

IMCO RECYCLING INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 09, 2004  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 10-Q**

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x **Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**For the Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2004**

.. **Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Commission File No. 1-7170

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**IMCO Recycling Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

75-2008280

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

**5215 North O Connor Blvd., Suite 1500**

**Central Tower at Williams Square**

**Irving, Texas 75039**

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

**(972) 401-7200**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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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 is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the close of business on October 29, 2004.

Common Stock, \$0.10 par value, 15,620,996

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**INTRODUCTORY NOTE**

On July 21, 2004, IMCO Recycling Inc. (IMCO) filed a Registration Statement on Form S-4 (No. 333-117548) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) containing a preliminary joint proxy statement/prospectus regarding a proposed merger between IMCO and Commonwealth Industries, Inc. (Commonwealth). Information concerning IMCO and the proposed merger with Commonwealth is contained in the Registration Statement and the joint proxy statement/prospectus, which, along with other filings containing information about IMCO, can be found at the SEC's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>). See NOTE B - IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND COMMONWEALTH INDUSTRIES, INC. PROPOSED MERGER of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

The Registration Statement was declared effective on November 5, 2004.

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**Table of Contents****PART 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(in thousands, except share data)

|  | September 30,<br>2004 | December 31,<br>2003 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
|  | (unaudited)           | Restated             |
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |                       |                      |
| <b>Current Assets</b>  |                       |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | \$ 9,390              | \$ 14,760            |
| Accounts receivable (net of allowance of \$1,346 and \$1,228 at September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, respectively)                      | 124,425               | 111,562              |
| Inventories  | 81,074                | 78,270               |
| Deferred income taxes  | 1,706                 | 11,444               |
| Other current assets   | 11,579                | 12,382               |
|  | <u>228,174</u>        | <u>228,418</u>       |
| Total Current Assets   | 228,174               | 228,418              |
| Property and equipment, net  | 217,354               | 219,668              |
| Goodwill   | 63,940                | 63,617               |
| Restricted cash  | 14,117                | 24,846               |
| Investments in joint ventures  | 741                   | 976                  |
| Other assets, net  | 15,601                | 13,209               |
|  | <u>\$ 539,927</u>     | <u>\$ 550,734</u>    |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   |                       |                      |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>   |                       |                      |
| Accounts payable   | \$ 97,356             | \$ 96,207            |
| Accrued liabilities  | 43,707                | 30,955               |
| Current maturities of long-term debt   | 10,629                | 33,017               |
|  | <u>151,692</u>        | <u>160,179</u>       |
| Total Current Liabilities  | 151,692               | 160,179              |
| Long-term debt   | 223,260               | 223,176              |
| Deferred income taxes  | 8,210                 | 20,390               |
| Other long-term liabilities  | 26,611                | 25,244               |
| <b>STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   |                       |                      |
| Preferred stock; par value \$.10; 8,000,000 shares authorized; none issued   |                       |                      |
| Common stock; par value \$.10; 40,000,000 shares authorized; 17,160,441 issued at September 30, 2004; 17,155,211 issued at December 31, 2003 | 1,716                 | 1,716                |
| Additional paid-in capital   | 103,586               | 103,264              |
| Deferred stock compensation  | (1,279)               | (4,153)              |
| Retained earnings  | 48,091                | 45,406               |

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|  |                   |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss   | (4,307)           | (4,825)           |
| Treasury stock, at cost; 1,645,945 shares at September 30, 2004; 1,843,403 shares at December 31, 2003 | (17,653)          | (19,663)          |
|  | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
| Total Stockholders' Equity   | 130,154           | 121,745           |
|  | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
|  | \$ 539,927        | \$ 550,734        |
|  | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

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**IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share data)

|  | <b>For the three months<br/>ended September 30,</b> |                 | <b>For the nine months<br/>ended September 30,</b> |                 |
|--|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|
|  | <b>2004</b>   | <b>2003</b>     | <b>2004</b>  | <b>2003</b>     |
|  |   | <b>Restated</b> |  | <b>Restated</b> |
| Revenues   | \$ 283,044  | \$ 219,552      | \$ 853,991   | \$ 654,087      |
| Cost of sales  | 265,139   | 206,314         | 790,523  | 611,103         |
| <b>Gross profit</b>  | <b>17,905</b>                                       | <b>13,238</b>   | <b>63,468</b>                                      | <b>42,984</b>   |
| Selling, general and administrative expense                      | 11,119  | 10,182          | 37,767   | 27,639          |
| Interest expense   | 6,643   | 3,466           | 19,948   | 9,519           |
| Fees on receivables sale   |   | 240             |  | 821             |
| Other (income) expense, net                                      | 152   | 405             | 336  | 427             |
| Equity in net loss (earnings) of affiliates                      | 90  | 64              | 135  | (847)           |
| <b>Earnings (loss) before income taxes and minority interest</b> | <b>(99)</b>   | <b>(1,119)</b>  | <b>5,282</b>                                       | <b>5,425</b>    |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes                        | 180   | (534)           | 2,475  | 1,959           |
| <b>Earnings (loss) before minority interests</b>                 | <b>(279)</b>  | <b>(585)</b>    | <b>2,807</b>                                       | <b>3,466</b>    |
| Minority interests, net of provision for income taxes            | 35  | 108             | 122  | 373             |
| <b>Net earnings (loss)</b>                                       | <b>\$ (314)</b>                                     | <b>\$ (693)</b> | <b>\$ 2,685</b>                                    | <b>\$ 3,093</b> |
| <b>Net earnings (loss) per common share:</b>                     |   |                 |  |                 |
| Basic  | \$ (0.02)   | \$ (0.05)       | \$ 0.18  | \$ 0.21         |
| Diluted  | (0.02)  | (0.05)          | 0.18   | 0.21            |
| <b>Weighted average shares outstanding:</b>                      |   |                 |  |                 |
| Basic  | 15,186  | 14,463          | 14,835   | 14,474          |
| Diluted  | 15,186  | 14,463          | 15,277   | 14,534          |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Table of Contents****IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOW**

(Unaudited)

(in thousands)

|   | <b>For the nine months<br/>ended September 30,</b> |                 |
|---|--|-----------------|
|   | <b>2004</b>  | <b>2003</b>     |
|   |  | <b>Restated</b> |
| <b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>   |  |                 |
| Net earnings  | \$ 2,685   | \$ 3,093        |
| Depreciation and amortization                                       | 21,113   | 20,000          |
| Provision for (benefit from) deferred income taxes                  | (3,756)  | 2,388           |
| Equity in loss (earnings) of affiliates                             | 135  | (847)           |
| Non-cash retirement charge  | 1,576  |                 |
| Other non-cash charges  | 3,937  | 6,341           |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:                        |  |                 |
| Accounts receivable   | (13,558)   | 11,889          |
| Net change in accounts receivable sales facility                    |  | (15,000)        |
| Inventories   | (3,033)  | (2,761)         |
| Other current assets  | 1,722  | 4,094           |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities                            | 19,158   | (28,853)        |
| <b>Net cash from operating activities</b>                           | <b>29,979</b>                                      | <b>344</b>      |
| <b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>   |  |                 |
| Payments for property and equipment                                 | (22,302)   | (13,577)        |
| Net cash acquired in acquisition of remaining 50% of VAW-IMCO       |  | 15,670          |
| Acquisition costs   | (3,458)  |                 |
| Other   | (100)  | 828             |
| <b>Net cash from (used by) investing activities</b>                 | <b>(25,860)</b>                                    | <b>2,921</b>    |
| <b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>   |  |                 |
| Net (payments of) proceeds from long-term revolving credit facility | (22,391)   | 24,300          |
| Net payments of long-term debt                                      |  | (1,789)         |
| Change in restricted cash   | 10,729   |                 |
| Debt issuance costs   | (765)  | (1,386)         |
| Other   | 2,801  | (414)           |
| <b>Net cash from (used by) financing activities</b>                 | <b>(9,626)</b>                                     | <b>20,711</b>   |
| Effect of exchange rate differences on cash and cash equivalents    | 137  | 540             |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                | (5,370)  | 24,516          |
| Cash and cash equivalents at January 1                              | 14,760   | 6,875           |
| Cash and cash equivalents at September 30                           | \$ 9,390   | \$ 31,391       |

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

|  |           |          |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Cash payments for interest                     | \$ 13,259 | \$ 6,468 |
| Cash payments for income taxes, net of refunds | \$ 5,839  | \$ (378) |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.



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**IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)**

**September 30, 2004**

**(dollars in tables are in thousands, except per share data)**

**NOTE A BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2004. The accompanying financial statements include the accounts of IMCO Recycling Inc. and all of its subsidiaries (collectively, except where the context otherwise requires, referred to as IMCO, the company, we, us, our or similar terms). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K (as amended) for the year ended December 31, 2003. Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period statements to conform to the current period presentation.

**Restatement of prior period financial statements**

We restated our Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2003 to record legal expenses of \$566,000 in selling, general and administrative expense in the third quarter of 2003 related to the Bland litigation previously recorded in Accounts receivable, see NOTE F COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES, and increased our benefit from income taxes in that quarter by \$215,000. These revisions decreased net earnings for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2003 by \$351,000 or \$0.02 per share.

We restated our Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2003 to reclassify \$32,991,000 outstanding under our senior credit facility as a current liability. This restatement had no impact on our results of operations or cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2003. See NOTE G LONG-TERM DEBT of the audited financial statements.

**Table of Contents****NOTE B IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND COMMONWEALTH INDUSTRIES INC. PROPOSED MERGER**

On June 16, 2004, we announced the execution of a definitive merger agreement for a business combination of IMCO with Commonwealth Industries, Inc. ( Commonwealth ). Under the merger, we will acquire each outstanding share of Commonwealth common stock in exchange for 0.815 shares of IMCO common stock. The merger is expected to give IMCO and Commonwealth approximately equal representation on the combined company's board of directors, and IMCO's stockholders are expected to own approximately 54% of the combined company immediately following the merger. The transaction is expected to close in December 2004, and its completion is subject to successful completion of the refinancing of certain indebtedness of the two companies, and stockholder approval by both companies, as well as other customary closing conditions. Certain financing has been completed. See NOTE D LONG-TERM DEBT. We have capitalized \$3,458,000 in acquisition costs related to this transaction as of September 30, 2004.

Commonwealth is a manufacturer of aluminum sheet for distributors, transportation, construction and consumer durables end-use markets. Commonwealth has direct-chill casting facilities in Lewisport, Kentucky and continuous casting mini-mills in Urichsville, Ohio and Carson, California. The combination is anticipated to create a new vertically integrated company that can be a strong competitor in the global aluminum recycling and production industries, having benefits from procurement savings and cost synergies, an enhanced competitive position, increased scope and scale, greater technological capabilities, and improved access to capital. As of December 31, 2003, Commonwealth had total assets and total property and equipment of \$380.1 million and \$127.6 million, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2003 Commonwealth had revenues of \$817.7 million and income from continuing operations of \$142,000.

**NOTE C INVENTORIES**

The components of inventories are:

|                 | September 30, | December 31, |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
|                 | 2004          | 2003         |
|                 | _____         | _____        |
| Finished goods  | \$ 37,836     | \$ 36,329    |
| Raw materials   | 36,096        | 33,428       |
| Work in process | 3,962         | 4,613        |
| Supplies        | 3,180         | 3,900        |
|                 | _____         | _____        |
|                 | \$ 81,074     | \$ 78,270    |
|                 | _____         | _____        |

**NOTE D LONG-TERM DEBT**

Our long-term debt is summarized as follows:

September 30,

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|  | <u>2004</u>    | <u>December 31,<br/>2003</u> |
|--|----------------|------------------------------|
|  |                | <u>Restated</u>              |
| Senior Credit Facility, expiring in October 2007   | \$ 10,600      | \$ 32,991                    |
| 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> % Senior Secured Notes, due October 6, 2010 (net of discount) | 208,837        | 208,751                      |
| 7.65% Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities                                   |                |                              |
| Revenue Bonds - 1996 Series, Due May 1, 2016 (net of discount)                               | 5,707          | 5,705                        |
| 7.45% Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities                                   |                |                              |
| Revenue Bonds - 1997 Series, Due May 1, 2022   | 4,600          | 4,600                        |
| 6.00% Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities                                   |                |                              |
| Revenue Bonds - 1998 Series, Due May 1, 2023   | 4,100          | 4,100                        |
| Other  | 45             | 46                           |
|  | <u>233,889</u> | <u>256,193</u>               |
| Subtotal   | 233,889        | 256,193                      |
| Less current maturities  | 10,629         | 33,017                       |
|  | <u>223,260</u> | <u>223,176</u>               |
| Total  | \$ 223,260     | \$ 223,176                   |

*Senior Secured Notes*

In October 2003, we issued \$210,000,000 principal amount of senior secured notes as part of a refinancing of our debt facilities. The issue was priced at 99.383% to yield 10.50% and provided \$208,704,000 of gross proceeds, after offering discount. Interest is payable

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semi-annually, on April 15 and October 15 of each year, commencing on April 15, 2004. In addition, in October 2003 we established a new four-year \$120,000,000 senior secured revolving credit facility (senior credit facility). Our former senior credit facility and former receivables sale facility, which were both scheduled to expire by their terms in the fourth quarter of 2003, were replaced by the senior secured notes and the new senior credit facility.

The senior secured notes are redeemable at our option, in whole or in part, at any time after October 15, 2007. At any time prior to October 15, 2006, we may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of the senior secured notes with the proceeds of one or more equity offerings of our common shares at a redemption price of 110.375% of the principal amount of the senior secured notes, together with accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the date of the redemption.

The senior secured notes are jointly and severally, unconditionally guaranteed on a senior basis by all of our existing 100% owned domestic subsidiaries that are co-borrowers under the senior credit facility and by any future domestic restricted subsidiaries. The senior secured notes are not guaranteed by any of our current foreign subsidiaries. See NOTE M CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. The senior secured notes and guarantees are secured by first-priority liens, subject to permitted liens, on the real property, fixtures and equipment relating to our wholly-owned domestic operating plants and on the fixtures and equipment relating to substantially all of our leased domestic operating plants. The liens securing the senior secured notes do not extend to any of our inventory, accounts receivable and related property (which secure the senior credit facility) or to any of our foreign real or personal property.

Upon the occurrence of a change of control (as defined under the indenture governing the senior secured notes), we are required to offer to purchase the senior secured notes at a price equal to 101% of the principal amount of the outstanding senior secured notes plus accrued interest. The proposed merger of IMCO and Commonwealth is not expected to cause a change of control of IMCO under the indenture.

The indenture governing the senior secured notes, among other things, contains covenants limiting our ability and the ability of our restricted subsidiaries to incur additional debt; grant liens; make restricted payments, including paying dividends or making investments; sell or otherwise dispose of assets, including capital stock of subsidiaries; engage in sale-leaseback transactions; create liens on our or our subsidiaries' assets; restrict distributions from our subsidiaries; engage in transactions with affiliates; and merge or sell substantially all of our or our subsidiaries' assets. The proposed merger of IMCO and Commonwealth has been structured so as to not violate any covenants under the indenture.

***Senior Credit Facility***

As of September 30, 2004, we had \$10,600,000 of indebtedness outstanding under our senior credit facility. Under this facility, we are subject to a borrowing base limitation based on eligible domestic inventory and receivables. As of September 30, 2004, we estimated that our borrowing base would have supported additional borrowings of \$65,460,000 after giving effect to outstanding borrowings of \$10,600,000 and outstanding letters of credit of \$6,075,000. As of September 30, 2004, our total borrowing base was estimated to be approximately \$82,135,000.

The terms of our senior credit facility include, among other covenants, (i) prohibitions against incurring certain indebtedness and granting liens, (ii) limitations on dividends and repurchases of shares of capital stock, and (iii) limitations on capital expenditures, investments and acquisitions. The indebtedness under the senior secured credit facility is secured by IMCO's and its co-borrowers' inventories, receivables, general intangibles and the proceeds thereof. We are subject to the terms of a lockbox arrangement with the administrative agent bank under the senior credit facility, whereby funds deposited from collections of receivables are applied by the lenders to reduce outstanding balances of the borrowings under the senior credit facility. If at any time during specified periods, our undrawn availability under this facility is less than \$50,000,000, we will also be required to maintain a minimum fixed coverage ratio and minimum tangible net worth, as follows:

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a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.0 to 1.0 (calculated based on our parent entity and wholly-owned domestic subsidiaries),  
and

a minimum tangible net worth of \$44,500,000 plus 50% of future net income on a consolidated basis.

For the quarter ended September 30, 2004, our average undrawn availability exceeded \$50,000,000. Under our senior credit facility, we are restricted in our ability to pay cash dividends to our stockholders. As of September 30, 2004, we were in compliance with all applicable financial covenants under this facility.

The terms of our senior credit facility also include covenants prohibiting certain mergers and acquisitions (including the completion of the proposed merger of IMCO and Commonwealth) without the consent of the lenders under the facility. However, the indebtedness under the senior credit facility is expected to be refinanced and replaced by an amended and restated facility at or before the completion of

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the proposed merger with Commonwealth, which is conditioned upon, among other things, the refinancing of certain outstanding indebtedness of the two companies. See NOTE B IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND COMMONWEALTH INDUSTRIES, INC. PROPOSED MERGER.

On May 26, 2004, IMCO and its co-borrower subsidiaries under our senior credit facility entered into a First Amendment to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement with the lenders parties thereto. This amendment revised the definitions of EBITDA and Fixed Charge Ratio contained in the senior credit facility. The changes were made to enable IMCO to make withdrawals from a cash collateral account established under the terms of our senior secured notes indenture without having the amounts withdrawn being deemed capital expenditures for purposes of complying with the fixed charge coverage ratio covenant. In addition, the covenant restricting annual capital expenditures was amended to permit capital expenditures in fiscal 2004 of up to \$25 million for IMCO and its co-borrowers, and then up to \$20 million for IMCO and its co-borrowers for fiscal 2005 and each fiscal year thereafter during the term of the facility.

On July 16, 2004, IMCO and its co-borrower subsidiaries entered into a Second Amendment to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement. This amendment modified a section of the senior credit facility that had provided that any change in the condition or affairs of IMCO or its co-borrowers which, in the lenders agent s reasonable opinion, has a material adverse effect (as defined in the senior credit facility), would be deemed an event of default under the senior credit facility. The Second Amendment to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement revised this provision so that it now provides that such an event of default will not be applicable and that the agent and the lenders will have no rights under the provision, so long as IMCO was in compliance with certain undrawn availability tests under the senior credit facility. If the level of undrawn availability falls below \$3,000,000 for three consecutive business days or below an average of \$10,000,000 per day for any calendar month, then the lenders rights under this provision would be reinstated.

