UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

☒ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from ____ to ____

Commission file number: **001-40573**

Krispy Kreme, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	**37-1701311**
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

2116 Hawkins Street, Suite 101, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203

(Address of principal executive offices)

(800) 457-4779

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common stock, $0.01 par value per share	DNUT	Nasdaq Global Select Market

Securities registered pursuant to section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer,” “smaller reporting company,” and “emerging growth company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management’s assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report. ☒

If securities are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act, indicate by check mark whether the financial statements of the registrant included in the filing reflect the correction of an error to previously issued financial statements. ☒

Indicate by check mark whether any of those error corrections are restatements that required a recovery analysis of incentive-based compensation received by any of the registrant’s executive officers during the relevant recovery period pursuant to § 240.10D-1(b). ☒

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

The aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of the end of the registrant’s most recently completed second fiscal quarter, based on the closing price of $2.65 for shares of the registrant’s common stock as reported by the Nasdaq Global Select Market, was approximately $248.9 million. Shares of common stock beneficially owned by each

executive officer, director, and holder of more than 10% of our common stock have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed to be affiliates. This determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes.

The registrant had outstanding 172.2 million shares of common stock as of February 20, 2026.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the definitive Proxy Statement for the registrant's Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after December 28, 2025, have been incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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CERTAIN TERMS

Unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, the terms "Company," "Krispy Kreme," "we," "us," and "our" and other similar terms used in this Annual Report on Form 10-K (this "Annual Report") refer to Krispy Kreme, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries. Except as otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, references to fiscal 2025 refer to the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025, references to fiscal 2024 refer to the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024, and references to fiscal 2023 refer to the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

TRADEMARKS

All trademarks, trade names and service marks appearing in this Annual Report are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, the trademarks and trade names in this Annual Report are referred to without the symbols ® and ™, but such references should not be construed as any indication that their respective owners will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, their rights thereto. We do not intend to use or display other companies' trademarks or trade names to imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship of us by, any other companies.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain information included in this Annual Report is forward-looking within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and involves risks, assumptions, and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by use of forward-looking terminology, including terms such as "plan," "believe," "may," "continue," "could," "will," "should," "would," "anticipate," "attempt," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "objective," "seek," "pursue," "strive" or the negatives of these words, comparable terminology, or other references to future periods; however, statements may be forward-looking whether or not these terms or their negatives are used. Forward-looking statements are not a representation by us that the future plans, estimates, or expectations contemplated by us will be achieved. Our actual results could differ materially from the forward-looking statements included herein. We consider the assumptions and estimates on which forward-looking statements are based to be reasonable, but they are subject to various risks and uncertainties relating to our operations, financial results, financial conditions, business, prospects, future plans and strategies, projections, liquidity, the economy, and other future conditions. Therefore, you should not place undue reliance on any of these forward-looking statements. Important factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements including, without limitation:

- food safety issues, including risks of food-borne illnesses, tampering, contamination, and cross-contamination;
- impacts from any material failure, inadequacy, or interruption of our information technology systems, including breaches or failures of such systems or other cybersecurity or data security-related incidents;
- our ability to execute our business strategy, including our turnaround plan and growth through international development with strategic partners and profitable expansion of our fresh delivery and digital channels;
- our ability to realize the anticipated benefits from past or potential future strategic transactions (including refranchising);
- failure by our franchisees, subfranchisees, or third-party service providers to operate effectively and in compliance with our standards and applicable law;
- any harm to our reputation or brand image;
- negative impacts on our business due to changes in consumer spending habits, consumer preferences, or demographic trends;
- our ability to open new and maintain existing shops and points of access both domestically and internationally;
- disruptions to our and our franchisees' supply chain, including the loss of or failure to perform by single-source or limited suppliers, vendors, distributors, or manufacturers;
- our significant indebtedness and our ability to meet the financial and other covenants under our credit facilities;
- changes in the cost of raw materials and other commodities, including due to import and export requirements (including tariffs), inflation, or foreign exchange rates;
- our ability to recruit and retain key personnel;
- failure to develop or maintain effective internal control over financial reporting or disclosure controls and procedures;
- adverse regulatory actions or publicity concerning food or occupational safety, food quality, health, and other issues or regulatory investigations, enforcement actions, or material litigation;
- and other risks and uncertainties described under the heading "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this Annual Report and in other filings the Company makes from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

These forward-looking statements are made only as of the date of this document, and we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as may be required by law.

PART I

Item 1. Business

The Joy of Krispy Kreme

Krispy Kreme, Inc. ("KKI" and, together with its subsidiaries, the "Company" or "Krispy Kreme") is one of the most beloved and well-known sweet treat brands in the world. Over its nearly 89-year history, Krispy Kreme has developed a broad consumer base globally and currently operates in 42 countries through its unique network of shops ("Doughnut Shops"), partnerships with leading retailers, and growing digital business. The Company's purpose is to touch and enhance lives through the joy that is Krispy Kreme.

Our Business Model

We are an omni-channel business that focuses on fresh, high-quality doughnuts with 15,194 points of access globally as of the end of fiscal 2025. We refer to the points of access where consumers can purchase our doughnuts as our "Global Points of Access" or "Points of Access" when referring to points of access in a particular region or segment. We sell doughnuts to consumers through three main channels: (1) Hot Light Theater Shops and Fresh Shops, (2) fresh delivery, and (3) digital. These channels are supported by a capital-efficient Hub and Spoke model, which leverages production capabilities of our "Hubs" to deliver fresh doughnuts to our "Spokes."

The primary components of our Hub and Spoke model are as follows:

- **Doughnut Factories:** Non-consumer facing production Hubs, which provide fresh doughnuts to our Spoke locations in certain countries or regions.
- **Hot Light Theater Shops:** Consumer-facing Hubs where fresh doughnuts are made and sold on premise, providing a unique and differentiated consumer experiences while serving as local production Hubs for our network. The average capital investment for a Hot Light Theater Shop is $2 million to $5 million.
- **Fresh Shops:** Smaller Doughnut Shops and kiosks, without manufacturing capabilities, selling fresh doughnuts delivered from Hub locations. The average capital investment for a Fresh Shop is $0.1 million to $1 million.
- **Fresh Delivery:** Fresh doughnuts delivered from local Hub locations to grocery stores, club wholesalers, convenience stores, quick service or fast casual restaurants ("QSR"), and drug stores that sell our doughnuts displayed in Krispy Kreme branded cabinets and merchandising units. Formerly referred to as our delivered fresh daily or "DFD" channel, we have simplified the language to reflect that we vary delivery frequency schedules for certain locations. The average capital investment for a fresh delivery door is $2,000 to $6,000.
- **Digital:** Fresh doughnuts for pickup or delivery, ordered through our branded digital platforms or through third-party digital channels, including delivery apps and our customers' digital platforms.

In the U.S., our sales are derived from Points of Access that are primarily operated by the Company. Internationally, our sales are derived from Points of Access that are operated by both the Company and franchise partners.

Digital is our fastest-growing channel in the U.S. and represents a significant opportunity to capitalize on the multi-year acceleration in third-party channel growth. As a dynamic and rapidly evolving part of our omni-channel strategy, we are focused on meeting consumers where they are, streamlining the ordering journey to reduce friction, improving conversion rates, and enhancing the overall guest experience. We continue to expand our digital capabilities through new third-party platform integrations, increased third-party advertising, and strategic partnerships to further scale and strengthen the channel.

The Ingredients of Our Success

Rooted in our purpose to touch and enhance lives through the joy that is Krispy Kreme, we believe the following competitive differentiators position us to generate significant growth.

High-Quality, Hand-Crafted, Proprietary Doughnuts

Our iconic Original Glazed doughnut is recognized for its fresh, hot-off-the-line, melt-in-your-mouth experience, and is complemented by a wide variety of hand-crafted and decorated doughnuts. Our high-quality doughnuts are made from our own proprietary formulations and using our proprietary doughnut-making equipment. We utilize strict quality standards and uniform production systems to foster consistent and high-quality consumer interactions, no matter where in the world the consumer experiences it. Our doughnuts are most often purchased for sharing, bringing joy to everyday moments and special occasions.

Beloved Global Brand with Ubiquitous Appeal

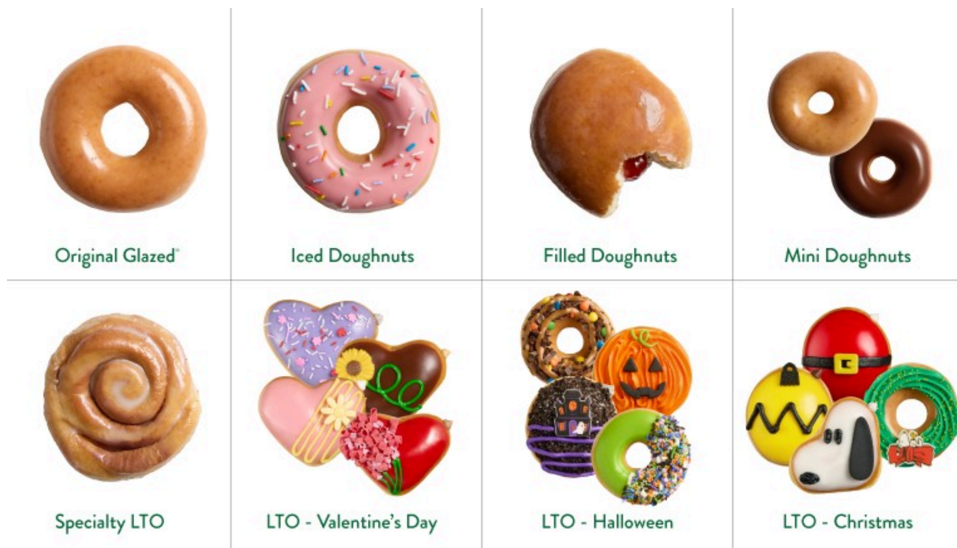
We believe that our brand love and ubiquitous appeal differentiate us from the competition. Our iconic, globally recognized brand has a rich history that is epitomized by our fresh Original Glazed doughnut. We believe we are one of the most loved sweet treat retailers in the U.S. and many markets around the world, with a loyal and emotionally connected consumer base.

We continuously seek to understand what consumers are celebrating or experiencing in their lives and actively engage our followers to activate this emotional connection through memorable, sharable moments that we believe further fuel our brand love.

Shareable Experiences

Our sweet treat assortment begins with our iconic Original Glazed doughnut inspired by our founder’s classic yeast-based recipe that serves as the foundation of our offerings. In addition, we maintain a core doughnut menu, which we relaunched in 2025 to feature trending flavors, fan favorites requested on social media, and popular doughnuts that were offered previously only for a limited time. We also offer a rotating seasonal menu, limited time offerings (“LTOs” or “specialty doughnuts”) such as our flavored glazes, smaller portion options such as our “doughnut dots” and “minis,” which lend themselves well to gifting and sharing occasions such as birthdays and school activities, and seasonal activations to generate buzz for our brand and engage consumers.

A taste of our offerings includes:



Our seasonal activations create unique assortments centered on holidays and events, with Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, the Fourth of July, Halloween, and Christmas all examples of holidays for which we routinely innovate. We also aim to maintain brand relevance by creating product experiences that are culturally relevant and tied to buzzworthy events.

The success of specialty products, including minis, LTOs and seasonal activations, affirms our belief that our innovations create additional opportunities for consumers to engage with our brand and lead to increased purchase frequencies, a key benefit given that U.S. consumers visit fewer than three times per year on average. We believe these offerings also grow brand love while encouraging gifting and sharing.

Omni-Channel Model to Expand Our Reach

We believe our omni-channel model, enabled by our Hub and Spoke approach, allows us to maximize our market opportunity and deliver consistent high-quality doughnuts across the globe. Our goal is to make our freshly made doughnuts available to consumers as conveniently and efficiently as possible. The production capacity of our Hubs allows us to reach more consumers wherever they may be—whether in-shop, in a grocery or convenience store, on their commute home, or at their own doorstep via home delivery. We use this tailored approach to reach consumers across a variety of distinct formats to support growth in highly attractive and diverse markets. Our approach focuses on maintaining brand integrity and scarcity value while capitalizing on significant untapped consumer demand.

The Hub and Spoke approach is applied globally and is currently most developed in certain of our international Company-owned markets. With lessons learned in those international markets, we are further developing the Hub and Spoke approach in the U.S., with a focus on expansion in key, population-dense U.S. markets where we have a limited or no presence despite our high brand awareness.

We believe we have a significant opportunity to increase our presence in certain of our existing international markets where we have a less developed Hub and Spoke model, providing opportunity to grow within markets in which we are already present. We also view Hub and Spoke expansion to other international markets where we do not currently have a presence as a growth driver for the future.

Franchise Development

The Company operates a global network of locations through a combination of Company-owned/operated and franchise-owned/operated shops and is planning to expand the franchising model globally going forward. The Company intends to refranchise certain international Company-owned markets and the Company's joint venture in the western U.S. An expanded franchised business model will enable the Company to grow its brand presence while leveraging the capital, local market knowledge, and operational involvement of franchisees. This expansion will allow Krispy Kreme to operate a more capital-light model where franchisees provide the capital investment required to develop, operate, and maintain their locations and are responsible for the day-to-day operation of their businesses. We expect continued franchise development to result in a decrease in revenue from product sales and an increase in revenue generated from franchisees, primarily through a mix of: (i) fees, recognized over the term of the franchise agreement, (ii) ongoing royalty fees, calculated as a percentage of franchisee sales, and (iii) sales of product mix and equipment to franchisees.

For fiscal 2025, approximately 75% of the Company's systemwide sales came from Company-operated locations. Through refranchising efforts, Krispy Kreme expects nearly 50% of systemwide sales to be generated by franchisees beginning fiscal 2027.

Our Segments

We conduct our business through the following three reported segments:

- ***U.S.:*** Includes all Company-owned operations in the U.S., and Insomnia Cookies Bakeries globally through the date of deconsolidation. Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of Part II of this Annual Report (the "audited Consolidated Financial Statements") for more information;
- ***International:*** Includes all Company-owned operations in the U.K., Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, and Canada, as well as Japan for all periods covered by this Annual Report; and
- ***Market Development:*** Includes franchise operations across the globe.

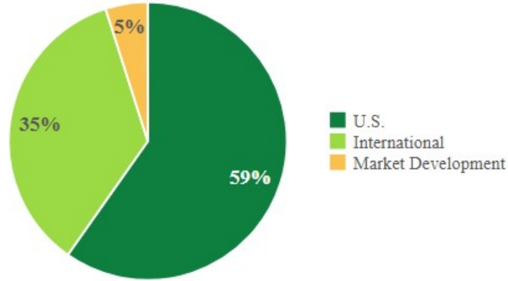
Unallocated corporate costs are excluded from the Company's measurement of segment performance. These costs include general corporate expenses.

The following table presents our Global Points of Access as of December 28, 2025:

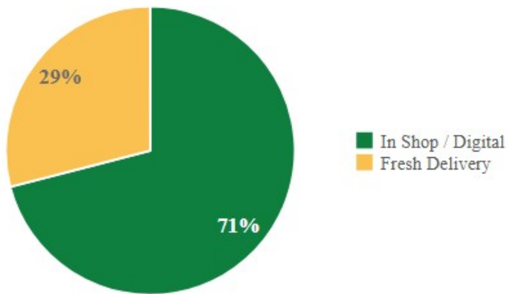
	Global Points of Access					
	Hot Light Theater Shops	**Fresh Shops**	**Carts, Food Trucks, and Other**	**Fresh Delivery Doors**	**Total**	**Company-Owned / Operated (%)**
U.S.	235	68	—	7,160	**7,463**	**100 %**
International	52	527	18	4,225	**4,822**	**100 %**
Market Development	113	1,130	29	1,637	**2,909**	**— %**
Total Global Points of Access	**400**	**1,725**	**47**	**13,022**	**15,194**	**81 %**

We generate revenue from product sales through (1) the sale of doughnuts and complementary products to in-shop, digital, and fresh delivery customers and (2) the sale of doughnut mix, other ingredients and supplies, and doughnut-making equipment to franchisees. In addition, we generate revenue from our franchisees through development and initial franchise fees relating to new shop openings, ongoing royalties charged to franchisees based on their sales, and advertising fees based on their sales.

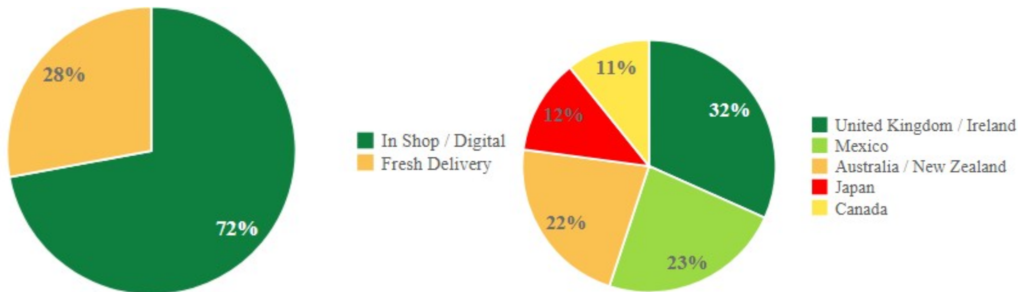
Total fiscal 2025 revenue of $1,522.6 million consists of the following revenue by reporting segment:



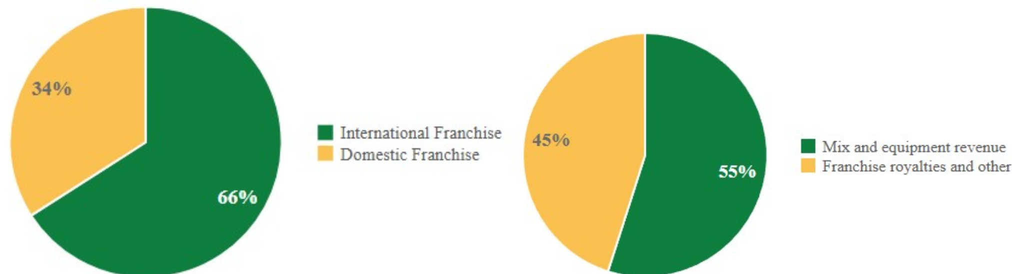
The U.S. segment's fiscal 2025 revenue of $913.1 million consists of:



The International segment's fiscal 2025 revenue of $535.1 million consists of:



The Market Development segment's fiscal 2025 revenue of $74.5 million consists of:



Our Growth Strategy

Krispy Kreme is a growth company, anchored by our globally recognized brand and strong consumer demand for our iconic fresh doughnuts. In 2025, we implemented a turnaround plan to de-leverage the balance sheet and deliver sustainable, profitable growth focused on our two biggest opportunities, profitable U.S. expansion and our capital-light international franchise model. We expect to open in at least three new countries every year and at least 100 new shops globally in fiscal 2026.

Our turnaround plan focuses on the following four components:

1. Refranchising
2. Driving Return on Invested Capital
3. Expanding Margins
4. Driving Sustainable, Profitable Growth

Refranchising

We expect refranchising to enable us to more profitably drive systemwide sales growth and accelerate unit development through our capital-light franchise model. As we work to refranchise certain international markets, we are prioritizing the right partners to maximize value and position the Company for long-term growth while improving financial flexibility by paying down debt.

Driving Return on Invested Capital

To drive return on invested capital, we are reducing capital intensity by improving utilization of current assets and focusing on franchise development to support growth. We are utilizing existing Hubs to support additional fresh delivery doors, which increases not only total Sales per Hub, but also profitability and capital efficiency because the production Hubs have largely fixed costs including rent, utilities, and labor.

We are also making selective, capital-light investments in geographies which currently have limited access to our products or where we have insufficient production to meet demand. This includes opening in new international franchise markets and pursuing opportunities to refranchise certain international Company-owned markets and to restructure our consolidated subsidiary in the western U.S., W.K.S. Krispy Kreme, LLC.

Our international pipeline remains a key driver of capital-light expansion with future growth expected to come not just from new shop openings with franchisees but also through fresh delivery door expansion in grocery, convenience, club wholesalers and QSR.

Expanding Margins

We seek to expand margins by simplifying the business and strengthening operations in the U.S. to reduce costs while prioritizing product freshness and quality. Our Hub and Spoke model enables an integrated approach to operations, which is designed to bring efficiencies in production, distribution, and supervisory management.

We seek to make doughnuts more efficiently by optimizing production, streamlining Hub activities to leverage capacity, and improving labor productivity including through improved labor management systems and processes in our shops. We also seek to deliver doughnuts more efficiently by improving route management, optimizing production and delivery schedules to support cost-effective expansion, and through the use of third-party logistics (“3PL”) carriers. We are improving our demand planning through a system that is intended to enhance service and to deliver both waste and labor efficiencies across all our channels. We vary delivery frequency schedules for certain locations in partnership with our customers to continuously optimize our fresh delivery network. Through these efforts, we expect to drive efficiency and support expansion while maintaining our commitment to quality.

Driving Sustainable, Profitable Growth

To drive sustainable, profitable growth in the U.S., we are focused on growing our fresh delivery business with new and existing strategic customers with high-volume and high-margin doors, seeking to have the right product variety, in the right amount, in the right place, and at the right time.

Our marketing strategy is focused on driving everyday sales through our refreshed core menu, creating excitement with buzzworthy limited time offers, and accelerating growth in digital. We also continue to emphasize the Original Glazed doughnut—our most iconic, most affordable and most profitable product, while leveraging digital channels to engage consumers and further amplify sales.

Marketing and Innovation

Our marketing strategy is as distinctive and innovative as our brand. We engage in cultural moments that resonate with our consumers, introduce new product experiences aligned with seasonal trends and evolving societal interests, and foster meaningful connections through simple, frequent, brand-led offerings that inspire sharing.

The tactics which support this strategy are also distinct. In the U.S., Krispy Kreme's paid media strategy is 100% digital with a heavy focus on social media where our passionate consumer base engages and shares our marketing programs far and wide through their own networks. Earned media is also an important part of our media mix. We create promotions and products that attract media outlets to our brand. Through the widespread dissemination of our programs through pop culture, entertainment, and news outlets, we seek to achieve disproportionately large attention relative to our spend.

We believe our marketing strategy, supported with non-traditional media tactics, has proven to be an effective combination that simultaneously drives sales while growing brand love. By drawing inspiration from important societal events, we create a unique way for our consumers to celebrate and engage. Our ability to create this connection between our consumers and our brand is what has helped make the Krispy Kreme brand iconic, and helps to solidify our position in popular culture.

Our doughnuts are made from our proprietary doughnut mix and glaze flavorings using our unique process and proprietary doughnut-making equipment. To uphold our high-quality, consistent product experience, we maintain high standards for raw materials and periodically refine our formulation to deliver consistent quality in every batch. In addition, we supplement our core product offerings with innovative specialty doughnuts and seasonal activations that are anticipated by consumers and the media alike and generate significant social sharing amongst our fans and media coverage. The impact of limited time seasonal offerings goes beyond the sales of the innovations themselves; they drive traffic and create additional sales of our core product offering.

Krispy Kreme has a brand presence across both emerging and well-established social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, X, YouTube, and TikTok. These channels enable us to engage with our consumers on a personal level, while spreading the global brand of Krispy Kreme, including communicating promotional activity, featured products, new shop openings, and highlighting core equities of the brand. Social media allows precise geo-targeting around our shops and effective targeting of consumers likely to be interested in our messages.

Research and Development

New product innovation is important to the success of our business. We believe that the development of new Krispy Kreme doughnuts, beverages, and other products attracts new consumers to our brand, increases shop sales, and allows our shops to strengthen daypart offerings. One of our properties in Winston-Salem includes research and development facilities including test kitchens and doughnut producing equipment used in developing new products and processes.

Team Members and Human Capital Resources

Investing in, developing, and maintaining human capital is critical to our success. Globally, Krispy Kreme employs approximately 17,000 Krispy Kremers as of December 28, 2025. We are not a party to any collective bargaining agreement in the U.S. and most of our equity markets, although we have experienced occasional unionization initiatives.

We depend on our Krispy Kremers to provide great customer service, to make our products in adherence to our high-quality standards and to maintain the consistency of our operations. While we continue to operate in a competitive market for talent, we believe that our culture, policies, and people and culture programs contribute to our strong relationship with our Krispy Kremers, which we feel is instrumental to our business model. Our approach to people and culture is organized under four key pillars: Connection and Engagement; Performance, Capability, and Talent; Growth and Development; and Kudos and Recognition. We are building programs under each of these key areas to support our goal to attract and retain top talent. Underpinning these programs is our culture, which is best captured by our Leadership Mix. The Leadership Mix is the set of behaviors that guide the Company’s expectations for how our Krispy Kremers should show up for the business and each other every day and consisted of the following in 2025:

Leadership Mix

A dozen ingredients that drive our culture. It’s how we get things done!

APPRECIATE OUR DIFFERENCES
MASTER YOUR CRAFT
DON'T TAKE YOURSELF TOO SERIOUSLY
DELIVER KUDOS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE
RESPECT ALL OPINIONS
THINK AND ACT LIKE AN OWNER
INSPIRE CUSTOMER WONDER
LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY
CREATE YOUR PATH
GROW OUR PEEPS
BEHAVE LIKE A STARTUP
OWN THE OUTCOMES

The Leadership Mix is designed to empower our Krispy Kremers to do the right thing for our consumers, their fellow Krispy Kremers, and for the business. We pride ourselves on being an entrepreneurial and innovative team that is not afraid to take smart risks in support of our business goals. Consistent with our Leadership Mix, we seek to attract a diverse team of Krispy Kremers from a wide range of backgrounds. The success of our business is fundamentally connected to the well-being of our Krispy Kremers. Accordingly, we are committed to their health, safety, and wellness.

Our Total Rewards platform provides Krispy Kremers and their families with access to a variety of pay, health, and wellness programs that we believe are competitive, innovative, flexible, and convenient. Our total package of pay and benefits is designed to support the physical, mental, and financial health of our people and includes medical, dental, vision, employee assistance program, life insurance, and retirement benefits as well as disability benefits and assistance with major life activities, such as educational reimbursement and adoption. Many of these benefits are available to our part-time Krispy Kremers; we believe that offering select benefits to our part-time Krispy Kremers offers us a competitive advantage in recruiting and retaining talent. We also maintain certain employee equity ownership plans, including for our shop general managers, to align Krispy Kremers’ incentives with the Company’s long-term strategic goals.

Responsibility

We are committed to touching and enhancing lives through the joy that is Krispy Kreme and our ambition is to *Be Sweet in All That We Do*, which represents our Responsibility platform. With this platform, we focus on our greatest opportunities for positive social and environmental impact with our people, our communities, and our planet. To outline our journey, progress, and future ambitions, we periodically issue *Be Sweet* Responsibility reports or fact sheet updates. These materials are available on our website at krispykreme.com/responsibility-report. The contents of these materials are not incorporated by reference into this Annual Report or in any other report or document KKI files with or furnishes to the SEC.

Supply Chain

Sourcing and Supplies

We are committed to sourcing the best ingredients available for our products. The principal ingredients to manufacture our products include flour, shortening, and sugar which are used to formulate our proprietary doughnut mix and concentrate at our Winston-Salem, North Carolina manufacturing facility. We procure the raw materials for these products from different vendors. Although most raw materials we require are typically readily available from multiple vendors, we currently have approximately 20 main vendors.

We manufacture the doughnut mix used to make our doughnuts at our manufacturing facility in Winston-Salem and a third-party facility in Pico Rivera, California, domestically, and at several locations internationally. In support of international markets, we produce a concentrate exclusively at our Winston-Salem facility for shipping efficiency. The concentrate is mixed with commodity ingredients in local markets to yield a finished doughnut mix.

At an additional facility in Winston-Salem, we manufacture our proprietary doughnut-making equipment for shipment to new shops and Doughnut Factories around the world. We manufacture a range of doughnut-making lines, with different capacities to support the needs of different shop types.

We provide other ingredients, packaging and supplies, principally to Company-owned and domestic franchise shops. Our Krispy Kreme shop-level replenishments generally occur on a weekly basis, working with one national distribution partner. In addition, we work with a regional distribution partner to serve the New York City market.

In the U.S., we maintain seven Doughnut Factories, of which one is operated by a franchisee. The Doughnut Factories are located in Indianapolis, Indiana; Monroe, Ohio; New York, New York; Elk Grove, Illinois; Concord, North Carolina; Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Internationally, we operate 39 Doughnut Factories, of which 25 are operated by franchisees. Each Doughnut Factory supports multiple business channels for Krispy Kreme. Our Doughnut Factories, along with Hot Light Theater Shops, manufacture fresh doughnuts daily, powering the Hub and Spoke model by producing product for Spoke locations such as Fresh Shops and Carts and Food Trucks. In addition, local Doughnut Factories and Hot Light Theater Shops produce finished doughnuts for fresh delivery to local and regional fresh delivery doors. We operate delivery routes out of each Doughnut Factory and certain Hot Light Theater Shops to deliver doughnuts that are made fresh locally and maintain our highest standards of quality and brand experience.

Quality Control

We operate an integrated supply chain to help maintain the consistency and quality of products. Our business model is centered on ensuring consistent quality of our products. In addition to the doughnut mixes and mix concentrate that we manufacture, we have an agreement with an independent food company to manufacture certain doughnut mixes using concentrate for domestic regions outside the southeastern U.S. and to provide backup mix production capability in the event of a business disruption at our manufacturing facility. In-process quality checks are performed throughout the production process, including ingredients, moisture percentage, fat percentage, sieve size, and metal checks. We provide specific instructions to franchise partners for storing and cooking our products. All products are transported and stored at ambient temperature.

Competition

We compete in the fragmented indulgence industry. Our domestic and international competitors include a wide range of retailers of doughnuts and other sweet treats, coffee shops, and other café and bakery concepts. We compete with snacks sold through convenience stores, supermarkets, restaurants, digital, and retail stores. The number, size and strength of competitors vary by region and by category. We also compete against retailers who sell sweet treats such as cookies, cupcakes, and ice cream. We compete on elements such as food quality, freshness, convenience, accessibility, customer service, price, and value. We view our brand engagement, overall consumer experience and the uniqueness of our doughnuts, including the Original Glazed doughnut, as important factors that distinguish our brand from competitors, both in the doughnut and broader indulgence categories.

