-week period prior to the shutdown of the legacy Hostess business as "OldCo"), 24 weeks ending 1/4/2014, 52 weeks ending 1/3/2015, 1/2/2016, 12/31/2016, and 52 weeks ending 2/25/2017. Nielsen U.S. total universe, 12 weeks ending 10/13/2012 compared to 12 weeks ending 1/26/2013.





## **KEY INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS** Hostess is a \$1.1bn brand at Retail with significant upside potential

Iconic American brand synonymous with snacking

Innovation engine across product lines DTW distribution driving margins and channel penetration Experienced management team that will continue to deliver



Source: Nielsen U.S. total universe, 52 weeks ending 2/25/17.

# ICONIC BRAND SYNONYMOUS WITH SNACKING Delivering New and Classic Sweet Treats Delivering New and Classic Sweet Treats

## **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



## INNOVATION ENGINE ACROSS PRODUCT LINES Successes in 2016

The Return of Suzy Q



New & Improved Whole Grain Mini Muffins



### **Brownie Innovation**



### **Premium Seasonal**

**Twinkies Innovation** 

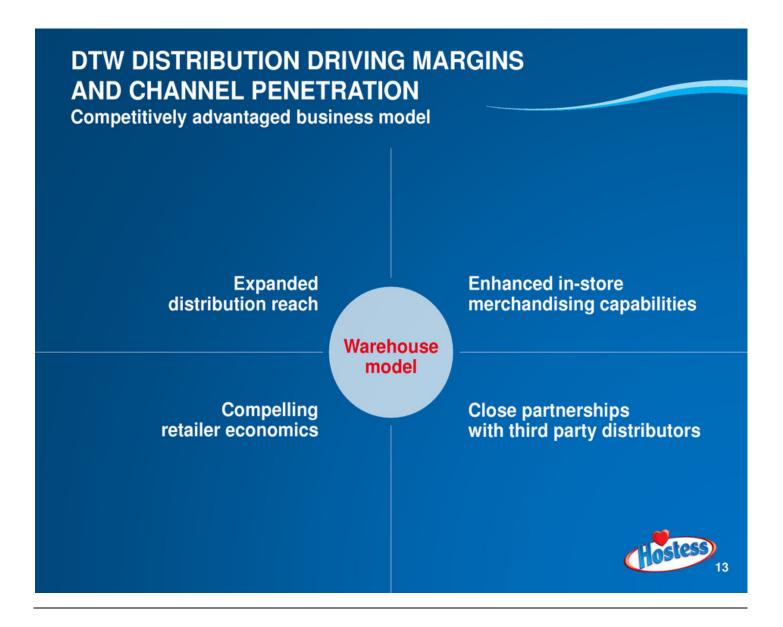






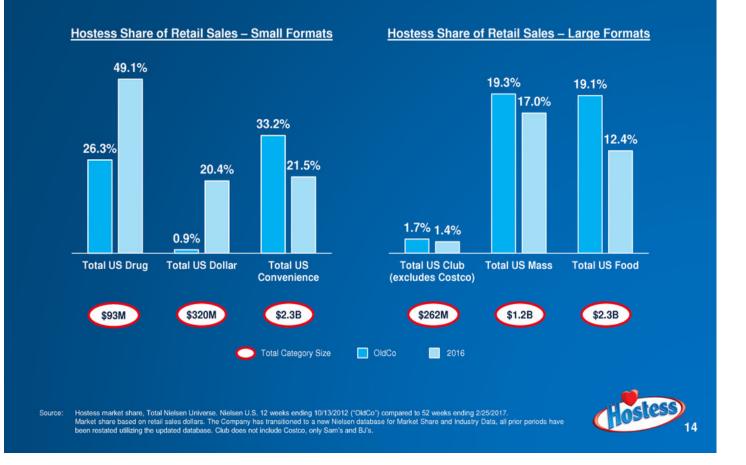


Note: M&M's is a registered trademarks of Mars, Incorporated. Ghostbusters is a registered trademark of Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc.