### ***VAW-IMCO***

Our German subsidiary, VAW-IMCO, has two lines of credit available for its working capital needs. The total amount of credit available under these facilities is 15,000,000 Euros (\$18,654,000 U.S. Dollars). During the second quarter of 2004, the terms of these credit facilities were renewed and extended, and these facilities now are scheduled to expire in April and May of 2006. As of September 30, 2004, no amounts were outstanding under these lines of credit.

In February 2004, VAW-IMCO paid IMCO approximately 20,000,000 Euros (U.S. \$24,846,000, including interest), repaying in full VAW-IMCO s indebtedness owed to IMCO under an intercompany note that IMCO had pledged in October 2003 as part of the collateral security for the senior secured notes. The prepayment of this intercompany note, which was denominated in U.S. Dollars, resulted in a recognized gain of \$278,000 for the first quarter of 2004. The funds were deposited in a collateral account held by the trustee under the indenture governing the senior secured notes, which permits us for a one-year period to use these funds for acquisitions and construction of assets and properties to be used in our domestic business, which will be added to and form a part of the collateral security for the senior secured notes. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, we have withdrawn \$10,729,000 for capital expenditures relating to manufacturing equipment, pollution control equipment and buildings. These assets now form part of the collateral security for the senior secured notes.

### ***Placement of \$125 million in senior notes***

The merger agreement between IMCO and Commonwealth requires that certain indebtedness of these companies be refinanced prior to the merger. The requirement has been partially satisfied with the placement of \$125 million of unsecured senior notes.

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On November 4, 2004, a wholly-owned subsidiary of IMCO Recycling Inc. issued \$125 million in aggregate principal amount of 9% Senior Notes due 2014. The gross proceeds from this issue were deposited in an escrow account pending the completion of IMCO's proposed merger with Commonwealth.

Upon release of the funds from the escrow account, they will be applied, along with borrowings under the proposed amended and restated senior secured revolving credit facility, to refinance certain indebtedness of IMCO and Commonwealth. After the merger is completed, the senior notes will be assumed by IMCO and guaranteed by IMCO's wholly-owned U.S. subsidiaries, Commonwealth, and Commonwealth's subsidiaries, and the proceeds will be released from escrow.

If the merger is terminated or is not completed by January 31, 2005, the subsidiary, IMCO Recycling Escrow Inc., will be required to redeem the senior notes at a redemption price of 101% of their issue price plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

The senior notes were issued at an issue price of 100%, bear interest at the rate of 9.0% per annum and mature on November 15, 2014. Interest will be payable on May 15 and November 15 of each year, with the first interest payment being payable on May 15, 2005. Some or all of the senior notes may be redeemed at any time after November 15, 2009. In addition, up to 35 percent of the senior notes may be redeemed using the proceeds of certain equity offerings completed before November 15, 2007.

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The senior notes were issued and sold under an indenture between IMCO Recycling Escrow Inc. and LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee. The indenture contains covenants that will restrict IMCO and its restricted subsidiaries' ability to (1) incur additional debt, (2) pay dividends, (3) grant liens, (4) engage in transactions with affiliates, (5) make investments, (6) transfer or sell assets, (7) restrict distributions from its restricted subsidiaries, (8) issue or sell stock of its subsidiaries and (9) consolidate, merge or transfer all or substantially all of its or its restricted subsidiaries' assets. The indenture contains customary default provisions for an issue of senior notes of this nature, including defaults in payment of principal, premium or interest, covenant defaults, cross-defaults to other indebtedness, failures to satisfy or discharge certain outstanding judgments and certain acts of insolvency.

Additionally, we entered into a registration rights agreement with the initial purchasers of the senior notes, pursuant to which, upon completion of the merger with Commonwealth, IMCO and the guarantors of the senior notes will use their reasonable best efforts to (i) file with the SEC, within 60 days after the merger is completed, a registration statement to enable holders of senior notes to exchange their unregistered notes for publicly registered senior notes having substantially identical terms, (ii) cause the registration statement to become effective under the Securities Act of 1933 within 150 days after the merger is completed and (iii) effect the exchange offer on or before the 195th day following completion of the merger. If we are not permitted to effect an exchange offer under certain circumstances, then we may be required to file a shelf registration with the SEC for the resale of the senior notes. Failure to timely fulfill these obligations will result in our being required to pay, as liquidated damages, additional interest on the senior notes.

***Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Revenue Bonds***

On October 6, 2004, a new series of \$5,000,000 of Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Variable Rate Revenue Bonds (Series 2004) was issued. These bonds mature on October 1, 2027, and bear interest at variable rates (based on prevailing market rates on short-term investments), reset on a weekly basis. The bonds were issued in conjunction with an expansion of our landfill in Morgantown, Kentucky. The net proceeds from the bonds were deposited into an escrow fund, which will be disbursed to us as we incur costs to expand the landfill. As of October 31, 2004, we had drawn against and received approximately \$1,734,000 in cash proceeds from the escrow fund.

**NOTE E NET EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE**

The following table set forth the reconciliation between weighted average shares used for calculating basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share (EPS):

|   | Three months ended                               |            | Nine months ended |            |
|---|--|------------|-------------------|------------|
|   | September 30,                                    |            | September 30,     |            |
|   | 2004   | 2003       | 2004              | 2003       |
|   |  |            |                   |            |
|   |  | Restated   |                   | Restated   |
|   | (dollars in thousands, except per-share amounts) |            |                   |            |
| Numerators for basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share              | \$ (314)   | \$ (693)   | \$ 2,685          | \$ 3,093   |
| Denominator:  |  |            |                   |            |
| Denominator for basic earnings (loss) per share-weighted-average shares | 15,186,072                                       | 14,462,889 | 14,834,999        | 14,473,973 |
| Dilutive potential common shares-stock options                          |  |            | 442,316           | 60,221     |



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|   |            |            |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Denominator for diluted earnings (loss) per share | 15,186,072 | 14,462,889 | 15,277,315 | 14,534,194 |
| <b>Net earnings (loss) per share:</b>             |            |            |            |            |
| Basic   | \$ (0.02)  | \$ (0.05)  | \$ 0.18    | \$ 0.21    |
| Diluted   | \$ (0.02)  | \$ (0.05)  | \$ 0.18    | \$ 0.21    |

As of September 30, 2004, we had a total of 330,000 shares of restricted stock outstanding. All outstanding shares of restricted stock were unvested and therefore were excluded from our basic earnings per share calculation. We also had stock options outstanding to purchase up to 890,104 shares that were anti-dilutive.

**NOTE F COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

*General*

Our operations, like those of other basic industries, are subject to federal, state, local and foreign laws, regulations and ordinances. These laws and regulations (i) govern activities or operations that may have adverse environmental effects, such as discharges to air and water, as well as handling and disposal practices for solid and hazardous wastes and (ii) impose liability for costs of cleaning up, and certain damages resulting from past spills, disposals or other releases of hazardous substances. It can be anticipated that more rigorous environmental laws will be enacted that could require us to make substantial expenditures in addition to those described herein.

From time to time, our operations have resulted, or may result, in certain non-compliance with applicable requirements under environmental laws. However, we believe that any such non-compliance under such environmental laws would not have a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations.

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### ***Environmental proceedings***

In 1997, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) notified us that two of our zinc subsidiaries were potentially responsible parties (PRP) pursuant to the Illinois Environmental Protection Act for the cleanup of contamination at a site in Marion County, Illinois to which these subsidiaries, among others, in the past had sent zinc oxide for processing and resale. The site has not been fully investigated and final estimated cleanup costs have not yet been determined. Because of the nature of this matter, we cannot make an estimate of reasonable possible losses. We have been informed by the IEPA that the agency is preparing a revised list of companies that may have sent materials to the site and the volume of materials sent by each company. Once we receive this information, we may seek, possibly in connection with other PRPs, an agreed resolution of the IEPA's claims.

On March 17, 2004, we were named as a co-defendant in a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. The listed claimants are the current owners of a Corona, California property formerly owned by one of our subsidiaries. The petition seeks declaratory relief and damages in an unspecified amount in connection with an alleged release of hazardous substances on the property. Because of the nature of this matter, we cannot make an estimate of reasonable possible losses. We believe that we have meritorious defenses to the claims contained in the petition. We plan a vigorous defense against these claims and are seeking indemnification from certain of the other co-defendants.

There is the possibility that expenditures could be required at our other facilities from time to time, because of new or revised regulations that could require that additional expenditures be made for compliance purposes. These expenditures could materially affect our results of operations and financial condition in future periods.

### ***Other legal proceedings***

In 1998, an employee filed a personal injury claim against IMCO in Missouri state court (the Bland case). In August 2002 the trial court entered a final judgment against IMCO for \$4.0 million. In connection with this matter, IMCO also became involved in litigation (i) in Missouri state court with the surety for the appeal bond that was levied to secure the judgment in the Bland case and (ii) in federal district court in Missouri with IMCO's umbrella coverage insurer to resolve a dispute as to coverage in the Bland case. In March 2004, the federal district court entered a judgment in IMCO's favor, and in the third quarter of 2004, IMCO recovered and recorded \$625,000 of its attorneys' fees and costs previously expensed in the matter. In October 2004, IMCO entered into a final settlement agreement, resolving all litigation relating to the Bland case and resulting in no liability for IMCO.

We are also a party from time to time to what we believe are routine litigation and proceedings considered part of the ordinary course of our business. We believe that the outcome of such proceedings would not have a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations.

**Table of Contents****NOTE G OTHER COMPREHENSIVE EARNINGS (LOSS)**

The following table presents the components of other comprehensive earnings (loss). These items change equity during the reporting period, but are not included in earnings.

|   | Unrealized Gain |                       |                                     |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
|   | Total           | (Loss) on Derivative  | Foreign Currency                    |
|   |                 | Financial Instruments | Translation, Unrealized Gain (Loss) |
| Balance at December 31, 2003  | \$ (4,825)      | \$ 1,939              | \$ (6,764)                          |
| Current period net change   | (79)            |                       | (79)                                |
| Change in fair value of derivative financial instruments                      | 3,988           | 3,988                 |                                     |
| Reclassification of (gains) on derivative financial instruments into earnings | (3,028)         | (3,028)               |                                     |
| Income tax effect   | (363)           | (363)                 |                                     |
| Balance at September 30, 2004   | \$ (4,307)      | \$ 2,536              | \$ (6,843)                          |

We translate the balance sheets of our foreign subsidiaries using fiscal period-end exchange rates. The consolidated statements of earnings are translated using the average exchange rates for the period. The cumulative effect of such translations is included in stockholders' equity, other than for current intercompany accounts, as a component of other comprehensive earnings (loss). Foreign currency translation adjustments, unrealized gains or losses, accumulate in equity until the final disposition of their respective operations.

See NOTE O MARKET RISK MANAGEMENT USING FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS for further information in regards to our deferred hedging activities.

**NOTE H SEGMENT REPORTING****Description of the Types of Products and Services from which Each Reportable Segment Derives its Revenues:**

With the consolidation of VAW-IMCO in 2003, we now have the following product lines: Aluminum Recycling, Specialty Alloy, Zinc and International Aluminum.

**Factors Management Used to Identify Our Reportable Segments:**

The Aluminum Recycling and Specialty Alloy product lines have been aggregated for reporting purposes into one business segment Domestic Aluminum and represents all of our aluminum melting, processing, alloying, trading and salt cake recycling activities within the United States. We have aggregated these businesses because the products produced are identical (except for minor differences in chemical composition) and are delivered in the same manner (either molten or in bars), the raw materials used are very similar, the production processes and equipment used are identical, and both businesses report to the same member of executive management. Our international aluminum segment represents all of our aluminum melting, processing, alloying and trading activities outside the United States. Our zinc segment represents all of our zinc melting, processing and trading activities.

**Measurement of Segment Profit or Loss and Segment Assets:**

The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as those described in NOTE A SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. We evaluate performance based on gross profit or loss from operations, net of selling expenses, which we title Segment Income. Provision for income taxes, interest expense, certain amounts of other (income) expense, net, corporate general and administrative costs, including depreciation of corporate assets and amortization of capitalized debt costs, are not allocated to the reportable segments. Intersegment sales and transfers are recorded at market value; net profits on intersegment sales and transfers were immaterial for the periods presented. Consolidated cash, net unamortized debt costs, net current deferred tax assets and assets located at our headquarters office in Irving, Texas are not allocated to the reportable segments.

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The following table shows our segment assets for the indicated periods:

|                          | September 30,<br>2004 | December 31,<br>2003 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|                          |                       | Restated             |
| <b>Assets:</b>           |                       |                      |
| Domestic Aluminum        | \$ 238,493            | \$ 232,209           |
| International Aluminum   | 173,835               | 175,345              |
| Zinc                     | 104,754               | 109,815              |
| Other unallocated assets | 22,845                | 33,365               |
| <b>Total assets</b>      | <b>\$ 539,927</b>     | <b>\$ 550,734</b>    |

The following table shows our revenues and income for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004 and September 30, 2003, respectively.

|   | Three months ended |                   | Nine months ended |                   |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | September 30,      |                   | September 30,     |                   |
|   | 2004               | 2003              | 2004              | 2003              |
|   |                    | Restated          |                   | Restated          |
| <b>Revenues:</b>  |                    |                   |                   |                   |
| Domestic Aluminum   | \$ 138,072         | \$ 110,402        | \$ 419,682        | \$ 359,376        |
| International Aluminum  | 93,472             | 69,895            | 276,739           | 183,717           |
| Zinc  | 51,500             | 39,255            | 157,570           | 110,994           |
| <b>Total revenues</b>   | <b>\$ 283,044</b>  | <b>\$ 219,552</b> | <b>\$ 853,991</b> | <b>\$ 654,087</b> |
| <b>Income:</b>  |                    |                   |                   |                   |
| Domestic Aluminum   | \$ 4,138           | \$ 4,012          | \$ 20,025         | \$ 15,188         |
| International Aluminum  | 5,423              | 2,392             | 17,366            | 11,617            |
| Zinc  | 2,384              | 1,550             | 9,161             | 4,060             |
| <b>Total segment income</b>   | <b>\$ 11,945</b>   | <b>\$ 7,954</b>   | <b>\$ 46,552</b>  | <b>\$ 30,865</b>  |
| <b>Unallocated amounts:</b>   |                    |                   |                   |                   |
| General and administrative expenses   | \$ (5,457)         | \$ (4,790)        | \$ (21,350)       | \$ (14,501)       |
| Interest expense  | (6,643)            | (3,466)           | (19,948)          | (9,519)           |
| Fees on receivables sale  |                    | (240)             |                   | (821)             |
| Interest and other income   | 56                 | (577)             | 28                | (599)             |
| <b>Earnings (loss) before provision for income taxes and minority interests</b> | <b>\$ (99)</b>     | <b>\$ (1,119)</b> | <b>\$ 5,282</b>   | <b>\$ 5,425</b>   |

**NOTE I VAW-IMCO**

VAW-IMCO owns and operates two aluminum recycling foundry alloy facilities in Grevenbroich and Töging, Germany, that together have an annual melting capacity in excess of 700 million pounds. VAW-IMCO supplies specialty alloys to the European automobile industry and serves other European aluminum industries.

Through a wholly-owned subsidiary, we had previously owned a 50% share interest in VAW-IMCO, with Hydro Aluminium Deutschland GmbH (Hydro) owning the remaining 50% share interest. On March 14, 2003, we entered into an agreement with Hydro and VAW-IMCO, finalizing the terms and conditions whereby VAW-IMCO would redeem its shares owned by Hydro. As a result of

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this agreement, voting control of VAW-IMCO was effectively vested in a wholly-owned subsidiary of ours, and effective March 1, 2003, the accounts of VAW-IMCO were consolidated with those of ours and reflected within our consolidated financial statements. Prior to that date, the accounts of VAW-IMCO were reflected in our financial statements under the equity method of accounting. This effective acquisition of the remaining 50% interest in VAW-IMCO was an important step in the ongoing expansion of our international operations.

The following table represents our condensed unaudited pro forma statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The unaudited pro forma information is not necessarily indicative of the results of operations that would have occurred had the acquisition been made at the beginning of the periods presented or the future results of the combined operations. The condensed unaudited pro forma statement of operations assumes that the consolidation of VAW-IMCO occurred on January 1, 2003.

|                                      | Nine months ended  |         |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
|                                      | September 30, 2003 |         |
|                                      | Restated           |         |
| Revenues                             | \$                 | 705,532 |
| Gross profit                         |                    | 48,929  |
| Net earnings                         |                    | 3,737   |
| Net earnings per commons share:      |                    |         |
| Basic                                | \$                 | 0.26    |
| Diluted                              | \$                 | 0.26    |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: |                    |         |
| Basic                                |                    | 14,474  |
| Diluted                              |                    | 14,534  |

**NOTE J STOCK BASED COMPENSATION**

We follow Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25 (APB 25), Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations in accounting for our employee stock options. Under APB 25, if the exercise price of employee stock options equals the market price of the underlying stock on the date of grant, no compensation expense is recorded. We have adopted the pro forma disclosure features of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, as amended by SFAS No. 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation-Transition and Disclosure. Our net earnings and earnings per share would have been reduced to the pro forma amounts shown below if compensation cost had been determined based on the fair value at the grant dates.