Intellectual Property

Our Doughnut Shops are operated under the Krispy Kreme® trademark, and we use many federally and internationally registered trademarks and service marks, including Original Glazed®, Hot Krispy Kreme Original Glazed Now®, and the logos associated with these marks. We have registered various trademarks in over 65 other countries, and we generally license the use of these trademarks to our franchisees for the operation of their Doughnut Shops. We have also licensed our marks for other consumer goods. In addition, we maintain certain proprietary formulas that we have established as trade secrets. We believe that our trademarks, service marks, and trade secrets have significant value and are important to our brand. To better protect our brand, we have registered and maintain numerous Internet domain names.

Government Regulation

As a company with global operations, we are subject to the laws and regulations of the U.S. and the foreign jurisdictions in which we operate as well as the rules, reporting obligations and interpretations of all such requirements and obligations by various governing bodies, which may differ among jurisdictions. Changes to such laws, regulations, rules, reporting obligations and related compliance obligations could result in significant costs and adversely impact our capital expenditures, results of operations, and competitive position. We do not currently expect compliance with these laws and regulations to have a material effect on our capital expenditures, results of operations or competitive position as compared to prior periods.

Seasonality

Our sales peak at various times throughout the year due to certain promotional events and holiday celebrations. Additionally, our hot beverage sales generally increase during the fall and winter months while our iced beverage sales generally increase during the spring and summer months. Quarterly results also may be affected by the timing of the opening of new shops, closing of existing shops, or completion of strategic transactions such as refranchising transactions. For these reasons, results for any fiscal quarter are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be achieved for the full fiscal year.

Available Information

This Annual Report, and all other reports and amendments thereto that KKI files with or furnishes to the SEC, are publicly available free of charge on the Investor Relations section of our website at investors.krispykreme.com or at sec.gov as soon as reasonably practicable after these materials are filed with or furnished to the SEC. We also use our website as a tool to disclose important information about the Company and comply with our disclosure obligations under Regulation Fair Disclosure. Our corporate governance principles, code of conduct, Board committee charters, and certain other corporate governance policies are also posted on the Investor Relations section of our website. The information on our website (or any webpages referenced in this Annual Report) is not part of this or any other report KKI files with, or furnishes to, the SEC.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Investing in our securities involves a variety of risks and uncertainties, including those discussed below. These disclosures reflect the Company's beliefs and opinions as to risks or uncertainties that could have a material adverse effect on the Company, our business, financial condition, prospects, results of operations, cash flows, and stock price. The risks discussed below are not the only risks we face. Additional risks or uncertainties not currently known to us, or that we currently deem immaterial, may also have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, prospects, results of operations, cash flows, or stock price. References to past events are examples only and are not intended to be a complete listing or to indicate the likelihood of similar events occurring in the future.

Summary Risk Factors

Risks Related to Food Safety and Consumer Preferences

- Our business may be adversely affected by food safety issues, including food-borne illnesses, tampering, contamination, or cross-contamination.
- Changes in consumer preferences and demographic trends could negatively impact our business.

Risks Related to Cybersecurity, Data Privacy, Information Technology, and Internal Controls

- Any material failure, inadequacy, or interruption of our information technology has and may in the future adversely affect our ability to effectively operate our business and result in financial or other loss.
- Breaches or failures of our information technology systems or other cybersecurity or data security-related incidents have and may in the future have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.
- If we, our franchisees, or our third-party service providers fail to protect, or to comply with laws and regulations governing our data, we or our franchisees could be exposed to data loss, litigation, fines, and other liabilities that could harm our reputation and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.
- If our remediation of the previously identified material weakness is not effective, or if we fail to develop and maintain an effective system of internal controls, our ability to produce timely and accurate financial statements may be impaired, investors may lose confidence in our financial reporting, and the price of our common stock may decline.

Risks Related to Executing Our Business Strategy

- We may be unable to successfully execute our business strategy, including our turnaround plan.
- We may not realize the anticipated benefits from past or potential future acquisitions, divestitures (including refranchising), investments, or other strategic transactions.
- We have recognized significant impairment charges for our goodwill and long-lived assets and may be required to recognize additional impairment charges in the future for goodwill and other assets. Future impairment of these assets could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.
- We have limited influence over the operations of our franchisees and subfranchisees, and any failure by them to operate effectively or to maintain safety and quality standards in compliance with applicable law could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and reputation.
- Our fresh delivery business channels depend on key customers and are subject to risks if such key customers reduce their purchases or terminate their relationships with us.
- Our reputation and brand image are essential to our business success and a failure to protect our brand image could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.
- Our success depends on our ability to compete with many food service businesses.
- If we cannot keep pace with technological changes impacting our industry, we may be unable to compete effectively, and our results of operations could be negatively affected.
- Our significant indebtedness could adversely affect us.

Risks Related to Our Global Expansion and Growth

- A key portion of our growth strategy depends on opening new and maintaining existing Krispy Kreme shops and Points of Access both domestically and internationally.
- Our future growth and profitability will depend on our ability to successfully accelerate international development with strategic partners and joint ventures.
- We face risks as we continue to focus on profitable expansion of our fresh delivery and digital channels.
- Political, economic, currency, and other risks associated with our international operations could have a material adverse effect on our and our international franchisees' operating results.

Risks Related to Our Supply Chain

- We are the exclusive or primary supplier of doughnut mixes and other key ingredients to shops worldwide and any problems supplying these ingredients could negatively affect our and our franchisees' ability to make doughnuts.
- We are the only manufacturer of our doughnut-making equipment. Any problems producing this equipment could negatively affect our shops' ability to make doughnuts.
- We have limited vendors for many of the product components and services that we rely on, and we have a single vendor for our glaze flavoring. Any interruption in supply could impair our ability to make and deliver our signature products, adversely affecting our business, financial condition, and results of operations.
- Our reliance on a single vendor for nearly all distribution of materials and supplies in the U.S. and Canada poses risks to our and our franchisees' ability to make doughnuts.
- Our profitability is sensitive to changes in the cost of commodities and we may not be able to increase prices to fully offset inflationary pressures on costs, which may adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

Risks Related to Our Human Capital

- An inability to recruit and retain personnel could have a material adverse effect on our operations.
- Changes in the cost of labor could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Risks Related to Regulation, Litigation and Intellectual Property

- We may be subject to litigation that could adversely affect us by increasing our expenses, diverting management attention, or subjecting us to significant monetary damages and other remedies.
- Our business may be adversely affected by litigation, regulation and publicity concerning food or occupational safety, quality, health, and other issues, which could negatively affect public policy and consumer preferences toward our products.
- We are subject to franchise laws and regulations that govern our status as a franchisor and regulate some aspects of our franchise relationships. Our ability to develop new franchised shops and to enforce contractual rights against franchisees may be adversely affected by these laws and regulations, which could cause our franchise revenues to decline.
- Healthcare and employment legislation could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.
- Changes in tax laws and regulations could have a material impact to our tax expense or cash tax obligations.
- Our annual effective income tax rate can change materially as a result of changes in our geographic mix of U.S. and foreign earnings and other factors, including changes in tax laws and changes made by regulatory authorities.
- The full realization of our deferred tax assets may be affected by a number of factors, including future earnings and the feasibility of ongoing planning strategies.
- We may be affected by matters related to environmental, social, and governance ("Responsibility") trends and events, including governmental regulation and supply chain disruptions, that may adversely affect our business and reputation.
- Our failure or inability to obtain, maintain, protect, and enforce our trademarks or other intellectual property could adversely affect our business and the value of our brand.

Risks Related to Crises, Catastrophic Events, and Business Continuity

- Public health outbreaks, epidemics, or pandemics have disrupted and may in the future disrupt, our business, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.
- Adverse weather conditions, natural disasters, war or terrorist attacks, pandemics, or other catastrophic events could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Risks Related to Ownership of our Common Stock

- Certain provisions of Delaware Law, our governing documents, and the ownership of approximately 43% of our common stock by JAB (defined below) could delay or prevent a change in control, which could adversely affect the price of our common stock.
- If the ownership of our common stock continues to be highly concentrated, it may limit stockholders other than JAB from influencing significant corporate decisions and may result in conflicts of interest.
- Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock could negatively affect the price of our common stock.

Risks Related to Food Safety and Consumer Preferences

Our business may be adversely affected by food safety issues, including food-borne illnesses, tampering, contamination, or cross-contamination.

We operate in the food service and manufacturing sector and are subject to food safety concerns, which are common both in the food service industry and the food supply chain. These concerns include risks of food-borne illnesses/injuries, tampering, contamination, and cross-contamination. Although we maintain a food safety system, such system may be insufficient in design and execution to prevent or avoid risks associated with such food safety concerns. These risks may escalate as we launch new products, broaden our distribution through channels such as our fresh delivery operations and digital channels, and expand our manufacturing and production facilities.

Inadequate food safety measures, including in our facilities and Points of Access, could lead to shutdowns or other interruptions, disrupting operations in both our in-shop and fresh delivery operations. Moreover, we and our franchisees rely on domestic and international suppliers to provide quality ingredients and to properly handle, store and transport our ingredients for delivery to our shops in compliance with our established procedures and standards and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including sanitation and pest control standards. Any failure by our domestic or international suppliers to meet our quality standards, or to comply with domestic or international food industry standards, could cause our ingredients to be contaminated, which could be difficult to detect and could jeopardize the safety of our food. Food safety incidents might also negatively impact the cost and availability of ingredients, leading to supply chain disruptions or reduced profit margins for us and our franchise partners. Any such disruption in our supply chain could negatively impact our brand and our results.

Moreover, our dependence on third-party delivery services and third-party Points of Access heightens the risk of these food safety issues. While we oversee some of these third parties' operations, the quality and service they provide could be compromised by various factors, including factors that are beyond our control or are unforeseeable, making it challenging to identify contamination or other defects.

Additionally, food safety concerns may expose us to legal actions, regulatory investigations, product recalls, and financial consequences, including penalties. Any association of our brand, our franchisees, or the broader food service industry with food safety issues could harm our reputation, leading to a decline in revenue and profitability and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Changes in consumer preferences and demographic trends, including in response to unfavorable economic conditions, could negatively impact our business.

The food service industry is highly susceptible to shifts in consumer preferences, including dietary choices and health concerns, as well as broader factors like economic conditions, spending habits, demographic changes, traffic trends, and competition from other brands. In addition, our products fall into the category of indulgences, making them particularly sensitive to shifts in discretionary spending patterns and dietary trends (including use of weight loss medication). Shifts in consumer behavior based on any of these factors may lead to reduced sales. In the event of unfavorable economic conditions where we or our franchisees operate, our consumers may have reduced disposable income, leading to potential reductions in their consumption of our products. Any such reductions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Risks Related to Cybersecurity, Data Privacy, Information Technology, and Internal Controls

We rely on information technology in our operations. Any material failure, inadequacy, or interruption of that technology has and may in the future adversely affect our ability to effectively operate our business and result in financial or other loss.

Our business and that of our franchisees significantly depend on computer systems and information technology. Among other things, the effectiveness of our business management is closely tied to the reliability and capacity of these systems, and our omni-channel strategy relies heavily on robust information technology systems. As we diversify and grow our business channels, our susceptibility to related risks intensifies.

We also have experienced business disruptions due to failures in critical information technology platforms and continue to face potential business disruptions due to such failures, including those hosted or provided by third parties. These disruptions can stem from hardware and software issues; cyber-attacks, such as those involving computer viruses, ransomware, other malware, distributed denial-of-service attacks, and nation-state sponsored malicious cyber activity; natural disasters, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, and fires; power outages; telecommunications failures; human errors; criminal activities; and intentional vandalism. For example, during fiscal 2024, unauthorized activity on a portion of our information technology systems resulted in the Company experiencing certain operational disruptions, which materially affected the Company's business operations and results of operations. For further information regarding the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident (defined below), see "Cybersecurity" in Item 1C of Part I of this Annual Report and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," in Item 7 of Part II of this Annual Report.

Adapting to evolving consumer expectations and technological advancements is crucial. Any interruption, delay, or flaw in developing and implementing such advancements, or misjudging the costs and revenue potential of these initiatives, can hamper our essential business functions. This could negatively impact our reputation, competitive edge, operational results, and financial health.

Moreover, to the extent we invest in and utilize emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and machine learning, such technologies may not deliver expected efficiencies and could introduce new risks, such as those related to cybersecurity, data privacy, inaccuracies, hallucinations, bias or discrimination and intellectual property infringement, which may become more pronounced as our reliance on such technologies increases.

We strive to keep our systems updated. However, maintenance of our information technology systems can interrupt access to our systems. If our mitigation controls fail, especially when updates are not feasible, it could lead to outages, including digital outages, information technology system disruptions, and heightened vulnerability to cyber threats.

Our business interruption insurance might not fully cover losses from service disruptions caused by system failures or similar events. Therefore, significant impacts from system failures have and may in the future materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Breaches or failures of our information technology systems or other cybersecurity or data security-related incidents have and may in the future have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our and our franchisees' information systems and records are at risk of cyber-attacks and security incidents. We regularly experience directed attacks intended to lead to interruptions and delays in operations as well as loss, misuse or theft of personal information and other data, confidential information, or intellectual property. Such attacks or security incidents have occurred and could occur as a result of hacking attempts, software or system failures, viruses, operator errors, and accidental data leaks. Cyber-attacks are increasingly sophisticated and varied, often involving phishing, social engineering, service disruption attacks, malware, or ransomware, and they may not be detected until they have been active for some time. Further, these types of threats may be exacerbated by recent developments in artificial intelligence and its increased use to produce sophisticated malware, ransomware, phishing schemes, and other fraudulent activities. Additionally, internal threats exist from employees, franchisees, contractors, or third parties who might bypass security measures to access or leak sensitive, regulated, or personally identifiable information, either maliciously or inadvertently. We have in the past experienced cybersecurity incidents, such as the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, which materially affected the Company's business operations and results of operations. For more information regarding the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, see "Cybersecurity" in Item 1C of Part I of this Annual Report and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," in Item 7 of Part II of this Annual Report.

The security measures and controls implemented by us or our third-party providers are not foolproof against such incidents and may be inadequate to prevent a cyber-attack or security breach. Any interruption, such as those caused by a breach, in our or our third-party providers' information technology systems could severely interrupt our operations, negatively affect our business, financial standing, and operational results, and harm our reputation and brand credibility among consumers and business partners. As a result of the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, the Company experienced certain operational disruptions that resulted in lost sales and increased expenses related to remediation.

Furthermore, significant incidents involving unauthorized access to, theft, exposure, alteration, or misuse of consumer, employee, or proprietary data, such as the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, may lead to legal actions, regulatory investigations, and non-compliance penalties, which could disrupt our operations, tarnish our reputation, and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition.

Our cybersecurity insurance may not fully cover the consequences of potential future security breaches or cybersecurity incidents, and future coverage may not be available at reasonable costs or at all. Insurers might also deny claims for cybersecurity incidents. Addressing a security breach requires substantial financial and operational resources, including remediation of security vulnerabilities, legal defense, and compliance with notification obligations. Such efforts divert management attention and resources away from our business activities, adversely affecting our business operations, financial condition, and results. Additionally, our efforts to remedy these issues may not be successful, and we might face challenges in implementing, maintaining, and upgrading effective safeguards.

If we, our franchisees, or our third-party service providers fail to protect, or to comply with laws and regulations governing, our consumer and employee data and other regulated, protected, or personally identifiable information, we or our franchisees could be exposed to data loss, litigation, fines, and other liabilities that could harm our reputation and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

We collect, transmit, and store large amounts of data regarding our consumers and employees, including personally identifiable details. This data is housed in our own and our franchisees' information technology systems, as well as those of third-party service providers. A failure to protect our systems, or those provided by our third-party service providers and franchisees, from damage, disruption, fraud or cyber-attacks, could harm our reputation, result in significant fines or penalties, and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

We operate under various data privacy and security laws, directives, and regulations, both domestically and internationally. The U.S. has a complex landscape of federal and state data protection regulations, with some state laws offering more stringent protections. The potential introduction of a comprehensive federal data privacy law could increase complexity and compliance costs, impact data use strategies, and necessitate additional investments in compliance infrastructure.

Internationally, we are subject to regulations like the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR") and the U.K.'s GDPR and Data Protection Act of 2018. These laws impose strict requirements on data handling, including consent, individual rights, cross-border data transfer, breach notifications, and data security and confidentiality. Non-compliance with these international regulations could result in significant penalties and legal liabilities for us or our franchisees. Adapting our systems to these evolving requirements may require substantial investment and time.

The interpretation and enforcement of data privacy and security laws and standards are evolving, leading to potential inconsistencies with our data processing practices and policies. Any non-compliance or perceived non-compliance could lead to fines, audits, investigations, lawsuits, and other penalties. Additionally, any failure to adhere to our public statements and privacy policies could expose us to legal action, harm our reputation and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Further, the standards and technology currently used for transmission and approval of electronic payment transactions are determined and controlled by the payment card industry. If we or our franchisees fail to comply with these standards or if a third party circumvents our data security measures or those of our franchisees or vendors, we and our franchisees could be exposed to litigation, liability, reputational harm, fines from the payment card companies and increased costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

We identified a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting in fiscal 2025. If our remediation of the material weakness is not effective, or if we fail to develop and maintain an effective system of internal controls, our ability to produce timely and accurate financial statements may be impaired, investors may lose confidence in our financial reporting, and the price of our common stock may decline.

We are subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") and other laws and regulations applicable to public companies. These laws and regulations require, among other things, that we maintain effective internal control over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures. They also require management to perform an annual assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting and disclosure of any material weaknesses in such controls. We are required to have our independent registered public accounting firm provide an attestation report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting.

We identified a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting in the second quarter of fiscal 2025. While we believe we have remediated the material weakness identified during fiscal 2025 as of December 28, 2025, there is no assurance that our remedial measures have been effective or that additional material weaknesses will not be identified. We have had errors in our financial statements in the past that have required the revision of our financial statements. In the future, controls and procedures may not be adequate to prevent or identify irregularities or errors or to facilitate the fair presentation of our financial statements. For additional information related to previously identified material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting identified and the related remedial measures, see Item 9A, “Controls and Procedures,” of Part II of this Annual Report. There is no assurance that additional material weaknesses will not be identified. In addition, in the future, controls and procedures may not be adequate to prevent or identify irregularities or errors or to facilitate the fair presentation of our financial statements.

Any deficiency in our internal control over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures, or any difficulties encountered in their implementation or improvement, could result in a restatement of our consolidated financial statements for prior periods, cause us to fail to meet our financial and other reporting obligations, result in an adverse opinion regarding our internal control over financial reporting from our independent registered public accounting firm, or lead to investigations or sanctions by regulatory authorities or other potential claims or litigation. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations, and could cause our investors to lose confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports and the price of our common stock to decline.

Risks Related to Executing Our Business Strategy

We may be unable to successfully execute our business strategy, including our turnaround plan.

During fiscal 2025, we implemented a turnaround plan to de-leverage the balance sheet and deliver sustainable, profitable growth. Our growth strategy is supported by a focus on growing our fresh delivery business with new and existing customers, accelerating growth in our digital channel, driving retail sales, and growing with new and existing international franchise partners.

However, we may be unable to deliver global sales growth or grow our fresh delivery or digital channels due to competitive pressures and other factors. Furthermore, growth may be contingent upon consumer tastes and preferences, the effectiveness of our marketing and advertising programs, the successful development and launch of new products, commodity and labor costs, or our ability to provide consistent, high-quality doughnuts and customer and consumer experiences, accelerate our digital business and technological enhancements, drive new shop development, or obtain the support and engagement of franchisees.

Moreover, our turnaround plan includes a focus on driving returns on invested capital by reducing capital intensity and expanding margins by simplifying and optimizing the business. Our actions in support of these initiatives may not have the expected result or may have unintended or unexpected outcomes. Furthermore, insufficient investment in our business could result in our inability to keep pace with technological changes, adequately invest in the business, including marketing or shop, factory and equipment maintenance and enhancements, or effectively compete with competitors, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

If we are delayed or unsuccessful in executing our strategies, including our turnaround plan, if the execution of our strategies proves to be more costly or time consuming than expected, or if our strategies do not yield the desired results, our business, financial condition and results of operations may suffer.

We may not realize the anticipated benefits from past or potential future acquisitions, divestitures (including refranchising), investments, or other strategic transactions.

We periodically assess and may engage in mergers, acquisitions, full or partial divestitures (including refranchising), joint ventures, strategic partnerships, minority investments, or other strategic initiatives to execute our growth strategy. We make these decisions based on individual circumstances. The success of these endeavors is dependent upon many factors, such as the availability of sellers and buyers, the availability of financing, the ability to negotiate transactions on terms deemed acceptable and the ability to successfully transition and integrate shop operations.

In addition, such strategic endeavors come with inherent risks, including but not limited to:

- The challenges, delays, and costs associated with integrating acquired Krispy Kreme franchised shops, Points of Access, and strategic partnerships into our existing structure, including potential failure to achieve expected cost savings and operating efficiencies or to retain key personnel;
- Diverting management focus from everyday operations or other important initiatives to effectively implement our growth strategy;
- Not achieving expected benefits, including revenue, profit, or cash flow, from acquisitions (including newly acquired Krispy Kreme franchised shops), full or partial divestitures (including in connection with refranchising transactions), investments or other strategic transactions;
- Risks related to divestitures, such as challenges transitioning a divested business to a new owner or failing to select a high-quality, long-term partner that will adhere to any franchise and development agreements and meet growth expectations for development of new shops in their region;
- The potential to inherit significant contingent or unforeseen liabilities through acquisitions or other strategic dealings; and
- The risk of significant value depreciation in our investments, which has in the past and could in the future lead to goodwill impairment charges for acquired entities or loss upon divestiture.

Our past strategic transactions have not always yielded, and future strategic transactions may not yield, the anticipated benefits, and could negatively impact our reputation and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

We have recognized significant impairment charges for our goodwill and long-lived assets and may be required to recognize additional impairment charges in the future for goodwill and other assets. Future impairment of these assets could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

A significant portion of our long-term assets consists of goodwill and other intangible assets. We do not amortize goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets but rather review them for impairment on an annual basis or more frequently when events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying value may not be recoverable. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the Company recognizes an impairment charge for the difference up to the carrying value of the allocated goodwill. The process of evaluating the potential impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets requires significant judgment. In the second quarter of fiscal 2025, we recorded a $356.0 million non-cash, partial goodwill impairment charge. For more information, see the section entitled "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets" in Item 8, Note 1 of this Annual Report.

The occurrence of certain events or circumstances has resulted in, and could continue to result in, a downward revision in the estimated fair value of one or more of our reporting units or intangible assets. For example, negative industry or economic trends, reduced estimates of future cash flows, disruptions to our business, slow or slower than expected growth rates, lack of growth in our business, or a significant decline in the Company's stock price could lead to further impairment charges against our goodwill and other intangible assets. If we determine that our goodwill or other intangible assets are impaired, we may be required to record a significant charge to earnings that could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Moreover, if certain stores, manufacturing facilities, strategic transactions, or corporate assets do not perform as expected, we have recognized in the past, and may in the future be required to recognize, non-cash impairment charges related to such assets. These charges could result from, among other things, lower-than-expected sales, rising costs, changes in strategic priorities, or underperformance of newly opened locations or Points of Access. During fiscal 2025, we recorded $39.4 million non-cash long-lived asset impairment charges and $37.0 million non-cash lease impairment and termination costs in response to management's updated forecasts and the termination of our Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA, LLC ("McDonald's USA"). For more information, see the section entitled "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets" in Item 8, Note 1 of this Annual Report.

We have limited influence over the operations of our franchisees and subfranchisees, and any failure by them to operate effectively or to maintain safety and quality standards in compliance with applicable law could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and reputation.

Our ability to influence the management of our franchisees' businesses is limited, and their failure to operate effectively could negatively impact our operating results and reputation. The operational quality of franchised shops may suffer due to factors outside our control such as our limited influence over their operations, limited ability to facilitate changes in shop ownership, and limited ability to enforce franchise obligations due to bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings. Franchisees might not manage their shops in compliance with our established procedures, standards and requirements or standards set by applicable laws and regulations, including sanitation and pest control standards, or data processing, privacy and cybersecurity requirements. Furthermore, we rely on franchisees to participate in our strategic initiatives. While we can mandate certain strategic initiatives through enforcement of our franchise agreements, we will need the active support of our franchisees if the implementation of these initiatives is to be successful. The failure of franchisees to support our strategic initiatives could adversely affect our ability to implement our business strategy and could materially harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

In certain markets, we permit subfranchising arrangements. In those structures, we are not party to the agreements with the subfranchisees and we rely on our franchisees to oversee subfranchisees' compliance with brand standards and applicable laws. Because we are further removed from day-to-day operations in such arrangements, our ability to directly monitor performance and compliance may be more limited, which could increase operational, regulatory and reputational risk. While we provide training and support to our franchisees, our franchisees and subfranchisees run their own independent businesses. Moreover, as our business becomes more franchised, including through international refranchising transactions, we will become more reliant on franchisees. The risks of a franchise business model, including those outlined above, may become heightened.

On occasion we have encountered, and may in the future encounter, challenges in receiving specific financial and operational results from our franchisees in a consistent and timely manner. Further, the information we receive from franchisees, including regarding their revenue, may not be audited or subject to a similar level of internal controls as our processes. To the extent that we are not able to obtain transparency into their operations, it could impair our visibility and resulting royalty and fees, our understanding of systemwide sales, our ability to forecast performance, or our ability to respond quickly to operational challenges, any of which could negatively impact our operating results.

Currently, we maintain generally positive relationships with our franchisees. However, future developments, some of which may be beyond our control, could potentially strain relationships with both existing and new franchisees. Should our franchisees fail to operate successfully or adhere to our standards and requirements, it could substantially harm the image and reputation of both individual franchisees and our overall brand. Such scenarios could lead to a marked decline in Krispy Kreme-branded sales, adversely affecting our revenue and profitability.

Our fresh delivery business channels depend on key customers and are subject to risks if such key customers reduce their purchases or terminate their relationships with us.

A considerable portion of our revenue comes from sales to retail customers via our fresh delivery channels, which necessitate a substantial infrastructure with notable fixed and semi-fixed costs. In our global operations, we serve a number of large retail customers, yet no single customer contributed more than 10% of our total revenue in the fiscal years ending December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, or December 31, 2023. These customers are not committed to purchase any particular quantities and purchases are influenced by factors like pricing, product quality, consistency, consumer demand, and service excellence. Customers may reduce their purchases or terminate their relationship with us based on our failure, or perceived failure, to deliver on any of these or other factors. Moreover, if we fail to adhere to the terms of our agreement with a customer, such customer may be entitled to remedies under the contract such as money damages or early termination. In addition, there is a possibility that customers receiving fresh delivery might reallocate their shelf space or menu offerings, currently occupied by our products, to other items, possibly including private label goods. A loss or significant decrease in sales to one of these key retail customers, including due to any of the above factors or if they encounter substantial financial issues, could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our reputation and brand image are essential to our business success and a failure to protect our brand image could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Our brand image and reputation are critical to our business success and financial performance. Our ability to grow and succeed depends in significant part on our and our franchisees' ability to consistently maintain brand standards as we enter new markets and distribution channels, introduce new products, and deliver high-quality products to consumers.

We invest in marketing initiatives designed to support and enhance our brand, including traditional advertising, consumer promotions, and digital marketing. A substantial portion of our marketing efforts rely on social media and other digital platforms, which increases the speed and breadth with which information, including misinformation and negative commentary, may be disseminated. Adverse publicity, consumer or customer complaints, or negative perceptions regarding our brand or products, whether accurate or not, may spread rapidly and could materially harm our brand reputation.

Our reputation is influenced by consumers' and customers' subjective perceptions. Actual or perceived quality or food safety concerns, or failures to comply with applicable food regulations and requirements, whether or not ultimately substantiated and whether or not directly involving us, such as incidents involving competitors, could result in negative publicity and reduced consumer or customer confidence in our brand, products, or the broader industry. This could in turn harm our reputation and sales, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Moreover, any regulatory or legal challenges, product recalls, or other negative publicity could tarnish our reputation and brand image, erode consumer and customer trust, and diminish demand for our products. Failure to effectively maintain our brand image could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our success depends on our ability to compete with many food service businesses.

We operate in a highly competitive food service landscape. With relatively low start-up costs for retail indulgence and similar food service ventures and few barriers to entry, our competitors include a variety of independent local operators, in addition to well-capitalized regional, national, and international players and franchises, and new competitors may emerge at any time. We face competition from a diverse array of indulgence retailers and bakeries, specialty coffee shops, other specialty shops offering doughnuts or other sweet treats, bagel stores, quick service restaurants, delicatessens, take-out services, convenience stores, and supermarkets.

Our ability to compete will depend on the success of our plans to effectively respond to consumer preferences, improve existing products, develop and roll-out new products, and manage the complexity of operations as well as the impact of our competitors' actions. In addition, our long-term success will depend on our ability to strengthen our consumers' digital experience through mobile ordering, delivery, kiosks, loyalty programs, and social interaction. Some of our competitors offer a broader product range and have substantially greater financial resources, higher revenues, and greater economies of scale than we do. These advantages may allow them to offer aggressive pricing, implement their operational strategies more quickly or effectively than we can, or benefit from changes in technologies, which could harm our competitive position. These competitive advantages may be exacerbated in a difficult economy, thereby permitting our competitors to gain market share. We may be unable to successfully respond to changing consumer preferences, including with respect to new technologies and alternative methods of delivery. In addition, online platforms and aggregators may direct potential customers to other options based on paid placements, online reviews or other factors. If we are unable to maintain our competitive position, we could experience lower demand for products, downward pressure on prices, reduced margins, an inability to take advantage of new business opportunities, a loss of market share, and reduced profitability.

Furthermore, our omni-channel strategy, particularly exemplified by our delivery offerings, competes in a fiercely contested arena with both local and international indulgence brands. While we manage our own digital platform, we depend on third-party delivery services for the final leg of product distribution. We also partner with third parties on these platforms, where they handle the entire consumer transaction, including delivery. Our consumers might opt for other indulgence providers' digital platforms or delivery services due to factors like delivery reach, app usability, and overall market preference for food delivery services.

If we fail to compete effectively, our ability to sustain or grow our revenues and profits, as well as to capitalize on the expected growth through our omni-channel model, could be compromised which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, and future prospects.

If we cannot keep pace with technological changes impacting our industry, we may be unable to compete effectively, and our results of operations could be negatively affected.

Emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and automation are impacting many industries and business operations, including ours. If we do not adequately invest in new technology, appropriately implement new technologies, or evolve our business at sufficient speed and scale in response to such developments, or if we do not make strategic investments to respond to these developments, our products, results of operations, and ability to develop and maintain our business could be negatively affected. Our competitors or other third parties may incorporate such technologies into their products and operations more quickly or more successfully than us, which could impair our ability to compete effectively and adversely affect our results of operations.

Moreover, we cannot predict consumer or team member acceptance of these developing technologies (e.g., automation, artificial intelligence, and new delivery channels) or their impact on our business, nor can we be certain of our ability to implement such technologies, any of which could result in loss of sales, dissatisfaction from our consumers and employees, or negative publicity that could adversely affect our reputation and financial results.

Our significant indebtedness could adversely affect us, including by decreasing our business flexibility and increasing our interest expense.

The Company's significant level of indebtedness and related leverage carries potential adverse consequences, including, but not limited to:

- increasing our vulnerability to, and reducing our flexibility to respond to, changes in our business and general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- requiring the dedication of a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to service our debt, thereby reducing the availability of such cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, joint ventures, product research, or other corporate purposes;
- restricting us from making strategic acquisitions or causing us to make non-strategic divestitures;
- exposing us to the risk of increased interest rates for unhedged variable interest rate borrowings under our current credit facilities;
- making it more difficult for us to repay, refinance or satisfy our obligations with respect to our debt;
- limiting our ability to borrow additional funds in the future and increasing the cost of any such borrowing;
- imposing restrictive covenants that may hinder our ability to finance future operations and capital needs or to pursue certain business opportunities and activities, and which, in the event of non-compliance without a cure or waiver, could result in an event of default and the acceleration of the applicable debt and any debt subject to cross-acceleration; and
- exposing us to risks related to fluctuations in foreign currency as we earn profits in a variety of currencies around the world and substantially all of our debt is denominated in U.S. dollars.

Moreover, under the terms of the 2023 Facility (defined below), we are subject to certain financial covenants, including a requirement to maintain a bank leverage ratio of less than 5.00 to 1.00 as of the end of each quarterly Test Period (as defined in the 2023 Facility). If we are unable to meet the 2023 Facility financial or other covenants, it could limit our ability to draw on the revolving credit facility, could result in the lenders accelerating the maturity of such indebtedness and we may not have sufficient resources to repurchase, repay or redeem our obligations, as applicable, and could require the replacement of the 2023 Facility with new sources of financing, which we may be unable to secure on favorable terms or at all, any of which could negatively impact our liquidity. Also, if we were unable to repay the amounts due under our secured indebtedness, the holders of such indebtedness could proceed against the collateral that secures such indebtedness. In the event our creditors accelerate the repayment of our secured indebtedness, we and our subsidiaries may not have sufficient assets to repay that indebtedness.

Additionally, we may incur additional indebtedness, guarantees, commitments, or liabilities in the future. The need for refinancing, in part or in full, of our existing indebtedness before maturity is a possibility. There is no guarantee that we will be able to secure refinancing on favorable terms or at all. Should our business fail to generate sufficient cash flow from operations or if we encounter difficulty securing future debt or equity financing on acceptable terms and in sufficient amounts to meet our debt obligations or address other liquidity requirements, our financial health and operational results may suffer.

Risks Related to Our Global Expansion and Growth

A key portion of our growth strategy depends on opening new and maintaining existing Krispy Kreme shops and Points of Access both domestically and internationally.

Our strategic focus includes expanding our Global Points of Access. This includes expansion through the establishment of new shops and fresh delivery doors by us and our franchisees, and through expanding our digital platforms, both in our current markets and new regions. We may be ineffective in implementing this expansion strategy including due to external factors outside of our control such as economic conditions, legal and regulatory developments, permitting delays, rising costs or availability of commodities, or ability to obtain or renew desirable locations for new shops on acceptable terms or at all. Additionally, operational challenges, such as difficulties in sourcing product components or logistical services, may impose limitations. If we or our franchisees are unsuccessful in expanding Global Points of Access, our overall growth objectives would be hindered.

Additionally, our presence and growth in certain international markets heavily depends on our franchisees. There is no guarantee that these franchisees will successfully develop or manage their Points of Access in alignment with our brand standards or develop additional Points of Access in line with established targets or our expectations. Moreover, their ability to effectively open, operate, and sustain these Points of Access in accordance with their agreements and our brand requirements may be constrained by their business capabilities or financial resources.

Moreover, as part of our growth strategy, we may decide to increase or decrease the number of Company-owned shops by purchasing existing franchised shops, by refranchising existing Company-owned U.S. or international equity markets, or by developing additional shops. Our failure to successfully execute any such transactions could have an adverse effect on our operating results.

Furthermore, some of our facilities, doughnut-making lines, and other equipment have been in service for extended periods and their remodeling, repair, or replacement may require substantial capital investment. As such assets continue to age, sourcing replacement parts and components may become increasingly difficult and required repairs may become increasingly extensive. If the costs associated with remodels, repairs, or replacements are higher than anticipated, downtimes are longer than planned, or upgraded assets do not perform as expected, we may not realize the desired returns on our investment. Further, our current levels of maintenance capital may not be sufficient to adequately address the condition of our assets. Failure to make necessary repairs could expose us to audits, fines, or penalties, and, in certain circumstances, could result in closures of facilities. Any of these outcomes could disrupt our operations, harm our reputation, and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, and future prospects.

Our future growth and profitability will depend on our ability to successfully accelerate international development with strategic partners and joint ventures.

We believe that our future growth and profitability will depend on our ability to successfully accelerate international development with franchisees and joint venture partners in new and existing markets. New markets may have different competitive conditions, consumer tastes and discretionary spending patterns than our existing markets. As a result, new shops in those markets may have lower average sales than shops in existing markets and may take longer than expected to reach target sales and profit levels or may never do so. Entering new markets will require building brand awareness through advertising and promotional activity, and those activities may not promote our brands as effectively as intended, if at all.

Our joint venture partners or franchisees typically have the right to develop and manage Krispy Kreme branded shops in a specific country or countries, including, in some cases, the right to subfranchise. A joint venture involves special risks, including: our joint venture partners may have economic, business or legal interests or goals that are inconsistent with those of the joint venture or us, or our joint venture partners may be unable to meet their economic or other obligations and we may be required to fulfill those obligations alone. Our franchise arrangements present similar risks and uncertainties. We cannot control the actions of our joint venture partners or franchisees, including any nonperformance, default or bankruptcy of joint venture partners or franchisees. In addition, the termination of an arrangement with a franchisee or a lack of expansion by certain franchisees has and may in the future result in the delay or discontinuation of the development of franchised shops, or an interruption in the operation of our brand in a particular market or markets. We may not be able to find another operator to resume operations and development activities in such market or markets. Moreover, franchisees may not achieve expected targets for new shop development, which could lead to slower than expected growth in our Global Points of Access. Any such delay, discontinuation, interruption, or failure could materially and adversely affect our business and operating results.

We face risks as we continue to focus on profitable expansion of our fresh delivery and digital channels.

Our growth strategy includes expanding our fresh delivery business and digital channel, which involves substantial costs and uncertainties. These stem from various factors, including the expansion of Points of Access, requirements to enhance manufacturing capabilities and regulatory compliance, usage of information technology and logistics systems, and adjustments in our corporate structure and workforce.

The success of this expansion is contingent upon our ability to effectively leverage and realize certain objectives. These include finding suitable retail partners, extending our market reach, building and sustaining the manufacturing and logistical capabilities required to fulfill our delivery commitments, complying with regulatory requirements associated with growth in off-premise distribution at certain locations, and increased reliance on digital ordering and delivery technology, including apps owned by third-party delivery aggregators and payment processors or maintained by third party developers. Moreover, the complexity associated with off-premise distribution and potential disruption to shop operations has in the past and may in the future have an adverse impact on the experience for consumers and our Krispy Kremers. Furthermore, this expansion could intensify or be affected by other risk factors mentioned herein, particularly those concerning our logistical and manufacturing capacities and our competitiveness in the indulgence market.

Our omni-channel business model, in particular our fresh delivery business, also exposes us to heightened food safety and other regulations and requirements imposed by federal, state, and county regulators such as the Food Safety Modernization Act, as well as requirements that may be imposed by certain customers. Our failure to adhere to regulatory or customer requirements could lead to store closures, inability to maintain customer relationships, increased costs, or other impacts that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

As we progress our initiative to outsource to 3PL carriers the delivery of fresh doughnuts to customers and consumers in our fresh delivery and digital channels, we have reduced control over the related processes, including delivery and merchandizing, costs, and quality control. Our reliance on third parties may lead to shipping delays and disruptions, unanticipated costs, and failures to provide adequate customer service that are outside of our direct control. If we are not satisfied with a 3PL carrier, we may be unable to quickly pivot away from utilizing its services and, even if we are able to do so, we may be subject to significant penalties for doing so. Any of these consequences could have a material adverse effect on our reputation, business, operating results, and financial condition.

There is no assurance that we will attain the expected benefits or achieve the cost savings, revenue growth, and other positive outcomes needed to counterbalance the costs and risks associated with this expansion.

Political, economic, currency, and other risks associated with our international operations could have a material adverse effect on our and our international franchisees' operating results.

Our company operates a substantial portion of its business outside the U.S. As of December 28, 2025, there were 7,656 Krispy Kreme Points of Access internationally, excluding Doughnut Factories. This accounts for 50% of the total number of our Points of Access. Among these, 2,834 are managed by franchisees. Our international operations, encompassing various business segments, are subject to numerous risks inherent to foreign markets. These risks include, but are not limited to:

- Laws, regulations and policies adopted by foreign or U.S. governmental authorities to manage national economic conditions, such as increases in taxes, austerity measures that impact consumer spending, monetary policies that may impact inflation rates and currency fluctuations;
- The effects of legal and regulatory changes and the burdens and costs of our compliance with a variety of foreign laws;
- Changes in the laws and policies that govern foreign investment and trade in and among the countries in which we operate, including trade disputes, restrictive actions of foreign or U.S. governmental authorities affecting trade or foreign investment, potential imposition of or increase in tariffs, import restrictions or controls or similar trade policies;
- Exposure to recessionary or growth trends in global markets, impacting consumer spending and market stability;
- Ongoing reforms in areas like public health, food safety, tariffs, taxation, sustainability, and climate change response leading to regulatory uncertainties and potential spikes in compliance costs;
- Challenges in adhering to international food safety regulations and maintaining high standards of product quality and safety;
- Navigating varying import and business licensing requirements across countries;

- Constraints in fund repatriation and foreign currency exchange, influenced by U.S. and international laws;
- Difficulties in managing and staffing international operations, supply chain logistics, and ensuring consistent product quality and service;
- Risks associated with franchisee disputes, operational failures, development delays, or site selection issues;
- Complexities and costs arising from local labor laws in hiring, retaining, or terminating staff;
- Facing strong competition in new markets with established local players;
- Political events and instability, conflicts, disputes or war, or labor unrest impacting countries in which we or our franchisees operate; and
- Potential increase in anti-American sentiment affecting brand image, as Krispy Kreme is widely recognized as an American brand.

Our financial performance and asset valuation in foreign markets are susceptible to currency exchange rate fluctuations and liquidity issues, which could negatively impact reported earnings. Royalties from international franchisees, calculated as a percentage of their net sales, are subject to currency conversion risks. An increase in our reliance on international operations amplifies our vulnerability to foreign political and economic instability, currency volatility, and regulatory constraints on currency conversion and remittance.

Moreover, our international operations predominantly rely on exporting doughnut mixes and concentrates to franchisees. These exports are governed by numerous U.S. and international regulations concerning food products. In the event of a ban or other restrictions on any of our ingredients, we may not be able to identify suitable alternatives on acceptable time frames or at all, potentially delaying our expansion plans.

Our expanding international presence heightens our exposure to a diverse range of risks associated with foreign market operations, regulatory environments, and global economic conditions.

Risks Related to Our Supply Chain

We are the exclusive or primary supplier of doughnut mixes and other key ingredients to shops worldwide and any problems supplying these ingredients could negatively affect our and our franchisees' ability to make doughnuts.

We serve as the exclusive supplier of doughnut mixes to numerous domestic and international Krispy Kreme shops. In support of international markets, we produce a concentrate that is mixed with commodity ingredients in local markets to get to a finished doughnut mix. We serve as the exclusive supplier of such mix concentrate. Furthermore, we are the sole supplier of specific critical ingredients to all domestic Company-owned shops, the majority of domestic franchise shops, and select international franchise shops.

Our mix concentrate is manufactured at our facility located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Domestic doughnut mix production occurs at our Winston-Salem plant and a third-party facility in Pico Rivera, California. The distribution of doughnut mixes, essential ingredients, and flavors to Krispy Kreme shops, both domestically and internationally, is facilitated by a limited number of independent contract distributors. Any disruption in the production or distribution of our mixes and concentrates would have a cascading effect on our global supply chain, with no adequate alternative source available.

A production interruption at any significant manufacturing facility could hinder our, and our franchisees', ability to produce doughnuts domestically. Internationally, we operate several plants for doughnut mix production, and any disruption at these facilities could impact doughnut production capabilities regionally, affecting our locations and those of our franchisees. Any such production disruption poses a significant risk to revenue and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our international shipments of mixes and concentrates primarily depart from a single port in Florida. Any delays in shipping or disruptions in logistics chains could adversely affect our and our franchisees' international operations. Such delays may result from known or unforeseen events, including those related to adverse weather conditions, customs and border closures, trade conflicts, and general trade route delays.

Furthermore, unexpected termination of our relationships with raw material suppliers, even when multiple suppliers exist for the same ingredient, may hinder our ability to secure adequate quantities of high-quality ingredients at competitive prices. As we continue our global expansion, these risks may intensify, leading to supply shortages, logistical challenges, and increased operational costs associated with managing and supplying a global network of Krispy Kreme shops.

We are the only manufacturer of our doughnut-making equipment. Any problems producing this equipment could negatively affect our shops' ability to make doughnuts.

Safeguarding our manufacturing operations to ensure a consistent supply of equipment to support our expanding network of shops and the maintenance requirements of our existing locations is essential to our business. Our custom doughnut-making equipment is exclusively manufactured at a single facility located in Winston-Salem. The process of manufacturing new equipment swiftly in the event of a disruption at our Winston-Salem facility would present significant challenges.

In the event of such a disruption, we would be compelled to explore alternative options, such as partnering with third-party manufacturers or relocating production to another facility. This transition may entail substantial delays in the manufacturing process and result in increased costs. Consequently, we may be unable to provide equipment to newly established shops or essential replacement parts for maintenance in existing shops on a timely basis or at all which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We have limited vendors for many of the product components and services that we rely on, and we have a single vendor for our glaze flavoring. Any interruption in supply could impair our ability to make and deliver our signature products, adversely affecting our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

While we possess exclusive ownership of the recipes for our glaze flavoring and glaze base, we currently rely on a single vendor for the essential ingredients needed to produce glaze flavoring. Our dependence on this vendor exposes us to significant risks, including shortages, supply interruptions, and price fluctuations.

Any disruption in the supply chain of glaze flavoring could have adverse consequences on our ability to produce and deliver our signature products, including the Original Glazed doughnut, to our consumers in a timely and competitive manner. Such interruptions could also impact our operational performance. In the event of such an interruption, it is possible that suitable replacement products cannot be secured promptly or at all which could result in loss of revenue resulting from the inability to offer our products and the associated increase in administrative and shipping expenses.

Furthermore, our reliance on a sole vendor to produce glaze flavoring, and on a limited number of vendors for other product components and services, exposes us to heightened risks associated with the distribution networks of these vendors. Factors such as fuel price increases, labor strikes, organized labor activities, adverse weather conditions, and various unforeseen variables may hinder our provider's capacity to meet our logistical requirements. If we encounter difficulties in sourcing alternative logistical providers, our costs may experience significant escalation. Additionally, we rely on independent service providers for payment processing. These service providers may be unable or unwilling to offer services or could increase costs for their services. If we are unable to maintain adequate vendors or are unable to pass on any increased costs to our consumers through higher product prices, it could adversely affect our business, financial health, and operational results.

Our reliance on a single vendor for nearly all distribution of materials and supplies in the U.S. and Canada poses risks to our and our franchisees' ability to make doughnuts if the vendor fails to provide these materials and supplies for any reason.

The reliability and continuity of our supply chain is critical to the seamless operation of our shops in the U.S. and Canada. We have established an exclusive distribution partnership with BakeMark USA LLC ("BakeMark"), which grants the exclusive rights to BakeMark to distribute ingredients, packaging, and supplies to both Company-owned and franchise shops in all regions of the U.S. other than New York City, and Canada. If BakeMark encounters economic or operational challenges, fails to provide materials and supplies for any reason, or otherwise breaches their contractual obligations, it may be difficult to, or we may be unable to, identify one or more suitable alternative distributors in a timely manner or at all. Even if we do identify a suitable alternative, we may be unable to establish business arrangements that are, individually or in the aggregate, as favorable as the terms and conditions we have established with Bakemark. The occurrence of any of the foregoing could lead to disruptions within our supply chain in the U.S. and Canada or could cause our net sales, margins and earnings to decrease, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We may be unable to secure an alternative distribution channel in a timely manner or at all to mitigate these disruptions and challenges. In some cases, we may need to temporarily halt production at the affected shops until suitable alternative arrangements can be put in place.

Furthermore, the cost of a replacement distribution channel could negatively affect the financial performance of these shops. A severe disruption to our BakeMark distribution partnership has the potential to result in a significant and adverse effect on our overall business, consolidated financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

Our profitability is sensitive to changes in the cost of raw materials and other commodities and we may not be able to increase prices to fully offset inflationary pressures on costs, which may adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

During recent years, our operating environment has been impacted by inflation. Increases in commodity and supply chain costs, such as the costs of raw materials, packaging materials, labor, energy, fuel, and transportation, have led to higher production and distribution costs for our products. Many of the costs referred to above are subject to fluctuations due to a number of factors, including, but not limited to, market conditions, economic and geopolitical uncertainty, demand for raw materials, weather, energy costs, currency fluctuations, supplier capacities, governmental actions, import and export requirements (including tariffs), armed hostilities, and other factors beyond our control. Among our essential ingredients, three stand out in significance: flour, shortening, and sugar. Furthermore, we procure a significant quantity of gasoline for our delivery vehicle fleet serving our fresh delivery business, as well as significant amounts of packaging materials, including our boxes for dozens, half-dozens, and three-packs of doughnuts. The prices of key inputs for the production and distribution of our products such as these have been volatile in recent years and may continue to be volatile in the future.

We employ forward purchase contracts, futures contracts, and options on such contracts to mitigate the risks associated with commodity price fluctuations, however these contracts may not fully protect us against commodity price risk, particularly over extended timeframes. Additionally, the portion of our anticipated future commodity requirements covered by such contracts can vary over time.

Our attempts to offset these cost pressures, such as through increases in the selling prices of some of our products and leveraging our market size to secure economies of scale in procurement, may not be successful. Higher product prices may result in reductions in sales volume. Consumers may be less willing to pay a price differential for our branded products and may increasingly purchase lower-priced offerings, or may forego some purchases altogether, including during an economic downturn or times of increased inflationary pressure. To the extent that price increases or packaging size decreases are not sufficient to offset these increased costs adequately or in a timely manner, or if they result in significant decreases in sales volume, our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows may be adversely affected.

Risks Related to Our Human Capital

An inability to recruit and retain personnel could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

Our success depends to a significant extent on the continued availability and service of our executive officers and other key personnel. Given our streamlined management structure, the departure of any key person could have a significant impact and would be potentially disruptive to our business until such time as a suitable replacement is identified. Moreover, significant leadership transitions, even with succession plans in place, can create risks as individuals are integrated into new roles and onboarding shifts management attention from business concerns. These changes may increase the likelihood of turnover amongst our Krispy Kremers and impact our relationships with our customers and other market participants. The loss of, or failure to engage in adequate succession planning for, any of our executive officers or other key personnel could harm our culture, reputation, or business.

Moreover, our shop-level management and hourly Krispy Kremers play a critical role in the operation of our Doughnut Shops, manufacturing facilities, and delivery logistics, and we rely on them to deliver operational and customer service excellence. Our ability to maintain the highest product quality heavily relies on our Krispy Kremers. Any failure to retain and adequately train key talent could have an adverse effect on our ability to maintain consistent product quality and deliver outstanding consumer experiences worldwide.

Furthermore, we could encounter challenges related to the availability of labor for in-shop positions. This shortage may be influenced by evolving economic, social, and generational trends, the emergence of new telecommuting job opportunities, labor shortages, shifting employee expectations, and other factors that can reduce the pool of qualified talent for critical roles within our organization.

A failure to maintain an adequate number of employees with appropriate skill sets and talent could increase our costs or negatively impact our ability to execute our business strategy, result in loss of institutional knowledge, and reduce our supply of future management skill. Any of these consequences could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition. If we encounter difficulties in recruiting, retaining, and motivating Krispy Kremers to support our projected growth and strategic initiatives, it could have a material adverse effect on our overall operations.

Changes in the cost of labor could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our business is susceptible to potential adverse impacts arising from rising labor costs, encompassing wages and employee benefits. These cost increases may stem from various factors, including state and federal legislation, regulatory actions related to wages, scheduling, and benefits, as well as escalating healthcare and workers' compensation insurance expenses. Additionally, there may be a need to enhance wages and benefits to attract and retain highly skilled employees with the requisite expertise. Moreover, failure to adequately monitor and proactively respond to employee dissatisfaction could lead to poor guest satisfaction, higher turnover, litigation and unionization efforts, which could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

The fluctuating landscape of labor costs could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Risks Related to Regulation and Litigation

We may be subject to litigation that could adversely affect us by increasing our expenses, diverting management attention, or subjecting us to significant monetary damages and other remedies.

From time to time, we are party to various claims, disputes, or legal proceedings. These disputes could encompass a wide range of issues, including employment, intellectual property, operational, regulatory compliance, foreign exchange, tax, franchise, and contractual matters. They may also pertain to diverse areas such as personal injury, franchisee employment, real estate, environmental, tort claims, intellectual property disputes, breaches of contract, data privacy issues, securities litigation, derivative actions, and various other legal matters. Notably, plaintiffs often seek substantial or undetermined amounts in damages, and lawsuits inherently carry uncertainties, some of which are beyond our control.

We manage and mitigate certain legal risks through policies, terms of use, arbitration agreements, limitations of liability, venue selection, choice-of-law, and indemnification requirements. These requirements may be subject to differing interpretations, rulings, and legal frameworks in different U.S. federal, state, and foreign courts, and may not be enforceable in some jurisdictions.

Regardless of the merits of such lawsuits or our ultimate liability or settlement outcomes, legal proceedings can be costly to defend, divert management attention away from our operations, and potentially impact our financial performance. While we have insurance coverage, such coverage is subject to deductibles, self-insured retentions, limits of liability, stop loss limits and similar provisions that we believe are prudent but that could nonetheless limit the nature and amount of recoveries. Further, there are types of losses that we cannot insure against or that we believe are not economically reasonable to insure. In the event of an uninsured claim, or an insured claim for which a judgment for monetary damages exceeds our insurance coverage or for which the deductible is significant, we may be required to pay for all or a portion of the related losses out of pocket, which could have an adverse effect on our financial position and operational results. In addition, because we are self-insured for certain claims up to applicable retention limits, we bear the financial risk of losses within those limits, and if actual losses for those claims exceed our reserves, our financial position and operational results could be adversely affected. For more information, see the section entitled "Self-Insurance Risks and Receivables from Insurers" in Item 8, Note 1 of this Annual Report.

Moreover, any adverse publicity resulting from allegations in any such claims or disputes could negatively impact our reputation, potentially affecting our operational performance.

Our business may be adversely affected by litigation, regulation and publicity concerning food or occupational safety, quality, health, and other issues, which could negatively affect public policy and consumer preferences toward our products.

As a food service business, we face potential adverse impacts stemming from litigation, regulatory actions, and consumer or government complaints related to food or occupational safety, food quality, illness, injuries, health concerns, environmental, or operational issues. These concerns may arise from individual shops or a limited number of shops, including those operated by our franchisees. Additionally, such risks may increase as we introduce new products or expand distribution channels, such as our fresh delivery business channel, and our business becomes subject to new regulations and higher regulatory scrutiny.

There is increasing legal, legislative and regulatory focus on the industry, including areas such as menu labeling, packaging, food additives and other ingredients. This scrutiny is largely due to concerns that the practices and offerings of food service companies may contribute to issues like poor nutrition, excessive caloric intake, obesity, or other health issues among consumers. Class action lawsuits have been filed against various food service businesses, including quick service restaurants. These lawsuits may allege, among other things, the failure to disclose health risks associated with high-fat foods and marketing practices that encourage obesity or may challenge a company's classification of its ingredients or products. Given that one of our core competitive advantages lies in the taste and quality of our doughnuts, adverse publicity or regulations related to food quality or similar concerns have a more pronounced impact on our business compared to food service businesses that primarily compete on other factors.

Changes in regulations addressing such health issues, including new or changing restrictions on the inclusion of certain products in benefit programs, such as the U.S. supplemental nutrition assistance program known as SNAP, changes in interpretations of such regulations by relevant regulators, or the introduction of new legislation could affect any of our operational markets and result in decreased demand for our products. Failure to effectively adapt to these changes or to comply with new or existing regulations could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Furthermore, we may face significant liabilities from any such lawsuits or claims that result in unfavorable judgments or due to litigation costs, regardless of the final outcome.

We are subject to franchise laws and regulations that govern our status as a franchisor and regulate some aspects of our franchise relationships. Our ability to develop new franchised shops and to enforce contractual rights against franchisees may be adversely affected by these laws and regulations, which could cause our franchise revenues to decline.

As a franchisor, we operate within the regulatory framework established by the Federal Trade Commission and various domestic and foreign laws governing the offer and sale of franchises. These laws regulate both the procedural aspects of franchise offerings, including disclosure, registration, and renewal requirements, and substantive aspects of the franchisor-franchisee relationship. Any failure to obtain or maintain approvals for offering franchises could result in the loss of potential franchise revenues and revenues generated through our Market Development segment.

Franchise laws and regulations vary significantly across jurisdictions and are subject to change. Compliance may require significant time and expense and may limit our ability to expand into new markets or offer franchises on terms consistent with our business objectives. Any failure to obtain or maintain required registrations or approvals, or to comply with applicable disclosure or relationship laws, could result in governmental investigations, fines, rescission rights, civil liability, suspension of franchise sales, or reputational harm.

Furthermore, certain laws and regulations may restrict our ability to terminate, not renew, enforce non-competition obligations with respect to, or transfer franchises, impose "good faith" standards on our conduct, or otherwise limit our ability to enforce contractual rights or resolve disputes with franchisees. Compliance with these regulations is integral to the successful operation of our franchising business model and the maintenance of harmonious relationships with our franchisees. Failure to comply with any applicable laws or regulations, or adverse interpretations of such laws, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Healthcare legislation and potential employment legislation could adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Federal legislation concerning mandated health benefits and state minimum wage regulations has led to increased costs for our organization. Over recent years, several U.S. states have already raised their minimum wage rates, and the U.S. federal government or certain other states and localities may also elect to do so. Additionally, for employees whose compensation is set above but tied to the applicable minimum wage, further increases in the minimum wage could result in higher labor expenses. These cost increases may also be influenced by inflationary pressures and potential labor market shortages.

Our relationships with employees are governed by various federal and state labor laws, which play a pivotal role in shaping our operational costs. These laws encompass aspects such as employee classifications as exempt or non-exempt, minimum wage stipulations, unemployment tax rates, workers' compensation rates, overtime regulations, family leave policies, safety standards, payroll taxes, citizenship requirements, and other wage and benefit prerequisites for employees classified as non-exempt.

The future trajectory of government regulations in these areas remains uncertain, and we may be subject to substantial changes or reforms stemming from legislative initiatives related to labor laws, healthcare laws, or other regulations impacting our labor costs. The imposition of additional government regulations may introduce heightened compliance costs, and noncompliance with these regulations could potentially lead to litigation.

Additional labor-related regulation or further increases in labor expenses could increase our costs and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Changes in tax laws and regulations could have a material impact to our tax expense or cash tax obligations.

We are subject to federal, state, and local income taxes both in the U.S. and in foreign jurisdictions. The impact of potential changes in tax laws or changes in the interpretation of such laws could materially increase our tax expense or cash tax payments and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations. Additionally, our income tax returns are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service and other tax authorities. While we have taken measures to provision for taxes in the jurisdictions where we operate, challenges from tax authorities could result in assessments that increase our tax liabilities. Furthermore, the cost of complying with new legislation could adversely affect our results of operations.

Our annual effective income tax rate can change materially as a result of changes in our geographic mix of U.S. and foreign earnings and other factors, including changes in tax laws and changes made by regulatory authorities.

Our overall effective income tax rate is calculated as our total income tax expense relative to earnings before income tax. Income tax expense and benefits are recognized on a jurisdictional or legal entity basis, rather than on a consolidated global basis. As a result, our effective income tax rate could be adversely affected by changes in the distribution of our earnings among jurisdictions with differing tax rates because losses incurred in one jurisdiction may not be used to offset profits in other jurisdictions. Moreover, changes in our operating results by jurisdiction, including the generation or utilization of net operating losses, could cause volatility in our effective tax rate. In addition, changes to tax laws or changes in the interpretation of such laws have the potential to significantly impact our effective income tax rate.

The full realization of our deferred tax assets may be affected by a number of factors, including future earnings and the feasibility of ongoing planning strategies.

We hold deferred tax assets, encompassing federal, state, and foreign net operating loss carryforwards, accruals not yet deductible for tax purposes, tax credits, and other items. The realization of these deferred tax assets hinges on our ability to generate future taxable income within each respective jurisdiction during the periods when these temporary differences reverse, or on our capability to carry back any losses resulting from the deduction of these temporary differences. Our existing deferred tax assets and tax credits could potentially expire or become unavailable to offset future income tax liabilities due to legal or regulatory changes. Such changes include suspension on the use of deferred tax assets and tax credits imposed by certain jurisdictions from time to time, possibly with retroactive effect.

If we determine that it is more likely than not that some portion or all of our deferred tax assets will not be realized, we may be required to record additional valuation allowances, which would increase our income tax expense and impact our effective tax rate.

We may be affected by matters related to environmental, social, and governance (“Responsibility”) trends and events, including governmental regulation and supply chain disruptions, that may adversely affect our business and reputation.