# DTW DISTRIBUTION DRIVING MARGINS AND CHANNEL PENETRATION

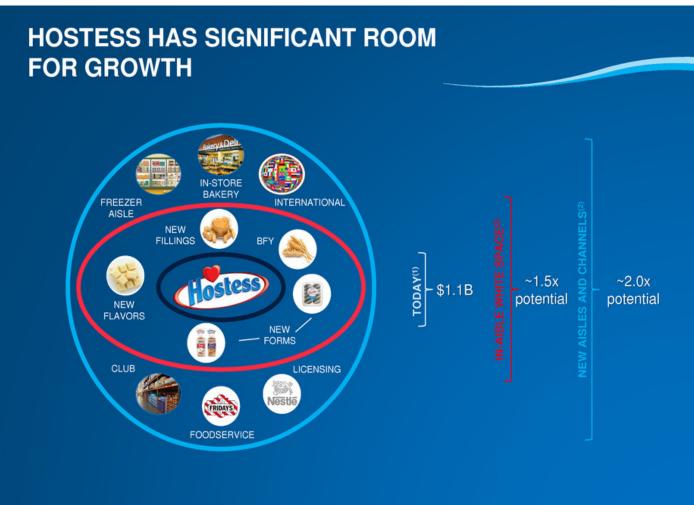
Clear road to capitalizing on channel opportunity



# **EXPERIENCED SENIOR LEADERSHIP**



# Hostess THE 3 SULTAN OF SWEET GROWTH **DRIVERS** 3 Hostess

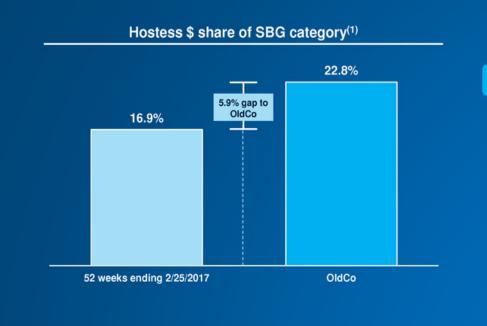




Current sales, AC Nielsen total universe, 52 weeks ending 2/25/17. Estimated based on assumptions of reasonable share gains against market size in new snack categories

# FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE CORE BUSINESS

## Hostess Still Has Significant Headroom For Growth and Share Gains





## **Significant Upside Remains**

- Distribution expansion (more items in more stores)
- ✓ Custom SKUs
- ✓ Seasonal flavors
- ✓ Display execution
- ✓ Portfolio optimization
- ✓ eCommerce

Notes:

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. Hostess market share, Total Nielsen Universe. Nielsen U.S. 12 weeks ending 10/13/2012 ("OldCo") compared to 52 weeks ending 2/25/2017. Market share based on retail sales dollars.