Our pro forma information below is presented as if we had applied the fair value recognition provision of SFAS 123 Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation.

|                                  | Three months ended |          | Nine months ended |          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
|                                  | September 30,      |          | September 30,     |          |
|                                  | 2004               | 2003     | 2004              | 2003     |
|                                  |                    | Restated |                   | Restated |
| Net earnings (loss), as reported | \$ (314)           | \$ (693) | \$ 2,685          | \$ 3,093 |

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|   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Add: stock-based compensation expense included in reported net income, net of tax | 82                | 190               | 1,366             | 378               |
| Less: compensation cost determined under the fair value method, net of tax        | (239)             | (360)             | (1,854)           | (891)             |
|   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
| Pro forma net earnings (loss)   | \$ (471)          | \$ (863)          | \$ 2,197          | \$ 2,580          |
|   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share:  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| As reported   | \$ (0.02)         | \$ (0.05)         | \$ 0.18           | \$ 0.21           |
| Pro forma   | (0.03)            | (0.06)            | 0.15              | 0.18              |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share:  |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| As reported   | \$ (0.02)         | \$ (0.05)         | \$ 0.18           | \$ 0.21           |
| Pro forma   | (0.03)            | (0.06)            | 0.14              | 0.18              |



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**Table of Contents****NOTE K STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY**

In February and May 2004, we awarded a total of 147,000 restricted stock units to certain of our officers and key employees. The restricted stock units cannot be transferred or pledged and are subject to forfeiture if the holder's employment with us terminates for any reason other than death, disability or retirement. The restricted stock units fully vest upon the earlier of the fifth anniversary of the date of grant, a change of control of the company or upon the holder's death, disability or retirement. The vested restricted stock units are exchangeable into shares of IMCO common stock. While the completion of the Commonwealth merger will not by itself constitute a change of control under the terms of our Amended and Restated 2000 Restricted Stock Plan under which the restricted stock units were granted, the expected retirement of certain IMCO executive officers at or about the time of the completion of the merger will constitute a vesting event for their restricted stock units.

Don V. Ingram resigned as chairman of the board, president and chief executive officer of the company in April 2004. In 2000 and 2002, our board of directors had approved grants of contractual restricted stock awards to Mr. Ingram for a total of 600,000 shares. As a consequence of Mr. Ingram's resignation, as of May 7, 2004, 450,000 shares of common stock were fully vested in accordance with the terms of his restricted stock award agreement resulting in a charge of \$1,576,000. The remaining 150,000 shares of his restricted stock were cancelled and returned to treasury stock. In addition, Mr. Ingram received a cash severance payment of \$1,500,000. The total charge of \$3,665,000 relating to the cash payment, vesting of the 450,000 shares of restricted common stock and certain legal expenses was recognized in the second quarter of 2004 in selling, general and administrative expense.

**NOTE L INCOME TAXES**

Our effective tax rate was 47% for the nine months ended September 30, 2004. This compares to an effective tax rate of 36% for the comparable period in 2003. The effective tax rate for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2004 was impacted because we have not recognized deferred state income tax benefits for 2004 as a result of continuing operating losses for our U.S. operations. Our provision for income tax in 2003 excluded the equity income from VAW-IMCO, which was recorded on an after tax basis.

Higher interest expense and payments for departing executives generated net operating losses in the U.S. for federal income tax purposes for the nine month period ended September 30, 2004. Deferred tax benefits related to these net operating losses have been recorded for U.S. federal income tax purposes. While our overall effective tax rate for 2004 contemplates the utilization of such operating loss carryforwards, if further profit improvements in our domestic operations do not occur, the recording of additional U.S. federal income tax benefits for 2004 will need to be re-evaluated.

We have recorded net deferred tax assets in various state jurisdictions totaling \$7,993,000, which includes amounts recorded related to the benefit for loss carryforwards and tax credits, and which expire in varying amounts between 2005 and 2024. A valuation allowance of \$3,859,000 has been provided related to such net deferred tax assets. As indicated above, no net state deferred tax benefits have been recorded for the nine month period ended September 30, 2004. Realization of such net deferred tax assets is dependent on generating sufficient taxable income prior to expiration of the loss carryforwards. Although realization is not assured, management believes it is more likely than not that all of the deferred tax asset (net of valuation allowance) will be realized. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable, however, could be reduced in the near term if estimates of future taxable income during the carryforward period are reduced.

Finally, our deferred tax asset and liability positions for both U.S. federal and various state jurisdictions will be taken into consideration in accounting for the proposed acquisition of Commonwealth (see NOTE B IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND COMMONWEALTH INDUSTRIES, INC. PROPOSED MERGER ), and the amount of deferred tax positions recorded in conjunction with the purchase price

allocation could be impacted.

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The provision for income taxes was as follows:

|                                   | <b>For the nine months<br/>ended September 30,</b> |                 |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------|
|                                   | <b>2004</b>  | <b>2003</b>     |
|                                   |  | <b>Restated</b> |
| <b>Current:</b>                   |  |                 |
| Federal                           | \$ 69  | \$ (3,326)      |
| State                             | 292  | (55)            |
| Foreign                           | 5,870  | 2,952           |
|                                   | <u>6,231</u>                                       | <u>(429)</u>    |
| <b>Deferred:</b>                  |  |                 |
| Federal                           | (3,909)  | 2,392           |
| State                             |  | 145             |
| Foreign                           | 153  | (149)           |
|                                   | <u>(3,756)</u>                                     | <u>2,388</u>    |
| <b>Provision for income taxes</b> | <u>\$ 2,475</u>                                    | <u>\$ 1,959</u> |

The income tax expense (benefit), computed by applying the federal statutory rate to earnings (loss) before income taxes, differed from the provision for income taxes as follows:

|  | <b>For the nine months<br/>ended September 30,</b> |                 |
|--|--|-----------------|
|  | <b>2004</b>  | <b>2003</b>     |
|  |  | <b>Restated</b> |
| Income taxes at the federal statutory rate | \$ 1,853   | \$ 2,097        |
| Foreign tax rate difference                | 73   | 271             |
| State income taxes, net                    | (1,338)  | 132             |
| Foreign income not currently taxable       | 51   | (298)           |
| Increase in valuation allowance            | 1,492  | 39              |
| Other, net                                 | 344  | (282)           |
|  | <u>\$ 2,475</u>                                    | <u>\$ 1,959</u> |
| <b>Provisions for income taxes</b>         | <u>\$ 2,475</u>                                    | <u>\$ 1,959</u> |

**NOTE M CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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Certain of our subsidiaries are guarantors of the indebtedness of IMCO under its senior secured notes. See NOTE D - LONG-TERM DEBT. For purposes of complying with the reporting requirements of these guarantor subsidiaries, presented below are condensed consolidating financial statements of IMCO Recycling Inc., the Guarantor Subsidiaries, and those subsidiaries of IMCO Recycling Inc. that are not guaranteeing the indebtedness under the senior secured notes (Non-Guarantor Subsidiaries).

The condensed consolidating balance sheets are presented as of September 30, 2004, the condensed consolidating statements of operations are presented for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 and the condensed consolidating statements of cash flows are presented for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003.

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**Table of Contents****IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****GUARANTOR CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEETS**

|   | September 30, 2004                 |  |  |                     |                     |
|---|------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|
|   | <b>IMCO<br/>Recycling<br/>Inc.</b> | <b>Combined<br/>Guarantor<br/>Subsidiaries</b> | <b>Combined<br/>Non-guarantor<br/>Subsidiaries</b> | <b>Eliminations</b> | <b>Consolidated</b> |
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |                                    |  |  |                     |                     |
| <b>Current Assets</b>   |                                    |  |  |                     |                     |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$ 322                             | \$ 45  | \$ 9,023   | \$                  | \$ 9,390            |
| Accounts receivable, net  | 8,053                              | 67,146   | 49,309   | (83)                | 124,425             |
| Inventories   | 3,809                              | 43,593   | 33,672   |                     | 81,074              |
| Deferred income taxes   |                                    | 289  | 1,417  |                     | 1,706               |
| Other current assets  | 4,551                              | 4,410  | 2,618  |                     | 11,579              |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>   | <b>16,735</b>                      | <b>115,483</b>                                 | <b>96,039</b>                                      | <b>(83)</b>         | <b>228,174</b>      |
| Property and equipment, net   | 37,019                             | 104,030  | 78,162   | (1,857)             | 217,354             |
| Goodwill  | 4,160                              | 49,131   | 10,649   |                     | 63,940              |
| Restricted cash   | 14,117                             |  |  |                     | 14,117              |
| Investments in joint ventures                                       |                                    | 741  |  |                     | 741                 |
| Other assets, net   | 10,185                             | 4,664  | 752  |                     | 15,601              |
| Deferred income taxes   | 7,373                              |  |  | (7,373)             |                     |
| Investments in subsidiaries/ intercompany receivable (payable), net | 310,739                            | (94,381)                                       | (4,483)  | (211,875)           |                     |
|   | <b>\$ 400,328</b>                  | <b>\$ 179,668</b>                              | <b>\$ 181,119</b>                                  | <b>\$ (221,188)</b> | <b>\$ 539,927</b>   |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>                          |                                    |  |  |                     |                     |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>  |                                    |  |  |                     |                     |
| Accounts payable  | \$ 16,511                          | \$ 47,688                                      | \$ 33,240  | \$ (83)             | \$ 97,356           |
| Accrued liabilities   | 14,222                             | 9,050  | 20,435   |                     | 43,707              |
| Current maturities of long-term debt                                | 10,600                             | 25   | 4  |                     | 10,629              |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>                                    | <b>41,333</b>                      | <b>56,763</b>                                  | <b>53,679</b>                                      | <b>(83)</b>         | <b>151,692</b>      |
| Long-term debt  | 223,243                            | 12   | 5  |                     | 223,260             |
| Deferred income taxes   |                                    | 7,035  | 8,548  | (7,373)             | 8,210               |
| Other long-term liabilities   | 5,598                              | 3,823  | 17,189   | 1                   | 26,611              |
| Total Stockholders Equity   | 130,154                            | 112,035  | 101,698  | (213,733)           | 130,154             |
|   | <b>\$ 400,328</b>                  | <b>\$ 179,668</b>                              | <b>\$ 181,119</b>                                  | <b>\$ (221,188)</b> | <b>\$ 539,927</b>   |

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## IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## GUARANTOR CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

Three Months Ended September 30, 2004

|   | Combined                  |                                       |                               |              |              |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | IMCO<br>Recycling<br>Inc. | Combined<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| Revenues  | \$ 24,092                 | \$ 171,564                            | \$ 98,263                     | \$ (10,875)  | \$ 283,044   |
| Cost of sales   | 20,968                    | 165,852                               | 89,194                        | (10,875)     | 265,139      |
| Gross profit  | 3,124                     | 5,712                                 | 9,069                         |              | 17,905       |
| Selling, general and administrative expense                             | 496                       | 7,270                                 | 3,353                         |              | 11,119       |
| Interest expense  | 6,625                     | 4,733                                 | 45                            | (4,760)      | 6,643        |
| Other (income) expense, net   | (1,708)                   | (2,959)                               | 195                           | 4,624        | 152          |
| Equity in net loss (earnings) of affiliates                             | (2,190)                   | 90                                    |                               | 2,190        | 90           |
| Earnings (loss) before provision for income taxes and minority interest | (99)                      | (3,422)                               | 5,476                         | (2,054)      | (99)         |
| Provision (benefit) for income taxes                                    | 215                       | (1,540)                               | 1,505                         |              | 180          |
| Earnings (loss) before minority interests                               | (314)                     | (1,882)                               | 3,971                         | (2,054)      | (279)        |
| Minority interests, net of provision for income taxes                   |                           |                                       | 35                            |              | 35           |
| Net earnings (loss)   | \$ (314)                  | \$ (1,882)                            | \$ 3,936                      | \$ (2,054)   | \$ (314)     |

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## IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## GUARANTOR CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

Restated

Three Months Ended September 30, 2003

|   | Combined                  |                                       |                               |              |              |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | IMCO<br>Recycling<br>Inc. | Combined<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| Revenues  | \$ 20,935                 | \$ 131,776                            | \$ 73,394                     | \$ (6,553)   | \$ 219,552   |
| Cost of sales   | 19,257                    | 125,797                               | 67,813                        | (6,553)      | 206,314      |
| Gross profit  | 1,678                     | 5,979                                 | 5,581                         |              | 13,238       |
| Selling, general and administrative expense                             | 434                       | 6,960                                 | 2,788                         |              | 10,182       |
| Interest expense  | 2,267                     | 3,306                                 | 971                           | (3,078)      | 3,466        |
| Fees on receivables sale  |                           | 240                                   |                               |              | 240          |
| Other (income) expense, net   | 322                       | (3,217)                               | 393                           | 2,907        | 405          |
| Equity in net loss (earnings) of affiliates                             | (326)                     | 64                                    |                               | 326          | 64           |
| Earnings (loss) before provision for income taxes and minority interest | (1,019)                   | (1,374)                               | 1,429                         | (155)        | (1,119)      |
| Provision (benefit) for income taxes                                    | (326)                     | (506)                                 | 298                           |              | (534)        |
| Earnings (loss) before minority interests                               | (693)                     | (868)                                 | 1,131                         | (155)        | (585)        |
| Minority interests, net of provision for income taxes                   |                           |                                       | 108                           |              | 108          |
| Net earnings (loss)   | \$ (693)                  | \$ (868)                              | \$ 1,023                      | \$ (155)     | \$ (693)     |

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Table of Contents**IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****GUARANTOR CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2004

|   | Combined                  |                                       |                               |              | Consolidated |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | IMCO<br>Recycling<br>Inc. | Combined<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations |              |
| Revenues  | \$ 75,865                 | \$ 521,275                            | \$ 291,374                    | \$ (34,523)  | \$ 853,991   |
| Cost of sales   | 67,689                    | 494,239                               | 263,118                       | (34,523)     | 790,523      |
| Gross profit  | 8,176                     | 27,036                                | 28,256                        |              | 63,468       |
| Selling, general and administrative expense                             | 1,417                     | 26,471                                | 9,879                         |              | 37,767       |
| Interest expense  | 19,806                    | 14,289                                | 383                           | (14,530)     | 19,948       |
| Other (income) expense, net   | (4,338)                   | (9,551)                               | (412)                         | 14,637       | 336          |
| Equity in net loss (earnings) of affiliates                             | (9,685)                   | 135                                   |                               | 9,685        | 135          |
| Earnings (loss) before provision for income taxes and minority interest | 976                       | (4,308)                               | 18,406                        | (9,792)      | 5,282        |
| Provision (benefit) for income taxes                                    | (1,709)                   | (1,939)                               | 6,123                         |              | 2,475        |
| Earnings (loss) before minority interests                               | 2,685                     | (2,369)                               | 12,283                        | (9,792)      | 2,807        |
| Minority interests, net of provision for income taxes                   |                           |                                       | 122                           |              | 122          |
| Net earnings (loss)   | \$ 2,685                  | \$ (2,369)                            | \$ 12,161                     | \$ (9,792)   | \$ 2,685     |



Table of Contents**IMCO RECYCLING INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****GUARANTOR CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

Restated

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2003

|   | Combined                  |                                       |                               |              |              |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | IMCO<br>Recycling<br>Inc. | Combined<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| Revenues  | \$ 70,380                 | \$ 408,715                            | \$ 195,525                    | \$ (20,533)  | \$ 654,087   |
| Cost of sales   | 64,100                    | 391,001                               | 176,535                       | (20,533)     | 611,103      |
| Gross profit  | 6,280                     | 17,714                                | 18,990                        |              | 42,984       |
| Selling, general and administrative expense                             | 1,356                     | 20,074                                | 6,209                         |              | 27,639       |
| Interest expense  | 6,193                     | 9,671                                 | 2,807                         | (9,152)      | 9,519        |
| Fees on receivables sale  |                           | 821                                   |                               |              | 821          |
| Other (income) expense, net   | 1,300                     | (10,367)                              | 513                           | 8,981        | 427          |
| Equity in net loss (earnings) of affiliates                             | (5,463)                   | (113)                                 | (734)                         | 5,463        | (847)        |
| Earnings (loss) before provision for income taxes and minority interest | 2,894                     | (2,372)                               | 10,195                        | (5,292)      | 5,425        |
| Provision (benefit) for income taxes                                    | (199)                     | (838)                                 | 2,996                         |              | 1,959        |
| Earnings (loss) before minority interests                               | 3,093                     | (1,534)                               | 7,199                         | (5,292)      | 3,466        |
| Minority interests, net of provision for income taxes                   |                           |                                       | 373                           |              | 373          |
| Net earnings (loss)   | \$ 3,093                  | \$ (1,534)                            | \$ 6,826                      | \$ (5,292)   | \$ 3,093     |

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## IMCO RECYCLING INC.