Interest in as well as dissatisfaction with Responsibility considerations by consumers, investors, governmental authorities, and various stakeholders may impact our operations and compliance obligations. Responsibility encompasses a broad spectrum of factors, including climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, packaging and waste management, human rights, sustainable supply chain practices, animal welfare, deforestation, and responsible use of land, energy, and water resources.

Recent years have seen the introduction of new Responsibility disclosure requirements in various jurisdictions. The evolving nature and complexity of these rules and regulations, together with evolving stakeholder expectations, render compliance more challenging and uncertain.

Moreover, we have and in the future may establish certain commitments, targets, or goals related to Responsibility matters. Our ability to meet these commitments and navigate the associated risks is subject to various external factors and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control. If we are not successful or are perceived as ineffective in achieving our stated goals, or if stakeholders are dissatisfied with our Responsibility strategy or actions we take in response to Responsibility-related matters, we could be exposed to market, operational, or reputational challenges and costs. Any failure or perceived failure to adequately address these considerations in line with legal requirements or stakeholder expectations could have an adverse effect on our business or brand reputation.

Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property

Our failure or inability to obtain, maintain, protect, and enforce our trademarks or other intellectual property could adversely affect our business and the value of our brand.

We possess common-law trademark rights in the U.S. as well as numerous trademark and service mark registrations both domestically and internationally. Our continued success depends, to a significant degree, upon our ability to protect and preserve our intellectual property, including our formulas, trademarks, trade dress, copyrights, patents, business processes, and other trade secrets. To safeguard these assets, we rely on legal protections offered by trademark registrations, contracts, confidentiality agreements, copyrights, patents, and common law rights, such as protections against unfair competition, passing off, and trade secret violations.

We enter into non-disclosure and confidentiality agreements with employees, corporate collaborators, contractors, consultants, advisors, suppliers, and other individuals and entities who may have access to this confidential information. However, such agreements may not be in place with every relevant party, any of these parties may breach these agreements, and our confidentiality agreements may otherwise not effectively prevent disclosure of our proprietary information. Furthermore, pursuing legal action against a party alleged to have unlawfully disclosed or misappropriated a trade secret is a challenging, costly, and time-consuming process with an uncertain outcome, and we may not obtain an adequate remedy in the event of unauthorized disclosure of such information. In addition, others may independently develop formulas and processes that are the same or similar to our trade secrets, which could limit our ability to enforce trade secret rights against such parties.

Despite our efforts to secure, maintain, safeguard, and enforce our trademarks, service marks, and other intellectual property rights, these efforts may not be sufficient. Challenges such as potential infringements, challenges to validity, declarations of generic status, circumvention, or violations may arise. Furthermore, the effectiveness of intellectual property protection may vary across countries where our brands have existing or potential shops or facilities. The intellectual property laws of certain foreign countries may not provide the same level of protection as those in the U.S.

Additionally, our franchisees may fail to consistently uphold the quality of goods and services under our brand trademarks or consistently adhere to the guidelines we establish for preserving our brand's intellectual property rights. The defense and enforcement of our trademarks and other intellectual property could entail substantial resource allocation and potentially impact our business, reputation, financial standing, and operational results.

Furthermore, our brands may become targets of infringement claims, potentially impacting the use of specific names, trademarks, or proprietary knowledge, recipes, and trade secrets integral to our business. The defense against such claims can be costly, and in some cases, it may lead to restrictions on our use of proprietary information in the future or require the payment of damages, royalties, or other fees for the continued use of such proprietary information. Any of these outcomes could have a negative impact on our business, reputation, financial condition, and operational results.

Risks Related to Crises, Catastrophic Events, and Business Continuity

Public health outbreaks, epidemics, or pandemics have disrupted and may in the future disrupt, our business, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Health epidemics or pandemics can have detrimental effects on consumer spending, confidence levels, supply chain availability, and associated costs within the markets where we and our franchisees operate. These factors can collectively influence our business, financial condition, and operational results. A notable instance of this was the global spread of the COVID-19 epidemic in recent years, which disrupted global health, economic conditions, consumer behaviors, and food service operations.

While we have implemented measures to address significant public health risks on a large scale, we acknowledge the potential for future outbreaks to impact our shops and other facilities. Such outbreaks may result in a substantial portion of our workforce or the workforce of our business partners being unable to work.

Furthermore, our business is influenced by shifting consumer preferences and perceptions. Concerns regarding virus transmission have prompted employees and guests to avoid congregating in public places, leading to adverse effects on guest traffic at our locations and the ability to adequately staff our shops. The COVID-19 pandemic triggered changes in consumer behaviors, some of which have endured and may continue to evolve even though the pandemic has subsided. These shifts have already had and may continue to exert negative impacts on consumer traffic and the sales of both our Company-owned and franchisee-operated shops. We remain attentive to evolving consumer trends and their potential implications for our business and operational performance.

Adverse weather conditions, natural disasters, war or terrorist attacks, pandemics, or other catastrophic events could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Unforeseen events such as severe adverse weather conditions, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, and other natural disasters, wars or terrorist attacks, pandemics, or other catastrophic events, as well as the actions taken in response to these unforeseen events, could affect guest traffic at our Company-owned and franchisee-operated shops or in more extreme scenarios, could result in the closure of shops, factories, or a mix or equipment manufacturing plant. If our disaster recovery and business continuity plans do not resolve disruptions caused by these unforeseen events in an effective and timely manner, they could result in prolonged interruptions in our operations and could have a material adverse effect on our sales, business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Moreover, fluctuations in weather patterns can lead to construction delays, disruptions in the availability of utilities, and potential shortages or interruptions in the supply of food items and other essential supplies. In addition, actual or threatened armed conflicts, such as the war in Ukraine and conflicts in the Middle East, terrorist attacks, efforts to combat terrorism, or heightened security requirements have and may in the future adversely affect our operations. These developments could increase our operational costs and pose challenges to our supply chain and could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Risks Related to Ownership of our Common Stock

Certain provisions of Delaware Law, our certificate of incorporation, our bylaws, and the ownership of approximately 43% of our common stock by JAB Holdings B.V. (including certain of its affiliated entities, "JAB") could hinder, delay, or prevent a change in control of us, which could adversely affect the price of our common stock.

Provisions of Delaware Law, our certificate of incorporation, and our bylaws create obstacles for third-party acquisition attempts without the consent of our Board of Directors or JAB, our largest stockholder.

We are subject to Delaware General Corporation Law (“DGCL”). Section 203 of the DGCL restricts certain stockholders owning over 15% of our outstanding common stock (referred to as "interested stockholders"), including JAB, from engaging in specific business combinations without approval from at least two-thirds of our outstanding common stock not held by the interested stockholder.

Moreover, JAB wields substantial voting power over shares of our common stock eligible to vote in director elections and other shareholder votes through its affiliate, potentially influencing outcomes significantly.

Additionally, our certificate of incorporation grants our Board of Directors the authority to issue preferred stock at its discretion, without the need for stockholder approval. This flexibility extends to the issuance of authorized but unissued shares of our common stock. These provisions can complicate and protract the process of replacing incumbent directors and could dilute voting and other rights of holders of our common stock.

These measures may make it costly and challenging for a third party to initiate a tender offer, execute a change in control, or attempt a takeover that faces opposition from JAB, our management, or our Board of Directors. Public stockholders interested in participating in such transactions may find it difficult to do so, even if the transaction would be beneficial for stockholders. Ultimately, these anti-takeover provisions could significantly hinder public stockholders’ ability to realize benefits from a change in control or alterations in our management and Board of Directors, potentially impacting the market price of our common stock and the opportunity to secure any potential change of control premium.

Under our Investor Rights Agreement with JAB, they have specific rights to access certain Company information, which JAB is obligated to treat as confidential. This information includes management's monthly financial review reports, consolidated financial results for each fiscal quarter, and other information reasonably requested by JAB. Given these rights and JAB's representation on our Board of Directors, JAB enjoys privileged access to our management and early insights into our financial results compared to our other investors. Although JAB must adhere to relevant U.S. securities laws governing the trading of our securities while in possession of material non-public information, it will still have a more comprehensive understanding of our business and financial condition than individual stockholders for as long as its information rights persist under the Investor Rights Agreement.

If the ownership of our common stock continues to be highly concentrated, it may limit stockholders other than JAB from influencing significant corporate decisions and may result in conflicts of interest.

As of December 28, 2025, JAB held approximately 43% of our common stock, conferring upon it significant influence over crucial matters requiring stockholders' approval. This influence extends to decisions such as electing directors, facilitating mergers, consolidations, and acquisitions, disposing of substantial assets, and shaping our capital structure.

This level of concentrated ownership could potentially lead to delays, deterrents, or the prevention of actions that may be favored by our other stockholders. JAB's interests may not always align with those of our broader stockholder base. Furthermore, this concentration of ownership has the potential to hinder or discourage any attempts at a change in control of the Company.

The concentration of voting power could also impact stockholders by limiting the opportunity to receive a premium for their common stock shares in the event of a sale of the Company, which, in turn, may affect the market price of our common stock. JAB might also seek to push us in directions that it deems beneficial for its own investment but could carry risks for other shareholders or negatively impact our Company and its stakeholders.

As a result, there is a possibility that the market price of our common stock could decline, or stockholders may not receive a premium above the prevailing market price in the event of a change in control. Furthermore, this concentration of share ownership adversely affects the liquidity of our common stock and might be viewed negatively by investors, potentially affecting the trading price of our common stock, as some may perceive drawbacks in owning shares in a company heavily influenced by a few significant stockholders.

The market price of our common stock could be negatively affected by sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public markets.

JAB may possess the capability to sell the shares of the Company's common stock they hold to the public markets, following the stipulations outlined in Rule 144. The substantial sale of our shares by JAB, or the mere anticipation of such sales, could potentially exert a significant downward pressure on the market price of our common stock. A decrease in the value of our common stock could hinder our capacity to raise capital through the issuance of additional common stock or other equity securities.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 1C. Cybersecurity

Risk Management and Strategy

We have processes in place for assessing, identifying, and managing material risks from unauthorized occurrences on or through our electronic information systems that could adversely affect the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of our information systems or the information residing on those systems. These include a wide variety of mechanisms, controls, technologies, methods, systems, and other processes that are designed to prevent, detect, or mitigate data loss, theft, misuse, unauthorized access, or other security incidents or vulnerabilities. In addition, we engage with independent third-party partners, including cybersecurity assessors, consultants, and auditors, to assess and consult on our cybersecurity capabilities, prioritize areas of risk, and assist with execution of our risk management and strategic plans. Our collaboration with these third parties includes audits, threat assessments, and consultation on security enhancements. In an effort to mitigate data or security incidents that may originate from third-party suppliers, we also identify, prioritize, assess, and address third-party risks; however, we rely on the third parties we use to implement security programs commensurate with their risk, and we cannot ensure that their efforts will be successful.

As part of our risk management process, we conduct application security assessments, vulnerability management, penetration testing, security audits, and risk assessments. We provide cybersecurity awareness training to employees with access to information systems, including corporate employees. We also maintain an incident response plan. Our incident response plan outlines the process for our coordination with our third-party cybersecurity providers to respond to and recover from cybersecurity incidents, which include processes to triage, assess severity, investigate, escalate, contain, and remediate an incident, as well as to comply with applicable legal obligations and mitigate brand and reputational damage. In addition, our incident response plan includes actions designed to enhance processes and responsiveness to address future incidents. We continue to strengthen our systems, cybersecurity training, policies, programs, response plan, and other similar measures.

As previously disclosed, during fiscal 2024 unauthorized activity on a portion of our information technology systems resulted in the Company experiencing certain operational disruptions (the “2024 Cybersecurity Incident”). The incident materially affected the Company’s business operations and results of operations. For more information, see “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” included in Item 7 of Part II of this Annual Report. As of the date of this report, except as set forth herein, we are not aware of any risks from cybersecurity threats that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect us, our business strategy, results of operations, or financial condition. For more information regarding cybersecurity risks that have and may in the future materially affect us, see “Risk Factors—Risks Related to Cybersecurity, Data Privacy, and Information Technology” included in Item 1A of Part I of this Annual Report.

Governance

Our Chief Technology and Performance Officer (“CTO”) leads our global information security organization responsible for overseeing the Company’s information security program. Our Chief Information Security Officer (“CISO”) is primarily responsible for identifying, assessing, monitoring, and managing cybersecurity threats to our overall enterprise. Our CTO has over 25 years of industry experience, including serving in similar roles leading and overseeing cybersecurity programs at other public companies. Our CISO, who reports directly to the CTO, has over 30 years of information technology infrastructure and security experience, including developing and leading cybersecurity risk management programs for a variety of companies. The CISO uses internal and external resources to support the Company’s information security program. The CISO receives information regarding cybersecurity incidents and threats primarily from our third-party cybersecurity providers. The CISO then provides periodic reports to the CTO, including reporting on significant cybersecurity incidents, strategy, results of employee trainings, and any other notable cybersecurity matters.

Cybersecurity risk is among the top risks that the Company actively monitors. Our cybersecurity risk management program is integrated into our overall enterprise risk management program and shares common methodologies, reporting channels, and governance processes that apply across the enterprise risk management program to other legal, compliance, strategic, operational, and financial risk areas. The Audit and Finance Committee (“Audit Committee”) of the Board of Directors oversees our annual enterprise risk assessment, where we assess key risks within the Company, including security and technology risks and cybersecurity threats. The Audit Committee also oversees our cybersecurity risk and receives reports from our CTO and third parties on various cybersecurity matters, mitigation measures, and the status of our information security priorities. In addition, the Audit Committee reports to the Board of Directors on any significant cybersecurity incidents, such as the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident.

Item 2. Properties

The material properties used by the Company in connection with its manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, and corporate administrative operations, serving all segments, are as follows:

Location	Approximate Size in Square Feet	Purpose	Type
Winston-Salem, NC	107,000	Mix Production Plant and Distribution	Leased
Winston-Salem, NC	101,710	Equipment Manufacturing Facility	Leased
Charlotte, NC	31,776	Corporate Administrative	Leased

In the U.S., we operate six Doughnut Factories located in Indianapolis, Indiana; Monroe, Ohio; New York, New York; Elk Grove, Illinois; Concord, North Carolina; and Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Internationally, for our equity markets, we operate 14 Doughnut Factories. Each Doughnut Factory manufactures daily to provide finished products to shops and to support our delivery routes. The majority of our Doughnut Factories are leased.

Additionally, as of December 28, 2025, the Company had 882 Company-owned shops globally, a majority of which are leased. We also lease space in various locations globally for regional, district, and other administrative offices, training facilities, and storage.

We believe our existing facilities, both owned and leased, are in good condition and suitable for the conduct of our business.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

In the ordinary course of conducting our business, we have in the past and may in the future become involved in various legal actions and other claims. We may also become involved in other judicial, regulatory, and arbitration proceedings concerning matters arising in connection with the conduct of our businesses. Some of these matters may involve claims of substantial amounts. These legal proceedings may be subject to many uncertainties and there can be no assurance of the outcome of any individual proceedings. See Note 16, Commitments and Contingencies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding certain legal proceedings in which we are involved, which is incorporated by reference into this Item 3 of Part I of this Annual Report.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

PART II

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Market Information

Our common stock has been listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "DNUT" since our initial public offering on July 1, 2021. Prior to that time, there was no public market for our common stock.

Holders

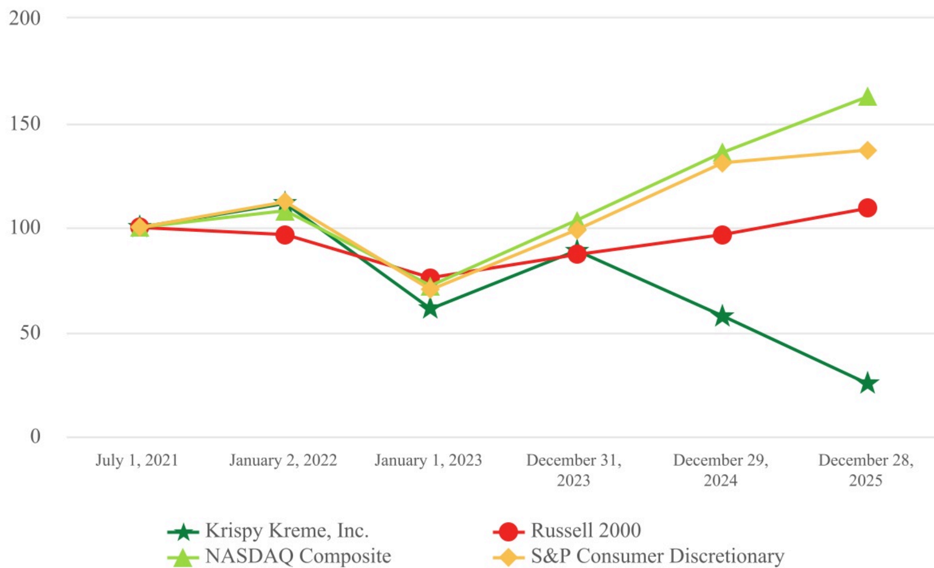
The approximate number of stockholders of record of our common stock as of February 20, 2026, was 257. This does not include persons whose stock is in nominee or "street name" accounts through brokers.

Dividend Policy

For the fiscal quarter ended March 30, 2025, we declared a quarterly cash dividend on our common stock of $0.035 per share, which was paid in May 2025. Subsequent to the first quarter of fiscal 2025, the Company halted the quarterly cash dividend to holders of the Company's common stock to more closely align its capital allocation priorities with its growth strategy.

Performance Graph

The following graph depicts the total return to stockholders from the initial public offering ("IPO") on July 1, 2021 through our fiscal year-end date of December 28, 2025, relative to the performance of the Russell 2000 Index, the NASDAQ Composite Index, and the Standard & Poor's Consumer Discretionary Sector. All indices shown in the graph have been reset to a base of 100 as of July 1, 2021 and assume an investment of $100 on that date and the reinvestment of dividends paid since that date. The stock price performance shown in the graph is not necessarily indicative of future price performance.



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	July 1, 2021	January 2, 2022	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2023	December 29, 2024	December 28, 2025
Krispy Kreme, Inc.	$ 100.00	$ 111.29	$ 60.71	$ 88.76	$ 57.53	$ 25.18
Russell 2000	100.00	96.39	75.61	87.02	96.36	108.80
NASDAQ Composite	100.00	107.73	72.07	103.37	135.80	162.46
S&P Consumer Discretionary	100.00	112.01	69.92	98.61	130.68	136.92

Item 6. [Reserved]

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read together with our audited Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes included elsewhere in this Annual Report. This section of the Annual Report generally discusses fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024 items and year-to-year comparisons of fiscal 2025 to fiscal 2024. Discussions of fiscal 2023 items and year-to-year comparisons of fiscal 2024 and fiscal 2023 are not included in this Annual Report and can be found in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report for the year ended December 29, 2024. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. For more information, see the section of this Annual Report titled "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

Overview

We operate and report financial information on a 52 or 53-week fiscal year ending on the Sunday closest to December 31. Fiscal 2025 reflects our results of operations for the 52-week period ended December 28, 2025. Fiscal 2024 reflects our results of operations for the 52-week period ended December 29, 2024.

We conduct our business through the following three reported segments:

- **U.S.:** Includes all Company-owned operations in the U.S., and Insomnia Cookies Bakeries globally through the date of deconsolidation (refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information);
- **International:** Includes all Company-owned operations in the U.K., Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, and Canada, as well as Japan for all periods covered by this Annual Report; and
- **Market Development:** Includes franchise operations across the globe.

The following table presents a summary of our financial results for the periods presented:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
(in thousands, except percentages)	December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)	December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)	% Change
Net Revenues [(1)]	$ 1,522,616	$ 1,665,397	-8.6 %
Net (Loss)/Income [(2)]	(523,779)	3,815	nm
Net (Loss)/Income Attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc. [(2)]	(515,767)	3,095	nm
Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted [(3)]	(17,703)	19,170	-192.3 %
Adjusted EBIT [(3)]	34,458	90,228	-61.8 %
Adjusted EBITDA [(3)]	140,253	193,528	-27.5 %

(1) Organic revenue decline was (1.3)% in fiscal 2025. Refer to "Results of Operations" below for more information on and the calculation of organic revenue growth.

(2) "nm" as used here and within "Results of Operations" means "not meaningful."

(3) Refer to "Key Performance Indicators and Non-GAAP Measures" below for more information as to how we define and calculate Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBIT, and Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted and for a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBIT, and Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted to net (loss)/income, the most comparable measure calculated under accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. ("GAAP").

Significant Events and Transactions

Our Turnaround Plan

During fiscal 2025, we implemented a comprehensive turnaround plan to deleverage the balance sheet and deliver sustainable, profitable growth through a focus on the following components:

- ***Refranchising*:** Improve financial flexibility through pursuit of opportunities to refranchise certain international equity markets, and to restructure our consolidated subsidiary in the western U.S., W.K.S. Krispy Kreme, LLC, which accounts for approximately 15% of revenues in the U.S. segment as of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025, to a minority ownership interest while adding current Company-owned shops to the joint venture. In the first quarter of 2026, we completed the previously announced transaction to sell our operations in Japan, and we have taken steps towards refranchising our business in Canada;
- ***Improving return on invested capital:*** Reduce capital intensity by using existing assets and focusing on franchise development. We reduced capital expenditures by 18.9% from $120.8 million in fiscal 2024 to $97.9 million in fiscal 2025, and we expect to continue to reduce capital investment in fiscal 2026 compared to fiscal 2025. We are also making selective, capital-light investments in geographies which currently have limited access to our products or where we have insufficient production to meet demand. This includes opening in new international franchise markets such as Uzbekistan in the fourth quarter of 2025;
- ***Expanding profit margins:*** Expand profit margins through greater operational efficiency. During fiscal 2025, we focused on making doughnuts more efficiently through optimizing production, streamlining Hub activities, and improving labor productivity. In addition, we are focused on delivering fresh doughnuts more efficiently through outsourcing U.S. logistics and improving route management and demand planning, and through optimizing production and delivery schedules to support cost-effective expansion. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025, we continued to outsource some of our U.S. fresh deliveries to 3PL carriers, and expect to complete the transition to 3PL carriers during fiscal 2026; and
- ***Driving sustainable, profitable growth:*** Pursue U.S. growth based upon sustainable and profitable revenue streams. During fiscal 2025, we added more than 1,100 profitable fresh delivery doors with strategic partners and strategically closed approximately 1,400 underperforming fresh delivery doors in the U.S. (excluding McDonald’s USA doors). Our Global Points of Access at the end of fiscal 2025 of 15,194 represented a decrease of 13.5% compared to fiscal 2024, primarily driven by the strategic closure of underperforming fresh delivery doors including the exit of McDonald’s USA doors in the third quarter of fiscal 2025 discussed below.

Digital, Brand, and Innovation

We continue to prioritize expanding our digital channel sales, which grew in fiscal 2025 compared to fiscal 2024. Growth in our digital channel is due to improvements in our branded digital platform as well as increasing product availability through third party digital channels, including delivery apps and our customers' digital platforms. Innovation is also a significant driver of frequency as we create promotions and products that attract media outlets to our brand across our Global Points of Access. Additionally, we deliver new product experiences that align with seasonal and trending consumer and societal interests and create positive connections through simple, frequent, brand-focused offerings that encourage shared experiences. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025 we delivered the joy that is Krispy Kreme through powerful specialty doughnuts and seasonal activations including Halloween, Fall, and Christmas among many others around the world.

Termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA

On June 24, 2025, we and McDonald's USA announced that our companies jointly decided to terminate the Business Relationship Agreement effective July 2, 2025, resulting in the reduction of approximately 2,400 fresh delivery doors in the third quarter of fiscal 2025. We worked to quickly remove costs related to the McDonald's USA partnership which we expect to continue positively impacting profitability trends for our U.S. segment in the first half of fiscal 2026. Refer to Note 1, Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

2024 Cybersecurity Incident

As previously disclosed, during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2024, unauthorized activity on a portion of our information technology systems resulted in our experiencing certain operational disruptions (the "2024 Cybersecurity Incident"). We incurred losses and costs from the incident, primarily in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2024 and early in the first quarter of fiscal 2025, which were estimated to have had an approximately $15 million aggregate impact on Adjusted EBITDA in those periods (includes margin on lost revenues, as well as operational inefficiencies). Our cybersecurity insurance offset a portion of the losses and costs from the incident. We accrued for $4.8 million of business interruption insurance proceeds during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025 (subsequently received in the first quarter of fiscal 2026), resulting in cumulative business interruption proceeds of $14.1 million. In addition, we incurred $12.9 million of remediation costs, including fees for cybersecurity experts and other advisors, and received $2.4 million of insurance proceeds for these costs. The investigation of the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident was substantially completed in the second quarter of fiscal 2025.

Tariffs and Global Trade Uncertainty

The imposition of tariffs by the U.S. on imports has heightened uncertainty in the global trade environment. These tariffs, along with retaliatory measures by other countries, may increase inflationary pressure and raise the costs of our imported commodities, including, but not limited to, vegetable oil. Additionally, the broader implications of tariff-driven price increases could influence consumer spending habits and negatively affect our business. These factors have caused, and may continue to cause, substantial uncertainty and volatility in financial markets, and may result in further retaliatory measures. We may be unable to fully offset the impacts of these factors by adjusting the pricing of our products.

Goodwill and Other Asset Impairments

We assess goodwill for impairment at least annually during the fourth quarter and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. During the second quarter of fiscal 2025, we identified events and conditions that required a quantitative assessment of goodwill, as well as other long-lived fixed assets and leases. Refer to Note 1, Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Revision of Financial Statements

As discussed in Note 2, Revision of Financial Statements, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements, the Company identified and corrected an error in the classification of its redeemable noncontrolling interests. Management determined the error did not materially misstate previously issued financial statements and would be appropriate to correct in the current period.

The Company has revised previously issued financial information included in this Annual Report . The revisions do not affect the Company’s previously reported operating results, cash flows, or financial condition apart from the reclassification within the equity section of the balance sheet and the required redemption value accretion recognized in fiscal 2025.

Key Performance Indicators and Non-GAAP Measures

We monitor the key business metrics and non-GAAP metrics set forth below to help us evaluate our business and growth trends, establish budgets, measure the effectiveness of our sales and marketing efforts, and assess operational efficiencies. The calculation of the key business metrics discussed below may differ from other similarly titled metrics used by other companies, securities analysts, or investors.

Throughout this Annual Report, we utilize "Global Points of Access" as a key performance indicator. Global Points of Access reflect all locations at which fresh doughnuts can be purchased. We define Global Points of Access to include all Hot Light Theater Shops, Fresh Shops, Carts and Food Trucks, fresh delivery doors, Cookie Bakeries (through the date of the Insomnia Cookies deconsolidation in fiscal 2024), and other points at which fresh doughnuts can be purchased, at both Company-owned and franchise locations as of the end of the respective reporting period. We monitor Global Points of Access as a metric that informs the growth of our omni-channel presence over time and believe this metric is useful to investors to understand our footprint in each of our segments and by asset type.

The following table presents our Global Points of Access, by segment and type, as of the end of fiscal 2025, fiscal 2024, and fiscal 2023:

	Global Points of Access		
	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
U.S.:			
Hot Light Theater Shops	235	237	229
Fresh Shops	68	70	70
Cookie Bakeries [1]	—	—	267
Fresh Delivery Doors [2]	7,160	9,644	6,808
Total	**7,463**	**9,951**	**7,374**
International:			
Hot Light Theater Shops	52	49	44
Fresh Shops	527	519	483
Carts, Food Trucks, and Other [3]	18	17	16
Fresh Delivery Doors	4,225	4,583	3,977
Total	**4,822**	**5,168**	**4,520**
Market Development:			
Hot Light Theater Shops	113	108	116
Fresh Shops	1,130	1,095	968
Carts, Food Trucks, and Other [3]	29	30	30
Fresh Delivery Doors	1,637	1,205	1,139
Total	**2,909**	**2,438**	**2,253**
Total Global Points of Access (as defined)	**15,194**	**17,557**	**14,147**
Total Hot Light Theater Shops	400	394	389
Total Fresh Shops	1,725	1,684	1,521
Total Cookie Bakeries [1]	—	—	267
Total Shops	**2,125**	**2,078**	**2,177**
Total Carts, Food Trucks, and Other	**47**	**47**	**46**
Total Fresh Delivery Doors	**13,022**	**15,432**	**11,924**
Total Global Points of Access (as defined)	**15,194**	**17,557**	**14,147**

(1) Reflects the deconsolidation of Insomnia Cookies during fiscal 2024.

(2) Includes approximately 1,900 McDonald's USA doors as of December 29, 2024, which were exited in the third quarter of fiscal 2025 due to termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA.

(3) Carts and Food Trucks are non-producing, mobile (typically on wheels) facilities without walls or a door where product is received from a Hot Light Theater Shop or Doughnut Factory. Other includes a vending machine. Points of Access in this category are primarily found in international locations in airports and train stations.

During fiscal 2025, we added a net 47 Krispy Kreme branded Doughnut Shops globally, in countries such as Brazil, Canada, and France, among many others. The decrease to the total Global Points of Access in fiscal 2025 compared to the end of fiscal 2024 primarily relates to the strategic closure of underperforming fresh delivery doors including the exit of fresh delivery doors related to termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald’s USA.

We also utilize “Hubs” as a key performance indicator. We have an omni-channel strategy to reach more consumers where they are and drive sustainable, profitable growth, and this strategy is supported by a capital-efficient Hub and Spoke distribution model that provides a route to market and powers profitability. Our Hot Light Theater Shops and Doughnut Factories serve as centralized production facilities (“Hubs”). From these Hubs, we deliver doughnuts to our Fresh Shops, Carts and Food Trucks, and fresh delivery doors (“Spokes”) primarily through an integrated network of Company-operated delivery routes, designed to ensure quality and freshness. Throughout fiscal 2025, we continued to outsource some of our U.S. deliveries to 3PL carriers, and expect to complete the transition to 3PL carriers during fiscal 2026. Specific to the U.S. segment, certain legacy Hubs have not historically had Spokes. Many Hubs in the U.S. segment are being converted to add Spokes while certain legacy Hubs do not currently have the ability or need to add Spokes.