# INNOVATION & LINE EXTENSIONS Launching in 2017

**Cinnamon Sugar Crunch Donettes** 



Peanut Butter





White Fudge

## Apple Streusel



**Twinkies Innovation** 



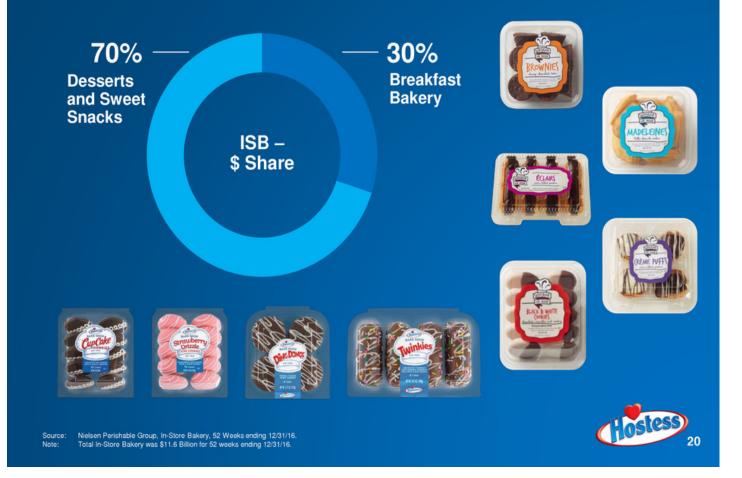
**Cupcake Expansion** 





# WHITESPACE OPPORTUNITY

In-Store Bakery (sweets) is a \$8.2 billion category



# WHITESPACE

**Frozen Aisle** 



Licensing



Schools



Canada



**Club Channel** 

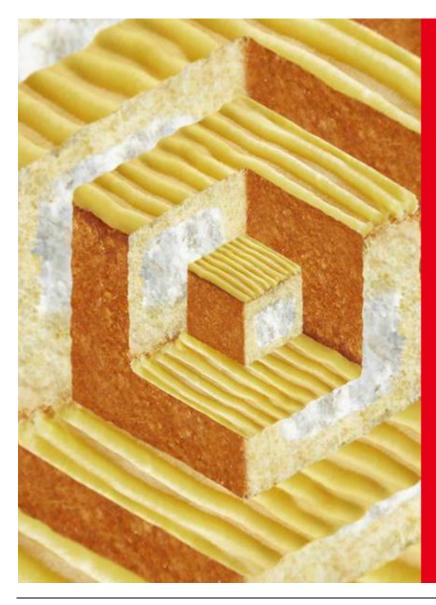


Foodservice







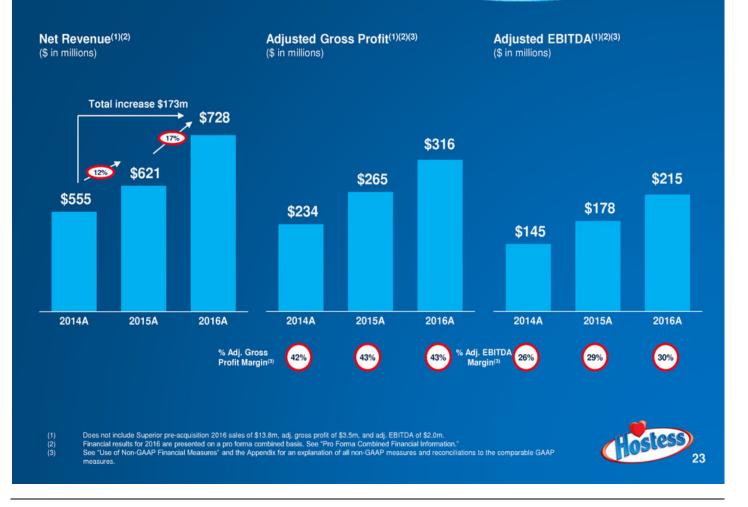


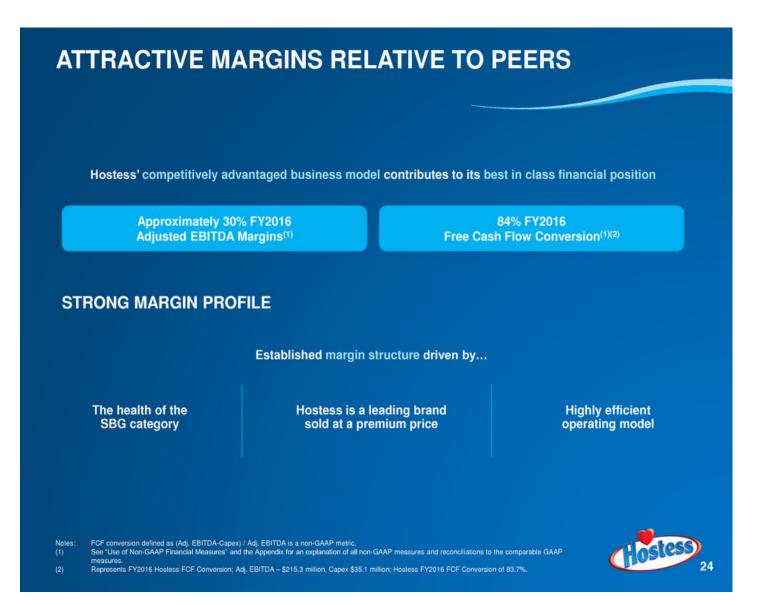


# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



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





# EFFICIENT AND SCALABLE MANUFACTURING FOOTPRINT WITH DIRECT-TO-WAREHOUSE DISTRIBUTION

3 SBG baking facilities

A fight efficient production system
 A fight efficient production system

📕 3 Distribution centers (third-party) 🛛 📩 Headquarters

ISB consists of Superior, which we purchased in May 2016, and which manufactures and distributes eclairs, madeleines, brownies, and iced cookies in the ISB section of grocery and club retailers.
 From 2013 acquisition through December 31, 2016.