## GUARANTOR CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2004

|  | IMCO<br>Recycling<br>Inc. | Combined<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Combined<br>Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations | Consolidated    |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------|-----------------|
| <b><u>OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</u></b>                        |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |
| Net Earnings   | \$ 2,685                  | \$ (2,369)                            | \$ 12,161                                 | \$ (9,792)   | \$ 2,685        |
| Depreciation and amortization                              | 3,968                     | 11,501                                | 5,644                                     |              | 21,113          |
| Provision for (benefit from) deferred income tax           | (4,094)                   | 185                                   | 153                                       |              | (3,756)         |
| Equity in loss (earnings) of affiliates                    | (9,685)                   | 135                                   |   | 9,685        | 135             |
| Non-cash retirement charge                                 |                           | 1,576                                 |   |              | 1,576           |
| Other non-cash items                                       | 3,653                     | 422                                   | (138)                                     |              | 3,937           |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:               |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |
| Accounts receivable  | 1,762                     | (2,519)                               | (12,801)                                  |              | (13,558)        |
| Inventories  | 483                       | 1,321                                 | (4,837)                                   |              | (3,033)         |
| Other current assets                                       | 87                        | 2,235                                 | (600)                                     |              | 1,722           |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities                   | 4,740                     | 4,188                                 | 10,230                                    |              | 19,158          |
|  | <u>3,599</u>              | <u>16,675</u>                         | <u>9,812</u>                              | <u>(107)</u> | <u>29,979</u>   |
| <b><u>NET CASH FROM (USED BY) OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u></b> |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |
| <b><u>INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</u></b>                        |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |
| Payments for property and equipment                        | (4,105)                   | (8,304)                               | (9,893)                                   |              | (22,302)        |
| Acquisition costs  |                           | (3,458)                               |   |              | (3,458)         |
| Other  | (637)                     | 349                                   | 188                                       |              | (100)           |
|  | <u>(4,742)</u>            | <u>(11,413)</u>                       | <u>(9,705)</u>                            |              | <u>(25,860)</u> |
| <b><u>NET CASH USED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES</u></b>        |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |
| <b><u>FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</u></b>                        |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |
| Net payments of long-term revolving credit facility        | (22,391)                  |                                       |   |              | (22,391)        |
| Change in restricted cash                                  | (14,118)                  |                                       | 24,847                                    |              | 10,729          |
| Payoff of VAW-IMCO promissory note                         | 24,847                    |                                       | (24,847)                                  |              |                 |
| Debt issuance costs  | (765)                     |                                       |   |              | (765)           |
| Net transfer with subsidiaries                             | 10,233                    | (5,946)                               | (4,394)                                   | 107          |                 |
| Other  | 3,156                     | 595                                   | (950)                                     |              | 2,801           |
|  | <u>962</u>                | <u>(5,351)</u>                        | <u>(5,344)</u>                            | <u>107</u>   | <u>(9,626)</u>  |
| <b><u>NET CASH FROM (USED BY) FINANCING ACTIVITIES</u></b> |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |
| Effects of exchange rate changes on cash                   |                           |                                       | 137                                       |              | 137             |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents                  | (181)                     | (89)                                  | (5,100)                                   |              | (5,370)         |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period           | 503                       | 134                                   | 14,123                                    |              | 14,760          |
|  | <u>322</u>                | <u>45</u>                             | <u>9,023</u>                              | <u>\$</u>    | <u>\$ 9,390</u> |
| <b><u>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD</u></b>   |                           |                                       |   |              |                 |



**Table of Contents****IMCO RECYCLING INC.****GUARANTOR CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

Restated

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2003

|   | IMCO            |                | Combined       |                 |               |
|---|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
|   | Recycling       | Combined       | Non-guarantor  |                 |               |
|   | Inc.            | Subsidiaries   | Subsidiaries   | Eliminations    | Consolidated  |
| <b><u>OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</u></b>                                 |                 |                |                |                 |               |
| Net earnings  | \$ 3,093        | \$ (1,534)     | \$ 6,826       | \$ (5,292)      | \$ 3,093      |
| Depreciation and amortization                                       | 4,307           | 11,741         | 3,952          |                 | 20,000        |
| Provision for (benefit from) deferred income tax                    | 1,887           | (95)           | 596            |                 | 2,388         |
| Equity in loss (earnings) of affiliates                             | (5,463)         | (113)          | (734)          | 5,463           | (847)         |
| Other non-cash items  | 2,628           | 2,471          | 1,242          |                 | 6,341         |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:                        |                 |                |                |                 |               |
| Accounts receivable   | 7,282           | (2,818)        | 7,425          |                 | 11,889        |
| Accounts receivable sold  | (15,000)        |                |                |                 | (15,000)      |
| Inventories   | (80)            | (7,841)        | 5,160          |                 | (2,761)       |
| Other current assets  | 280             | 3,234          | 580            |                 | 4,094         |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities                            | (36,118)        | (3,125)        | (7,428)        | 17,818          | (28,853)      |
| <b>NET CASH FROM (USED BY) OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>                 | <b>(37,184)</b> | <b>1,920</b>   | <b>17,619</b>  | <b>17,989</b>   | <b>344</b>    |
| <b><u>INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</u></b>                                 |                 |                |                |                 |               |
| Payments for property and equipment                                 | (953)           | (5,938)        | (6,686)        |                 | (13,577)      |
| Net cash acquired in consolidation of the remaining 50% of VAW-IMCO |                 | 1              | 15,669         |                 | 15,670        |
| Other   | (3,472)         | 1,006          | 3,294          |                 | 828           |
| <b>NET CASH FROM (USED BY) INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>                 | <b>(4,425)</b>  | <b>(4,931)</b> | <b>12,277</b>  |                 | <b>2,921</b>  |
| <b><u>FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</u></b>                                 |                 |                |                |                 |               |
| Net proceeds from long-term revolving credit facility               | 24,300          |                |                |                 | 24,300        |
| Net payments of long-term debt                                      |                 | (155)          | (1,634)        |                 | (1,789)       |
| Debt issuance costs   | (1,386)         |                |                |                 | (1,386)       |
| Net transfer with subsidiaries                                      | 16,440          | 1,550          | (1)            | (17,989)        |               |
| Other   | 216             | 1,470          | (2,100)        |                 | (414)         |
| <b>NET CASH FROM (USED BY) FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>                 | <b>39,570</b>   | <b>2,865</b>   | <b>(3,735)</b> | <b>(17,989)</b> | <b>20,711</b> |
| Effects of exchange rate changes on cash                            |                 |                | 540            |                 | 540           |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                | (2,039)         | (146)          | 26,701         |                 | 24,516        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                    | 2,418           | 183            | 4,274          |                 | 6,875         |

|   |               |              |                  |           |                  |
|---|---------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD</b> | <b>\$ 379</b> | <b>\$ 37</b> | <b>\$ 30,975</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>\$ 31,391</b> |
|---|---------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|

**Table of Contents****NOTE N EMPLOYEE BENEFITS*****VAW-IMCO Pension Plan.***

VAW-IMCO maintains a defined benefit pension plan for its employees. This plan is based on final pay and service, but some VAW-IMCO senior officers are entitled to receive enhanced pension benefits. The pension plan is classified as a book reserve plan; no plan assets are provided and the employer sets up a book reserve (pension accrual) for payment of the benefits. Under SFAS No. 87, *Employers' Accounting for Pensions*, a book reserve plan under German law is an unfunded plan and a liability item has to be recognized as an unfunded accrued pension cost. This liability is insured by a German pension insurance association under German law if VAW-IMCO is unable to fulfill its obligations. These obligations are included in *Other Long-Term Liabilities* on our consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 2004.

Pension cost for the defined pension plan includes the following components of net periodic benefits cost:

|                   | <b>Three months ended</b> |               | <b>Nine months ended</b> |               |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
|                   | <b>September 30,</b>      |               | <b>September 30,</b>     |               |
|                   | <b>2004</b>               | <b>2003</b>   | <b>2004</b>              | <b>2003</b>   |
| Service cost      | \$ 117                    | \$ 108        | \$ 353                   | \$ 319        |
| Interest cost     | 219                       | 162           | 658                      | 481           |
| Amortization cost | 35                        |               | 107                      |               |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>\$ 371</b>             | <b>\$ 270</b> | <b>\$ 1,118</b>          | <b>\$ 800</b> |

**NOTE O MARKET RISK MANAGEMENT USING FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

We enter into derivative transactions to hedge the cost of energy and the price of certain aluminum and zinc products. We evaluate and document each hedge item when entered into. It is our policy not to speculate in hedging activities.

We are engaged in activities that expose us to various market risks, including the effects of natural gas prices and future selling prices of aluminum and zinc. These financial exposures are managed as an integral part of our risk management program, which seeks to reduce the potentially adverse effects that market volatility may have on operating results. We do not engage in speculative transactions, nor do we regularly hold or issue financial instruments for trading purposes. We maintain a natural gas pricing strategy to minimize significant fluctuations in earnings caused by the volatility of gas prices. We also maintain a metal pricing strategy to minimize significant, unanticipated fluctuations in earnings caused by the volatility of aluminum and zinc prices.

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Domestically, we enter into hedges for aluminum, zinc and natural gas with the expectation that these instruments will be highly effective at achieving offsetting changes in future cash flows. We have this expectation both at the inception of the hedged instrument, and on an ongoing basis. We expect this because the gains and losses of the hedge instruments are based on underlyings, such as the commodity prices of aluminum, zinc, or natural gas, that are closely correlated to the overall purchase price of materials and energy that are required in our operations. This close correlation is a key factor in the deferral of the gains and losses of our hedges until the respective maturity of the hedges, or until the hedges are closed.

Our deferred gains and losses accumulate on our balance sheet (in Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income) until the maturity of our respective hedging agreements. Actual amounts realized will inevitably differ from our estimates. In addition, our deferred hedging activities reduce, but do not eliminate, the effects of volatile aluminum, zinc and natural gas prices on our operations.

We are exposed to losses in the event of non-performance by the counter-parties to the financial hedge agreements and futures contracts discussed above; however, we do not currently anticipate any non-performance by counter-parties. The counter-parties are evaluated for creditworthiness and risk assessment prior to initiating trading activities with the brokers. We do not require collateral to support broker transactions.

**Natural Gas:** In order to manage our price exposure for natural gas purchases, we have fixed the future price of a portion of our natural gas requirements by entering into swap agreements. Under these agreements, payments are made or received based on the differential between the monthly closing price on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) and the actual hedge price. These contracts are accounted for as cash flow hedges, with all gains and losses recognized in cost of sales when the gas is consumed.

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At September 30, 2004 we had outstanding swap agreements to hedge our anticipated domestic natural gas requirements for approximately 2,570,000 Mmbtus of natural gas, which represents approximately 55% and 25% of our expected 2004 and 2005 natural gas needs, respectively. At September 30, 2004, the deferred fair value gain of these contracts was \$3,647,000 (\$2,261,000 net of tax). For the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, natural gas hedging activities decreased cost of goods sold by \$2,091,000 and \$3,641,000, respectively.

Our natural gas hedging activities as of September 30, 2004 are summarized as follows:

|                           | <u>MMBTUs</u>    | <u>Fair value<br/>of hedge<br/>contracts</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------|--|
| Forward purchases in 2004 | 640,000          | \$ 985,000                                   |
| Forward purchases in 2005 | 1,460,000        | 2,353,000                                    |
| Forward purchases in 2006 | 470,000          | 309,000                                      |
| Net notional amounts      | <u>2,570,000</u> | <u>\$ 3,647,000</u>                          |

**Domestic Aluminum:** We enter into futures sale contracts with metal brokers to fix the margin on a portion of the aluminum generated by our salt cake processing facility in Morgantown, Kentucky and some of the aluminum generated for sale from the processing of other scrap metal. These futures sale contracts are settled in the month of shipment. Estimated 2004 total production covered under these futures sale contracts as of September 30, 2004 was 2,985 metric tonnes (mt) with a fair value deferred loss of \$305,000.

We also enter into forward purchase contracts for aluminum. As of September 30, 2004, we had contracts for 3,340 mt with a fair value gain of \$105,000.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, our domestic aluminum revenue was higher by \$262,000 and \$73,000, respectively, as a result of aluminum hedging activities.

Certain of our aluminum hedges did not meet all of the requirements for recognition as a deferred hedge under generally accepted accounting principles, resulting in a non-cash charge of approximately \$200,000 to earnings.

Our domestic aluminum hedging activities as of September 30, 2004 are summarized as follows:

|                       | <u>Metric<br/>Tons</u> | <u>Fair value<br/>of hedge<br/>contracts</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| Forward sales in 2004 | (2,985)                | \$ (305,000)                                 |



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|                           |                   |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Forward purchases in 2004 | 2,900             | 106,000           |
| Forward purchases in 2005 | 440               | (1,000)           |
|                           | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |
| Net notional amounts      | 355               | \$ (200,000)      |
|                           | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |

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**Zinc:** In the normal course of business, we enter into fixed-price forward sales and purchase contracts with a number of our zinc customers. Our zinc hedging activities related to such contracts as of September 30, 2004 are summarized as follows:

|                           | <b>Metric</b>    | <b>Fair value</b> |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                           | <b>Tons</b>      | <b>of hedge</b>   |
|                           | <b>contracts</b> |                   |
|                           | <b>_____</b>     | <b>_____</b>      |
| Forward sales in 2004     | (5,270)          | \$ (545,000)      |
| Forward sales in 2005     | (3,091)          | (278,000)         |
| Forward sales in 2006     | (40)             | (3,000)           |
| Forward purchases in 2004 | 5,609            | 700,000           |
| Forward purchases in 2005 | 4,310            | 515,000           |
| Forward purchases in 2006 | 180              | 20,000            |
|                           | <b>_____</b>     | <b>_____</b>      |
| Net notional amounts      | 1,698            | \$ 409,000        |
|                           | <b>_____</b>     | <b>_____</b>      |

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, our zinc revenue was higher (lower) by \$673,000 and (\$340,000), respectively, due to settled zinc metal hedging contracts.

**VAW-IMCO:** VAW-IMCO has a significant metal hedging program. The majority of VAW-IMCO's operations are product sales, requiring it to take ownership of the materials processed and exposing it to more risk to changes in metal prices. In order to mitigate this risk, VAW-IMCO enters into London Metals Exchange (LME) high-grade and alloy aluminum forward sales and purchase contracts. VAW-IMCO does not hold or issue any derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Unlike the derivative contracts utilized throughout the rest of our hedging activities, the unrealized gains and losses on VAW-IMCO's derivative contracts do not qualify for deferred treatment under SFAS 133, Accounting for Derivatives and Hedging Activities. VAW-IMCO's derivative contracts are recorded at fair value with unrealized gains and losses recognized currently in the financial statements.

As of September 30, 2004, VAW-IMCO had forward purchase contracts for high-grade aluminum for 35,075 mt having a fair value loss of U.S. \$57,863,000. Also, as of September 30, 2004, VAW-IMCO had forward sales contracts for 33,425 mt having a fair value gain of U.S. \$61,367,000.

VAW-IMCO recognized in its cost of goods sold unrealized net gains of approximately U.S. \$806,000 due to metal hedging activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and an unrealized net loss of \$657,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2004.

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VAW-IMCO's hedging positions as of September 30, 2004, are summarized below:

| <b>U.S. Dollar denominated hedges</b> | <b>Metric<br/>tonnes</b> | <b>Fair value of<br/>hedge contracts</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Forward sales                         | (1,000)                  | \$ 1,699,000                             |
| Forward purchases                     | 1,000                    | (1,406,000)                              |
| <b>Total</b>                          |                          | <b>\$ 293,000</b>                        |
|                                       |                          |  |
| <b>Euro denominated hedges</b>        | <b>Metric<br/>tonnes</b> | <b>Fair value of<br/>hedge contracts</b> |
| Forward sales                         | (34,075)                 | \$ 59,668,000                            |
| Forward purchases                     | 32,425                   | (56,457,000)                             |
| <b>Total</b>                          |                          | <b>\$ 3,211,000</b>                      |

None of our other international locations engage in commodity hedging, as their processing activities consist mainly of tolling.

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

The following is a discussion of our financial condition and results of operations for the periods presented. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes and other financial information appearing elsewhere in this Form 10-Q, as well as in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003 (as amended by Amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K/A). Our discussion of our financial condition and results of operations includes various forward-looking statements about our markets, the demand for our products and services and projected results. These statements are based on certain assumptions that we consider reasonable. For information about these assumptions and other risks relating to our businesses and our company, you should refer to the sub-section of this ITEM 2 entitled RISK FACTORS.

**OVERVIEW**

***IMCO Commonwealth Proposed Merger.***

On June 16, 2004, IMCO and Commonwealth announced the execution of a merger agreement for a business combination of the two companies. The merger agreement provides for a stock-for-stock merger in which 0.815 shares of IMCO common stock will be exchanged on a tax-free basis for each share of Commonwealth common stock outstanding. Cash will be paid in lieu of any fractional shares. The merger will be accounted for using the purchase method of accounting for business combinations. The transaction is subject to the approval of the stockholders of IMCO and Commonwealth, the successful completion of refinancing of certain existing indebtedness of the two companies, and certain regulatory approvals. Subject to the successful completion of these events, the transaction is expected to close in December 2004. More information about IMCO and the proposed merger transaction is contained in the Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus dated November 5, 2004, and our Registration Statement on Form S-4 (as amended) filed with the SEC.

***Proposed Name Change***

On October 21, 2004, IMCO and Commonwealth announced that, subject to and following the completion of their proposed merger, IMCO will change its name to Aleris International, Inc.

***Expected Executive Retirements***

On August 12, 2004, IMCO announced that Richard L. Kerr, president and chief executive officer, and Paul V. Dufour, executive vice president and chief financial officer, had each decided to retire upon the completion of our proposed merger with Commonwealth.

On October 1, 2004, Messrs. Kerr and Dufour entered into separation agreements with us providing for the terms of their retirement and termination of employment from us. The separation agreements each provide that they will be effective only upon the completion of our proposed merger with Commonwealth, and at that time they will supersede their current employment agreements now in effect with us.



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In the event that the merger is not completed by January 31, 2005, each of the separation agreements will be terminated and the rights and obligations of Mr. Kerr and Mr. Dufour will be governed by the terms of their respective employment agreements currently in effect with us.

For more information on the terms of these separation agreements, please refer to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on October 1, 2004.

**Operations.**

For both the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004, total segment income increased over that recorded for the corresponding periods in 2003 due to improved economic conditions in the manufacturing sectors that we serve. However, the improvement was offset by a reduction in our revenues from a customer bankruptcy filing, higher interest expense and higher selling, general and administrative expense, which included severance costs and costs related to our proposed merger with Commonwealth.

As a result of a major customer's, INTERMET Corporation, filing for bankruptcy on September 30, 2004, we did not recognize \$3.2 million in revenue from shipments in the third quarter of 2004 of specification aluminum alloys to INTERMET, although the costs associated with those sales were recorded in the third quarter of 2004.

Among our domestic aluminum operations, our operating margins improved as greater economic activity resulted in higher volumes of metals processed and an increased availability of scrap metals for purchase. Our international aluminum operations continued to experience strong demand for their products and services, but operating margins in our European operations declined during 2004's third quarter. Our zinc operations benefited from higher zinc prices that resulted from that industry's better supply/demand balance.

Negatively impacting our results for the first nine months of 2004 were continuing high natural gas prices and other fuel costs. In addition, as noted above, selling, general and administrative costs increased over 2003's levels as a result of severance costs for departing executives, the effect of the full nine months of consolidated operations of VAW-IMCO during 2004, costs related to compliance with the requirements under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 relating to internal control over financial reporting, and certain merger-related costs.

Our interest expense also increased significantly over 2003 levels as a result of the October 2003 refinancing of substantially all of our indebtedness, higher levels of indebtedness outstanding during 2004 due to the termination of our former accounts receivable sales facility in October 2003, and the facilities' higher interest rates. Outstanding obligations under our former receivables sale facility did not bear interest, although administrative fees were charged. The new issuance in November 2004 of 9% senior notes due 2014 will further increase our interest costs for the fourth quarter of 2004.

Primarily as a result of this reduction in revenues and these increased costs and expenses, we generated a net loss for the three months ended September 30, 2004.

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Our total 2004 capital expenditures are expected to be approximately \$35 million. A significant expansion of our Saginaw, Michigan facility is underway and expected to be completed by the end of this year. We are also expanding our landfill at Morgantown, Kentucky and have announced new projects and expansions in Germany for our VAW-IMCO operations.