The following table presents our Hubs, by segment and type, as of the end of fiscal 2025, fiscal 2024, and fiscal 2023, respectively:

	Hubs		
	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	**December 29, 2024**	**December 31, 2023**
U.S.:			
Hot Light Theater Shops [(1)]	223	232	220
Doughnut Factories	6	6	4
Total	**229**	**238**	**224**
Hubs with Spokes	159	158	149
Hubs without Spokes	70	80	75
International:			
Hot Light Theater Shops [(1)]	43	40	36
Doughnut Factories	14	14	14
Total	**57**	**54**	**50**
Hubs with Spokes	57	54	50
Market Development:			
Hot Light Theater Shops [(1)]	111	106	112
Doughnut Factories	26	27	23
Total	**137**	**133**	**135**
Total Hubs	**423**	**425**	**409**

(1) Includes only Hot Light Theater Shops and excludes Mini Theaters. A Mini Theater is a Spoke location that produces some doughnuts for itself and also receives doughnuts from another producing location.

Non-GAAP and Operating Measures

We report our financial results in accordance with GAAP; however, management evaluates our results of operations using, among other measures, organic revenue (decline)/growth, Sales per Hub, Systemwide Sales, adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("Adjusted EBITDA"), Adjusted EBIT, Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted, and Adjusted EPS as we believe these non-GAAP and operating measures are useful in evaluating our operating performance. Management believes these measures are important indicators of operations because they exclude items that may not be indicative of our core operating results and provide a better baseline for analyzing trends in our underlying business, and they are consistent with how business performance is planned, reported and assessed internally by management and the Company's Board of Directors.

Non-GAAP financial measures are not standardized and it may not be possible to compare these financial measures with other companies' non-GAAP financial measures having the same or similar names, limiting their usefulness as comparative measures. Other companies may calculate similarly titled financial measures differently than we do or may not calculate them at all. Additionally, these non-GAAP financial measures are not measurements of financial performance under GAAP or a substitute for results reported under GAAP. In order to facilitate a clear understanding of our consolidated historical operating results, we urge you to review our non-GAAP financial measures in conjunction with our historical audited Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included in this Annual Report and not to rely on any single financial measure.

Organic Revenue (Decline)/Growth

Organic revenue (decline)/growth measures our revenue growth trends excluding the impact of acquisitions, divestitures, and foreign currency, and we believe it is useful for investors to understand the expansion of our global footprint through internal efforts. We define "organic revenue (decline)/growth" as the (decline)/growth in revenues, excluding (i) the impact of revenues of acquired shops owned by us for less than 12 months following their acquisition, (ii) the impact of foreign currency exchange rate changes, (iii) the impact of shop closures related to restructuring programs, (iv) the impact of the divestiture of a controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies, (v) the impact of the divestiture of shops through refranchising, and (vi) the impact of revenues generated during the 53rd week for those fiscal years that have a 53rd week based on our fiscal calendar defined in the "Overview" section. See "Results of Operations" for our organic (decline)/growth calculations for the periods presented.

Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBIT, Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted, and Adjusted EPS

We define "Adjusted EBITDA" as earnings before interest expense, net, income tax expense, and depreciation and amortization, with further adjustments for share-based compensation, certain strategic initiatives, acquisition and integration expenses, and certain other non-recurring, infrequent or non-core income and expense items. Adjusted EBITDA, both on a consolidated and at the segment level, is a principal metric that management uses to monitor and evaluate operating performance and provides a consistent benchmark for comparison across reporting periods. "Adjusted EBITDA margin" reflects Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of net revenues.

We define "Adjusted EBIT" as earnings before interest expense, net and income tax expense, with further adjustments for share-based compensation, certain strategic initiatives, acquisition and integration expenses, amortization of acquisition-related intangibles, and certain other non-recurring, infrequent or non-core income and expense items. Adjusted EBIT is a metric complementary to Adjusted EBITDA that takes into account depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets, allowing management to have a view of performance when including amortized costs from capital investments and lease obligations.

We define "Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted" as net (loss)/income attributable to common shareholders, adjusted for interest expense, share-based compensation, certain strategic initiatives, acquisition and integration expenses, amortization of acquisition-related intangibles, the tax impact of adjustments, and certain other non-recurring, infrequent or non-core income and expense items. "Adjusted EPS" is Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted converted to a per share amount.

Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted EBIT, Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted, and Adjusted EPS have certain limitations, including adjustments for income and expense items that are required by GAAP. In evaluating these non-GAAP measures, you should be aware that in the future we will incur expenses that are the same as or similar to some of the adjustments in this presentation, such as share-based compensation. Our presentation of these non-GAAP measures should not be construed to imply that our future results will be unaffected by any such adjustments. Management compensates for these limitations by relying on our GAAP results in addition to using these non-GAAP measures supplementally.

The following tables present a reconciliation of net (loss)/income to Adjusted EBIT and Adjusted EBITDA, and net (loss)/income to Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, Diluted and Adjusted EPS for the fiscal years presented:

(in thousands)	Fiscal Years Ended December 28, 2025	Fiscal Years Ended December 29, 2024	Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2023
Net (loss)/income	**$ (523,779)**	**$ 3,815**	**$ (36,647)**
Interest expense, net	65,795	60,066	50,341
Income tax (benefit)/expense	(20,820)	15,954	(4,347)
Share-based compensation	12,865	35,149	24,196
Employer payroll taxes related to share-based compensation	307	358	395
Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	11,501	(90,455)	—
Goodwill impairment	355,958	—	—
Other non-operating (income)/expense, net [(1)]	(1,967)	1,885	3,798
Strategic initiatives [(2)]	39,847	19,993	29,057
Acquisition and integration expenses [(3)]	(111)	3,282	511
New market penetration expenses [(4)]	560	1,407	1,380
Shop closure expenses, net [(5)]	56,394	4,861	17,335
Restructuring and severance expenses [(6)]	6,396	7,561	5,050
Gain on remeasurement of equity method investment [(7)]	—	(5,579)	—
Gain on sale-leaseback	(6,749)	(1,569)	(9,646)
Gain on refranchising [(8)]	(1,358)	—	—
Other [(9)]	8,340	3,203	4,307
Amortization of acquisition related intangibles [(10)]	31,279	30,297	29,373
Consolidated Adjusted EBIT	**$ 34,458**	**$ 90,228**	**$ 115,103**
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets	105,795	103,300	96,521
Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA	**$ 140,253**	**$ 193,528**	**$ 211,624**

(in thousands, except per share amounts)	Fiscal Years Ended December 28, 2025	Fiscal Years Ended December 29, 2024	Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2023
Net (loss)/income	**$ (523,779)**	**$ 3,815**	**$ (36,647)**
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Restructuring and severance expenses [6]	6,396	7,561	5,050
Gain on remeasurement of equity method investment [7]	—	(5,579)	—
Gain on sale-leaseback	(6,749)	(1,569)	(9,646)
Gain on refranchising [8]	(1,358)	—	—
Other [9]	8,340	3,203	4,307
Amortization of acquisition related intangibles [10]	31,279	30,297	29,373
Loss on extinguishment of 2019 Facility [11]	—	—	472
Tax impact of adjustments [12]	(20,958)	9,690	(20,729)
Tax specific adjustments [13]	5,770	(3,988)	(1,364)
Net loss/(income) attributable to noncontrolling interest	8,012	(720)	(1,278)
Adjusted net (loss)/income attributable to common shareholders - Basic	**$ (17,693)**	**$ 19,190**	**$ 46,210**
Additional income attributed to noncontrolling interest due to subsidiary potential common shares	(10)	(20)	(28)
Adjusted net (loss)/income attributable to common shareholders - Diluted	**$ (17,703)**	**$ 19,170**	**$ 46,182**
Basic weighted average common shares outstanding	170,923	169,341	168,289
Dilutive effect of outstanding common stock options, RSUs, and PSUs	—	2,159	2,204
Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding	**170,923**	**171,500**	**170,493**
Adjusted net (loss)/income per share attributable to common shareholders:			
Basic	$ (0.10)	$ 0.11	$ 0.27
Diluted	$ (0.10)	$ 0.11	$ 0.27

(1) Primarily foreign translation gains and losses in each period, as well as equity method income from Insomnia Cookies following the divestiture of a controlling interest during fiscal 2024 until the sale of our remaining interest in the second quarter of fiscal 2025. Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

(2) Fiscal 2025 consists primarily of $33.6 million in costs associated with the U.S. national expansion (including McDonald's USA), including exit costs associated with the termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA, and $2.8 million in costs for the evaluation of potential opportunities to refranchise certain equity markets. Fiscal 2024 consists primarily of $8.2 million in costs associated with the divestiture of the Insomnia Cookies business, $7.3 million in costs preparing for the U.S. national expansion (including McDonald's USA), and $4.0 million in costs associated with global transformation. Fiscal 2023 consists primarily of costs associated with global transformation of $5.9 million and U.S. initiatives such as the decision to exit the Branded Sweet Treats business, including property, plant and equipment impairments, inventory write-offs, employee severance, and other related costs of $17.8 million.

(3) Consists of acquisition and integration-related costs in connection with the Company's business and franchise acquisitions, including legal, due diligence, and advisory fees incurred in connection with acquisition and integration-related activities for the applicable period.

(4) Consists of start-up costs associated with entry into new countries in which the Company has not previously operated, including Brazil and Spain.

(5) Includes lease termination costs, impairment charges, and loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment.

(6) Fiscal 2025 consists primarily of costs associated with restructuring of the U.S. and U.K. businesses. Fiscal 2024 consists primarily of costs associated with the restructuring of the U.S. and U.K. executive teams. Fiscal 2023 consists primarily of costs associated with restructuring of the global executive team.

(7) Consists of a gain related to the remeasurement of the equity method investments in KremeWorks USA, LLC and KremeWorks Canada, L.P. to fair value immediately prior to the acquisition of the shops. Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

(8) Includes gains and losses on the deconsolidation of assets and liabilities associated with the refranchising of certain Krispy Kreme shops.

(9) Fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024 consist primarily of $7.4 million and $3.1 million, respectively, related to remediation of the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, including fees for cybersecurity experts and other advisors, net of $2.4 million of insurance proceeds received in fiscal 2025 relating to these costs. Fiscal 2023 consists primarily of legal and other regulatory expenses incurred outside the ordinary course of business.

(10) Consists of amortization related to acquired intangible assets as reflected within depreciation and amortization in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

(11) Includes interest expenses related to unamortized debt issuance costs from our prior credit agreement (the “2019 Facility”) associated with extinguished lenders as a result of the March 2023 debt refinancing.

(12) Tax impact of adjustments calculated by applying the applicable statutory rates. The Company’s adjusted effective tax rate is 17.9%, 34.0%, and 27.2%, for each of fiscal 2025, fiscal 2024, and fiscal 2023, respectively. Fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024 also include the impact of disallowed executive compensation expense.

(13) Fiscal 2025 consists of the recording of valuation allowances of $4.9 million associated with tax attributes primarily attributable to incremental costs removed from the calculation of Adjusted Net (Loss)/Income, a discrete tax benefit unrelated to ongoing operations of $1.0 million, and the effect of various tax law changes on existing temporary differences of $0.2 million. Fiscal 2024 consists of the recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits unrelated to ongoing operations of $0.3 million, a discrete tax benefit unrelated to ongoing operations of $0.5 million, the release of valuation allowances associated with the divestiture of Insomnia Cookies of $2.9 million, and the effect of various tax law changes on existing temporary differences of $0.3 million. Fiscal 2023 consists of the recognition of a previously unrecognized tax benefit unrelated to ongoing operations of $2.3 million, the effect of tax law changes on existing temporary differences $0.1 million, and a discrete tax benefit unrelated to ongoing operations of $1.0 million.

Sales Per Hub

In order to measure the effectiveness of our Hub and Spoke model, we use “Sales per Hub” on a trailing four-quarter basis, which includes all revenue generated from a Hub and its associated Spokes. Sales per Hub equals Fresh Revenues from Hubs with Spokes, divided by the average number of Hubs with Spokes for the period. Fresh Revenues include product sales generated from our Doughnut Shops (including digital channels), as well as fresh delivery sales, but excluding all Insomnia Cookies revenues as the measure is focused on the Krispy Kreme doughnut business. The average number of Hubs with Spokes for a period is calculated as the average of the number of Hubs with Spokes at the end of the five most recent quarters. The Sales per Hub performance measure allows us and investors to measure our effectiveness at leveraging the Hubs in the Hub and Spoke model to distribute product and generate cost efficiencies and profitability.

Sales per Hub was as follows for each of the periods below:

(in thousands, unless otherwise stated)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)	December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)	December 31, 2023 (52 weeks)
U.S.:			
Revenues	$ 913,050	$ 1,058,736	$ 1,104,944
Non-Fresh Revenues [1]	(2,454)	(3,161)	(9,416)
Fresh Revenues from Insomnia Cookies and Hubs without Spokes [2]	(154,151)	(307,665)	(399,061)
Fresh Revenues from Hubs with Spokes	756,445	747,910	696,467
Sales per Hub (millions)	**4.7**	**4.9**	**4.9**
International:			
Fresh Revenues from Hubs with Spokes [3]	$ 535,088	$ 519,102	$ 489,631
Sales per Hub (millions) [4]	**9.7**	**9.9**	**9.7**

(1) Includes the exited Branded Sweet Treats business revenues as well as licensing royalties from customers for use of the Krispy Kreme brand.
(2) Includes Insomnia Cookies revenues (through the date of deconsolidation) and Fresh Revenues generated by Hubs without Spokes.
(3) Total International net revenues is equal to Fresh Revenues from Hubs with Spokes for that business segment.
(4) International Sales per Hub comparative data has been restated in constant currency based on current exchange rates.

In our International segment, where the Hub and Spoke model originated, Sales per Hub was $9.7 million, down from the $9.9 million generated in fiscal 2024 and consistent with the $9.7 million generated in fiscal 2023. The International segment illustrates the benefits of leveraging our Hub and Spoke model as the most efficient way to grow the business, as shown by the largely consistent Sales per Hub and higher Adjusted EBITDA margins despite elevated commodity costs and macroeconomic conditions. In the U.S. segment, we had Sales per Hub of $4.7 million, down from the $4.9 million in fiscal 2024 and fiscal 2023. In the U.S., we continue our efforts to increase the number of quality Spokes served by our Hubs. During fiscal 2025, we identified and exited underperforming Spokes in line with our efforts to optimize the segment. We expect to increase the number of quality Spokes through growth with fresh delivery customers across the U.S. coupled with a continued focus on identifying and addressing underperforming fresh delivery doors.

Systemwide Sales

We also utilize “Systemwide Sales” as a key performance indicator. Systemwide Sales reflects global sales of all Krispy Kreme products, whether operated by the Company or franchisees, excluding mix, equipment, and royalty revenue. Sales from franchisees are reported to the Company by such franchisees and are not included in Company revenues. The Company believes Systemwide Sales information is important because it is indicative of the health of the Company’s brand and aids in understanding the Company’s financial performance.

In fiscal 2025, we generated Systemwide Sales of $1.96 billion.

Results of Operations

The following comparisons are historical results and are not indicative of future results which could differ materially from the historical financial information presented.

Fiscal Year ended December 28, 2025 compared to the Fiscal Year ended December 29, 2024

The following table presents our audited consolidated results of operations for fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024:

	Fiscal Years Ended					
	December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)		December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)		Change	
(in thousands, except percentages)	Amount	% of Revenue	Amount	% of Revenue	$	%
Net revenues						
Product sales	$ 1,486,120	97.6 %	$ 1,627,778	97.7 %	$ (141,658)	-8.7 %
Royalties and other revenues	36,496	2.4 %	37,619	2.3 %	(1,123)	-3.0 %
Total net revenues	**1,522,616**	**100.0 %**	**1,665,397**	**100.0 %**	**(142,781)**	**-8.6 %**
Product and distribution costs	372,567	24.5 %	409,177	24.6 %	(36,610)	-8.9 %
Operating expenses	799,024	52.5 %	809,916	48.6 %	(10,892)	-1.3 %
Selling, general and administrative expense	226,270	14.9 %	274,303	16.5 %	(48,033)	-17.5 %
Marketing expenses	45,073	3.0 %	47,695	2.9 %	(2,622)	-5.5 %
Pre-opening costs	3,576	0.2 %	3,411	0.2 %	165	4.8 %
Goodwill and other asset impairments	432,422	28.4 %	4,464	0.3 %	427,958	nm
Other income, net	(24,120)	-1.6 %	(8,431)	-0.5 %	(15,689)	186.1 %
Depreciation and amortization expense	137,074	9.0 %	133,597	8.0 %	3,477	2.6 %
Operating loss	**(469,270)**	**-30.8 %**	**(8,735)**	**-0.5 %**	**(460,535)**	**nm**
Interest expense, net	65,795	4.3 %	60,066	3.6 %	5,729	9.5 %
Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	11,501	0.8 %	(90,455)	-5.4 %	101,956	-100.0 %
Other non-operating (income)/expense, net	(1,967)	-0.1 %	1,885	0.1 %	(3,852)	-204.4 %
(Loss)/income before income taxes	**(544,599)**	**-35.8 %**	**19,769**	**1.2 %**	**(564,368)**	**nm**
Income tax (benefit)/expense	(20,820)	-1.4 %	15,954	1.0 %	(36,774)	-230.5 %
Net (loss)/income	**(523,779)**	**-34.4 %**	**3,815**	**0.2 %**	**(527,594)**	**nm**
Net (loss)/income attributable to noncontrolling interest	(8,012)	-0.5 %	720	— %	(8,732)	nm
Net (loss)/income attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc.	**$ (515,767)**	**-33.9 %**	**$ 3,095**	**0.2 %**	**$ (518,862)**	**nm**

The following table presents a further breakdown of total net revenue and organic revenue growth by segment for the periods indicated:

(in thousands, except percentages)	U.S.	International	Market Development	Total Company
Total net revenues in fiscal 2025 (52 weeks)	$ 913,050	$ 535,088	$ 74,478	$ 1,522,616
Total net revenues in fiscal 2024 (52 weeks)	1,058,736	519,102	87,559	1,665,397
Total Net Revenues (Decline)/Growth	**(145,686)**	**15,986**	**(13,081)**	**(142,781)**
Total Net Revenues (Decline)/Growth %	**-13.8%**	**3.1%**	**-14.9%**	**-8.6%**
Less: Impact of Insomnia Cookies divestiture	(138,522)	—	—	(138,522)
Less: Impact of refranchising	(1,533)	—	445	(1,088)
Adjusted net revenues in fiscal 2024	918,681	519,102	88,004	1,525,787
Adjusted net revenue (decline)/growth	**(5,631)**	**15,986**	**(13,526)**	**(3,171)**
Impact of acquisitions	(26,334)	(3,102)	8,536	(20,900)
Impact of foreign currency translation	—	4,050	—	4,050
Organic Revenue (Decline)/Growth	**$ (31,965)**	**$ 16,934**	**$ (4,990)**	**$ (20,021)**
Organic Revenue (Decline)/Growth %	**-3.5%**	**3.3%**	**-5.7%**	**-1.3%**

Total net revenue declined $142.8 million, or 8.6%, primarily impacted by the $138.5 million reduction associated with the divestiture of a controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies in the third quarter of fiscal 2024. Organic revenue declined by $20.0 million, or 1.3%, primarily driven by lower Doughnut Shop transaction volume impacted by consumer softness in a challenging macroeconomic environment and by Global Points of Access decline of 2,363, or 13.5%, impacted by the strategic closure of underperforming fresh delivery doors, including those associated with the termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA. The organic revenue decline was partially offset by increased pricing of approximately 2% (primarily driven by our planned reduced discounting).

Our U.S. segment net revenue declined $145.7 million, or 13.8%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, primarily due to the $138.5 million reduction associated with the divestiture of a controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies in the third quarter of fiscal 2024. U.S. organic revenue declined $32.0 million, or 3.5%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, primarily driven by lower Doughnut Shop transaction volume impacted by consumer softness in a challenging macroeconomic environment. The organic revenue decline was also driven by Points of Access decline of 2,488, or 25.0%, impacted by the strategic closure of underperforming fresh delivery doors, including those associated with the termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA. The organic revenue decline was partially offset by increased pricing of approximately 2% (primarily driven by our planned reduced discounting).

Our International segment net revenue grew $16.0 million, or 3.1%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, in spite of foreign currency translation impacts of $4.0 million. International organic revenue grew $16.9 million or 3.3%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, driven primarily by growth in Canada, Japan, and Mexico. The organic revenue growth was partially offset by lower transaction volume in the U.K.

Our Market Development segment net revenue declined $13.1 million, or 14.9%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, due to the impact of franchise acquisitions in fiscal 2024 (the results of acquired franchise businesses are reported within the Market Development segment prior to the respective dates of acquisition, and are reported within the U.S. or International segments, as applicable, following the respective dates of acquisition). Market Development organic revenue declined $5.0 million, or 5.7%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, as expansion of our international franchise business in new markets such as Brazil and Spain was more than offset by timing of shipments of equipment to franchisees.

Product and distribution costs (exclusive of depreciation and amortization): Product and distribution costs decreased $36.6 million, or 8.9%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, driven mainly by a $31.0 million impact from the divestiture of a controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies. Product and distribution costs as a percentage of revenue remained largely consistent at 24.6% in fiscal 2024 and 24.5% in fiscal 2025.

Operating expenses: Operating expenses decreased $10.9 million, or 1.3%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, driven mainly by a $66.4 million decrease resulting from the divestiture of a controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies that was partially offset by an increase of $55.5 million in operating expenses for the global Krispy Kreme brand primarily due to higher shop and delivery labor expenses, including logistics costs. Operating expenses as a percentage of revenue increased 390 basis points, from 48.6% in fiscal 2024 to 52.5% in fiscal 2025, primarily due to the impact of lower transaction volumes on operating leverage, operating costs associated with our now-ended McDonald's USA partnership, and an estimated $5 million related to the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, primarily related to operational inefficiencies.

Selling, general and administrative expense: Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses decreased $48.0 million, or 17.5%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, driven mainly by a $23.8 million impact from the divestiture of a controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies. As a percentage of revenue, SG&A decreased by 160 basis points, from 16.5% in fiscal 2024 to 14.9% in fiscal 2025, primarily driven by lower employee costs and share-based compensation expenses related to restructuring initiatives.

Goodwill and other asset impairments: For discussion of the $432.4 million non-cash goodwill and other asset impairments in fiscal 2025, refer to Note 1, Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other income, net: Other income, net of $24.1 million in fiscal 2025 was primarily related to $16.5 million of cyber insurance proceeds related to the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, which includes $14.1 million of business interruption insurance recoveries. Additionally, there were $6.7 million of gains on sale-leaseback transactions described in Note 10, Leases, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements. Other income, net of $8.4 million in fiscal 2024 was primarily driven by a gain of $5.6 million related to the remeasurement of equity method investments to fair value immediately prior to the acquisition of Krispy Kreme shops referenced in Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Depreciation and amortization expense: Depreciation and amortization expense increased $3.5 million, or 2.6%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025. As a percentage of revenue, depreciation and amortization expense increased 100 basis points, from 8.0% in fiscal 2024 to 9.0% in fiscal 2025, primarily driven by higher finance lease amortization expense and increased depreciation associated with capital assets placed into service to support our U.S. national expansion, including the McDonald's USA rollout. We recorded long-lived asset and lease impairment charges during the second quarter of fiscal 2025, a portion of which related to assets supporting the U.S. national expansion, including the McDonald's USA rollout, which we expect to impact the future rate of depreciation expense for these assets.

Interest expense, net: Interest expense, net increased $5.7 million, or 9.5%, from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025, primarily driven by higher finance lease interest expense and a higher average debt balance.

Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies: In the third quarter of fiscal 2024, we sold our controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies in exchange for cash proceeds. Following the transaction, we owned 34.7% of Insomnia Cookies and lost the ability to exercise control. Accordingly, we deconsolidated Insomnia Cookies and recorded a gain on divestiture of $90.5 million (gross of income taxes). In the second quarter of fiscal 2025, we sold the remainder of our ownership interest in Insomnia Cookies for cash proceeds and recognized a loss on divestiture of $11.5 million (gross of income taxes). Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Income tax (benefit)/expense: Income tax benefit was $20.8 million in fiscal 2025, while income tax expense was $16.0 million in fiscal 2024. The variance of $36.8 million from fiscal 2024 to fiscal 2025 was primarily driven by lower pre-tax results in fiscal 2025, offset by the tax effect of nondeductible goodwill impairment charges.

Results of Operations by Segment – Fiscal Year ended December 28, 2025 compared to the Fiscal Year ended December 29, 2024

The following table presents Adjusted EBIT and Adjusted EBITDA by segment for the periods indicated:

	Fiscal Years Ended		Change	
(in thousands, except percentages)	December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)	December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)	$	%
U.S.				
U.S. Adjusted EBIT	$ 16,145	$ 52,361	(36,216)	-69.2 %
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets	63,489	60,406	3,083	5.1 %
U.S. Adjusted EBITDA	79,634	112,767	(33,133)	-29.4 %
International				
International Adjusted EBIT	50,113	59,407	(9,294)	-15.6 %
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets	32,958	31,309	1,649	5.3 %
International Adjusted EBITDA	83,071	90,716	(7,645)	-8.4 %
Market Development				
Market Development Adjusted EBIT	43,949	47,750	(3,801)	-8.0 %
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets	143	154	(11)	-7.1 %
Market Development Adjusted EBITDA	44,092	47,904	(3,812)	-8.0 %
Total reportable segment Adjusted EBIT	**110,207**	**159,518**	**(49,311)**	**-30.9 %**
Total reportable segment Adjusted EBITDA	**206,797**	**251,387**	**(44,590)**	**-17.7 %**
Corporate				
Corporate expenses within consolidated Adjusted EBIT	(75,749)	(69,290)	(6,459)	-9.3 %
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets	9,205	11,431	(2,226)	-19.5 %
Corporate expenses within consolidated Adjusted EBITDA	(66,544)	(57,859)	(8,685)	-15.0 %
Total consolidated Adjusted EBIT	**$ 34,458**	**$ 90,228**	**$ (55,770)**	**-61.8 %**
Total consolidated Adjusted EBITDA	**$ 140,253**	**$ 193,528**	**$ (53,275)**	**-27.5 %**

(1) Refer to "Key Performance Indicators and Non-GAAP Measures" above for a reconciliation of Adjusted EBIT and Adjusted EBITDA to net (loss)/income.

U.S. segment Adjusted EBIT decreased $36.2 million, or 69.2%, and Adjusted EBITDA decreased $33.1 million, or 29.4%. Of these decreases, $15.8 million of the reduction was associated with the divestiture of a controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies in the third quarter of fiscal 2024. The Adjusted EBITDA margin decline of 200 basis points to 8.7% in fiscal 2025 compared to fiscal 2024 was primarily driven by an estimated $13 million to $15 million adverse impact associated with our now-ended McDonald's USA partnership, lower transaction volumes impacting operating leverage, and an estimated $5 million related to the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, primarily related to operational inefficiencies. The U.S. Adjusted EBIT and Adjusted EBITDA decreases were partially offset by $14.1 million of business interruption insurance recoveries related to the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident.

International segment Adjusted EBIT decreased $9.3 million, or 15.6%, and Adjusted EBITDA decreased $7.6 million, or 8.4%. The Adjusted EBITDA margin declined 200 basis points to 15.5% in fiscal 2025 compared to fiscal 2024, as lower transaction volume continued to impact operating leverage for the International equity markets, particularly the U.K.

Market Development segment Adjusted EBIT and Adjusted EBITDA decreased $3.8 million, or 8.0%, with Adjusted EBITDA margin expansion of 450 basis points to 59.2% in fiscal 2025 compared to fiscal 2024, driven mainly by changes in the revenue mix, including fewer shipments of lower-margin equipment to franchisees, and growth in royalties.

Corporate expenses within Adjusted EBIT increased $6.5 million, or 9.3%, and corporate expenses within Adjusted EBITDA increased $8.7 million, or 15.0%, primarily reflecting a reduction in costs allocated to the business segments following the centralization of certain overhead functions.

Capital Resources and Liquidity

Our principal sources of liquidity to date have included cash from operating activities, cash on hand, amounts available under our credit facility, commercial trade financing including our structured payables programs, and proceeds from strategic transactions such as the divestiture of Insomnia Cookies. Our primary use of liquidity is to fund the cash requirements of our business operations, including working capital needs, capital expenditures, acquisitions, and other commitments.

Our future obligations primarily consist of our debt and lease obligations, as well as commitments under ingredient and other forward purchase contracts. As of December 28, 2025, we had the following future obligations:

- An aggregate principal amount of $900.3 million outstanding under the 2023 Facility;
- An aggregate principal amount of $2.5 million outstanding under short-term, uncommitted lines of credit;
- Non-cancellable future minimum operating lease payments totaling $641.6 million;
- Non-cancellable future minimum finance lease payments totaling $92.8 million; and
- Purchase commitments under ingredient and other forward purchase contracts of $74.0 million.

Refer to Note 9, Long-Term Debt, Note 10, Leases, and Note 16, Commitments and Contingencies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

We had cash and cash equivalents of $42.4 million and $29.0 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively. We believe that our existing cash and cash equivalents and available borrowing capacity under our credit facilities will be sufficient to fund our operating and capital needs for at least the next twelve months. In fiscal 2026, we expect to use our available cash to reduce debt and to continue to position the business for sustainable growth, including investing in shop improvements, ways to better serve our consumers, and ways to increase our omni-channel presence. Total capital expenditures for fiscal 2026 are expected to be between $50.0 million and $60.0 million, as we continue to deploy the capital-efficient Hub and Spoke model globally.

Our assessment of the period of time through which our financial resources will be adequate to support our operations could vary because of, and our future capital requirements will depend on, many factors, including our growth rate, the timing and extent of spending on business acquisitions, the growth of our presence in new markets, and the expansion of our omni-channel model in existing markets. We have based this estimate on assumptions that may prove to be wrong, and we could use our available capital resources sooner than we currently expect. We may be required to seek additional equity or debt financing. In the event that additional financing is required from outside sources, we may not be able to raise it on terms acceptable to us or at all. If we are unable to raise additional capital when desired, or if we cannot expand our operations or otherwise capitalize on our business opportunities because we lack sufficient capital, our business, results of operations, and financial condition would be adversely affected.