# SUSTAINABILITY OF MARGINS



Premium pricing supported by superior penny profits for retailers



Well invested manufacturing capabilities to leverage



Fully built out SG&A and distribution with no legacy costs



## STRONG CASH FLOW ENABLES MULTIPLE **VALUE CREATION OPPORTUNITIES**



## **CONCLUDING REMARKS** 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





## HOSTESS NON-GAAP RECONCILIATIONS Adjusted EBITDA

\$ in millions	Successor 4-Nov-16 to 31-Dec-16	Predecessor 1-Jan-16 to 31-Dec-16	Pro Forma Combined, Year Ended 31-Dec-16	Year Ended 31-Dec-15	Year Ended 31-Dec-14
Net income (loss)	(\$8.5)	\$60.4	\$82.4	\$88.8	\$81.5
Plus non-GAAP adjustments:					
Income tax provision	(7.8)	0.4	32.9	-	-
Interest expense, net	6.6	60.4	51.4	50.0	37.4
(Gain) loss on debt extinguishment <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.8)	-	(0.8)	25.9	-
Depreciation and amortization	5.8	10.3	36.5	9.8	7.1
Executive chairman agreement termination and execution <sup>(2)</sup>	26.7	-	-	-	-
Unit-based compensation	-	3.9	-	1.4	0.4
Other (income) expense(3)	0.8	1.6	2.4	(8.7)	0.6
Business combination transaction costs <sup>(4)</sup>	-	31.8	0.6	-	_
Impairment of property and equipment <sup>(5)</sup>	-	7.3	7.3	2.7	13.2
Loss on sale/abandonment of property and equipment and bakery shutdown costs <sup>(6)</sup>	-	2.6	2.6	4.2	5.2
Inventory fair value adjustment <sup>(7)</sup>	8.9	-	-	-	-
Special employee incentive compensation <sup>(8)</sup>	-	4.7	-	3.9	-
Adjusted EBITDA	\$31.9	\$183.4	\$215.3	\$177.9	\$145.3
Net Revenue	\$112.0	\$615.6	\$727.6	\$620.8	\$554.7
EBITDA Margin (Adjusted EBITDA divided by Net Revenue)	28.5%	29.8%	29.6%	28.7%	26.2%
Capital Expenditures	\$6.5	\$28.6	\$35.1	\$25.1	\$51.1
FCF Conversion (Adjusted EBITDA – Capital Expenditures divided by Adjusted EBITDA)	79.6%	84.4%	83.7%	85.9%	64.9%

Footnotes on following page.



## HOSTESS NON-GAAP RECONCILIATIONS Adjusted EBITDA

### Footnotes from prior page:

- (1) For the Successor period November 4, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and pro forma combined year ended December 31, 2016, we recorded a gain on extinguishment of Former First Lien of \$0.8 million, which consisted of penalties of \$3.0 million, the write-off of deferred financing costs of \$0.2 million net of debt premium write-offs of approximately \$4.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2015 (Predecessor), we recorded a loss on extinguishment related to our 2013 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 Successor period November 4, 2016 through December 31, 2016, we expensed \$26.7 million related to stock awarded to Mr. Metropoulos as required under his new employment arrangements.
- (3) For the Successor period November 4, 2016 through December 31, 2016, we recorded expenses of \$0.8 million which primarily consisted of legal and professional fees and other post-Business Combination costs such as fees related to securities filings. For the Predecessor period from January 1, 2016 through November 3, 2016, other expense consisted of transaction costs attributable the pursuit of a potential acquisition that has since been abandoned, offset partially by a gain from the settlement of the Grain Craft peanut recall matter of approximately \$0.8 million. For the year ended December 31, 2015, other income consisted of \$12.0 million of proceeds from the sale of foreign trademark rights and certain "know how" in certain countries in the Middle East, partially offset by \$3.3 million for professional service fees related to the pursuit of a potential sale transactions. For the year ended, December 31, 2014, other expense was \$0.6 million.
- (4) For the Predecessor period from January 1, 2016 through November 3, 2016, business combination transaction costs consisted primarily of professional and legal costs.
- (5) For the period January 1, 2016 through November 3, 2016, and for the pro forma combined year ended December 31, 2016, we closed multiple production lines at the Indianapolis, Indiana bakery and transitioned production to other facilities resulting in a loss of \$7.3 million.
- (6) For the period January 1, 2016 through November 3, 2016, and for the pro forma combined year ended December 31, 2016, we incurred a loss on a sale/abandonment of property and bakery shutdown costs of \$0.3 million, primarily due to utilities, insurance, taxes and maintenance expenses related to the Schiller Park, Illinois bakery. In addition, we incurred losses of approximately \$2.6 million related to equipment that we no longer intended to use or had idled.
- (7) For the Successor period November 4, 2016 through December 31, 2016, we re-measured inventory at fair value at the Closing Date, resulting in additional non-cash cost of goods sold of \$8.9 million.
- (8) For the Predecessor period January 1, 2016 through November 3, 2016, a special bonus payment of \$2.5 million and \$2.2 million was paid to employees at the bakery facilities and corporate employees, respectively, as compensation for their efforts in the Business Combination. For the year ended December 31, 2015, a special bonus payment of \$2.6 million and \$1.3 million was paid to employees at the bakery facilities and corporate employees, respectively, as compensation for their efforts in the recapitalization of the Company.