For the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004, approximately 61% and 59%, respectively, of our processing volumes consisted of aluminum and zinc tolled for customers. Tolling revenues reflect only processing costs and our profit margin. Our processing activities also involve the processing, recovery and specialty alloying of aluminum and zinc metal and the production of other value-added zinc products for sale. The revenues from these sales transactions reflect the cost of the metal, as well as the processing cost and our profit margin. Accordingly, our tolling business produces lower revenues and costs of sales than our product sales business. Variations in the mix between these two types of transactions can cause revenue amounts to change significantly from period to period. As a result, we have traditionally considered processing volume to be a more important determinant of performance than revenues, particularly in the domestic aluminum segment.

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The following table shows total pounds processed, the percentage of total pounds processed represented by tolled metals, total revenues and total gross profit (in thousands, except percentages):

|                             | Three months ended |            | Nine months ended |            |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
|                             | September 30,      |            | September 30,     |            |
|                             | 2004               | 2003       | 2004              | 2003       |
|                             |                    | Restated   | Restated          |            |
| Pounds processed            | 863,047            | 741,530    | 2,532,970         | 2,172,958  |
| Percentage of pounds tolled | 61%                | 56%        | 59%               | 55%        |
| Revenues                    | \$ 283,044         | \$ 219,552 | \$ 853,991        | \$ 654,087 |
| Gross profit                | \$ 17,905          | \$ 13,238  | \$ 63,468         | \$ 42,984  |

**CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES**

The preparation of our financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions regarding uncertainties that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses. Areas of uncertainty that require judgments, estimates and assumptions include accounting for inventories, long-lived assets, derivatives, property and equipment, goodwill and other intangible assets, credit risk and income taxes. Management uses historical experience and certain other information available in order to make these judgments and estimates; actual results will inevitably differ from those estimates and assumptions that are used to prepare our financial statements at any given time.

A summary of our significant accounting policies and estimates is included in ITEM 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003 (as amended by Form 10-K/A). There has been no significant change to our critical accounting policies and estimates during the nine months ended September 30, 2004.

**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 COMPARED TO THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003, AND NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 COMPARED TO NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003.*

**PRODUCTION.** The following table shows the increases in total pounds processed and the percentage tolled for the domestic aluminum, international aluminum and zinc segments (in thousands, except percentages):

|  | Three months ended | Nine months ended |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
|  | September 30,      | September 30,     |



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|                                | <u>2004</u>    | <u>2003</u>    | <u>% Change</u> | <u>2004</u>      | <u>2003</u>      | <u>% Change</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Pounds processed:</b>       |                |                |                 |                  |                  |                 |
| Domestic aluminum              | 530,399        | 462,109        | 15%             | 1,566,820        | 1,436,976        | 9%              |
| International aluminum         | 265,608        | 214,271        | 24%             | 780,035          | 554,638          | 41%             |
| Zinc                           | 67,040         | 65,150         | 3%              | 186,115          | 181,344          | 3%              |
| <b>Total pounds processed</b>  | <b>863,047</b> | <b>741,530</b> | <b>16%</b>      | <b>2,532,970</b> | <b>2,172,958</b> | <b>17%</b>      |
| <b>Percentage tolled:</b>      |                |                |                 |                  |                  |                 |
| Domestic aluminum              | 69%            | 65%            |                 | 67%              | 62%              |                 |
| International aluminum         | 61%            | 52%            |                 | 57%              | 53%              |                 |
| Zinc                           | 1%             | 3%             |                 | 1%               | 3%               |                 |
| <b>Total percentage tolled</b> | <b>61%</b>     | <b>56%</b>     |                 | <b>59%</b>       | <b>55%</b>       |                 |

**DOMESTIC ALUMINUM PRODUCTION:** For the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004, overall production increased compared to the same period in the prior year. Within this segment, production increased in both our aluminum recycling division and specialty alloy division. Our domestic aluminum tolling percentage increased due to a general improvement in the U.S. industrial economy for both the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in the prior year.

Operations at our Rockwood, Tennessee facility remain provisionally suspended. We may restart operations at this facility if market conditions warrant doing so. Materials that normally would have been processed at Rockwood have been sent to our other locations for processing.

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Within the aluminum recycling division, deoxidation (deox) processing increased for both the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in 2003 due to increased demand from the steel industry.

Due to an increase in manufacturing and economic conditions resulting in an increased supply of scrap metal, we have been able to process more materials than last year at this time.

**INTERNATIONAL ALUMINUM PRODUCTION:** Production at our international aluminum facilities also increased. On a pro forma basis, assuming the consolidation of VAW-IMCO had occurred on January 1, 2003, production in this segment during the first nine months of 2004 increased by 17%. Production at VAW-IMCO improved due to the installation of new IMCO-designed furnaces in 2003. Also, production improved due to increased demand from German automotive producers. Production also improved at our Monterrey, Mexico facility due to higher volumes from the addition of new customers. Tolling volume for this facility continues to be up sharply compared to the same period in 2003.

**ZINC PRODUCTION:** Zinc production increased modestly during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in the prior year. Most of the production gains occurred as a result of an increase in demand due to the improving economy.

In October 2004, we closed our Hillsboro, Illinois zinc oxide facility. This was a leased facility and its equipment was fully depreciated. The capabilities of our Clarksville and Millington, Tennessee zinc oxide facilities have been expanded over the last two years along with technological improvements. Therefore, we do not believe our zinc oxide capacity will decline significantly because of this closing.

**REVENUES.** The following table shows the increases in total revenue for our three operating segments for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in the prior year, and the percentage change from the prior period (in thousands, except percentages):

|                        | Three months ended |                   |            | Nine months ended |                   |            |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
|                        | September 30,      |                   |            | September 30,     |                   |            |
|                        | 2004               | 2003              | % Change   | 2004              | 2003              | % Change   |
| <b>Revenues:</b>       |                    |                   |            |                   |                   |            |
| Domestic aluminum      | \$ 138,072         | \$ 110,402        | 25%        | \$ 419,682        | \$ 359,376        | 17%        |
| International aluminum | 93,472             | 69,895            | 34%        | 276,739           | 183,717           | 51%        |
| Zinc                   | 51,500             | 39,255            | 31%        | 157,570           | 110,994           | 42%        |
| <b>Total revenues</b>  | <b>\$ 283,044</b>  | <b>\$ 219,552</b> | <b>29%</b> | <b>\$ 853,991</b> | <b>\$ 654,087</b> | <b>31%</b> |

Our total consolidated revenues increased 29% during the three months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same period in the prior year. Our total consolidated revenues increased 31% during the nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same period in the prior year. This percentage increase is higher than the percentage increase in our metal processed, due mostly to higher metal selling prices.

**DOMESTIC ALUMINUM REVENUES:** For the three month period ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same period in the prior year, our domestic aluminum revenues increased. This reflected stronger volumes processed at our aluminum recycling facilities

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and increases in our deox processing. The operating rates of our domestic aluminum recycling plants have increased due to the recovery in U.S. industrial activity, a stronger overall aluminum market and new business the company has obtained. The average London Metal Exchange (LME) price of primary aluminum during the first nine months of 2004 increased by approximately 21% compared to the average price during the same period in 2003.

Within this segment, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, tolling revenues increased over last year's amounts due to higher tolling volumes. Product sales revenues also increased for the same time periods; however, most of this increase has been due to an increase in prices. Product sales volume has modestly increased for both the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004, compared to the same time periods in 2003.

Revenues for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 were negatively impacted by INTERMET Corporation's bankruptcy filing on September 30, 2004. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 we did not recognize approximately \$3.2 million in revenues from shipments of specification aluminum alloys to that customer.

**INTERNATIONAL ALUMINUM REVENUES:** International aluminum revenues have increased strongly since 2003, reflecting our foreign acquisitions and increased volumes. Most of this growth is due to our consolidation of VAW-IMCO (effective March 1, 2003) and, to a lesser degree, reflects our increased operations in Mexico. With the consolidation of VAW-IMCO, the majority of our revenues in this segment represent product sales as opposed to tolling fees. Revenues in 2004 are higher due to increased production and higher aluminum prices.

Revenue also increased at our Monterrey, Mexico facility mostly due to the addition of new customers and higher processing volumes. Revenues also increased at our Swansea, UK facility, in part due to new deox processing.

On a pro forma basis, assuming the consolidation of VAW-IMCO had occurred on January 1, 2003, revenues are higher for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same time period in 2003. This is due to higher aluminum prices and higher production.

**ZINC REVENUES:** Zinc revenues increased in the third quarter of 2004 compared to the same period in 2003. Principally driving zinc revenues was the increase in the average LME zinc price, which during the first nine months of 2004 has increased by approximately 31% compared to the average price during the corresponding period in 2003.

**GROSS PROFIT.** The following table shows total segment income, the percentage change from the prior period and a reconciliation of segment income to our consolidated gross profit (in thousands, except percentages):

| Three months ended |          |          | Nine months ended |          |          |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| September 30,      |          |          | September 30,     |          |          |
| 2004               | 2003     | % change | 2004              | 2003     | % change |
|                    | Restated |          |                   | Restated |          |

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|   |                   |                   |       |                   |                   |       |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Segment income:                         |                   |                   |       |                   |                   |       |
| Domestic aluminum                       | \$ 4,138          | \$ 4,012          | 3%    | \$ 20,025         | \$ 15,188         | 32%   |
| International aluminum                  | 5,423             | 2,392             | 127%  | 17,366            | 11,617            | 49%   |
| Zinc                                    | 2,384             | 1,550             | 54%   | 9,161             | 4,060             | 126%  |
|   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       |
| Total segment income                    | \$ 11,945         | \$ 7,954          | 50%   | \$ 46,552         | \$ 30,865         | 51%   |
|   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       |
| Items not included in gross profits:    |                   |                   |       |                   |                   |       |
| Plant selling expense                   | \$ 1,199          | \$ 1,151          | 4%    | \$ 3,762          | \$ 3,571          | 5%    |
| Management SG&A expense                 | 4,462             | 4,231             | 5%    | 12,654            | 9,328             | 36%   |
| Equity in loss (earnings) of affiliates | 90                | 64                | 41%   | 135               | (847)             | -116% |
| Other income                            | 209               | (162)             | -229% | 365               | 67                | 445%  |
|   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       |
| Gross profit                            | \$ 17,905         | \$ 13,238         | 35%   | \$ 63,468         | \$ 42,984         | 48%   |
|   | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       | <u>          </u> | <u>          </u> |       |

**DOMESTIC ALUMINUM INCOME:** Domestic aluminum income increased for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in the prior year due to higher volumes and selling prices. Within this segment, total margins increased, due mostly to higher amounts of tolling material processed. Income in 2004 was negatively affected by the bankruptcy filing of a major customer in September 2004. Costs associated with these shipments were recorded in the third quarter of this year. If funds are recovered, they will be reported as income in future periods when received.

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Natural gas prices, after including the effects of hedging activities, were higher than last year's natural gas prices. On a per unit basis, overall natural gas prices were approximately 13% higher for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same period in the prior year. Excluding fuel costs, operating costs on a per unit processed basis are slightly lower this year than for the same time periods last year, due to more units processed this year.

**INTERNATIONAL ALUMINUM INCOME:** For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, compared to the same time period in 2003, income in this segment increased mostly due to the consolidation of VAW-IMCO as discussed above. Metal hedging activities also affected VAW-IMCO's income; overall unrealized metal hedging gains (losses), included in income, are as follows:

|  | Three months ended<br>September 30, |                | Nine months ended<br>September 30, |                |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
|  | 2004                                | 2003           | 2004                               | 2003           |
| VAW-IMCO unrealized hedging gains<br>(losses) recognized in income | \$ (656,500)                        | \$ (1,300,000) | \$ 806,000                         | \$ (1,200,000) |

For the three months ended September 30, 2004, compared to the same time period in 2003, income in this segment increased due to the rise in volume and prices. The comparable 2003 period included the recording of a \$1,300,000 mark-to-market hedge loss in the year-ago period.

In addition, we realized improvements in income from our Monterrey, Mexico facility and our Pindamonhangaba, Brazil facility. Income at these locations increased sharply for both the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in the prior year due to higher volumes and prices. Income from our Brazilian operations included \$1,025,000 recovered from the settlement of a dispute involving a processing agreement with a major customer.

**ZINC INCOME:** Zinc income increased for both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in the prior year, which is primarily related to higher LME zinc prices. Expenses for freight and energy costs are slightly higher for the nine month period ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same period in 2003.

**SG&A EXPENSE.** During the three months ended September 30, 2004, our SG&A expenses were \$11,119,000, which was \$937,000 higher than the \$10,182,000 in the same period in 2003. During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, our SG&A expenses were \$37,767,000, which was \$10,128,000 higher than the \$27,639,000 in the same period in 2003.

The increases in SG&A are due in part to the inclusion of VAW-IMCO's SG&A for the full nine months ended September 30, 2004 into our results of operations (which resulted from the consolidation of VAW-IMCO's results of operations into our consolidated financial statements as of March 1, 2003), certain merger expenses of \$692,000 and expenses of \$1,300,000 in connection with our Sarbanes-Oxley Act Section 404 internal control processes. In addition, we incurred \$3,665,000 in expenses related to the departure of our former chairman of the board, president and chief executive officer.

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**INTEREST EXPENSE.** During the three months ended September 30, 2004, our interest expense was \$6,643,000, which was \$3,177,000 higher than the \$3,466,000 in the same period in 2003. During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, our interest expense was \$19,948,000, which was \$10,429,000 higher than \$9,519,000 in the same period in 2003. Most of our outstanding debt is now evidenced by our senior secured notes, which bear an effective fixed interest rate of 10.5%, compared to the first nine months of 2003 when our former senior credit facility bore an effective annual interest rate of 7.8%. As a result of our October 2003 debt refinancing, our former receivables sale facility was extinguished, and we no longer incur fees on receivables sales, but our average borrowings have increased.

**PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES.** During the three months ended September 30, 2004, our provision for income taxes was \$180,000, which was \$714,000 higher than the \$534,000 benefit amount from the same period in the prior year. During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, our provision for income taxes was \$2,475,000, which was \$516,000 higher than the \$1,959,000 amount from the same period in the prior year. These increases resulted from higher domestic earnings. Our effective tax rate was 47% for the nine months ended September 30, 2004. This compares to an effective tax rate of 36% for the comparable period in 2003. Our provision for income tax in 2003 excluded the equity income from VAW-IMCO, which was recorded on an after tax basis.

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The consolidation of VAW-IMCO's results of operations into our financial statements beginning in March 2003 resulted in a higher overall effective tax on our international income due to German income taxes imposed on VAW-IMCO. Higher interest expense and payments for departing executives in 2004 generated net operating losses for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Deferred tax benefits for federal tax purposes related to these net operating losses have been recorded. While our effective tax rate for 2004 contemplates the utilization of such operating loss carry forwards, if expected profit improvements in our domestic operations do not occur, recording of additional U.S. tax benefits for 2004 will need to be re-evaluated.

We have recorded net deferred tax assets in various state jurisdictions totaling \$7,993,000, which includes amounts recorded related to the benefit for loss carry forwards and tax credits, and which expire in varying amounts between 2005 and 2024. A valuation allowance of \$3,859,000 has been provided related to such net deferred tax assets. As indicated above, no net state deferred tax benefits have been recorded for the nine month period ended September 30, 2004. Realization of such net deferred tax assets is dependent on generating sufficient taxable income prior to expiration of the loss carry forwards. Although realization is not assured, management believes it is more likely than not that all of the deferred tax asset will be realized. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable, however, could be reduced in the near term if estimates of future taxable income during the carry forward period are reduced.

Our deferred tax asset and liability positions for both U.S. federal and various state jurisdictions will be taken into consideration in accounting for our proposed merger with Commonwealth, and the amount of deferred tax positions recorded in conjunction with the purchase price allocation could be impacted.

**NET EARNINGS.** For the three months ended September 30, 2004, we recorded a net loss of \$314,000, compared to a \$693,000 loss from the same period in the prior year. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, our net earnings were \$2,685,000, which is \$408,000 below the \$3,093,000 amount from the same period in the prior year. The decrease in net earnings is primarily attributable to the September 30, 2004 bankruptcy filing of INTERMET Corporation, one of our significant customers.

## **LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

We have historically financed our operations and capital expenditures from internally generated cash and available credit facilities. We have traditionally financed our acquisitions and capacity expansions from a combination of funds from long-term borrowings and stock issuances. We believe that our cash on hand and our anticipated internally generated funds will be sufficient to fund our operational needs for at least the next twelve months.

**Cash Flows from Operations.** Operations provided \$29,979,000 of cash for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, compared to providing \$344,000 of cash for the same nine months in 2003. Increases in cash flow from operations included the effect of decreasing investments in operating assets and liabilities, which provided cash flows of \$4,289,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004. In the same period in 2003, investments in operating assets and liabilities used \$30,631,000 of cash. The majority of our change in operating assets and liabilities was due to changes in accounts receivable and accrued liabilities.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, accounts payable and accrued liabilities increased \$19,158,000. Part of the reason for the increase in our accounts payable relates to our semi-annual interest payments on our senior secured notes that were issued on October 6, 2003. On October 15, 2004, we paid \$10,894,000 in interest under the senior secured notes. The accrual for this expense increased our accrued liabilities for the period ending September 30, 2004.



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For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, increases in accounts receivable of \$13,558,000 were due to an increase in our overall processing volume and an increase in overall metal prices. An indicator of our collections on receivables activity, and a key internal performance indicator, is our days sales outstanding statistic. We have reduced the number of average days sales outstanding since December 31, 2003, effectively strengthening our cash receipts from customers:

|                        | <b>September 30,<br/>2004</b> | <b>December 31,<br/>2003</b> |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Days sales outstanding | 39                            | 46                           |

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, inventories increased \$3,033,000. The majority of our increase in inventories occurred in our foreign operations due to higher metal prices and the availability of suitably-priced raw materials. Partially offsetting this, our domestic inventory amounts have decreased slightly.

Also affecting cash used by operations in 2004 was the \$1,500,000 cash severance payment to our former chairman and chief executive officer, as mentioned above.

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**Cash Flows from Investing Activities.** Cash flows from investing activities primarily reflect our capital expenditure activities. Our capital expenditures principally relate to property, plant and equipment. During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, cash used by investing activities was \$25,860,000. During the same time period in 2003, cash provided by investing activities was \$2,921,000, due to the increase in cash resulting from the consolidation of VAW-IMCO.