Cash Flows

We have historically generated significant cash from operations and have substantial credit availability and capacity to fund operating and discretionary spending such as capital expenditures and debt repayments. Our requirement for working capital is not significant because our consumers pay us in cash or on debit or credit cards at the time of the sale and we are able to sell many of our inventory items before payment is due to the vendors for the various inputs to such items. The following table and discussion present, for the periods indicated, a summary of our key cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities:

	Fiscal Years Ended	
(in thousands)	**December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)**	**December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)**
Net cash provided by operating activities	$ 33,924	$ 45,832
Net cash (used for)/provided by investing activities	(12,145)	19,280
Net cash used for financing activities	(7,757)	(73,949)

Operating Activities

Cash provided by operations totaled $33.9 million for fiscal 2025, a decrease of $11.9 million compared with fiscal 2024. Cash provided by operations declined primarily due to a larger operating loss in fiscal 2025 compared to fiscal 2024 and the impact of our receipt of $7.7 million in cash proceeds from the settlement of interest rate swap derivative contracts in fiscal 2024, partially offset by the intentional paydown of obligations due under our SCF programs (discussed in Note 8, Vendor Finance Programs, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements) in fiscal 2024.

Investing Activities

Cash used for investing activities totaled $12.1 million for fiscal 2025, a fluctuation of $31.4 million compared with fiscal 2024. The cash used for investing activities in fiscal 2025 was primarily due to cash for capital expenditures. As part of our turnaround plan, we expect to reduce capital investment by leveraging existing capacity where available and focusing on franchise development. These outflows were partially offset by the divestiture of our remaining ownership interest in Insomnia Cookies for $75.0 million in aggregate cash proceeds (discussed in Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements) and proceeds from sale-leaseback transactions (discussed in Note 10, Leases, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements).

The cash provided by investing activities in fiscal 2024 was primarily due to the receipt of net proceeds of $124.1 million from the divestiture of Insomnia Cookies and an additional $45.0 million from the repayment of an intercompany loan due from Insomnia Cookies. These proceeds were partially offset by our use of $31.9 million cash for the acquisition of franchised shops in fiscal 2024, discussed in Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Financing Activities

Cash used for financing activities totaled $7.8 million for fiscal 2025, a fluctuation of $66.2 million compared with fiscal 2024, primarily driven by the pay down of long term debt balances with a portion of the net proceeds received from the divestiture of Insomnia Cookies.

Debt

Our long-term debt obligations consist of the following:

(in thousands)	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
2023 Facility — term loan	$ 742,825	$ 647,500
2023 Facility — revolving credit facility	157,500	172,000
Short-term lines of credit	2,514	5,000
Less: Debt issuance costs	(2,904)	(3,322)
Financing obligations	77,894	79,725
Total long-term debt	**977,829**	**900,903**
Less: Current portion of long-term debt	(65,977)	(56,356)
Long-term debt, less current portion	**$ 911,852**	**$ 844,547**

2023 Secured Credit Facility

The Company is party to a credit agreement (the "2023 Facility") consisting of a $300.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility and a term loan with an original principal amount of $700.0 million. During the second quarter of fiscal 2025, the Company amended the 2023 Facility to, among other things, establish additional, incremental term loan commitments in an aggregate principal amount of $125.0 million. Refer to Note 9, Long-Term Debt, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Under the terms of the 2023 Facility, we are subject to a requirement to maintain a leverage ratio of less than 5.00 to 1.00 as of the end of each quarterly Test Period (as defined in the 2023 Facility) through maturity in March 2028. The leverage ratio under the 2023 Facility is defined as the ratio of (a) Total Indebtedness (as defined in the 2023 Facility, which includes all debt and finance lease obligations) minus unrestricted cash and cash equivalents to (b) a defined calculation of Adjusted EBITDA (2023 Facility Adjusted EBITDA) for the most recently ended Test Period. Our leverage ratio was 4.4 to 1.00 as of the end of fiscal 2025 compared to 3.9 to 1.00 as of the end of fiscal 2024.

We were in compliance with the financial covenants related to the 2023 Facility as of December 28, 2025 and expect to remain in compliance over the next 12 months.

Short-Term Lines of Credit

We are party to two agreements with existing lenders providing for short-term, uncommitted lines of credit up to an aggregate of $25.0 million. Borrowings under these short-term lines of credit are payable to the lenders on a revolving basis for tenors up to three months and are subject to an interest rate of adjusted term SOFR plus a credit spread adjustment of 0.10% plus a margin of 1.75%. As of December 28, 2025, the Company had drawn $2.5 million under the agreements which is classified within the Current portion of long-term debt on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Critical Accounting Estimates

The financial information discussed in this "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" is based upon or derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in conformity with GAAP. The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of judgments, estimates, and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses as well as related disclosures. We consider an accounting judgment, estimate, or assumption to be critical when (1) the estimate or assumption is complex in nature or requires a high degree of judgment and (2) the use of different judgments, estimates, and assumptions could have a material impact on the audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates and judgments based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. We review our financial reporting and disclosure practices and accounting policies quarterly to confirm that they provide accurate and transparent information relative to the current economic and business environment. A summary of our significant accounting policies is included in Note 1, Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements. We believe that our critical accounting estimates are:

Self-Insurance Risks and Receivables from Insurers

We are subject to workers' compensation, vehicle, and general liability claims and are self-insured for a significant portion of our workers' compensation, vehicle, and general liability claims up to the amount of stop-loss insurance coverage purchased from commercial insurance carriers. We maintain accruals for the estimated cost of claims, without regard to the effects of stop-loss coverage, using actuarial methods which evaluate known open and incurred but not reported claims and consider historical loss development experience. In addition, we record receivables from the insurance carriers for claims amounts estimated to be recovered under the stop-loss insurance policies when these amounts are estimable and probable of collection. We estimate such stop-loss receivables using the same actuarial methods used to establish the related claims accruals and taking into account the amount of risk transferred to the carriers under the stop-loss policies. The stop-loss policies provide coverage for claims in excess of retained self-insurance risks, which are determined on a claim-by-claim basis. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, we had $31.2 million and $34.8 million, respectively, reserved for such programs. Inclusive of the receivables from the stop-loss insurance policies, the Company's limited liability balance was $22.6 million and $18.7 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively.

Our estimated liability is not discounted and is based on a number of assumptions and factors. The critical assumptions used in determining these related expenses and obligations are future cost projections of claims, which include healthcare cost projections. These critical assumptions are calculated based on historical Company data and experience, as well as appropriate market indicators including inflation, societal attitudes toward legal action, and changes in law. The assumptions are evaluated at least semiannually by us in conjunction with outside actuaries and are closely monitored and adjusted when warranted by changing circumstances. If a greater amount of claims are reported, or if the nature of the claims, including medical costs, results in increased exposure beyond our expectations, our liabilities may not be sufficient, and we could recognize additional expense.

Income Taxes

Our provision for income taxes, deferred tax assets and liabilities including valuation allowances requires the use of estimates based on our management's interpretation and application of complex tax laws and accounting guidance. We establish reserves for uncertain tax positions for material, known tax exposures in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 740, *Income Taxes* relating to deductions, transactions and other matters involving some uncertainty as to the measurement and recognition of the item. We may adjust these reserves when our judgment changes as a result of the evaluation of new information not previously available and will be reflected in the period in which the new information is available. While we believe that our reserves are adequate, issues raised by a tax authority may be resolved at an amount different than the related reserve and could materially increase or decrease our income tax provision in future periods.

Realization of deferred tax assets involves estimates regarding (i) the timing and amount of the reversal of taxable temporary differences, (ii) expected future taxable income, (iii) the ability to carry back or carry forward net operating losses and tax credits, and (iv) the impact of tax planning strategies. We believe that it is more likely than not that we will not realize the benefit of certain deferred tax assets and, accordingly, have established a valuation allowance against them. In assessing the need for a valuation allowance, we consider all available positive and negative evidence, including past operating results, projections of future taxable income and the feasibility of and potential changes to ongoing tax planning strategies. The projections of future taxable income include a number of estimates and assumptions regarding our volume, pricing and costs. Although realization is not assured for the remaining deferred tax assets, we believe it is more likely than not that the remaining deferred tax assets will be realized through future taxable earnings or alternative tax strategies. However, deferred tax assets could be reduced in the near term if our estimates of taxable income are significantly reduced or tax strategies are no longer viable.

Goodwill and Indefinite Lived Intangible Assets

For each reporting unit, we assess goodwill for impairment annually at the beginning of the fourth fiscal quarter or more frequently when impairment indicators are present. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, we recognize an impairment charge for the difference up to the carrying value of the allocated goodwill. The fair value is estimated using a combination of a discounted cash flow approach and a market approach.

When assessing goodwill for impairment, our decision to perform a qualitative impairment assessment for an individual reporting unit is influenced by a number of factors, inclusive of the carrying value of the reporting unit's goodwill, the significance of the excess of the reporting unit's estimated fair value over carrying value at the last quantitative assessment date, the amount of time in between quantitative fair value assessments and the date of acquisition. If we perform a quantitative assessment of an individual reporting unit's goodwill, our impairment calculations contain uncertainties because they require management to make assumptions and to apply judgment when estimating future cash flows and asset fair values, including projected revenue growth and operating expenses related to existing businesses, product innovation and new shop concepts, as well as utilizing valuation multiples of similar publicly traded companies and selecting an appropriate discount rate. Estimates of revenue growth and operating expenses are based on internal projections considering the reporting unit's past performance and forecasted growth, strategic initiatives, local market economics, and the local business environment impacting the reporting unit's performance. The discount rate is selected based on the estimated cost of capital for a market participant to operate the reporting unit in the region. These estimates, as well as the selection of comparable companies and valuation multiples used in the market approaches are highly subjective, and our ability to realize the future cash flows used in our fair value calculations is affected by factors such as the success of strategic initiatives, changes in economic conditions, changes in our operating performance, and changes in our business strategies, including retail initiatives and international expansion.

In the quarter ended June 29, 2025, management identified impairment indicators that required a quantitative assessment of goodwill outside of management's routine annual assessment. These indicators included that during the two quarters ended June 29, 2025, the Company experienced a decline in its stock price and market capitalization, which became significant and sustained during the quarter ended June 29, 2025. In addition, the Company's operating results for the quarter were below previous forecasts. Lastly, the Company updated its forecasts for the full year following termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA during the quarter, and the updated forecasts were below previous forecasts. After completing the quantitative impairment test, management concluded that the estimated fair values of the U.S., Krispy Kreme Holding U.K. Ltd. ("KK U.K."), and Krispy Kreme Holdings Pty Ltd. ("KK Australia") reporting units had declined below their carrying values, and management recognized a cumulative, non-cash, partial goodwill impairment charge of $356.0 million (gross of income taxes) in the second quarter of fiscal 2025. As of September 29, 2025, we performed a quantitative impairment assessment for all of our reporting units. The estimated fair value of each reporting unit exceeded its carrying value and, therefore, no additional impairment was recorded.

For the fiscal years 2024 and 2023, there were no goodwill impairment charges. We believe the fair value of each of our reporting units is in excess of its carrying value, and absent a sustained multi-year global decline in our business in key markets such as the U.S., we do not anticipate incurring significant goodwill impairment in the next 12 months.

Other intangible assets, net primarily represent the trade names for our brands, franchise agreements (domestic and international), reacquired franchise rights, and customer relationships. The trade names have been assigned an indefinite useful life and are reviewed annually for impairment. The fair value calculation for the trade names includes estimates of revenue growth, which are based on past performance and internal projections for the intangible asset group's forecasted growth and royalty rates, which are adjusted for our particular facts and circumstances. The discount rate is selected based on the estimated cost of capital that reflects the risk profile of the related business. These estimates are highly subjective, and our ability to

achieve the forecasted cash flows used in our fair value calculations is affected by factors such as the success of strategic initiatives, changes in economic conditions, changes in our operating performance, and changes in our business strategies, including retail initiatives and international expansion. All other intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. Definite-lived intangible assets are assessed for impairment whenever triggering events or indicators of potential impairment occur. We did not have any impairment charges of indefinite-lived intangible assets during any of the periods presented, and we do not anticipate incurring significant impairment charges in the next 12 months.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

We evaluate property and equipment, lease right of use assets, and other definite lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amounts of such assets may not be recoverable. Expected cash flows associated with an asset are the key factor in determining the recoverability of the asset. For the recoverability evaluation, long-lived assets are grouped with other assets and liabilities at the lowest level for which identifiable cash flows are largely independent of the cash flows of other assets and liabilities. For Company-owned Hub and Spoke assets, the impairment test is performed at the individual Hub asset group level (which includes a Hub and its related Spokes), which is inclusive of property and equipment and lease right of use assets. If the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows, the Company records an impairment charge in an amount equal to the excess of the carrying value of the assets over the estimated fair value. Significant judgment is involved in determining the assumptions used in estimating future cash flows, including projected revenue growth, operating margins, economic conditions, and changes in the operating environment. Changes in these assumptions could have a significant impact on the recoverability of the asset and may result in additional impairment charges. For those Hubs and any other asset groupings where the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows, the Company must make additional assumptions to determine the related fair values of the assets, including selection of an appropriate discount rate when the income approach is used.

Impairment charges related to the Company’s long-lived fixed assets were $39.4 million, $4.6 million, and $18.1 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively. For the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 31, 2023 the Company recorded lease impairment and termination costs of $37.0 million and $6.6 million, respectively. For the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024 the Company recorded a net gain on lease termination of $0.1 million.

New Accounting Pronouncements

Refer to Note 1, Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for a detailed description of recent accounting pronouncements.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Effects of Changing Prices

We are exposed to the effects of commodity price fluctuations in the cost of ingredients of our products, of which flour, sugar and shortening are the most significant. These costs are subject to fluctuations due to a number of factors, including, but not limited to, market conditions, economic and geopolitical uncertainty, demand for raw materials, weather, energy costs, currency fluctuations, supplier capacities, governmental actions, import and export requirements (including tariffs), armed hostilities, and other factors beyond our control. Throughout fiscal 2025, we continued to experience headwinds from commodity inflation globally. We have undertaken efforts to effectively manage inflationary cost increases through rapid inventory turnover and reduced inventory waste, and increased focus on resiliency of our supply chains. Additionally, from time to time we may enter into forward contracts for supply through our vendors for raw materials which are ingredients of our products or which are components of such ingredients, including wheat, sugar, and vegetable oil.

We are also exposed to the effects of commodity price fluctuations in the cost of gasoline used by our delivery vehicles. To mitigate the risk of fluctuations in the price of our fuel purchases, we may directly purchase commodity futures contracts.

Interest Rate Risk

We are exposed to changes in interest rates on any borrowings under our debt facilities, which bear interest based on the one-month SOFR (with a floor of zero). Generally, interest rate changes could impact the amount of our interest paid and, therefore, our future earnings and cash flows, assuming other factors are held constant. To mitigate the impact of changes in SOFR on interest expense for a portion of our variable rate debt, we have entered into interest rate swaps on $550.0 million notional of our $902.8 million of outstanding debt under the 2023 Facility and short-term lines of credit as of December 28, 2025, which we account for as cash flow hedges. The interest rate swap agreements are scheduled to mature in March 2028. Based on the $352.8 million of unhedged debt outstanding as of December 28, 2025, a 100 basis point increase or decrease in the one-month SOFR would result in a $3.5 million increase or decrease, respectively, in interest expense for a 12-month period, based on the daily average of the one-month SOFR for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

We are exposed to foreign currency exchange rate risk on the operations of our subsidiaries that have functional currencies other than the U.S. dollar, whose revenues accounted for approximately 35% of our total net revenues through the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025. A substantial majority of these revenues, or $535.1 million through the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025, were attributable to subsidiaries whose functional currencies are the Canadian dollar, the British pound sterling, the Euro, the Australian dollar, the New Zealand dollar, the Mexican peso, and the Japanese yen. A 10% increase or decrease in the average exchange rate of these currencies against the U.S. dollar would have resulted in a decrease or increase, respectively, of $53.5 million in our total net revenues through the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025.

From time to time, we engage in foreign currency exchange and credit transactions with our non-U.S. subsidiaries, which we typically hedge. To date, the impact of such transactions, including the cost of hedging, has not been material. We do not engage in foreign currency or hedging transactions for speculative purposes.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Krispy Kreme, Inc.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Board of Directors and Shareholders

Krispy Kreme, Inc.

Opinion on the financial statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Krispy Kreme, Inc. (a Delaware corporation) and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive (loss)/ income, changes in shareholders’ equity, and cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended December 28, 2025, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended December 28, 2025, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2025, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”), and our report dated March 6, 2026 expressed an unqualified opinion.

Basis for opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Critical audit matters

The critical audit matters are matters arising from the current period audit of the consolidated financial statements that were communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relates to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing a separate opinions on the critical audit matters or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

Goodwill impairment assessment

As described further in Notes 1 and 6 to the consolidated financial statements, goodwill is evaluated for impairment annually at the beginning of the fourth quarter or more frequently when impairment indicators are present. Management estimates the fair value of each reporting unit using a discounted cash flow method, a form of the income approach, as well as a market approach. The determination of the fair value of a reporting unit requires management to make significant assumptions regarding future growth rates, terminal values and discount rates. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the Company recognizes an impairment charge for the difference up to the carrying value of the allocated goodwill. If the fair value of the reporting unit exceeds its carrying value, additional impairment analysis is not required. In the second quarter of the year ended December 28, 2025, the Company recorded goodwill impairment in the U.S. Fresh (“US”) Krispy Kreme Holding U.K. Ltd.

("KK U.K."), and Krispy Kreme Holdings Pty Ltd. ("KK Australia") reporting units of $274 million, $67 million, and $15 million respectively. The Company has $712 million of goodwill as of December 28, 2025, of which $93 million relates to the KK U.K. reporting unit. We identified the goodwill impairment assessment of the US, KK U.K., and KK Australia") reporting units in the second quarter of the year ended December 28, 2025 and the annual goodwill impairment assessment of the KK U.K. reporting unit as of the annual impairment assessment date of October 1, 2025 as a critical audit matter.

The principal consideration for our determination that the goodwill impairment assessment of the U.S., KK U.K., and KK Australia reporting units in the second quarter of the year ended June 29, 2025 and the goodwill impairment assessment of KK U.K. in the fourth quarter of the year ended December 28, 2025 is a critical audit matter is the high degree of auditor judgment necessary in evaluating key assumptions made by management in the valuation models used to determine the fair value of the reporting units. Specifically, changes to the key assumptions, including projected revenues and expenses and the discount rates, could have significant effect on the Company's assessment of the fair value of the reporting units and the amount of any goodwill impairment charge. Auditing these assumptions required subjective auditor judgment due to the estimation uncertainty.

Our audit procedures related to the goodwill impairment assessment of the U.S., KK U.K., and KK Australia reporting units in the quarter ended June 29, 2025 and the goodwill impairment assessment of the KK U.K. reporting unit in the quarter ended December 28, 2025 included the following, among others.

- We evaluated the reasonableness of projected revenue and expenses by comparing them to the historical results of the reporting units and assessing the impacts of internal and/or external economic factors,

- We assessed the impact of internal initiatives by evaluating management's intent and ability to carry out planned courses of action,

- We evaluated the consistency of the assumptions used with evidence obtained in other areas of the audit.

- We evaluated the reasonableness of the discount rate utilized in the discounted cash flow model with the assistance of our internal valuation specialists.

/s/GRANT THORNTON LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2017.

Denver, Colorado

March 6, 2026

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Board of Directors and Shareholders

Krispy Kreme, Inc.

Opinion on internal control over financial reporting

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Krispy Kreme, Inc. (a Delaware corporation) and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 28, 2025, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO"). In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2025, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by COSO.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB"), the consolidated financial statements of the Company as of and for the year ended December 28, 2025, and our report dated March 6, 2026 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

Basis for opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and limitations of internal control over financial reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/GRANT THORNTON LLP

Denver, Colorado

March 6, 2026

Krispy Kreme, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Operations
(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)	December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)	December 31, 2023 (52 weeks)
Net revenues			
Product sales	$ 1,486,120	$ 1,627,778	$ 1,651,166
Royalties and other revenues	36,496	37,619	34,938
Total net revenues	**1,522,616**	**1,665,397**	**1,686,104**
Product and distribution costs	372,567	409,177	443,243
Operating expenses	799,024	809,916	776,589
Selling, general and administrative expense	226,270	274,303	266,863
Marketing expenses	45,073	47,695	45,872
Goodwill and other asset impairments	432,422	4,464	24,909
Pre-opening costs	3,576	3,411	4,120
Other income, net	(24,120)	(8,431)	(14,531)
Depreciation and amortization expense	137,074	133,597	125,894
Operating (loss)/income	**(469,270)**	**(8,735)**	**13,145**
Interest expense, net	65,795	60,066	50,341
Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	11,501	(90,455)	—
Other non-operating (income)/expense, net	(1,967)	1,885	3,798
(Loss)/income before income taxes	**(544,599)**	**19,769**	**(40,994)**
Income tax (benefit)/expense	(20,820)	15,954	(4,347)
Net (loss)/income	**(523,779)**	**3,815**	**(36,647)**
Net (loss)/income attributable to noncontrolling interest	(8,012)	720	1,278
Net (loss)/income attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc.	**$ (515,767)**	**$ 3,095**	**$ (37,925)**
Net (loss)/income per share:			
Common stock - Basic	$ (3.04)	$ 0.02	$ (0.23)
Common stock - Diluted	$ (3.04)	$ 0.02	$ (0.23)
Weighted average shares outstanding:			
Basic	170,923	169,341	168,289
Diluted	170,923	171,500	168,289

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Krispy Kreme, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income/(Loss)
(in thousands)

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)	**December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)**	**December 31, 2023 (52 weeks)**
Net (loss)/income	**$ (523,779)**	**$ 3,815**	**$ (36,647)**
Other comprehensive income/(loss), net of income taxes:			
Foreign currency translation adjustment	37,461	(35,143)	26,007
Unrealized loss on cash flow hedges, net of income taxes [1]	(6,560)	(5,359)	(8,622)
Unrealized (loss)/income on employee benefit plans	(106)	35	6
Total other comprehensive income/(loss)	**30,795**	**(40,467)**	**17,391**
Comprehensive loss	**(492,984)**	**(36,652)**	**(19,256)**
Net (loss)/income attributable to noncontrolling interest	(8,012)	720	1,278
Foreign currency translation adjustment attributable to noncontrolling interest	726	(1,093)	994
Total comprehensive (loss)/income attributable to noncontrolling interest	**(7,286)**	**(373)**	**2,272**
Comprehensive loss attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc.	**$ (485,698)**	**$ (36,279)**	**$ (21,528)**

[1] Net of income tax benefit of $2.2 million, $1.8 million, and $2.9 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Krispy Kreme, Inc.
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	As of	
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
		(revised)
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 42,390	$ 28,962
Restricted cash	501	353
Accounts receivable, net	61,611	67,722
Inventories	26,877	28,133
Taxes receivable	10,854	16,155
Current assets held for sale	13,294	—
Prepaid expense and other current assets	18,927	31,615
Total current assets	**174,454**	**172,940**
Property and equipment, net	460,935	511,139
Goodwill, net	712,264	1,047,581
Other intangible assets, net	797,749	819,934
Operating lease right of use asset, net	395,523	409,869
Investments in unconsolidated entities	7,413	91,070
Noncurrent assets held for sale	31,056	—
Other assets	13,565	19,497
Total assets	**$ 2,592,959**	**$ 3,072,030**
LIABILITIES, MEZZANINE EQUITY, AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term debt	$ 65,977	$ 56,356
Current operating lease liabilities	51,213	46,620
Accounts payable	134,384	123,316
Accrued liabilities	99,805	124,212
Current liabilities held for sale	13,535	—
Structured payables	92,366	135,668
Total current liabilities	**457,280**	**486,172**
Long-term debt, less current portion	911,852	844,547
Noncurrent operating lease liabilities	395,895	405,366
Deferred income taxes, net	96,236	130,745
Noncurrent liabilities held for sale	11,816	—
Other long-term obligations and deferred credits	42,919	40,768
Total liabilities	**1,915,998**	**1,907,598**
Commitments and contingencies		
Mezzanine equity:		
Redeemable noncontrolling interest	24,181	27,297
Total mezzanine equity	**24,181**	**27,297**
Shareholders' equity:		
Common stock, $0.01 par value; 300,000 shares authorized as of both December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024; 171,555 and 170,060 shares issued and outstanding as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively	1,716	1,701
Additional paid-in capital	1,473,644	1,466,508
Shareholder note receivable	(1,791)	(1,906)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of income tax	(2,059)	(32,128)
Retained deficit	(821,387)	(299,638)
Total shareholders' equity attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc.	**650,123**	**1,134,537**
Noncontrolling interest	2,657	2,598
Total shareholders' equity	**652,780**	**1,137,135**
Total liabilities, mezzanine equity, and shareholders' equity	**$ 2,592,959**	**$ 3,072,030**

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Krispy Kreme, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity
(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Common Stock				Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)					
	Shares Outstanding	Amount	Additional Paid-in Capital	Shareholder Note Receivable	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment	Unrealized (Loss)/Income on Cash Flow Hedges	Unrealized Loss on Employee Benefit Plans	Retained Deficit	Noncontrolling Interest	Total
Balance at January 1, 2023	**168,137**	**$ 1,681**	**$ 1,426,105**	**$ (4,813)**	**$ (23,028)**	**$ 14,251**	**$ (374)**	**$ (217,490)**	**$ 75,052**	**$ 1,271,384**
Net (loss)/income for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(37,925)	969	(36,956)
Other comprehensive income for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 before reclassifications	—	—	—	—	25,013	2	6	—	748	25,769
Reclassification from AOCI	—	—	—	—	—	(8,624)	—	—	—	(8,624)
Capital contribution from shareholders, net of loans issued	—	—	—	764	—	—	—	—	—	764
Share-based compensation	—	—	24,196	—	—	—	—	—	—	24,196
Purchase of shares by noncontrolling interest	—	—	—	(133)	—	—	—	—	425	292
Dividends declared on common stock and equivalents ($0.035 per share)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(23,576)	—	(23,576)
Distribution to noncontrolling interest	—	—	(4,825)	426	—	—	—	—	(11,139)	(15,538)
Issuance of common stock upon settlement of RSUs, net of shares withheld	491	5	(1,885)	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1,880)
Other	—	—	—	(94)	—	—	—	1	(1)	(94)
Balance at December 31, 2023	**168,628**	**$ 1,686**	**$ 1,443,591**	**$ (3,850)**	**$ 1,985**	**$ 5,629**	**$ (368)**	**$ (278,990)**	**$ 66,054**	**$ 1,235,737**
Net income for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,095	1,394	4,489
Other comprehensive (loss)/income for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024 before reclassifications	—	—	—	—	(34,050)	2,304	35	—	(1,018)	(32,729)
Reclassification from AOCI	—	—	—	—	—	(7,663)	—	—	—	(7,663)
Capital contribution from shareholders, net of loans issued	—	—	—	919	—	—	—	—	—	919
Share-based compensation	—	—	35,149	—	—	—	—	—	—	35,149
Purchase of shares by noncontrolling interest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,562	1,562
Noncontrolling interest from divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	—	—	—	945	—	—	—	—	(30,427)	(29,482)
Dividends declared on common stock and equivalents ($0.035 per share)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(23,742)	—	(23,742)
Distribution to noncontrolling interest	—	—	(6,742)	126	—	—	—	—	(34,967)	(41,583)
Issuance of common stock upon settlement of RSUs, net of shares withheld	1,432	14	(5,503)	—	—	—	—	—	—	(5,489)
Other	—	1	13	(46)	—	—	—	(1)	—	(33)
Balance at December 29, 2024	**170,060**	**$ 1,701**	**$ 1,466,508**	**$ (1,906)**	**$ (32,065)**	**$ 270**	**$ (333)**	**$ (299,638)**	**$ 2,598**	**$ 1,137,135**
Net loss for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(515,767)	117	(515,650)
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025 before reclassifications	—	—	—	—	36,735	(5,496)	(106)	—	3	31,136
Reclassification from AOCI	—	—	—	—	—	(1,064)	—	—	—	(1,064)
Share-based compensation	—	—	12,865	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,865
Dividends declared on common stock and equivalents ($0.035 per share)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(5,982)	—	(5,982)
Distribution to noncontrolling interest	—	—	(103)	127	—	—	—	—	(60)	(36)
Accretion to redemption value of redeemable noncontrolling interest	—	—	(4,290)	—	—	—	—	—	—	(4,290)
Issuance of common stock upon settlement of RSUs, net of shares withheld	1,495	15	(1,365)	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1,350)
Other	—	—	28	(12)	—	—	—	—	(1)	15
Balance at December 28, 2025	**171,555**	**$ 1,716**	**$ 1,473,643**	**$ (1,791)**	**$ 4,670**	**$ (6,290)**	**$ (439)**	**$ (821,387)**	**$ 2,657**	**$ 652,779**

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Krispy Kreme, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(in thousands)

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025 (52 weeks)	December 29, 2024 (52 weeks)	December 31, 2023 (52 weeks)
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Net (loss)/income	$ (523,779)	$ 3,815	$ (36,647)
Adjustments to reconcile net (loss)/income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization expense	137,074	133,597	125,894
Deferred and other income taxes	(35,552)	3,067	(18,486)
Goodwill impairment	355,958	—	—
Loss on extinguishment of debt	—	—	472
Long-lived asset impairment and lease termination charges	76,464	4,464	24,909
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	1,643	1,250	110
Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	11,501	(90,455)	—
Gain on refranchising	(1,358)	—	—
Gain on remeasurement of equity method investment	—	(5,579)	—
Gain on sale-leaseback	(6,749)	(1,569)	(9,646)
Share-based compensation	12,865	35,149	24,196
Change in accounts and notes receivable allowances	1,443	646	654
Inventory write-off	6,328	2,783	11,248
Settlement of interest rate swap derivatives	—	—	7,657
Amortization related to settlement of interest rate swap derivatives	—	(5,910)	(10,289)
Other	2,064	(619)	2,155
Change in operating assets and liabilities, excluding business acquisitions and divestitures, and foreign currency translation adjustments:			
Accounts, notes, and taxes receivable	5,484	(13,895)	(3,523)
Inventories	(19,870)	(2,011)	780
Other current and noncurrent assets	(4,405)	(873)	(2,395)
Operating lease assets and liabilities	(943)	(1,227)	5,111
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	15,079	(20,156)	(74,471)
Other long-term obligations and deferred credits	677	3,355	(2,185)
Net cash provided by operating activities	**33,924**	**45,832**	**45,544**
CASH FLOWS (USED FOR)/PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchase of property and equipment	(97,929)	(120,792)	(121,427)
Proceeds from disposals of assets	3,077	183	218
Proceeds from sale-leaseback	10,882	6,308	10,025
Acquisition of shops and franchise rights from franchisees, net of cash acquired	—	(31,938)	—
Purchase of equity method investment	(2,998)	(3,506)	(1,424)
Net proceeds from divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	75,000	124,126	—
Principal payment received from loan to Insomnia Cookies	—	45,000	—
Principal payments received from loans to franchisees	1,202	985	20
Disbursement for loan receivable	(1,379)	(1,086)	—
Net cash (used for)/provided by investing activities	**(12,145)**	**19,280**	**(112,588)**
CASH FLOWS (USED FOR)/PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Proceeds from the issuance of debt	778,538	676,250	1,175,698
Repayment of long-term debt and lease obligations	(728,602)	(712,778)	(1,084,390)
Payment of financing costs	(825)	—	(5,175)
Proceeds from structured payables	291,028	376,189	241,148
Payments on structured payables	(334,576)	(345,327)	(214,574)
Payment of contingent consideration related to a business combination	—	—	(925)
Capital contribution from shareholders, net of loans issued	—	919	764
Proceeds from sale of noncontrolling interest in subsidiary	—	1,562	292
Distribution to shareholders	(11,934)	(23,692)	(23,558)
Payments for repurchase and retirement of common stock	(1,350)	(5,489)	(1,880)
Distribution to noncontrolling interest	(36)	(41,583)	(15,538)
Net cash (used for)/provided by financing activities	**(7,757)**	**(73,949)**	**71,862**
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	(446)	(462)	(1,934)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	13,576	(9,299)	2,884
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of the fiscal year	29,315	38,614	35,730
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of the fiscal year	**$ 42,891**	**$ 29,315**	**$ 38,614**
Supplemental schedule of non-cash investing and financing activities:			
(Decrease)/increase in accrual for property and equipment	$ (18,443)	$ 14,214	$ 51,820
Accrual for distribution to shareholders	—	(5,952)	(5,902)
Reconciliation of cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of fiscal year:			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 42,390	$ 28,962	$ 38,185
Restricted cash	501	353	429
Total cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	**$ 42,891**	**$ 29,315**	**$ 38,614**

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Krispy Kreme, Inc.
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Krispy Kreme, Inc.
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
(dollars in thousands, unless otherwise specified)

Note 1 — Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Description of Business

Krispy Kreme, Inc. ("KKI") and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company" or "Krispy Kreme") operate through an omni-channel business model to produce doughnuts and deliver fresh doughnut experiences for Doughnut Shops, fresh delivery to retail doors, and digital channels, expanding consumer access to the Krispy Kreme brand.