## HOSTESS NON-GAAP RECONCILIATIONS Adjusted Gross Profit

\$ in millions	Successor 4-Nov-16 to 31-Dec-16	Predecessor 1-Jan-16 to 31-Dec-16	Pro Forma Combined, Year Ended 31-Dec-16	Year Ended 31-Dec-15	Year Ended 31-Dec-14
Net revenue	\$112.0	\$615.6	\$727.6	\$620.8	\$554.7
Cost of goods sold	73.3	346.9	411.6	356.0	320.8
Special employee incentive compensation	-	2.2	-	2.6	-
Gross Profit – US GAAP	\$38.7	\$266.5	\$316.0	\$262.2	\$233.9
Add back:					
Special employee incentive compensation(1)	-	\$2.2	-	\$2.6	-
Inventory fair value adjustment <sup>(2)</sup>	\$8.9	-	-	-	-
Adjusted Gross Profit	\$47.6	\$268.7	\$316.0	\$264.9	\$233.9
Gross Margin – GAAP	34.6%	43.3%	43.4%	42.2%	42.2%
Adjusted Gross Margin	42.5%	43.7%	43.4%	42.7%	42.2%

(1) For the Predecessor period January 1, 2016 through November 3, 2016, a special bonus payment of \$2.2 million was paid to employees at the bakery facilities as compensation for their efforts in the Business Combination. For the year ended December 31, 2015, a special bonus payment of \$2.6 million was paid to employees at the bakery facilities as compensation for their efforts in the recapitalization of Hostess.

(2) For the Successor period November 4, 2016 through December 31, 2016, the Company re-measured inventory at fair value at the Business Combination date, resulting in additional non-cash cost of goods sold of \$8.9 million.



## WARRANT IMPACT ON EQUITY

### Overview

- There are currently 37.5m public warrants and 19.0m private . warrants outstanding.
- Each warrant is convertible into half a share at a strike price of \$5.75 (effective strike price of \$11.50 . per share).
- Public warrants can be called for redemption for \$0.01 per warrant when Hostess' share price meets or exceeds \$24.00<sup>(2)</sup> .
- Dilutive impact of warrants is accounted for using the **treasury** stock method.
- Metropoulos may be granted additional shares contingent on achieving certain EBITDA targets for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018. These shares are not included in these calculations.<sup>(3)</sup> .

## Treasury stock method

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(in millions other than per share data)	
Shares issued	
Warrants outstanding (public + private)	56.5
(x) Shares issued per warrant	0.5
Illustrative shares issued	28.3

### Shares repurchased

01111001001	
Illustrative shares issued	28.3
(x) Strike price per share	\$11.50
Illustrative proceeds from warrant exercise	\$324.9
(+) Current share price <sup>(1)</sup>	\$15.68
Illustrative shares repurchased	20.7
Net shares issued	
Illustrative shares issued	28.3
(-) Illustrative shares repurchased	20.7
Illustrative net shares issued	7.5

### Impact on equity value

(in millions other than per share data)	
Diluted shares outstanding	
Class A shares outstanding	99.3
Class B shares outstanding	31.1
(+) Illustrative new shares issued	7.5
Diluted shares outstanding	137.9
Equity value calculation	
Diluted shares outstanding	137.9
(x) Current share price <sup>(1)</sup>	\$15.68
Hostess equity value	\$2,162.6
Impact on earnings per share	
Class A shares outstanding	99.3
(+) Illustrative new shares issued	7.5
Share count for EPS calculations	106.8

- Note: (1) (2)
- All dilution and repurchase information is for illustration only. Actual could differ from illustration. Share price as of 4/13/2017. For any 20 trading days within a 30 trading day period ending on the third business day before the Company sends the notice of redemption to the warrant holders. Metropoulos may be granted up to 8.25m shares pursuant to certain earn-out agreements entered into in connection with the Business Combination. No amounts were accrued for these earn-outs as of December 31, 2016, as management determined that it was not probable the applicable thresholds would be met.



# GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
BFY	Better-for-you
ISB	In-store bakery
SBG	Sweet baked goods
SKU	Stock keeping unit