Cash used for capital expenditures was \$22,302,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, compared to a use of cash of \$13,577,000 for capital expenditures during the same time period in 2003. Our overall remaining capital expenditures for property, plant and equipment in the U.S. and at our international locations for the remainder of this year are expected to approximate \$12,700,000. The majority of this sum is planned to be used for expansion of our Saginaw, Michigan facility and our Morgantown, Kentucky landfill. These capital expenditures are expected to be funded by cash flows generated from operations and from the utilization of our restricted cash. In addition, work will be continuing on the construction of two new VAW-IMCO plants. The VAW-IMCO capital expenditures are expected to be funded by cash flows generated from operations.

As of September 30, 2004, we had capitalized \$3,458,000 of expenses incurred in connection with our proposed merger with Commonwealth.

**Cash Flows from Financing Activities.** Cash flows from financing activities generally reflect changes in our borrowings and debt obligations. Net cash used by our financing activities was \$9,626,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, compared to \$20,711,000 of cash provided by financing activities for the same time period in 2003.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, \$22,391,000 was applied to pay down our senior credit facility. During the same time period in the prior year, proceeds from borrowings under our former revolving credit facility were \$24,300,000.

As of September 30, 2004, we estimated that our borrowing base would have supported additional borrowings of \$65,460,000 after giving effect to outstanding borrowings of \$10,600,000 and outstanding letters of credit of \$6,075,000. As of September 30, 2004, our total borrowing base was estimated to be approximately \$82,135,000. VAW-IMCO also had unused lines of credit totaling approximately \$18,654,000.

At September 30, 2004 we had \$14,117,000 in restricted cash in a collateral account held by the trustee under the indenture for the benefit of holders of the senior secured notes. As permitted under the senior secured notes indenture, and subject to certain limitations, we will be able to use these funds in the collateral account for certain property and equipment expenditures until February 2005. The property and equipment that are the subject of these expenditures will also become collateral security for the senior secured notes. We currently intend to use the majority of the funds from the collateral account for these purposes in 2004. To the extent that more than \$5,000,000 in unused funds remain in the collateral account after February 2005, we are required to make an offer to repurchase outstanding senior unsecured notes up to the extent of the amount of the unused funds. If the amount of notes tendered to us in response to this offer is less than the amount of the unused funds, then we may use the excess funds for our general corporate purposes, free of liens under the indenture, but subject to certain other terms and conditions. During the first nine months of 2004, we used \$10,729,000 of funds in the collateral account for capital expenditures.

**EBITDA.** We report our financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). However, our management believes that certain non-GAAP performance measures, which our management uses in managing the business, may provide investors with additional meaningful comparisons between current results and results in prior periods.

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EBITDA is defined as net earnings (loss) before cumulative effect of accounting change, income tax expense, interest (income) expense, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure which is presented because we consider it an important supplemental measure of our performance and believe it is frequently used by securities analysts, investors and other interested parties in the evaluation of companies in our industry, many of which present EBITDA when reporting their results.

We also use EBITDA because our senior credit facility and our senior secured notes indenture use EBITDA with additional adjustments to measure our compliance with covenants such as interest coverage, leverage ratio and debt incurrence. EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider it in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our financial results prepared in accordance with GAAP. Some of these limitations are:

EBITDA does not reflect our cash expenditures, or future requirements, for capital expenditures or contractual commitments;

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EBITDA does not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, our working capital needs;

EBITDA does not reflect the significant interest expense or cash requirements necessary to service interest or principal payments on indebtedness;

although depreciation and amortization are non-cash charges, the assets being depreciated and amortized will often have to be replaced in the future, and EBITDA does not reflect any cash requirements for such replacements; and

other companies in our industry may calculate EBITDA differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Because of these limitations, EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to us to invest in the growth of our business. We compensate for these limitations by relying primarily on our GAAP results and using EBITDA only on a supplemental basis.

Our reconciliation of EBITDA to net earnings (loss) and net cash from (used by) operating activities is as follows (amounts in thousands):

|  | Three months ended |            | Nine months ended |           |
|--|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|
|  | September 30,      |            | September 30,     |           |
|  | 2004               | 2003       | 2004              | 2003      |
|  |                    | Restated   | Restated          |           |
| EBITDA   | \$ 13,425          | \$ 8,948   | \$ 46,221         | \$ 34,571 |
| Interest expense                                 | 6,643              | 3,466      | 19,948            | 9,519     |
| Income taxes                                     | 180                | (534)      | 2,475             | 1,959     |
| Depreciation and amortization                    | 6,916              | 6,709      | 21,113            | 20,000    |
| Net earnings (loss)                              | \$ (314)           | \$ (693)   | \$ 2,685          | \$ 3,093  |
| Depreciation and amortization                    | 6,916              | 6,709      | 21,113            | 20,000    |
| Deferred income taxes                            | (1,622)            | 2,057      | (3,756)           | 2,388     |
| Equity in net loss (earnings) of affiliates      | 90                 | 64         | 135               | (847)     |
| Non-cash charges                                 | 478                | 3,472      | 5,513             | 6,341     |
| Net change in working capital:                   |                    |            |                   |           |
| Accounts receivable                              | 8,569              | 13,349     | (13,558)          | 11,889    |
| Net change in accounts receivable sales facility |                    | (10,000)   |                   | (15,000)  |
| Inventories                                      | 1,978              | 976        | (3,033)           | (2,761)   |
| Other current assets                             | 1,853              | 1,785      | 1,722             | 4,094     |
| Accounts payable & accrued liabilities           | 14,593             | (23,626)   | 19,158            | (28,853)  |
| Total net change in working capital              | 26,993             | (17,516)   | 4,289             | (30,631)  |
| Cash from (used by) operating activities         | \$ 32,541          | \$ (5,907) | \$ 29,979         | \$ 344    |

*Placement of \$125 million in senior notes*

On November 4, 2004, IMCO Recycling Escrow Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of IMCO Recycling Inc., issued \$125 million in aggregate principal amount of unsecured 9% Senior Notes due 2014. The gross proceeds from this issue were deposited in an escrow account pending the completion of our proposed merger with Commonwealth, which is currently expected to be completed in December 2004.

Upon release of the funds from the escrow account, they will be applied, along with borrowings under a proposed amended and restated senior secured revolving credit facility, to refinance certain outstanding indebtedness of IMCO and Commonwealth. After the merger is completed, the senior notes will be assumed by IMCO and guaranteed by IMCO's wholly-owned U.S. subsidiaries, Commonwealth and Commonwealth's subsidiaries, and the proceeds will be released from escrow.

If the merger is terminated or is not completed by January 31, 2005, IMCO Recycling Escrow Inc. will be required to redeem the senior notes at a redemption price of 101% of their issue price plus accrued interest to the date of redemption. The senior notes were issued at an issue price of 100%, bear interest at the rate of 9.0% per annum and mature on November 15, 2014. Interest will be payable on May 15 and November 15 of each year, with the first interest payment being payable on May 15, 2005. Some or all of the senior notes may be redeemed at any time after November 15, 2009. In addition, up to 35 percent of the senior notes may be redeemed using the proceeds of certain equity offerings completed before November 15, 2007.

The senior notes were issued and sold under an indenture between IMCO Recycling Escrow Inc. and LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee. The indenture contains covenants that will restrict IMCO and its restricted subsidiaries' ability to (1) incur additional debt, (2) pay dividends, (3) grant liens, (4) engage in transactions with affiliates, (5) make investments, (6) transfer or sell assets, (7) restrict distributions from its restricted subsidiaries, (8) issue or sell stock of its subsidiaries and (9) consolidate, merge or transfer all or substantially all of its or its restricted subsidiaries' assets. The indenture contains customary default provisions for an issue of senior notes of this nature, including defaults in payment of principal, premium or interest, covenant defaults, cross-defaults to other indebtedness, failures to satisfy or discharge certain outstanding judgments and certain acts of insolvency.

The senior notes were offered and sold in reliance on exemptions from registration under the Securities Act of 1933. The senior notes were offered and sold in the United States in a private offering to qualified institutional investors in reliance on Rule 144A under the Securities Act, and pursuant to Regulation S under that Act for transactions outside the United States.

Additionally, we entered into a registration rights agreement with the initial purchasers of the senior notes, pursuant to which, upon completion of the merger with Commonwealth, IMCO and the guarantors of the senior notes will use their reasonable best efforts to (i) file with the SEC, within 60 days after the merger is completed, a registration statement to enable holders of senior notes to exchange their unregistered notes for publicly registered senior notes having substantially identical terms, (ii) cause the registration statement to become effective under the Securities Act of 1933 within 150 days after the merger is completed and (iii) effect the exchange offer on or before the 195th day following completion of the merger. If we are not permitted to effect an exchange offer under certain circumstances, then we may be required to file a shelf registration with the SEC for the resale of the senior notes. Failure to timely fulfill these obligations will result in our being required to pay, as liquidated damages, additional interest on the senior notes.

*Terms of Proposed Amended and Restated Senior Revolving Credit Facility*

We have received a commitment letter dated September 28, 2004 from PNC Bank, National Association, Citicorp USA, Inc. and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, to amend and restate our existing senior revolving credit facility upon and subject to the completion of the

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Commonwealth merger. The commitment letter term sheet provides, subject to the satisfaction of specified conditions and completion of definitive documentation, for an amended and restated senior secured revolving credit facility, which would contemplate borrowings of up to \$325 million, subject to borrowing base limitations. The proposed terms contemplate that IMCO and Commonwealth as combined companies following the merger would comply with various affirmative and negative covenants including, among other items, restrictions on their ability to (1) incur new debt, (2) make certain investments or acquisitions, (3) pay dividends or repurchase shares of capital stock, (4) make capital expenditures, (5) sell assets and (6) grant liens. At any time during specified periods that the combined company's undrawn availability under the amended and restated facility is less than \$50.0 million, the combined company will also be required to maintain a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.1 to 1.0 (calculated based on the combined operations of IMCO Recycling Inc. and its wholly owned domestic subsidiaries). The commitment letter does not constitute a binding agreement on the part of any lender to advance any sums to either IMCO or Commonwealth.

**Table of Contents*****Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Revenue Bonds***

On October 6, 2004, a new series of Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Variable Rate Revenue Bonds (Series 2004) was issued. Those bonds mature on October 1, 2027, and bear interest at variable rates (based on prevailing market rates on short-term investments), reset on a weekly basis. The bonds were issued in conjunction with an expansion of our landfill in Morgantown, Kentucky. The net proceeds from the bonds were deposited into an escrow fund, which will be disbursed to us as we incur costs to expand the landfill. As of October 31, 2004, we had drawn against and received approximately \$1,734,000 in cash proceeds from the escrow fund.

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES.** We translate the balance sheets of our foreign subsidiaries using fiscal period-end exchange rates. The consolidated statements of earnings are translated using the average exchange rates for the period. The cumulative effect of such translations is included in shareholders' equity, other than for current intercompany accounts, as a component of other comprehensive earnings (loss). Foreign currency translation adjustments, unrealized gains or losses, accumulate in equity until the final disposition of their respective operations.

Our unrealized translation gains and losses were immaterial for the nine months ended September 30, 2004. During this period the U.S. Dollar gained approximately 1% in value against the Euro, resulting in an unrealized foreign currency translation loss of approximately \$400,000. Offsetting this unrealized translation loss was an unrealized translation gain that occurred due to the increase in value of the Brazilian Real against the U.S. Dollar. Our other translation gains and losses were immaterial.

**CREDIT FACILITIES.** Our long-term debt is summarized as follows (in thousands):

|   | September 30,<br>2004 | December 31,<br>2003 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
|   |                       | <b>Restated</b>      |
| Senior Credit Facility, expiring in October 2007  | \$ 10,600             | \$ 32,991            |
| 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> % Senior Secured Notes, due October 2010 (net of discount)                                 | 208,837               | 208,751              |
| 7.65% Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Revenue Bonds - 1996 Series, Due May 1, 2016 (net of discount) | 5,707                 | 5,705                |
| 7.45% Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Revenue Bonds - 1997 Series, Due May 1, 2022                   | 4,600                 | 4,600                |
| 6.00% Morgantown, Kentucky Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Revenue Bonds - 1998 Series, Due May 1, 2023                   | 4,100                 | 4,100                |
| Other   | 45                    | 46                   |
|   | <hr/>                 | <hr/>                |
| Subtotal  | 233,889               | 256,193              |
| Less current maturities   | 10,629                | 33,017               |
|   | <hr/>                 | <hr/>                |
| Total   | \$ 223,260            | \$ 223,176           |
|   | <hr/>                 | <hr/>                |

As of September 30, 2004, we had \$10,600,000 of indebtedness outstanding under our senior credit facility. Under this facility, we are subject to a borrowing base limitation based on eligible domestic inventory and receivables. As of September 30, 2004, we estimated that our borrowing base would have supported additional borrowings of \$65,460,000 after giving effect to outstanding borrowings of \$10,600,000 and outstanding

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letters of credit of \$6,075,000. As of September 30, 2004, our total borrowing base was estimated to be approximately \$82,135,000.

The terms of our senior credit facility include, among other covenants, (i) prohibitions against incurring certain indebtedness, (ii) limitations on dividends and repurchases of shares of capital stock, and (iii) limitations on capital expenditures, investments and acquisitions. We are subject to the terms of a lockbox arrangement with the administrative agent bank under the senior credit facility,

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whereby funds deposited from collections of receivables are applied by the lenders to reduce outstanding balances of the borrowings under the senior credit facility. At any time during specified periods our undrawn availability under this facility is less than \$50,000,000, we will also be required to maintain a minimum fixed coverage ratio and minimum tangible net worth, as follows:

A minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.0 to 1.0 (calculated based on our parent entity and wholly-owned domestic subsidiaries), and

Minimum tangible net worth of \$44,500,000 plus 50% of future net income on a consolidated basis.

As of September 30, 2004, we were in compliance with all applicable debt covenants under this facility.

On July 16, 2004, IMCO and its co-borrower subsidiaries entered into a Second Amendment to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement. This amendment modified a section of the senior credit facility that had provided that any change in the condition or affairs of IMCO or its co-borrowers which, in the lenders' agent's reasonable opinion, has a material adverse effect (as defined in the senior credit facility), would be deemed an event of default under the senior credit facility. The Second Amendment to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement revised this provision so that it now provides that no such event of default would be applicable and that the agent and the lenders would have no rights under the provision, so long as IMCO was in compliance with certain undrawn availability tests under the senior credit facility. If the level of undrawn availability falls below \$3,000,000 for three consecutive business days or below an average of \$10,000,000 per day for any calendar month, then the lenders' rights under this provision would be reinstated.

In addition, VAW-IMCO has two lines of credit available for its working capital needs. The total amount of credit available under these facilities is 15,000,000 Euros (\$18,654,000 U.S. Dollars). These facilities are scheduled to expire in April and May of 2006. As of September 30, 2004, no borrowings were outstanding under these lines of credit.

**CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

We are obligated to make future payments under various contracts such as debt agreements, lease agreements and unconditional purchase obligations. The following table represents certain of our significant contractual cash obligations and other commercial commitments as of September 30, 2004:

|  | Cash payments due by period |                     |           |           |                  |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
|  | Total                       | Less than<br>1 year | 2-3 years | 4-5 years | After<br>5 years |
| Long-term debt obligations (does not include interest)*    | \$ 233,889                  | \$ 10,629           | \$ 16     | \$        | \$ 223,244       |
| Operating lease obligations                                | 8,644                       | 3,306               | 4,130     | 1,208     |                  |
| Purchase obligations                                       | 364,511                     | 201,342             | 160,299   | 2,870     |                  |
| Other long-term liabilities reflected on our balance sheet | 21,917                      |                     | 796       |           | 21,121           |

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|       |            |            |            |          |            |
|-------|------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| Total | \$ 628,961 | \$ 215,277 | \$ 165,241 | \$ 4,078 | \$ 244,365 |
|-------|------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|

\* The new debt issuances subsequent to September 30, 2004 of approximately \$130 million are not reflected in this table.

Our noncancellable purchase obligations are principally for materials, such as metals and salt fluxes. These materials are used in our manufacturing operations. Other long-term liabilities mostly reflect liabilities for our landfills and VAW-IMCO pension obligations.

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### **RISK FACTORS**

The occurrence of any of the events described in the risk factors below could materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

#### **Risks of the Company**

*IF WE FAIL TO IMPLEMENT OUR BUSINESS STRATEGY, OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS COULD BE MATERIALLY AND ADVERSELY AFFECTED.*

Our future financial performance and success are dependent in large part upon our ability to successfully implement our business strategy. We cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully implement our business strategy or be able to improve our operating results. In particular, we cannot assure you that we will be able to achieve operating synergies, focus on production improvements and capacity utilization, enhance our business and product mix, expand in selected international regions and pursue acquisition targets and strategic alliances.

Furthermore, we cannot assure you that we will be successful in our growth efforts or that we will be able to effectively manage expanded or acquired operations. Our ability to achieve our expansion and acquisition objectives and to effectively manage our growth depends on a number of factors, including:

our ability to identify appropriate acquisition targets and to negotiate acceptable terms for their acquisition;

our ability to integrate new businesses into our operations; and

the availability of capital on acceptable terms.

We are regularly in the process of evaluating and may, from time to time in the future, evaluate the acquisition of assets or operations that complement our existing businesses. We cannot estimate what impact, if any, our acquisition of these assets or operations may have on our business or our business strategy.

Our business strategy may require additional funding which may be provided in the form of additional debt, equity financing or a combination thereof. We cannot assure you that we will be permitted under the terms of our senior credit facility or the notes to obtain such financing.

Implementation of our business strategy could be affected by a number of factors beyond our control, such as increased competition, legal and regulatory developments, general economic conditions or increased operating costs. Any failure to successfully implement our business strategy could materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations. We may, in addition, decide to alter or discontinue certain aspects of our business strategy at any time.

Our business strategy will likely change materially following our proposed merger with Commonwealth assuming it is completed. See Certain Risks of the Proposed Merger below.

*ASSETS AND OPERATIONS THAT WE ACQUIRE MAY BE DIFFICULT TO INTEGRATE, DISRUPT OUR BUSINESS AND DIVERT MANAGEMENT ATTENTION.*

A key component of our current business strategy is to selectively seek assets and operations that complement our existing businesses. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in locating or entering into any strategic alliances or acquisitions, or that any completed transaction will achieve the expected benefits. In addition, any such transaction may result in unexpected costs, expenses and liabilities.

Our ability to achieve our expansion and acquisition objectives will also depend on the availability of capital on acceptable terms. The combined businesses resulting from any acquisition may not be able to generate sufficient operating cash flows in order for us to obtain additional financing or fund our business and expansion strategy.