The Company has three reportable operating segments: 1) U.S., which includes all Company-owned operations in the U.S., and Insomnia Cookies Bakeries globally through the date of deconsolidation (refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information); 2) International, which includes all Company-owned operations in the U.K., Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, and Canada as well as Japan for all periods covered by the accompanying audited Consolidated Financial Statements; and 3) Market Development, which includes franchise operations across the globe. Unallocated corporate costs are excluded from the Company's measurement of segment performance.

As of December 28, 2025, there were 2,125 Krispy Kreme branded shops in 42 countries around the world. The ownership and location of those shops is as follows:

	U.S.	International	Market Development	Total
Company-owned Shops	303	579	—	882
Franchise Shops	—	—	1,243	1,243
Total	**303**	**579**	**1,243**	**2,125**

Basis of Presentation and Consolidation

The Company operates and reports financial information on a 52 or 53-week year with the fiscal year ending on the Sunday closest to December 31. The data periods contained within fiscal years 2025, 2024, and 2023 reflect the results of operations for the 52-week periods ending December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively.

The accompanying audited Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of KKI and its subsidiaries and have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. All significant intercompany balances and transactions among KKI and its subsidiaries have been eliminated in consolidation. Investments in entities over which the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence but which it does not control and whose financial statements are not otherwise required to be consolidated are accounted for using the equity method.

Noncontrolling interest in the Company's audited Consolidated Financial Statements represents the interest in subsidiaries held by employee shareholders. Employee shareholders held noncontrolling interests in the consolidated subsidiaries Krispy Kreme Holdings Pty Ltd. ("KK Australia"), Krispy Kreme Mexico Holding S.A.P.I. de C.V. ("KK Mexico"), and Krispy Kreme Doughnut Japan Co., Ltd. ("KK Japan"). Since the Company consolidates the financial statements of these subsidiaries, the noncontrolling owners' share of each subsidiary's net assets and results of operations are deducted and reported as a noncontrolling interest on the Consolidated Balance Sheets and as net (loss)/income attributable to noncontrolling interest in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and comprehensive (loss)/income attributable to noncontrolling interest in the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income/(Loss).

Redeemable Noncontrolling Interests

The Company maintains agreements with joint venture partners who hold noncontrolling interests in the Company's consolidated subsidiaries W.K.S. Krispy Kreme, LLC ("W.K.S. Krispy Kreme"), and KK Canada AcquisitionCo Inc. ("KK Canada"), which provide them with redemption rights (i.e., a put option) that could require the Company to purchase the joint venture partners' remaining noncontrolling interests in the joint venture upon the passage of time. These redemption rights are not solely within the control of the Company. Accordingly, such interests are classified as redeemable noncontrolling interest outside of permanent equity, in mezzanine equity, on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

At initial recognition, redeemable noncontrolling interests are recorded at their issuance-date or acquisition date fair value. Subsequently, redeemable noncontrolling interests that are currently redeemable, or probable of becoming redeemable, are adjusted to the greater of (i) current redemption value or (ii) carrying amount. Adjustments to redemption value are recorded through additional paid-in capital. Upward adjustments are considered a deemed dividend, and would result in a reduction to earnings available to common shareholders for the calculation of earnings per common share. For additional information, see Note 21, Redeemable Noncontrolling Interests.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized when control of promised goods or services is transferred to a customer in an amount that reflects the consideration expected to be received for those goods or services.

Product Sales

Product sales include revenue derived from (1) the sale of doughnuts and complementary products to in-shop, digital, and fresh delivery customers and (2) the sale of doughnut mix, other ingredients and supplies, and doughnut-making equipment to franchisees. Revenue is recognized at the time of delivery for in-shop sales, digital sales, and sales to franchisees. For sales to fresh delivery customers, control transfers and revenue is recognized either at the time of delivery or, with respect to those customers that take title to products purchased from the Company, at the time those products are sold by the customer to the end consumers, simultaneously with such consumer purchases. Revenues are recognized net of provisions for estimated product returns. Revenues from the sale of doughnut mix, other ingredients, supplies, and doughnut-making equipment to franchisees include any applicable shipping and handling costs invoiced to the customer, and the expense of such shipping and handling costs is included in Operating expenses. The Company recorded shipping revenue of approximately $4.4 million, $10.4 million, and $13.3 million in the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

Franchise Revenue

Franchise revenue included in Royalties and other revenues is derived from development and initial franchise fees relating to new shop openings and ongoing royalties charged to franchisees based on their sales. The Company sells individual franchises domestically and internationally, as well as development agreements that grant to franchisees the right to develop shops in designated areas. Generally, the franchise license granted for each individual shop within an arrangement represents a single performance obligation. The franchise agreements and development agreements typically require the franchisee to pay initial nonrefundable franchise fees (i.e., initial services such as training and assisting with shop set-up) prior to opening. The franchisees also pay a royalty on a monthly basis based upon a percentage of franchisee gross sales. Royalties are recognized in income as underlying franchisee sales occur. The initial term of domestic franchise agreements is typically 15 years. The initial term of international franchise agreements is typically 10 years to 15 years. The Company recognizes the initial nonrefundable fees over the term of the franchise agreements on an output method based on time elapsed, corresponding with the customer's right to use the franchise for the term of the agreement. A franchisee may elect to renew the term of a franchise agreement and, if approved, will typically pay a renewal fee upon execution of the renewal term.

Franchise-related Advertising Fund Revenue

Franchise-related advertising fund revenue included in Royalties and other revenues is derived from domestic and international franchise agreements that typically require the franchisee to pay advertising fees on a continuous monthly basis based on a percentage of franchisee net sales, which are recognized based on fees earned each period. Total advertising fund revenue for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023 is $3.4 million, $4.5 million, and $3.8 million, respectively.

Gift Card Sales

The Company and its franchisees sell gift cards that are redeemable for products in the Company-owned or franchise shops. The Company manages the gift card program and collects all funds from the activation of gift cards and reimburses franchisees for the redemption of gift cards in their shops. Deferred revenue for unredeemed gift cards is included in Accrued liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the gross amount of deferred revenue recognized for unredeemed gift cards was $30.4 million and $28.9 million, respectively. Gift cards sold do not have an expiration date or service fees charged. The likelihood of redemption may be determined to be remote for certain cards due to long periods of inactivity. In these circumstances, the Company recognizes revenue from unredeemed gift cards ("breakage revenue") within Product sales if they are not subject to unclaimed property laws. The Company estimates breakage for the portfolio of gift cards and recognizes it based on the estimated pattern of gift card use. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, deferred revenue, net of breakage revenue recognized, was $8.4 million and $9.7 million, respectively.

Gift card costs incurred to fulfill obligations under a contract are capitalized when such costs generate or enhance resources to be used in satisfying future performance obligations and the costs are deemed recoverable. Judgment is used in determining whether certain contract costs can be capitalized. These costs are capitalized and amortized on a systematic basis to match the timing of revenue recognition, depending on when the gift card is used. This amortization expense is recorded in Operating expenses in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the capitalized gift card costs were $1.8 million and $2.0 million, respectively.

Consumer Loyalty Program

Consumers can participate in spend-based loyalty programs. Consumers who join the loyalty programs will receive points for each purchase of eligible product. After accumulating a certain number of points, the consumers can redeem their points for a free product. The Company defers revenue based on an estimated selling price of the free product earned by the consumer and establishes a corresponding liability in deferred revenue. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the deferred revenue related to loyalty programs is $5.4 million and $3.6 million, respectively.

Revenue-based Taxes

The Company reports revenue net of any revenue-based taxes assessed by governmental authorities that are imposed on and concurrent with specific revenue-producing transactions. The primary revenue-based taxes are sales tax and value-added tax ("VAT").

Product and Distribution Costs

Product and distribution costs include mainly raw material costs (principally sugar, flour, wheat, oil, and their derivatives) and production costs (including labor) related to doughnuts, other sweet treats, doughnut mix, packaging, and logistics costs related to raw materials.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses consist of expenses primarily related to Company-owned shops including payroll and benefit costs for service employees at Company-operated locations, rent and utilities, expenses associated with Company operations, costs associated with procuring materials from vendors, and other shop-level operating costs.

Marketing Expenses

Costs associated with marketing the products, including advertising and other brand promotional activities, are expensed as incurred, and were approximately $45.1 million, $47.7 million, and $45.9 million in the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

Pre-opening Costs

Pre-opening costs include labor, rent, utilities, and other expenses that are required as part of the set-up and use of a new shop, prior to generating sales. Pre-opening costs also include costs to integrate acquired franchises back into the Company-owned model, which typically occur with the relevant shop closed over a one to three-day period subsequent to acquisition. Pre-opening costs do not include expenses related to strategic planning (for example, new site lease negotiations), which are recorded in SG&A.

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash

Cash equivalents consist of demand deposits in banks and short-term, highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less.

All credit and debit card transactions that are processed in less than five days are classified as Cash and cash equivalents. The amounts due from banks for these transactions totaled $6.6 million and $6.7 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively.

The Company maintains cash and cash equivalent balances with financial institutions that exceed federally-insured limits. The Company has not experienced any losses related to these balances, and believes credit risk to be minimal.

Restricted cash consists primarily of funds related to employee benefit plans.

Accounts Receivable, Net of Allowance for Expected Credit Losses

Accounts receivable relate primarily to payments due for sale of products, franchise fees, royalties, advertising fees, and licensing fees. The Company maintains allowances for expected credit losses related to its accounts receivable, including receivables from franchisees, in amounts which the Company believes are sufficient to provide for losses estimated to be sustained on realization of these receivables. The measurement of expected credit losses is based on relevant information about past events, including historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the collectibility of amounts from customers. Such estimates inherently involve uncertainties and assessments of the outcome of future events, and changes in facts and circumstances may result in adjustments to the allowance for expected credit losses. The Company had allowance for expected credit losses of $1.0 million and $1.1 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively.

Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that subject the Company to credit risk consist principally of receivables from customers and franchisees. Customers receivables are primarily from grocery stores, club wholesalers, convenience stores, QSR, and drug stores. For the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, no customer accounted for more than 10% of revenue or a significant amount of receivables that would result in a concentration.

Management also evaluates the recoverability of receivables from the franchisees and maintains allowances for expected credit losses. Management believes these allowances are sufficient to provide for realized losses that may be sustained on realization of these receivables.

Inventories

Inventories, which consist of raw materials, work in progress, finished goods, and purchased merchandise, are recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value, where cost is determined using the first-in, first-out method. Raw materials inventory includes doughnut-related materials as well as doughnut equipment spare parts. Finished goods and purchased merchandise are net of reserves for excess or obsolete finished goods. These reserves totaled $1.4 million and $2.0 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively.

Taxes Receivable

Taxes receivable relate primarily to expected refunds of VAT as well as prepayments of income taxes to governmental authorities.

Assets and Liabilities Held for Sale

Assets are classified as held for sale when the Company commits to a plan to sell the asset, the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition, and an active program to locate a buyer at a reasonable price has been initiated. The sale of these assets is generally expected to be completed within one year. The combined assets are valued at the lower of their carrying amount or fair value, net of costs to sell, and included as current assets on the Company’s Consolidated Balance Sheets. Assets

classified as held for sale are not depreciated. However, interest attributable to the liabilities associated with assets classified as held for sale and other related expenses are recorded as expenses in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations.

As of December 28, 2025, the Company had assets and liabilities held for sale as a result of the agreement to sell its operations in Japan, as discussed in Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures. Additionally, the Company classified certain fleet assets previously recognized as lease assets as held for sale as of December 28, 2025, as discussed in Note 10, Leases.

Prepaid Expense and Other Current Assets

Prepaid expense and other current assets consist primarily of prepaid assets related to service contracts and insurance premiums of $15.2 million and $27.3 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively.

Property and Equipment, net

Property and equipment are recorded at cost, net of impairment. Depreciation of property and equipment is provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets.

The lives used in computing depreciation are as follows:

Buildings	20 to 35 years
Machinery and equipment	3 to 15 years
Computer software	2 to 7 years

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the estimated useful life of the asset or the lease term.

The Company assesses long-lived fixed asset groups for potential impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amount may not be recoverable. If the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows, the Company records an impairment charge in an amount equal to the excess of the carrying value of the assets over their estimated fair value.

Impairment charges related to the Company's long-lived fixed assets were $39.4 million, $4.6 million, and $18.1 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively. Impairment charges for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025 include costs related to the termination of the Business Relationship Agreement between McDonald's USA, LLC ("McDonald's USA") and Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation (the "Business Relationship Agreement"), and include $37.0 million of lease impairment and termination costs further discussed below in the Leases section in this Note 1. Impairment charges for the fiscal years ended December 29, 2024 and December 31, 2023 primarily related to underperforming shops, shops closed or likely to be closed, and shops which management believes will not generate sufficient future cash flows to enable the Company to recover the carrying value of the shops' assets, but has not yet decided to close. The impaired shop assets include real estate properties, the fair values of which may be estimated based on independent appraisals or, in the case of any properties which the Company is negotiating to sell, based on its negotiations with unrelated third-party buyers; leasehold improvements, which are typically abandoned when the leased properties revert to the lessor; and doughnut-making and other equipment the fair values of which may be estimated based on the replacement cost of the equipment, after considering refurbishment and transportation costs. The impairment charges are primarily attributable to the U.S. segment and are included within Goodwill and other asset impairments on the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Leases

Contracts entered into by the Company are evaluated to determine whether such contracts contain leases. A contract contains a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of identified property, plant, and equipment for a period of time in exchange for consideration. At commencement, contracts containing a lease are further evaluated for classification as an operating or finance lease based on the principle of whether or not the lease is effectively a financed purchase by the lessee. This classification determines whether lease expense is recognized based on an effective interest method or on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

The lease term and incremental borrowing rate ("IBR") for each lease requires judgment by management and can impact the classification of leases as well as the value of the lease assets and liabilities. When determining the lease term, management considers option periods available, and includes option periods in the measurement of the lease right of use asset and lease

liability where the exercise is reasonably certain to occur. The Company uses the rate implicit in the lease whenever that rate is readily determinable. If the rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable, the Company uses its IBR.

Upon the adoption of Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 842, *Leases*, the Company has elected to not separate the lease and non-lease components within the contract. Therefore, all fixed payments associated with the lease are included in the right of use asset and the lease liability. These costs often relate to the payments for a proportionate share of real estate taxes, insurance, common area maintenance and other operating costs in addition to a base rent. Any variable payments related to the lease are recorded as lease expense when and as incurred. The Company has elected this practical expedient for its real estate, vehicles and equipment leases. The Company has also elected the short-term lease expedient. A short-term lease is a lease that, as of the commencement date, has a lease term of 12 months or less and does not include an option to purchase the underlying asset that the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise. For such leases, the Company will not apply the recognition requirements of ASC 842 and instead will recognize the lease payments as lease cost on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the same manner as long-lived fixed assets, the Company assesses lease right of use assets for potential impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amount may not be recoverable. If the carrying amount of the right of use assets exceeds the sum of their undiscounted cash flows, the Company records an impairment charge in an amount equal to the excess of the carrying value of the assets over their estimated fair value. If a lease contract is terminated before the expiration of the lease term the remaining right of use asset and lease liability are derecognized, with any difference recognized as a gain or loss on lease termination. If the Company is required to make any payments or receives consideration when terminating the lease, it would include such amounts in the determination of the gain or loss upon termination. For the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 31, 2023 the Company recorded lease impairment and termination costs of $37.0 million and $6.6 million, respectively which are included within Goodwill and other asset impairments on the Consolidated Statements of Operations. For the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024 the Company recorded a net gain on lease termination of $0.1 million, which is included within Goodwill and other asset impairments on the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable net assets acquired in a business combination. For each reporting unit, the Company assesses goodwill for impairment annually at the beginning of the fourth quarter or more frequently when impairment indicators are present. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the Company recognizes an impairment charge for the difference up to the carrying value of the allocated goodwill.

In the second quarter of fiscal 2025, management identified impairment indicators that required a quantitative assessment of goodwill outside of management's routine annual assessment. These indicators included that during the two quarters ended June 29, 2025, the Company experienced a decline in its stock price and market capitalization, which became significant and sustained during the quarter ended June 29, 2025. In addition, the Company's operating results for the quarter were below previous forecasts. Lastly, the Company updated its forecasts for the full year following termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA during the quarter, and the updated forecasts were below previous forecasts. After completing the quantitative impairment test, management concluded that the estimated fair values of the U.S., Krispy Kreme Holding U.K. Ltd. ("KK U.K."), and KK Australia reporting units had declined below their carrying values, and management recognized a cumulative, non-cash, partial goodwill impairment charge of $356.0 million (gross of income taxes) in the quarter ended June 29, 2025.

The estimated fair values of the reporting units were based on estimates and assumptions that are considered Level 3 inputs under the fair value hierarchy. In estimating the fair values of the reporting units, management reconciled the fair value of the Company to the Company's market capitalization. Management utilized a discounted cash flow approach and a market approach to determine fair values, allocating 50% to each approach. These calculations require management to make assumptions and to apply judgment when estimating future cash flows and asset fair values, including projected revenue growth and operating expenses related to existing businesses, product innovation, and new shop concepts, as well as selecting valuation multiples of similar publicly traded companies and an appropriate discount rate. Estimates of revenue growth and operating expenses were based on internal projections considering the reporting unit's past performance and forecasted growth, strategic initiatives, local market economics, and the local business environment impacting the reporting unit's performance. The discount rate was selected based on the estimated cost of capital for a market participant to operate the reporting unit in the region. These estimates, as well as the selection of comparable companies and valuation multiples used in the market approaches, are highly subjective, and the Company's ability to realize the future cash flows used in management's fair value calculations may be affected by factors such as the success of strategic initiatives, changes in economic conditions, changes in operating performance, and changes in business strategies, including retail initiatives and international expansion. For the discounted cash flow approach, management applied discount rates to management's projected cash flows of 10.0%, 12.0%, and 12.0% for the U.S., KK U.K., and KK Australia reporting units, respectively.

As of September 29, 2025, we performed a quantitative impairment assessment for all of our reporting units. The estimated fair value of each reporting unit exceeded its carrying value and, therefore, no additional impairment was recorded. For the fiscal years ended December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, there were no goodwill impairment charges.

If the Company's future performance varies from current expectations, assumptions, or estimates this may impact the impairment analysis and could reduce the underlying cash flows used to estimate fair values, resulting in a decline in fair value that may result in future impairment charges. Management will continue to monitor developments, including updates to forecasts and the Company's market capitalization. Goodwill impairment assessment may be required in the future which could result in updates to goodwill and related estimates in the future. Refer to Note 7, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, net, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Other intangible assets primarily represent the trade names for the Company's brands, franchise agreements (domestic and international), reacquired franchise rights, and customer relationships. The trade names have been assigned an indefinite useful life and are reviewed annually for impairment. All other intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. Definite-lived intangible assets are assessed for impairment whenever triggering events or indicators of potential impairment occur. The Company recognized no impairment charges to other intangible assets for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024. The Company recognized impairment charges to other intangible assets of $0.2 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, related to franchise agreement terminations.

The goodwill and other asset impairments do not have an impact on the Company's compliance with the financial covenants under the Company's debt arrangements.

Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities include accrued compensation, accrued legal fees, accrued utilities, accrued marketing, and other accrued liabilities. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, accrued compensation and benefits included in the Accrued liabilities balance was $26.0 million and $30.3 million, respectively.

Supply Chain Financing Programs

The Company has an agreement with a third-party administrator which allows participating vendors to track the Company's payments, and if voluntarily elected by the vendor, to sell payment obligations from the Company to financial institutions (the "supply chain financing program" or the "SCF program"). When participating vendors elect to sell one or more of the Company's payment obligations, the Company's rights and obligations to settle the payables on their contractual due date are not impacted. The Company agrees on commercial terms with vendors for the goods and services procured, which are consistent with payment terms observed at other peer companies in the industry. The Company has historically prioritized negotiating longer payment terms with some of its largest vendors, and certain of these vendors have also elected to participate in the SCF program. Payment terms and pricing negotiations are independent of, and not conditioned upon, a vendor's participation in the SCF program. The financial institutions do not provide the Company with incentives such as rebates or profit sharing under the SCF program. As the terms are not impacted by the SCF program, such obligations are classified as Accounts payable in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and the associated cash flows are included in operating activities in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. Refer to Note 8, Vendor Finance Programs, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

Structured Payables Programs

The Company utilizes various card products issued by financial institutions to facilitate purchases of goods and services. By using these products, the Company may receive differing levels of rebates based on timing of repayment. The payment obligations under these card products are classified as Structured payables in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and the associated cash flows are included in financing activities in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. Refer to Note 8, Vendor Finance Programs, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

Share-based Compensation

The Company measures and recognizes compensation expense for share-based payment awards based on the fair value of each award at its grant date and recognizes expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period for the entire award, including for those awards with a graded vesting schedule. The Company accounts for forfeitures of share-based compensation awards as they occur. Compensation expense is included in Selling, general and administrative expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Fair Value

The accounting standards for fair value measurements define fair value as the price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The accounting standards for fair value measurements establish a three-level fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. This hierarchy requires entities to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. The three levels of inputs used to measure fair value are as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets that are accessible as of the measurement date for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2: Observable inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1, such as quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets and liabilities in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value measurement of the assets or liabilities. These include certain pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies and similar techniques that use significant unobservable inputs.

The Company's financial instruments not measured at fair value on a recurring basis include cash and cash equivalents, receivables, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities and are reflected in the audited Consolidated Financial Statements at cost

which approximates fair value for these items due to their short-term nature. Management believes the fair value determination of these short-term financial instruments is a Level 1 measure. The Company's other assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis include long-lived assets, lease right of use assets, goodwill, and other indefinite-lived intangible assets, if determined to be impaired. Refer to the Property and Equipment, net, and Leases sections in this Note 1 for information about impairment charges on long-lived assets. The fair values of assets evaluated for impairment were determined using an income- and market-based approach and are classified as Level 3 measures within the fair value hierarchy.

Derivative Financial Instruments

Management reflects derivative financial instruments, which typically consist of interest rate derivatives, foreign currency derivatives, and fuel commodity derivatives in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at their fair value. For interest rate derivatives, changes in fair value are reflected in other comprehensive income as the Company applies cash flow hedge accounting. Consistent with the classification of interest paid, cash flows from interest rate derivatives are classified as operating on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. The changes in the fair values of the foreign currency and fuel commodity derivatives are reflected in income as the Company does not apply hedge accounting to those derivatives.

Self-Insurance Risks and Receivables from Insurers

The Company is subject to workers' compensation, vehicle, and general liability claims. The Company is self-insured for the cost of workers' compensation, vehicle, and general liability claims up to the amount of stop-loss insurance coverage purchased by the Company from commercial insurance carriers. The Company maintains accruals for the estimated cost of claims, without regard to the effects of stop-loss coverage, using actuarial methods which evaluate known open and incurred but not reported claims and consider historical loss development experience. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the Company had approximately $31.2 million and $34.8 million, respectively, reserved for such programs. The liability recorded for assessments has not been discounted. In addition, the Company records receivables from the insurance carriers for claims amounts estimated to be recovered under the stop-loss insurance policies when these amounts are estimable and probable of collection. The Company estimates such stop-loss receivables using the same actuarial methods used to establish the related claims accruals and considering the amount of risk transferred to the carriers under the stop-loss policies. The stop-loss policies provide coverage for claims in excess of retained self-insurance risks, which are determined on a claim-by-claim basis. Inclusive of the receivables from the stop-loss insurance policies, the Company's limited liability balance was $22.6 million and $18.7 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively. The gross liability balances for the current and noncurrent portions of these claims are classified as Accrued liabilities and Other long-term obligations and deferred credits, respectively, in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The current and noncurrent portions of the stop-loss receivables are classified as Prepaid expense and other current assets and Other assets, respectively, in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Preferred Stock

The Company has 50.0 million shares of authorized preferred stock with $0.01 par value per share. There were no shares of preferred stock issued nor outstanding as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024.

(Loss)/Earnings per Share (EPS)

The Company discloses two calculations of (loss)/earnings per share ("EPS"): basic EPS and diluted EPS. The numerator in calculating common stock basic and diluted EPS is net (loss)/income attributable to the Company. The denominator in calculating common stock basic EPS is the weighted average shares outstanding. The denominator in calculating common stock diluted EPS includes the additional dilutive effect of unvested RSUs, PSUs, and time-vested stock options when the effect is not antidilutive. Refer to Note 19, Net (Loss)/Earnings per Share, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

Reclassifications

Segment information is prepared on the same basis on which the Company's management reviews financial information for operational decision-making purposes. Effective January 1, 2024, the Company realigned its segment reporting structure such that the Company-owned Canada and Japan businesses have moved from the Market Development reportable operating segment to the International reportable operating segment. All segment information for comparative periods has been restated to be consistent with current presentation.

In the Consolidated Statements of Operations, Goodwill and other asset impairments in the comparative period have been reclassified (formerly presented within Other income, net) to be consistent with current presentation.

In the Consolidated Balance Sheets, Investments in unconsolidated entities in the comparative period have been reclassified (formerly presented within Other assets) to be consistent with current presentation. This reclassification does not have a significant impact on the reported financial position and does not impact the results of operations or cash flows.

Exiting the Branded Sweet Treats Business

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the Company decided to exit its pre-packaged Branded Sweet Treats business due in part to its dilutive impact on profit margins, as well as to allow the Company to focus on its fresh doughnuts business. As such, the Company recognized non-recurring expenses, including property, plant and equipment impairments, inventory write-offs, employee severance, and other related costs, totaling approximately $17.9 million (gross of income taxes) in fiscal 2023. Of these expenses, $10.1 million were recorded within Product and distribution costs, primarily relating to inventory write-offs, $7.3 million were recorded within Goodwill and other asset impairments, relating to long-lived asset impairments, and the rest were recorded within Other income, net on the on the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA

On June 24, 2025, the Company and McDonald's USA announced that the companies had jointly decided to terminate the Business Relationship Agreement effective July 2, 2025 (the "Termination Effective Date"). Effective as of the Termination Effective Date, neither party has any further obligations to the other party under the Business Relationship Agreement except for obligations related to confidentiality, indemnification, and certain other miscellaneous provisions that expressly survive termination.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Recently Adopted

Accounting Standards Adopted at the Beginning of Fiscal Year 2025

In December 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-09, *Income Taxes (Topic 740): Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures*, which focuses on the rate reconciliation and income taxes paid disclosures. The ASU requires a public business entity ("PBE") to disclose, on an annual basis, a tabular rate reconciliation using both percentages and currency amounts, broken out into specified categories with certain reconciling items further disaggregated by nature and/or jurisdiction to the extent those items exceed a specified threshold. In addition, all entities are required to disclose income taxes paid, net of refunds received disaggregated by federal, state, and foreign and by individual jurisdiction if the amount is at least 5% of total income taxes paid, net of refunds received. For PBEs, the ASU is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2024, with early adoption permitted. An entity should apply the amendments in this ASU prospectively, with retrospective application permitted. The Company adopted this ASU prospectively in the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025 which impacted its income tax

disclosures but did not have an impact on its results of operations, cash flows, or financial condition. Refer to Note 15, Income Taxes, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the additional disclosures.

Accounting Standards Adopted at the Beginning of Fiscal Year 2024

In November 2023, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2023-07, *Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures*, which required a public entity to disclose significant segment expenses and other segment items on an annual and interim basis and provide in interim periods all disclosures about a reportable segment's profit or loss and assets that are currently required annually. Additionally, it required a public entity to disclose the title and position of the Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM"). The ASU did not change how a public entity identifies its operating segments, aggregates them, or applies the quantitative thresholds to determine its reportable segments. The ASU was effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023, and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024. As such, the Company adopted this ASU in the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025 and has disclosed the required information in Note 20, Segment Reporting, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements. The adoption of this ASU did not impact the financial statements presented herein.

Not Yet Adopted

In November 2024, the FASB issued ASU 2024-03, *Income Statement (Subtopic 220-40): Disaggregation of Income Statement Expenses*, which requires a PBE to disclose in the notes to the financial statements, at each interim and annual reporting period, specified information about certain costs and expenses including (a) purchases of inventory, (b) employee compensation, (c) depreciation, (d) intangible asset amortization, and (e) depreciation, depletion, and amortization recognized as part of oil and gas-producing activities, for each income statement line item that contains those expenses. For PBE's, the ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2026, and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2027. An entity may apply the amendments in this ASU prospectively or retrospectively. The Company is still evaluating the impacts of this ASU on its expense disclosures, results of operations, cash flows, and financial condition.