Acquisitions expose us to:

increased costs associated with the acquisition and operation of the new businesses and the management of geographically dispersed operations;

risks associated with the assimilation of new technologies, operations, sites and personnel;

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- the possible loss of key employees;
- risks that any operations or technology we acquire may not perform as well as we had anticipated;
- the diversion of management's attention and other resources from existing business concerns;
- the potential inability to replicate operating efficiencies in the acquired company's operations;
- the potential inability to generate sufficient revenues to offset associated acquisition costs;
- the increased need to maintain uniform standards, controls, and procedures; and
- the potential impairment of relationships with employees and customers as a result of integration of new personnel.

The identification of suitable acquisition candidates can be difficult, time-consuming and costly, and we may not be able to successfully complete identified potential acquisitions. Integration of acquired businesses require significant efforts from each entity, including coordinating existing business plans and operational procedures. If we are unable to successfully integrate the operations of acquired businesses, our future results will be negatively impacted.

Acquisitions may also result in the issuance of dilutive equity securities, the incurrence or assumption of additional debt and additional expenses associated with the amortization of acquired intangible assets or potential businesses. There is no assurance that any future acquisitions will generate additional income or cash flows, or provide any benefit to our existing or future businesses.

*WE MAY ENCOUNTER INCREASES IN THE COST OF RAW MATERIALS AND ENERGY, WHICH COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

We require substantial amounts of raw materials and energy in our business, consisting principally of aluminum scrap, primary aluminum metal and natural gas. Any substantial increases in raw materials or energy costs could cause our operating costs to increase and negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Aluminum scrap and primary aluminum metal prices are subject to significant cyclical price fluctuations. London Metals Exchange (the LME) primary aluminum metal prices declined by 45% between 1988 and 2002 and rose 28% from 2002 to 2004. Metallics (aluminum and zinc scrap, primary aluminum metal and aluminum dross) represent the largest component of our cost of sales. We purchase scrap primarily from aluminum and zinc scrap dealers. Remaining requirements are met with purchased primary metals. There is no assurance that these supply sources will continue to be available.

The availability and price of aluminum scrap depend on a number of factors outside our control, including general economic conditions, foreign demand for metallics and internal recycling activities by primary aluminum producers. Increased domestic and worldwide demand for aluminum and zinc scrap have had and will continue to have the effect of increasing the prices that we pay for these raw materials thereby increasing our

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cost of sales. We often cannot adjust the selling prices for our products to recover the increases in scrap prices. If scrap and gross prices were to increase significantly without a commensurate increase in the market value of the primary metals, our future financial condition and results of operations could be affected by higher costs and lower profitability.

After raw materials and labor costs, natural gas costs represent the third largest component of our cost of sales. The price of natural gas can be particularly volatile. As a result, our natural gas costs may fluctuate dramatically, and we may not be able to mitigate the effect of higher natural gas costs on our cost of sales. If natural gas prices remain at current levels or increase further, our financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected.

Increased energy prices may also negatively affect our customers, which in turn may affect demand for our services. For example, since 2001 we have experienced a sharp reduction in demand for our recycling services in the Pacific Northwest, because many domestic smelters located in that region have been forced to suspend or terminate their operations due to high energy costs.

### *OUR BUSINESS REQUIRES SUBSTANTIAL CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES AND CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS THAT WE MAY BE UNABLE TO FULFILL.*

Our operations are capital intensive. Our total capital expenditures were \$20,807,000 and \$19,313,000 for 2003 and 2002, respectively. We expect to spend approximately \$35,000,000 on capital expenditures during 2004. Our business also requires substantial expenditures for routine maintenance and non-capital environmental expenditures. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, we spent \$22,302,000 in capital expenditures, compared to \$13,577,000 during the same time period in 2003. As of September 30, 2004, in addition to debt obligations, we had contractual obligations of approximately \$395,072,000 payable over time.

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Our business may not generate sufficient operating cash flow and our external financing sources may not be available in an amount sufficient to enable us to make anticipated capital expenditures, service or refinance our indebtedness or fund other liquidity needs. If we are unable to make upgrades or purchase new plant and equipment, our financial condition and results of operations could be affected by higher maintenance costs, lower sales volumes and other competitive influences.

*PRIMARY METALS PRICES COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

We purchase aluminum and zinc scrap and dross from our customers and on the open market for processing as part of our product sales business. We then sell recycled aluminum and zinc products to our customers based on a price which generally fluctuates with the market price of the primary metal. Accordingly, changes in the market price of primary aluminum and zinc impact the selling prices of our products. In particular, depressed prices adversely affect our business, particularly our zinc business, given our relatively high fixed costs and market differences between the price of scrap and the selling price of our products.

The market prices of aluminum and zinc are dependent upon supply and demand and a variety of factors over which we have little or no control, including:

U.S. and world economic conditions;

availability and relative pricing of metal substitutes;

labor costs;

energy prices;

environmental and conservation regulations;

seasonal factors and weather;

import and export restrictions; and

other factors.

In recent years, aluminum and zinc prices have remained depressed longer than expected relative to historical levels, which has adversely affected our results of operations.

*A GROWING PORTION OF OUR SALES HAS BEEN DERIVED FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, WHICH EXPOSES US TO CERTAIN RISKS INHERENT IN DOING BUSINESS ABROAD.*

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We currently have operations in developed countries outside the United States and in certain emerging markets, including Mexico and Brazil, and we plan to continue to expand our international operations. Our foreign operations are generally subject to risks, including:

changes in U.S. and foreign governmental regulations, trade restrictions and laws, including tax laws and regulations;

foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations;

tariffs and other trade barriers;

the potential for nationalization of enterprises;

interest rate fluctuations;

high rates of inflation;

currency restrictions and limitations on repatriation of profits;

divergent environmental laws and regulations; and

political, economic and social instability.



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The occurrence of any of these events could cause our costs to rise, limit our growth opportunities, have a negative effect on our operations and our ability to plan for future periods, and subject us to risks not generally prevalent in the U.S.

The financial condition and results of operations of some of our operating entities are reported in foreign currencies and then translated into U.S. Dollars at the applicable exchange rate for inclusion in our consolidated financial statements. As a result, generally speaking, appreciation of the U.S. Dollar against these foreign currencies will have a negative impact on our reported revenues and operating profit while depreciation of the U.S. Dollar against these foreign currencies will have a positive effect on reported revenues and operating profit. For example, our German and Brazilian operations were negatively impacted during the first half of 2004 due to the strengthening of the U.S. Dollar against the Euro, the Mexican Peso and the Brazilian Real. We have not generally sought to mitigate this translation effect through the use of derivative financial instruments. This practice exposes us to risks of currency exchange rate and interest rate fluctuations to a greater degree than if we were to use financial derivative instruments.

### *WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GENERATE SUFFICIENT CASH FLOWS TO MEET OUR DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS.*

Our ability to make scheduled payments on or to refinance our indebtedness will depend on our financial and operating performance, which in turn will be affected by general economic conditions and by financial, competitive, regulatory and other factors beyond our control. We cannot assure you that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations or that future sources of capital will be available to us (whether under our senior credit facility or otherwise) in an amount sufficient to enable us to service our indebtedness and fund our other liquidity needs.

If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flows to satisfy our debt obligations, we may have to undertake alternative financing plans, such as refinancing or restructuring our debt, selling assets, reducing or delaying capital investments or seeking to raise additional capital. We cannot assure you that any refinancing would be possible, that any assets could be sold, or, if sold, of the timing of the sales and the amount of proceeds that may be realized from those sales, or that additional financing could be obtained on acceptable terms, if at all. Our inability to generate sufficient cash flows to satisfy our debt obligations, or to refinance our indebtedness on commercially reasonable terms, would materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

### *THE CYCLICAL NATURE OF THE METALS INDUSTRY AND OUR CUSTOMERS' INDUSTRIES COULD LIMIT OUR OPERATING FLEXIBILITY, WHICH COULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

The metals industry in general is cyclical in nature. It tends to reflect and be amplified by changes in general and local economic conditions, both domestically and abroad. These conditions include the level of economic growth, financing availability, employment levels, interest rates, consumer confidence and housing demand. Historically, in periods of recession or periods of minimal economic growth, the operations of metals companies have often tended to underperform other sectors. We are particularly sensitive to trends in the transportation and construction industries, which are both seasonal and highly cyclical in nature, and dependent on general economic conditions. For example, during recessions or periods of low growth, the transportation and construction industries typically experience major cutbacks in production, resulting in decreased demand for aluminum and zinc. This leads to significant fluctuations in demand and pricing for our products and services. Because we generally have high fixed costs, our profitability is significantly affected by decreased processing and production volume; accordingly, reduced demand and pricing pressures may have a negative impact on our financial condition and results of operations. Downturns in national and international economies and recessions in our principal industry segments have had a negative impact on our operations in the past, and could have a negative impact on the combined company's future financial condition or results of operations.

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Changes in the market price of aluminum and zinc impact the selling prices our our products. Market prices of aluminum and zinc are dependent upon supply and demand and a variety of factors over which we have little or no control, including:

U.S. and world economic conditions;

availability and relative pricing of metal substitutes;

labor costs;

energy prices;

environmental and conservation regulations;

seasonal factors and weather; and

import and export restrictions.

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*DECREASED OUTSOURCING OF ALUMINUM RECYCLING BY THE PRIMARY ALUMINUM PRODUCERS COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

The primary aluminum producers, some of which are our largest customers, have generally elected in recent years to outsource the processing of their scrap and dross under tolling arrangements and focus their resources on other aspects of aluminum production. However, these producers are capable of processing their own scrap and dross and vary the amount of their internal recycling depending upon furnace availability, inventory levels, the price of aluminum, their own internal demand for metal and other factors. In particular, the primary producers have historically decreased their outsourcing in times of lower overall demand for aluminum. In addition, in some instances some of these producers have expanded their aluminum recycling capacity. Decreased outsourcing or increases in internal recycling capacity by primary producers could reduce demand for our recycling services and have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. For instance, we have recently experienced decreased utilization rates at some of our operations and have provisionally suspended some of our operations due to increased internal recycling by a primary producer of aluminum.

*A DOWNTURN IN PRODUCTION IN THE AUTOMOTIVE OR LIGHT TRUCK MARKETS IN THE U.S. AND EUROPE, OR A DECREASE IN THE USE OF ALUMINUM IN THOSE MARKETS, COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

The majority of our specialty alloys business serves the automotive and light truck markets. The volume of automotive and light truck production in North America, Europe and the rest of the world has fluctuated, sometimes significantly, from year to year, giving rise to fluctuations in demand for aluminum. Several automotive and light truck manufacturers extended their seasonal shutdowns at certain of their manufacturing facilities and reduced their production levels, and some announced during the second half of 2003 that they intended to continue operating at reduced production levels, which affected our business. In addition, automotive and light truck production and sales can be affected by labor relations, regulatory requirements and trade agreements. Reductions in the rate of automobile or light truck production in the markets we serve, or in the level of aluminum used in automobile or light truck production, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. Additionally, plant shutdowns, strikes and work stoppages at our automotive or light truck customers facilities may adversely affect our business.

*CONTINUING DECREASES IN THE U.S. ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING RATE AND A LACK OF GROWTH IN U.S. ALUMINUM CAN PRODUCTION COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

U.S. aluminum can recycling rates have decreased from approximately 62% in 1995 to a current rate of approximately 50%. Continuing deterioration in the U.S. aluminum can recycling rate and a lack of growth in aluminum can production has slowed demand in recent years for our aluminum recycling services, which in turn has contributed to a decline in our percentage of tolling activities relative to our total volumes processed. If this trend continues, our capacity utilization will continue to decline and we will become increasingly exposed to asset write-downs and similar impairment charges. If capacity utilization is permanently impaired, we may be required to write down the net book value of some of our fixed assets. Furthermore, since much of our aluminum can recycling business is tolling business, a continued decline in the U.S. aluminum can recycling rate will have the effect of increasing our exposure to aluminum price fluctuations and our working capital requirements that will be required for our increased levels of product sales.

*IF WE LOST ORDER VOLUMES FROM ANY OF OUR LARGEST CUSTOMERS, OUR SALES AND REVENUES COULD BE REDUCED AND OUR CASH FLOWS LESSENERED.*

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Our business is exposed to risks related to customer concentration. In 2003, our 10 largest customers were responsible for 36% of our net revenues. No one customer accounted for more than 10% of our net revenues in 2003. A loss of order volumes from, or a loss of industry share by, any major customer could negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations by lowering sales volumes, increasing costs and lowering profitability. In addition, our increased emphasis on dedicated facilities and dedicated arrangements with customers carries the inherent risk of increased dependence on a single or few customers with respect to a particular facility of ours. In such cases, the loss of such a customer, or the reduction of that customer's business at one or more of our facilities, could negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations, and any timely replacement of volumes could prove difficult. In addition, several of our customers have become involved in bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings and have defaulted on their obligations to us in recent years. For example, in October 2004 we announced that a customer bankruptcy filing on September 30, 2004 will prevent us from recognizing in 2004's third quarter approximately \$3.2 million of revenues from shipments of specification aluminum alloys to that customer. Future customer insolvencies and defaults may negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations.

*WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO COMPETE SUCCESSFULLY IN THE INDUSTRIES WE SERVE, WHICH COULD REDUCE OUR SHARE OF INDUSTRY SALES AND LOWER OUR SELLING PRICES AND REDUCE SALES VOLUMES, WHICH COULD REDUCE OPERATING RESULTS AND NEGATIVELY IMPACT FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.*

Aluminum competes with other material such as steel, plastic and glass for various applications. Higher aluminum prices tend to make aluminum products less competitive with these alternative materials.

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The aluminum and zinc markets are highly competitive. The global aluminum recycling market is highly fragmented and characterized by smaller, regional operators. The principal factors of competition in our aluminum and zinc recycling businesses include price, metal recovery rates, proximity to customers, customer service, molten metal delivery capability, environmental and safety regulatory compliance and types of services offered.

Additional competition could result in lost share of industry sales or reduced prices for our products and services, which could decrease revenues or reduce volumes, either of which could have a negative effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

*THE COST OF COMPLIANCE WITH AND LIABILITIES UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY LAWS COULD MATERIALLY AND ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

Our operations are subject to numerous federal, state, local and foreign environmental laws and regulations, which govern, among other things, the discharge of hazardous materials into the air and water, the handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials, the remediation of contaminated sites, and employee health and safety. At present, the majority of our environmental compliance expenditures are directed toward controlling air emissions from all of our operations and managing and disposing of salt cake from our aluminum recycling, including related landfills. Changes in environmental requirements or changes in their enforcement could materially increase our costs. For example, if salt cake (a by-product from some of our recycling operations) were to become classified as a hazardous waste in the United States, our costs to manage and dispose of it would increase and could result in significant increased expenditures. Federal and state regulations continue to impose stricter emission requirements on the aluminum industry. While we believe that current pollution control measures at the emission sources at our facilities meet current requirements, additional equipment or process changes at some of our facilities may be required to meet future requirements.

We previously have agreed to indemnify certain customers and parties to acquisition agreements against environmental liabilities for which they might otherwise share responsibility under such contractual arrangements or pursuant to law.

Our operations also require environmental permits and approvals from governmental authorities, and any of these permits and approvals are subject to denial, revocation, or modification under various circumstances. Failure to obtain or comply with these permits and approvals, or with other environmental requirements, may subject us to civil or criminal enforcement proceedings that can lead to fines and penalties against us, orders requiring us to take certain actions, and temporary or permanent shutdown of our affected operations. We have implemented practices and procedures at our operating facilities that are intended to promote compliance with environmental laws and regulations. However, we cannot assure you that we are at all times in compliance with all environmental requirements.

Because we generate waste materials in our operations, and because we and businesses and operations we have acquired have done so in the past (in some cases for many years), we may be subject to material liability arising out of conditions caused by these materials. Such liability can include the cost of investigating and cleaning up these materials, fines and penalties sought by environmental authorities, and damages arising out of personal injury, contaminated property, and other toxic tort claims, as well as lost or impaired natural resources. Certain environmental laws impose joint and several liability for some of these types of damages, meaning that a person can be held liable for all damages even though others were also involved in causing them. Certain environmental laws also impose liability for some of these types of damages regardless of whether the person causing the damages did so through any unlawful conduct or other fault. We do not carry environmental impairment liability insurance because we consider that insurance to be expensive relative to the coverage provided.

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We are also subject to various federal, state, local and foreign requirements concerning safety and health conditions in our manufacturing facilities. Those requirements may also subject us to material financial penalties or liabilities for non-compliance, as well as potential business disruption if any of our facilities or a portion of any facility is required to be temporarily closed as a result of any violation of those requirements. Any such financial liability or business disruption could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

We spend substantial capital and operating sums on an ongoing basis to comply with environmental requirements. In addition, we are currently involved in certain investigations and actions in connection with environmental compliance and prior disposals of solid waste, including a claim related to a site in Illinois for which the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has asserted that two of our zinc subsidiaries, which sent zinc oxide in the past to the site for processing and resale, are among the entities potentially responsible for the site-cleanup. Estimating future environmental compliance and remediation costs and other environmental liabilities is imprecise due to the continuing evolution of environmental requirements and uncertainties about their application to our operations, the availability and applicability of technology and the allocation of costs among responsible parties. New environmental requirements, enforcement policies or legal proceedings, an environmental incident at one of our properties or operations, or the discovery of an additional environmental condition or new information about existing conditions, could all have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

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*WE MAY HAVE TO TAKE FURTHER CHARGES TO EARNINGS IF OUR GOODWILL OR ASSET VALUES ARE IMPAIRED.*

We are required to test our goodwill for impairment at least annually. The difference between the book value of an asset and its market value may indicate that an impairment exists.

In addition, our landfill assets are subject to charges for asset retirement obligations, which are adjusted over time to recognize the current fair market value of the obligations. We are also subject to charges for impairment or disposal of certain of our long-lived assets and facilities. For instance, over the past three years, we have closed two aluminum recycling facilities and one zinc recycling facility, provisionally suspended operations at another aluminum recycling facility and reduced the number of furnaces we operate at other domestic facilities. Continued under-utilization at our domestic aluminum and other facilities could result in write-downs and impairment charges. In addition, the carrying value of certain of our properties and assets held for sale could be reduced in the future to their estimated fair values less costs to sell, resulting in additional asset impairment charges at that time.

*WE DO NOT HAVE LONG-TERM CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF OUR CUSTOMERS AND OUR SALES AND REVENUES COULD BE REDUCED IF OUR CUSTOMERS SWITCH SUPPLIERS.*

A substantial number of our customers do not have a long-term contractual arrangement with us. These customers purchase products and services from us on a purchase order basis, and may choose not to continue to purchase our products and services. The loss of these customers or a significant reduction in their purchase orders could have a negative impact on our sales volume and our business.

*WE COULD EXPERIENCE LABOR DISPUTES, WHICH COULD DISRUPT OUR BUSINESS.*

Approximately 14% of our domestic employees and 65% of our foreign employees are represented by unions or equivalent bodies and are covered by collective bargaining or similar agreements which are subject to periodic renegotiation.

Although we believe that we will successfully negotiate new collective bargaining agreements when the current agreements expire, these negotiations:

may not prove successful;

may result in a significant increase in the cost of labor; or

may break down and result in the disruption of our operations.

Labor negotiations may not conclude successfully and work stoppages or labor disturbances may occur. Any such stoppages or disturbances may have a negative impact on our financial condition and results of operations.

*OUR VARIABLE RATE INDEBTEDNESS SUBJECTS US TO INTEREST RATE RISK, WHICH COULD CAUSE OUR DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS TO INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY.*

Borrowings under our senior credit facility are at variable rates of interest and expose us to interest rate risk. If interest rates increase, our debt service obligations on the variable rate indebtedness will increase and our net income will decrease. In addition, we may consider entering into fixed-to-floating interest rate swaps with respect to a portion of the debt represented by our fixed-rate long-term debt. Such a transaction would increase our variable rate debt.

*THE LOSS OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF OUR MANAGEMENT COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.*

Our success depends, in part, on the efforts of our senior management and other key employees. These individuals possess sales, marketing, engineering, manufacturing, financial and administrative skills that are critical to the operation of our business. If we lose or suffer an extended interruption in the services of one or more of our senior officers, our financial condition and results of operations may be negatively affected. Moreover, the market for qualified individuals may be highly competitive and we may not be able to attract and retain qualified personnel to replace or succeed members of our senior management or other key employees, should the need arise.



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*OUR SIGNIFICANT DEBT OBLIGATIONS COULD LIMIT OUR FLEXIBILITY IN MANAGING OUR BUSINESS AND EXPOSE US TO CERTAIN RISKS.*

We are highly leveraged. As of September 30, 2004, we would have been able to incur an additional \$65,460,000 under our senior credit facility. Whenever during specified periods our availability under this facility is less than \$50,000,000, we are subject to a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio and a minimum tangible net worth covenant. In addition, we may be permitted under our senior credit facility and the indentures governing our senior secured notes and our senior notes to incur additional debt, subject to certain limitations. Our high degree of leverage may have important consequences including the following:

we may have difficulty satisfying our obligations under our senior secured notes, our senior notes or other indebtedness and, if we fail to comply with these requirements, an event of default could result;

we may be required to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to required payments on indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of cash flow for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate activities;

covenants relating to our debt may limit our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate activities;

covenants relating to our debt may limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate;

we may be more vulnerable to the impact of economic downturns and adverse developments in our business; and

we may be placed at a competitive disadvantage against any less leveraged competitors.

The occurrence of any one of these events could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, prospects and ability to satisfy our debt obligations.

*WHILE WE BELIEVE THAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE ADEQUATE INTERNAL CONTROLS IN PLACE, A FAILURE TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE INTERNAL CONTROLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 404 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002 COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE AFFECT ON OUR BUSINESS.*

We are evaluating our internal controls systems and performing system and process evaluation, documentation and testing in order to allow our management to report on, and our independent auditors to attest to, our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. While we currently anticipate being able to implement the requirements under Section 404 in a timely fashion, we cannot be certain as to the timing of the completion of our evaluation, testing and remediation activities. If we are not able to meet the deadline under Section 404 in a timely manner or with adequate compliance, we may suffer adverse consequences.

In June 2004, the SEC's Office of Chief Accountant and Division of Corporation Finance issued a frequently asked questions interpretive release, indicating that the staff of the Division would not object to an issuer's management's report on internal control over financial reporting that

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excludes an acquired business from the scope of management's assessment, so long as appropriate disclosures are made and the date of the acquisition is not more than one year from the date of management's assessment. In reliance on this guidance, IMCO's management has determined that it will omit from its management report an assessment of the internal control over financial reporting of Commonwealth and its consolidated subsidiaries as of December 31, 2004. For additional information regarding this matter, please refer to our Registration Statement on Form S-4 (No. 333-117548) and our joint proxy statement/prospectus dated November 5, 2004.

A failure to implement the requirements of Section 404 in a timely manner or the exclusion of Commonwealth's internal controls from the scope of management's report on the internal control over financial reporting may cause our investors, creditors, customers, suppliers and others to lose confidence in the accuracy of our financial reporting, which may in turn decrease the price and liquidity of our common stock and negatively affect our ability to secure financing and conduct our operations. In addition, our ability to report financial results on a timely and accurate basis may be adversely affected.

### **Certain Risks of the Proposed Merger**

*WE MAY FAIL TO OBTAIN ADEQUATE FINANCING FOR THE COMBINED COMPANY, WHICH IS A CONDITION TO THE COMPLETION OF THE MERGER, AND AS A RESULT THE MERGER MAY NOT BE CONSUMMATED, OR IF CONSUMMATED, MAY CONTAIN REFINANCING TERMS LESS FAVORABLE THAN ANTICIPATED.*

As a condition to the completion of the merger, we and Commonwealth are required to obtain adequate financing to, among other things, pay for the costs of the merger and refinance significant portions of each company's outstanding debt obligations, including to refinance Commonwealth's \$125.0 million senior subordinated notes, purchase accounts receivable previously sold under Commonwealth's receivables purchase agreement and repay all amounts outstanding under our and Commonwealth's senior credit facilities. No assurances can be given that the financing necessary to consummate the merger will be successfully obtained, or if obtained, that such financing will be on terms and conditions favorable to us. If we are unable to obtain the necessary financing to consummate the merger, our business, prospects, and future results of operations and financial condition, and the prices of our common stock, could be adversely affected.

*WE MAY FACE DIFFICULTIES IN ACHIEVING THE EXPECTED BENEFITS OF THE MERGER.*

We and Commonwealth currently operate as separate companies. We may not be able to realize the operating efficiencies, cost savings or other benefits expected from the merger. In addition, the costs we incur in implementing these efficiencies, cost savings and other benefits, including our ability to terminate, amend or renegotiate prior contractual commitments of either company, may be greater than expected. We also may suffer a loss of employees, customers or suppliers, a loss of revenues, or an increase in operating or other costs as a result of the merger or other difficulties relating to the merger.

For more information regarding certain risks of our proposed merger with Commonwealth, we refer you to our Registration Statement on Form S-4 (No. 333-117548).

### **ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

In the ordinary course of our business, we are exposed to potential losses arising from changes in the price of aluminum, zinc and natural gas. Changes in currency values and the level of interest rates also expose us to potential losses. We use derivative instruments, such as futures,

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options, swaps and interest rate caps to manage the effect of such changes. Because of the use of swap and forward contract hedging instruments, we are limited in our ability to take advantage of potential changes in aluminum, gas and zinc prices. The hedging instruments require us to exercise the hedging instrument at the settlement date regardless of the market price at that time. Therefore, in an effort to offset the effect of increasing prices, we have also limited our potential benefit of declining prices.

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**Risk Management.** All derivative contracts are held for purposes other than trading, and are used primarily to mitigate uncertainty and volatility and cover underlying exposures. Our commodity and derivative activities are subject to the management, direction and control of our Risk Management Committee, which is composed of our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and other officers and employees that the chief executive officer designates. The Risk Management Committee reports to our Board of Directors, which has supervisory authority over all of its activities.

**Counter-parties.** We are exposed to losses in the event of non-performance by the counter-parties to the derivative contracts discussed below. Although non-performance by counter-parties is possible, we do not currently anticipate any non-performance by any of these parties. Counter-parties are evaluated for creditworthiness and risk assessment prior to our initiating contract activities. The counter-parties creditworthiness is then monitored on an ongoing basis, and credit levels are reviewed to ensure that there is not an inappropriate concentration of credit outstanding to any particular counter-party.

**Cautionary Note.** Our deferred gains and losses accumulate on our balance sheet (in Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income) until the maturity of our respective hedging agreements. Due to the sometimes volatile nature of aluminum, zinc and natural gas prices, it would be impractical to estimate the amount we expect to be realized as earnings or loss on our income statement at any given time, or when these gains or losses will be realized. Actual amounts realized will inevitably differ from our estimates. Our deferred hedging activities reduce, but do not eliminate, our exposure to the volatility of aluminum, zinc and natural gas prices on our operations.

**Significant Metal Price Changes.** The prices for aluminum and zinc were higher during the nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same period in 2003. As measured by the LME, overall primary aluminum and zinc metal prices increased by approximately 21% and 31%, respectively. For the third quarter of 2004, primary aluminum prices increased compared to the second quarter of 2004. Zinc prices, however, declined below their higher levels prevailing earlier in 2004.

**Metal Commodity Price Risk.** Aluminum and zinc ingots are internationally produced, priced and traded commodities, with their principal trading market being the LME. As part of our efforts to preserve margins, we enter into futures and options contracts. In our domestic aluminum and zinc segments, unrealized future gains and losses on these futures and options contracts qualify for deferred treatment SFAS 133 Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, and SFAS 138 Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities.

**Domestic Aluminum.** We enter into futures sale contracts with metal brokers to fix the margin on a portion of the aluminum generated by our salt cake processing facility in Morgantown, Kentucky and some of the aluminum generated for sale from the processing of other scrap metal. These futures sale contracts are settled in the month of shipment.

Our deferred domestic aluminum hedging positions as of September 30, 2004 are summarized below:

|                           | <b>Metric</b> | <b>Fair value</b> |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
|                           | <b>Tons</b>   | <b>of hedge</b>   |
|                           | <b>_____</b>  | <b>contracts</b>  |
| Forward sales in 2004     | (2,985)       | \$ (305,000)      |
| Forward purchases in 2004 | 2,900         | 106,000           |
| Forward purchases in 2005 | 440           | (1,000)           |

|                      |     |              |
|----------------------|-----|--------------|
| Net notional amounts | 355 | \$ (200,000) |
|----------------------|-----|--------------|

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, our domestic aluminum revenue was higher by \$262,000 and \$73,000, respectively, related to our hedging activities. The impact of a 10% change in the September 30, 2004 LME price of aluminum ingot would not be material to our estimated gross profit for the year ending December 31, 2004.

Certain of our aluminum hedges did not meet all of the requirements for recognition as a deferred hedge under generally accepted accounting principles, resulting in a non-cash charge of \$200,000 to earnings.

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**Zinc:** In the normal course of business, we enter into fixed-price forward sales and purchase contracts with a number of our zinc customers. In order to hedge the risk of higher metal prices, we enter into long positions, principally using future purchase contracts. These contracts are settled in the month of the corresponding production or shipment.

Our deferred zinc hedging positions as of September 30, 2004 are summarized below:

|                             | <b>Metric<br/>Tons</b> | <b>Fair Value of<br/>Hedge Contracts</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Forward sales in 2004       | (5,270)                | \$ (545,000)                             |
| Forward sales in 2005       | (3,091)                | (278,000)                                |
| Forward sales in 2006       | (40)                   | (3,000)                                  |
| Forward purchases in 2004   | 5,609                  | 700,000                                  |
| Forward purchases in 2005   | 4,310                  | 515,000                                  |
| Forward purchases in 2006   | 180                    | 20,000                                   |
| <b>Net notional amounts</b> | <b>1,698</b>           | <b>\$ 409,000</b>                        |

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, our zinc revenue was higher (lower) by \$673,000 and (\$340,000), respectively, due to settled zinc metal hedging contracts. The impact of a hypothetical 10% change in the September 30, 2004 LME price of zinc ingot would not be material to our estimated gross profit for the year ending December 31, 2004.

**VAW-IMCO:** VAW-IMCO has a significant metal hedging program. The majority of VAW-IMCO's operations are product sales, requiring it to take ownership of the materials processed and exposing it to more risk to changes in metal prices. In order to mitigate this risk, VAW-IMCO enters into LME high-grade and alloy aluminum forward sales and purchase contracts. VAW-IMCO does not hold or issue any derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Unlike the derivative contracts utilized throughout the rest of our hedging activities, the unrealized gains and losses on VAW-IMCO's derivative contracts do not qualify for deferred treatment under SFAS 133, Accounting for Derivatives and Hedging Activities. VAW-IMCO's derivative contracts are recorded at fair value with unrealized gains and losses recognized currently in the financial statements. VAW-IMCO's metal hedging positions as of September 30, 2004 are summarized below:

| <b>U.S. Dollar denominated hedges</b> | <b>Metric tonnes</b>     | <b>Fair Value of<br/>Hedge Contracts</b>     |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Forward sales in 2004                 | (1,000)                  | \$ 1,699,000                                 |
| Forward purchases in 2004             | 1,000                    | (1,406,000)                                  |
| <b>Total</b>                          |                          | <b>\$ 293,000</b>                            |
| <br><b>Euro denominated hedges</b>    | <br><b>Metric tonnes</b> | <br><b>Fair Value of<br/>Hedge Contracts</b> |

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|                           |                |                     |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Forward sales in 2004     | (34,075)       | \$ 59,668,000       |
| Forward purchases in 2004 | 32,425         | (56,457,000)        |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>(1,650)</b> | <b>\$ 3,211,000</b> |

VAW-IMCO recognized, in its cost of goods sold, unrealized gains of approximately \$806,000 due to metal hedging activities for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2004.

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The impact of either a 10% increase in the June 30, 2004 LME price of aluminum or a 10% increase in the value of the U.S. Dollar against the Euro would be material to our estimated gross profit. As of September 30, 2004 we estimate that a 10% increase in the LME price of aluminum, holding currency rates constant, would increase our gross profit by approximately \$300,000. Separately, for the same period, we also estimate that a 10% increase in the value of the U.S. Dollar against the Euro, holding metal prices constant, would decrease our gross profit by approximately \$300,000.

**Natural Gas.** Natural gas is the principal fuel used in our processing of aluminum and zinc. Natural gas prices are volatile, and we attempt to manage this volatility through the use of derivative commodity instruments. Our natural gas financial derivatives are traded in months forward, and settlement dates are scheduled to coincide with gas purchases during those future periods. These contracts reference physical natural gas prices or appropriate NYMEX futures contract prices.

We have entered into forward pricing positions for a portion of our domestic natural gas requirements for 2004. We currently have contracts in place to cover about 55% of our natural gas requirements for the remaining three months of 2004, and 25% of our natural gas requirements in 2005.

Under the terms of our natural gas swap contracts, we make or receive payments based on the difference between the month-end closing price on the NYMEX and the fixed price agreed to in the swap contracts. The impact of a 10% change in the September 30, 2004 NYMEX closing price would be material to our estimated gross profit for the next three months. We estimate that a 10% increase in the price of natural gas, as of September 30, 2004, would decrease our estimated gross profit for the remainder of this year by approximately \$500,000.

In addition, a portion of our natural gas cost is recovered through price escalation clauses in our long-term contracts.

Our natural gas hedging activities as of September 30, 2004 are summarized in the table below:

|                           | MMBTUs    | Fair Value of<br>Hedge Contracts |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Forward purchases in 2004 | 640,000   | \$ 985,000                       |
| Forward purchases in 2005 | 1,460,000 | 2,353,000                        |
| Forward purchases in 2006 | 470,000   | 309,000                          |
| Net notional amounts      | 2,570,000 | \$ 3,647,000                     |

Our natural gas hedging activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, decreased our cost of goods sold by \$2,091,000 and \$3,641,000, respectively.

Our international aluminum segment had no natural gas hedging activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2004.



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**Interest.** We have historically funded our operations from our existing credit facilities. As of September 30, 2004, approximately 5% of our outstanding debt bore interest at variable interest rates.

Our earnings are affected by changes in interest rates due to the impact those changes have on our interest expense from variable-rate debt instruments. The impact of a 10% increase in interest rates prevailing as of September 30, 2004, would not be material to our operating results for the remainder of this year.

In addition, we may enter into fixed-to-floating interest rate swaps with respect to a portion of the indebtedness represented by our senior secured notes. Such a transaction would increase our variable rate debt. We did not enter into any interest rate swaps or similar financial risk contracts during the nine months ended September 30, 2004.

Market risk for fixed-rate long-term debt is estimated as the potential increase in fair value resulting from a hypothetical decrease in market interest rates. With respect to our fixed-rate long-term debt outstanding at September 30, 2004, a 10% decline in market interest rates would have resulted in an increase to the fair value of our fixed-rate long-term debt of approximately \$11,320,000. The fair values of our long-term debt were estimated using discounted future cash flows based on our incremental borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements.

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We have not generally sought to mitigate foreign currency translation effects through the use of derivative instruments.

**ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

An evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2004. Based upon that evaluation, our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2004. In addition, there was no change in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended September 30, 2004 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

In 1998, an employee filed a personal injury claim against IMCO in Missouri state court (the Bland case). In August 2002 the trial court entered a final judgment against IMCO for \$4.0 million. In connection with this matter, IMCO also became involved in litigation (i) in Missouri state court with the surety for the appeal bond that was levied to secure the judgment in the Bland case and (ii) in federal district court in Missouri with IMCO's umbrella coverage insurer to resolve a dispute as to coverage in the Bland case. In March 2004, the federal district court in Missouri entered a judgment in IMCO's favor, and in the third quarter of 2004, IMCO recovered and recorded \$625,000 of its attorneys' fees and costs previously expensed in the matter. In October 2004, IMCO entered into a final settlement agreement, resolving all litigation relating to the Bland case and resulting in no liability for IMCO.

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

\*12 Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges

\*31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a).

\*31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a).

\*32 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

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\* Filed herewith



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EXHIBIT INDEX

| <b><u>Number</u></b> | <b><u>Exhibit Title</u></b>  |
|----------------------|--|
| *12                  | Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges   |
| *31.1                | Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a).                                     |
| *31.2                | Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a).                                     |
| *32                  | Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350. |

\* Filed hereith