In September 2025, the FASB issued ASU 2025-06, *Intangibles (Subtopic 350-40): Targeted Improvements to the Accounting for Internal-Use Software,* which clarifies and modernizes the accounting for costs related to internal-use software. The guidance removes all references to project stages in ASC 350-40, *Intangibles — Goodwill and Other — Internal-Use Software* and clarifies the threshold entities apply to begin capitalizing costs. The new guidance requires an entity to start capitalizing software costs when (a) management has authorized and committed to funding the software project, and (b) it is probable that the project will be completed and the software will be used to perform the function intended. For PBEs, the ASU is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2027, and interim periods within those annual periods, with early adoption permitted. Entities may apply the amendments in this ASU using a prospective, retrospective, or modified transition approach. The Company is still evaluating the impact of this ASU on its results of operations, cash flows, and financial condition.

There are other new accounting pronouncements issued by the FASB that the Company has adopted or will adopt, as applicable, and the Company does not believe any of these accounting pronouncements have had, or will have, a material impact on its audited Consolidated Financial Statements or disclosures.

Note 2 — Revision of Financial Statements

Revision of Previously Issued Financial Statements

During the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended December 28, 2025, the Company identified and corrected the classification and accounting treatment for the redeemable noncontrolling interests in W.K.S. Krispy Kreme and KK Canada (the "redeemable noncontrolling interests"). The Company determined that the accounting for the redeemable noncontrolling interests for periods prior to the annual period ended December 28, 2025 was incorrect. Specifically, the redeemable noncontrolling interests had originally been classified as Noncontrolling interest within Shareholders' equity in the financial statements included in the Company's annual and quarterly reports filed prior to the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025. The Company determined that the redeemable noncontrolling interests should instead be accounted for as Mezzanine equity. In addition, the redeemable noncontrolling interests, which were recorded at fair value each annual and quarterly reporting period, with changes recorded in Net (loss)/income, should instead be recorded at the greater of (i) current redemption value or (ii) carrying amount each quarterly reporting period with changes to this amount being recorded in Additional paid-in capital.

Accordingly, the change in carrying value of the redeemable noncontrolling interest, which was originally included in the calculation of Net (loss)/income as well as the calculation of Net (loss)/income attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc. for periods prior to the annual period ended December 28, 2025, should instead be included only in the calculation of Net (loss)/income attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc as those captions are presented in the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity. In accordance with the guidance provided by the SEC's Staff Accounting Bulletin 99, Materiality, and Staff Accounting Bulletin 108, Considering the Effects of Prior Year Misstatements when Quantifying Misstatements in Current Year Financial Statements, the Company has determined that the impact of adjustments relating to the corrections of this accounting error are not material to previously issued annual audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements. Accordingly, these adjustments are disclosed herein and will be disclosed prospectively. As a result of the aforementioned correction of accounting errors, the annual financial statements included herein have been revised as follows:

	Consolidated Balance Sheets		
	As Previously Reported	**Adjustments**	**As Revised**
Year Ended December 29, 2024			
Mezzanine equity	$ —	$ 27,297	$ 27,297
Noncontrolling interest	**$ 29,895**	**$ (27,297)**	**$ 2,598**

	Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity		
	As Previously Reported	**Adjustments**	**As Revised**
Noncontrolling Interest			
Balance at January 1, 2023	$ 102,543	$ (27,491)	$ 75,052
Net (loss)/income for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023	1,278	(309)	969
Other comprehensive income for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 before reclassifications	**994**	**(246)**	**748**
Balance at December 31, 2023	94,100	(28,046)	66,054
Net income for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024	720	(674)	1,394
Other comprehensive (loss)/income for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024 before reclassifications	**(1,093)**	**75**	**(1,018)**
Balance at December 29, 2024	$ 29,895	$ (27,297)	$ 2,598

Note 3 — Acquisitions and Divestitures

The Company strategically acquires companies in order to increase its footprint. These acquisitions are accounted for as business combinations using the acquisition method, whereby the purchase price is allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed, based on their estimated fair values as of the date of the acquisition.

Transaction-related expenses as a result of these acquisitions, which exclude costs incurred to integrate the acquired entities, were recorded within Operating (loss)/income in the Consolidated Statements of Operations (primarily Selling, general and administrative expenses) during the fiscal year such costs were incurred.

Goodwill recognized for these acquisitions represents the intangible assets that do not qualify for separate recognition and primarily includes the acquired customer base, the acquired workforce including shop partners in the region that have strong relationships with these customers, and the existing geographic shop and digital presence.

2025 Acquisitions and Divestitures

Agreement to sell KK Japan

On December 18, 2025, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its operations in Japan (the “Japan Share Purchase Agreement”), which transaction subsequently closed on March 2, 2026. The decision to sell these operations was based on management’s ongoing strategic refranchising initiative to support greater financial flexibility and reduce debt. The sale is expected to result in an after-tax gain. The sale does not represent a strategic shift that will have a major effect on operations and financial results and, therefore, did not qualify for presentation as a discontinued operation as of December 28, 2025.

The Japan assets and liabilities that were previously reported in the International reporting segment and reclassified as “assets held for sale” and “liabilities held for sale” are as follows:

	As of December 28, 2025
Assets held for sale:	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 2,854
Accounts receivable, net	6,939
Inventories	676
Prepaid expense and other current assets	349
Total current assets classified as held for sale	**10,818**
Property and equipment, net	11,301
Operating lease right of use asset, net	12,451
Other assets	7,304
Total assets classified as held for sale	**$ 41,874**
Liabilities held for sale:	
Current portion of long-term debt	4
Current operating lease liabilities	4,204
Accounts payable	2,908
Accrued liabilities	6,419
Total current liabilities classified as held for sale	**13,535**
Long-term debt, less current portion	3
Noncurrent operating lease liabilities	7,868
Other long-term obligations and deferred credits	3,945
Total liabilities classified as held for sale	**25,351**
Net assets classified as held for sale	**$ 16,523**

Equity Method Investments in KK Brazil and KK Spain

In the second and third quarters of fiscal 2025, respectively, the Company invested approximately $2.1 million in cash to maintain a 45.0% noncontrolling ownership interest in Krispy Kreme Doughnuts Brasil S.A. (“KK Brazil”) and approximately $0.9 million in cash to maintain a 25.0% noncontrolling ownership interest in Glaseadas Originales S.L. (“KK Spain”). As the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence over KK Spain and KK Brazil, but does not have the ability to exercise control, both investments are accounted for using the equity method, and equity method earnings are recognized within Other income, net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Divestiture of Insomnia Cookies

In the second quarter of fiscal 2025, the Company sold the remainder of its ownership interest in Insomnia Cookies Holdings, LLC (“Insomnia Cookies”) for aggregate cash proceeds of $75.0 million. Insomnia Cookies was previously accounted for using the equity method, and the Company recognized a loss on divestiture of $11.5 million (gross of income taxes) which is included within Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

2024 Acquisitions and Divestitures

Acquisition of Krispy Kreme U.S. and Canada Shops

In the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2024, the Company acquired the business and operating assets of three franchisees, consisting of ten Krispy Kreme shops in the U.S. and one Krispy Kreme shop in Canada. Prior to one of the acquisitions, the Company was a minority investor in the shops via its equity method investments in KremeWorks USA, LLC and KremeWorks Canada, L.P. The Company paid cumulative consideration of $37.7 million, consisting of $31.9 million of cash (exclusive of $6.7 million proceeds for the Company’s equity method investments), $2.8 million of consideration payable to the sellers, and $3.0 million settlement of amounts related to pre-existing relationships, to acquire substantially all of the shops’ assets. Consideration payable of $2.8 million was withheld primarily to cover indemnification claims that could arise after closing. The settlement of pre-existing relationships included in the purchase consideration includes the settlement of accounts and notes receivable, net of deferred revenue, of $0.7 million. It also includes the disposal of the franchise intangible asset related to the franchisees with a cumulative net book value of $2.3 million at the respective acquisition dates. The Company accounted for the transactions as business combinations. Within the measurement period, there was an adjustment to goodwill of $0.5 million related to an adjustment to accrued liabilities and prepaid expense and other current assets.

Immediately prior to one of the acquisitions, the Company recognized a gain of $5.6 million related to remeasurement of its equity method investments to a cumulative fair value of $6.7 million. The gain is recorded within Other income, net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

The following table summarizes the preliminary fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the date of acquisition for the acquisitions above.

	KK U.S. Shops	KK Canada Shop	Total Purchase Price Allocation for Acquisitions
Assets acquired:			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 8	$ 1	$ 9
Prepaid expense and other current assets	771	63	834
Property and equipment, net	13,649	971	14,620
Other intangible assets, net	12,928	6,871	19,799
Operating lease right of use asset, net	10,308	322	10,630
Deferred income taxes, net	—	23	23
Total identified assets acquired	**37,664**	**8,251**	**45,915**
Liabilities assumed:			
Current operating lease liabilities	(1,153)	(61)	(1,214)
Noncurrent operating lease liabilities	(9,155)	(261)	(9,416)
Deferred income taxes, net	(514)	—	(514)
Total liabilities assumed	**(10,822)**	**(322)**	**(11,144)**
Goodwill	5,996	3,625	9,621
Net assets acquired	**32,838**	**11,554**	**44,392**
Less: Fair value of former equity method investments	(4,254)	(2,460)	(6,714)
Purchase consideration, net	**$ 28,584**	**$ 9,094**	**$ 37,678**
Transaction costs in 2024	$ 1,933	$ 589	$ 2,522
Transaction costs in 2023	102	—	102
Reportable segment	U.S.	International	

Other intangible assets, net consist of reacquired franchise rights with an estimated useful life equal to the weighted average remaining franchise agreement term, which was ten years for these acquired shops. The results of operations of the aforementioned acquired shops were consolidated by the Company from the respective dates of acquisition and include $18.4 million of total revenue and $2.4 million of net income attributable to the Company for fiscal year 2024. The amounts do not reflect adjustments for franchise royalties and related expenses that the Company could have generated as revenue and expenses from the acquired franchisees during the fiscal year had the transaction not been completed.

The results of the acquired franchise businesses were reported within the Market Development segment prior to the respective dates of acquisition and are reported within the segments noted above following the respective dates of acquisition.

Equity Method Investments in KK Brazil and KK Spain

In the second quarter of fiscal 2024, the Company acquired a 45% noncontrolling ownership interest in KK Brazil, for approximately $2.7 million in cash, and a 25% noncontrolling ownership interest in KK Spain, for approximately $0.8 million in cash. As the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence over both KK Brazil and KK Spain, but does not have the ability to exercise control, the investments are accounted for using the equity method, and equity method earnings are recognized within Other income, net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Acquisition of Additional Units in Consolidated Subsidiary Awesome Doughnut

In the third quarter of fiscal 2024, the Company purchased all units held by the noncontrolling interest holders in the consolidated subsidiary Awesome Doughnut, LLC ("Awesome Doughnut") for $32.9 million in cash. The purchase increased the Company's ownership interest in Awesome Doughnut from 70% to 100%. The Company financed the purchase via an existing structured payables program whereby the structured payable matured and was paid in the first quarter of fiscal 2025.

Divestiture of Insomnia Cookies

In the third quarter of fiscal 2024, the Company entered into an agreement to sell a portion of its shares of Insomnia Cookies for cash proceeds of $127.4 million. Also in the third quarter of fiscal 2024, the Company received additional cash of $45.0 million from Insomnia Cookies related to the settlement of an intercompany loan. The transaction resulted in the Company's ownership of Insomnia Cookies declining from 75.0% to 34.7% with a loss of control. Accordingly, the Company deconsolidated Insomnia Cookies from the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements and recorded a gain on divestiture of $90.5 million (gross of income taxes) which is included within Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. The gain recognized in fiscal 2024 was calculated as follows:

	July 17, 2024
Cash proceeds	$ 127,350
Fair value of retained noncontrolling interest in Insomnia Cookies	85,086
Carrying value of former noncontrolling interest in Insomnia Cookies	30,427
Less: Carrying value of net assets of Insomnia Cookies, including cash and cash equivalents	(152,408)
Gain on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	**$ 90,455**

As the Company had the ability to exercise significant influence over Insomnia Cookies, but does not have the ability to exercise control, the investment was accounted for using the equity method. The fair value of the equity method investment of $85.1 million was estimated using a Monte Carlo simulation in a risk-neutral framework to model the likelihood of the Company's potential future sale of its noncontrolling interest in Insomnia Cookies. The valuation methodology included assumptions and judgments regarding probability weighting, discount rates, operating results of Insomnia Cookies, and expected timing of a future exit by the investors. Equity method earnings were recognized within Other non-operating (income)/expense, net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

2023 Acquisitions

In the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, there were no acquisitions accounted for as business combinations.

Equity Method Investment in KK France

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2023, the Company invested approximately $1.4 million in cash to maintain a 33% noncontrolling ownership interest in Krispy Kreme Doughnuts France SAS ("KK France"). As the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence over KK France, but it does not exercise control, the investment is accounted for using the equity method, and equity method earnings are recognized within Other income, net on the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Note 4 — Accounts Receivable, net

The components of Accounts receivable, net are as follows:

	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Trade receivables, net	$ 55,736	$ 57,439
Other receivables, net	5,611	8,406
Receivables from related parties, net	264	1,877
Total accounts receivable, net	**$ 61,611**	**$ 67,722**

Receivables from related parties, net includes receivables from equity method investees. Refer to Note 17, Related Party Transactions, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

Note 5 — Inventories

The components of Inventories are as follows:

	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Raw materials	$ 18,003	$ 20,698
Work in progress	156	328
Finished goods and purchased merchandise [1]	8,718	7,107
Total inventories	**$ 26,877**	**$ 28,133**

[1] During the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, the Company recognized inventory write-offs of $6.3 million, $2.8 million, and $11.2 million, respectively. The inventory write-offs in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 primarily related to the decision to exit the Branded Sweet Treats business.

Note 6 — Property and Equipment, net

Property and equipment, net consist of the following:

	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Land	$ 9,522	$ 11,096
Buildings	166,035	163,116
Leasehold improvements	267,030	243,358
Machinery and equipment	439,925	409,876
Computer software	103,454	95,086
Construction and projects in progress	22,014	34,215
Property and equipment, gross	**1,007,980**	**956,747**
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(547,045)	(445,608)
Total property and equipment, net [1]	**$ 460,935**	**$ 511,139**

Computer software includes $9.7 million and $16.0 million of new costs to develop, code, test, and license software under hosting arrangements in the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively. Software under hosting arrangements consists primarily of solutions that empower the Company's consumer-facing website and mobile application. Total depreciation expense was $86.7 million, $90.0 million, and $88.9 million in the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

Note 7 — Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, net

Goodwill

Changes in the carrying amount of goodwill by reportable segment are as follows:

	U.S.	International	Market Development	Total
Balance as of December 31, 2023	**$ 677,956**	**$ 294,468**	**$ 129,515**	**$ 1,101,939**
Acquisitions	23,603	4,270	(17,736)	10,137
Divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	(54,803)	—	—	(54,803)
Foreign currency impact	—	(15,720)	—	(15,720)
Adjustments related to deferred taxes	6,028	—	—	6,028
Balance as of December 29, 2024	**652,784**	**283,018**	**111,779**	**1,047,581**
Measurement period adjustments related to fiscal year 2024 acquisitions	(516)	—	—	(516)
Goodwill impairment [(1)]	(270,162)	(85,796)	—	(355,958)
Foreign currency impact	—	21,157	—	21,157
Balance as of December 28, 2025	**$ 382,106**	**$ 218,379**	**$ 111,779**	**$ 712,264**

(1) Refer to Note 1, Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information on the goodwill impairment.

Acquisitions of franchises result in a reclassification of goodwill between segments.

Other Intangible Assets

Other intangible assets consist of the following:

	December 28, 2025			December 29, 2024		
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount
Intangible assets with indefinite lives						
Trade names and trademarks	$ 553,400	$ —	$ 553,400	$ 553,400	$ —	$ 553,400
Intangible assets with definite lives						
Franchise agreements	27,154	(12,363)	14,791	27,154	(11,050)	16,104
Customer relationships	15,000	(8,142)	6,858	15,000	(7,277)	7,723
Reacquired franchise rights [(1)]	420,262	(197,562)	222,700	402,894	(160,187)	242,707
Total intangible assets with definite lives	**462,416**	**(218,067)**	**244,349**	**445,048**	**(178,514)**	**266,534**
Total intangible assets	**$ 1,015,816**	**$ (218,067)**	**$ 797,749**	**$ 998,448**	**$ (178,514)**	**$ 819,934**

(1) Reacquired franchise rights include the impact of foreign currency fluctuations associated with the respective countries.

Amortization expense related to intangible assets included in Depreciation and amortization expense was $31.3 million, $30.3 million, and $29.4 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

Estimated future amortization expense as of December 28, 2025 is as follows:

Fiscal year	Estimated amortization expense
2026	$ 31,903
2027	31,632
2028	31,830
2029	30,953
2030	30,423
Thereafter	87,608
Total	**$ 244,349**

The aforementioned estimates do not reflect the impact of future foreign exchange rate changes.

Note 8 — Vendor Finance Programs

The following table presents liabilities related to vendor finance programs which the Company participates in as a buyer as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024:

	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	Balance Sheet Location
Supply chain financing programs	$ 12,517	$ 6,912	Accounts payable
Structured payables programs	92,366	135,668	Structured payables
Total Liabilities	**$ 104,883**	**$ 142,580**	

Changes in the vendor finance program balances are as follows:

	Supply Chain Financing Programs	Structured Payables Programs
Balance as of December 31, 2023	**$ 51,239**	**$ 130,104**
Proceeds received	41,765	376,189
Payments made	(62,804)	(345,327)
Divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	(23,186)	(25,109)
Foreign currency impact	(102)	(189)
Balance as of December 29, 2024	**$ 6,912**	**$ 135,668**
Proceeds received	12,353	291,028
Payments made	(6,960)	(334,576)
Foreign currency impact	212	246
Balance as of December 28, 2025	**$ 12,517**	**$ 92,366**

Note 9 — Long-Term Debt

The Company's long-term debt obligations consists of the following:

	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
2023 Facility — term loan	$ 742,825	$ 647,500
2023 Facility — revolving credit facility	157,500	172,000
Short-term lines of credit	2,514	5,000
Less: Debt issuance costs	(2,904)	(3,322)
Financing obligations	77,894	79,725
Total long-term debt	**977,829**	**900,903**
Less: Current portion of long-term debt	(65,977)	(56,356)
Long-term debt, less current portion	**$ 911,852**	**$ 844,547**

2023 Secured Credit Facility

The Company is party to a credit agreement ("the 2023 Facility") consisting of a $300.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility and a term loan with an original principal amount of $700.0 million. During the quarter ended June 29, 2025, the Company amended the 2023 Facility (referred to herein as the "2025 Amendment") to, among other things, establish additional, incremental term loan commitments in an aggregate principal amount of $125.0 million. The 2023 Facility is secured by a first priority lien on substantially all of the Company's personal property assets, certain real estate properties, and all of the Company's domestic wholly owned subsidiaries. Loans made pursuant to the 2023 Facility may be used for general corporate purposes of the Company (including, but not limited to, financing working capital needs, capital expenditures, acquisitions, other investments, dividends, and stock repurchases) and for any other purpose not prohibited under the related loan documents. The 2025 Amendment imposed certain restrictions on the Company's ability to make restricted payments, including dividends, if the leverage ratio under the 2023 Facility exceeds 3.00 to 1.00.

In the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 the Company capitalized $7.5 million of debt issuance costs related to the 2023 Facility, $5.3 million of which was related to the term loan and $2.2 million related to the revolving credit facility. Additionally, the Company recognized $0.5 million expenses during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 related to unamortized debt issuance costs from the 2019 Facility associated with extinguished lenders, which are included in Interest expense, net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. During the quarter ended June 29, 2025, the Company capitalized $0.8 million of debt issuance costs related to the 2025 Amendment.

After consideration of outstanding borrowings and letters of credit secured by the 2023 Facility, the Company had $142.5 million and $128.0 million of available borrowing capacity under the revolving credit facility as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively.

The 2023 Facility provides for quarterly scheduled principal payments on the term loan and repayment of all outstanding balances on the term loan and revolving credit facility at maturity, March 23, 2028. Further, the Company may be required to prepay additional amounts annually upon the occurrence of a prepayment event as defined in the 2023 Facility. Because the amounts of any such future repayments are not currently determinable, they are excluded from the long-term debt maturities schedule below.

Borrowings under the 2023 Facility are generally subject to an interest rate of adjusted term SOFR plus a credit spread adjustment of 0.10% plus (i) 2.25% if the Company's leverage ratio (as defined in the 2023 Facility) equals or exceeds 4.00 to 1.00, (ii) 2.00% if the Company's leverage ratio is less than 4.00 to 1.00 but greater than or equal to 3.00 to 1.00, or (iii) 1.75% if the Company's leverage ratio is less than 3.00 to 1.00. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the unhedged interest rate was 6.27% and 6.48% under the 2023 Facility, respectively. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, $550.0 million out of the $742.8 million term loan balance and $500.0 million out of the $647.5 million term loan balance, respectively, was hedged, with the interest rate swap agreements scheduled to mature in March 2028. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the effective interest rates on the term loan were approximately 6.06% and 6.20%, respectively. The Company is required to make equal installments of 1.25% of the aggregate closing date principal amount of the term loan on the last day of each fiscal quarter. All remaining term loan and revolving loan balances are to be due at maturity in March 2028. Refer to Note 12, Derivative Instruments, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion of the interest rate swap arrangements.

The 2023 Facility allows the Company to obtain letters of credit by applying those amounts against the usage of the senior secured revolving credit facility. If obtained, the Company would be required to pay a fee equal to the Applicable Rate for SOFR-based loans on the outstanding amount of letters of credit plus a fronting fee to the issuing bank. Commitment fees on the unused portion of the senior secured revolving credit facility range from 0.25% to 0.375%, based on the Company's leverage ratio. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the fee on the unused portion of the senior secured revolving credit facility was 0.25%, included in Interest expense in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Restrictions and Covenants

The 2023 Facility requires the Company to meet a maximum leverage ratio financial test. The leverage ratio is required to be less than 5.00 to 1.00 as of the end of each quarterly Test Period (as defined in the 2023 Facility) through maturity in March 2028. The leverage ratio under the 2023 Facility is defined as the ratio of (a) Total Indebtedness (as defined in the 2023 Facility, which includes all debt and finance lease obligations) minus unrestricted cash and cash equivalents to (b) a defined calculation of 2023 Facility Adjusted EBITDA for the most recently ended Test Period. The 2023 Facility Adjusted EBITDA for purposes of these restrictive covenants includes incremental adjustments beyond those included in the Company's Adjusted EBITDA non-GAAP measure. Specifically, the 2023 Facility Adjusted EBITDA definition includes pro forma impact of EBITDA to be received from new shop openings and acquisitions for periods not yet in operation, certain acquisition related synergies and cost optimization activities, and incremental add-backs for pre-opening costs.

The 2023 Facility also contains covenants which, among other things, generally limit (with certain exceptions): mergers, amalgamations, or consolidations; the incurrence of additional indebtedness (including guarantees); the incurrence of additional liens; the sale, assignment, lease, conveyance, or transfer of assets; certain investments; dividends and stock redemptions or repurchases in excess of certain amounts; transactions with affiliates; engaging in materially different lines of business; and other activities customarily restricted in such agreements. The 2023 Facility also prohibits the transfer of cash or other assets to the parent company, whether by dividend, loan, or otherwise, but provides for exceptions to enable the parent company to pay taxes, directors' fees, and operating expenses, as well as exceptions to permit dividends in respect of the Company's common stock and stock redemptions and repurchases, to the extent permitted by the 2023 Facility. Subject to certain exceptions, the borrowings under the 2023 Facility are collateralized by substantially all of the Company's assets (including its equity interests in its subsidiaries). As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the Company was in compliance with the financial covenants related to the 2023 Facility.

The 2023 Facility also contains customary events of default including, but not limited to, payment defaults, breaches of representations and warranties, covenant defaults, non-loan party indebtedness in excess of $35.0 million, certain events of bankruptcy and insolvency, judgment defaults in excess of $35.0 million, and the occurrence of a change of control.

Borrowings and issuances of letters of credit under the 2023 Facility are subject to the satisfaction of usual and customary conditions, including the accuracy of representations and warranties and the absence of defaults.

The aggregate maturities of the 2023 Facility for each of the following three years by fiscal year are as follows:

Fiscal year	**Principal Amount**
2026	$ 52,312
2027	41,849
2028	806,164

Short-Term Lines of Credit

The Company is party to two agreements with existing lenders providing for short-term, uncommitted lines of credit up to an aggregate of $25.0 million. Borrowings under these short-term lines of credit are payable to the lenders on a revolving basis for tenors up to a maximum of three months and are subject to an interest rate of adjusted term SOFR plus a credit spread adjustment of 0.10% plus a margin of 1.75%. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the Company had drawn $2.5 million and $5.0 million, respectively, under the agreements which is classified within Current portion of long-term debt on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Cash Payments of Interest

Interest paid, inclusive of debt issuance costs, totaled $58.0 million, $56.9 million, and $55.8 million in the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

Financing Obligations

The Company has long-term financing obligations primarily in the form of lease obligations (related to both Company-owned and franchised restaurants). Refer to Note 10, Leases, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for additional discussion of the financing obligations.

Note 10 — Leases

The Company has various lease agreements related to real estate, vehicles, and equipment. Its operating leases include real estate (buildings and ground), vehicles, and equipment. Operating lease right of use assets and operating lease liabilities are recognized based on the present value of the future lease payments over the term. The operating lease right of use asset also includes accrued lease expense resulting from the straight-line accounting under prior accounting methods, which is now being amortized over the remaining life of the lease.

The Company is the lessee on a number of ground leases and multiple building leases, which were classified as operating leases prior to the adoption of ASC 842. As the Company elected the package of practical expedients upon adoption of ASC 842, the Company was not required to reassess the classification of these existing leases and as such, these leases continue to be accounted for as operating leases. In the event the Company modifies the existing leases or enters into new ground or building leases in the future, such leases may be classified as finance leases.

The Company's finance leases relate primarily to vehicles and equipment. The lease payments are largely fixed in nature. The Company is generally obligated for the cost of property taxes, insurance, and common area maintenance relating to its leases, which are variable in nature. The Company determines the variable payments based on invoiced amounts from lessors. The Company has elected to not apply the recognition requirements to leases of 12 months or less. These leases will be expensed on a straight-line basis, and no operating lease liability will be recorded.

The Company included the following amounts related to operating and finance lease assets and liabilities within the Consolidated Balance Sheets:

		As of	
		December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Assets	**Classification**		
Operating lease [(1)]	Operating lease right of use asset, net	$ 395,523	$ 409,869
Finance lease	Property and equipment, net	53,233	72,221
Total lease assets		**$ 448,756**	**$ 482,090**
Liabilities			
Current			
Operating lease [(2)]	Current operating lease liabilities	$ 51,213	$ 46,620
Finance lease	Current portion of long-term debt	21,614	16,356
Noncurrent			
Operating lease [(3)]	Noncurrent operating lease liabilities	395,895	405,366
Finance lease	Long-term debt, less current portion	56,280	63,369
Total lease liabilities		**$ 525,002**	**$ 531,711**

The Company has long-term contractual obligations primarily in the form of lease obligations related to Company-operated shops and franchised shops. Interest expense associated with the finance lease obligations is computed using the IBR at the time the lease is entered into and is based on the amount of the outstanding lease obligation.

The weighted-average remaining lease term and weighted-average discount rate for operating and finance leases were as follows:

	As of	
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Weighted average remaining lease term:		
Operating lease	10.0 years	10.6 years
Finance lease	5.3 years	5.9 years
Weighted average discount rate:		
Operating lease	6.98 %	7.04 %
Finance lease	6.43 %	6.58 %

Lease costs were as follows:

		Fiscal Years Ended		
		December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Lease cost	**Classification**			
Operating lease cost	Selling, general and administrative expense	$ 2,695	$ 3,445	$ 3,541
Operating lease cost	Operating expenses	90,274	92,281	89,539
Short-term lease cost	Operating expenses	3,990	5,210	5,064
Variable lease costs	Operating expenses	29,798	27,941	31,726
Sublease income	Royalties and other revenues	(378)	(259)	(140)
Finance lease cost:				
Amortization of right of use assets	Depreciation and amortization expense	$ 19,102	$ 13,313	$ 7,639
Interest on lease liabilities	Interest expense, net	5,703	3,849	2,709

Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information related to leases were as follows:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Other information			
Cash paid for leases:			
Operating cash flows for operating leases [1]	$ 122,283	$ 112,250	$ 117,977
Operating cash flows for finance leases	5,695	3,846	2,649
Financing cash flows for finance leases	28,402	12,528	8,442
Right of use assets obtained in exchange for new lease liabilities:			
Operating leases	$ 50,389	$ 60,183	$ 86,549
Finance leases	47,808	43,832	22,785

(1) Operating cash flows for operating leases include variable rent payments which are not included in the measurement of lease liabilities. For the fiscal years ending December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, variable rent payments were $29.8 million, $27.9 million, and $31.7 million, respectively.

A majority of the leases include options to extend the lease. If the Company is reasonably certain to exercise an option to extend a lease, the extension period is included as part of the right of use asset and the lease liability. The Company's leases do not contain restrictions or covenants that restrict the Company from incurring other financial obligations. The Company also does not provide any residual value guarantees for the leases or have any significant leases that have yet to be commenced.

At the inception of the contract, management determines if the contract is or contains a lease. A contract is or contains a lease if it conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. The IBR reflects a fully secured rate based on the credit rating taking into consideration the repayment timing of the lease and any impacts due to the economic environment in which the lease operates. The estimate of the IBR reflects considerations such as market rates for the outstanding debt, interpolations of rates for leases with terms that differ from the outstanding debt, and market rates for debt of companies with similar credit ratings.

Future lease commitments to be paid by the Company as of December 28, 2025 were as follows:

Fiscal year	Operating Leases	Finance Leases
2026	$ 80,531	$ 25,919
2027	75,673	20,605
2028	64,468	16,399
2029	62,696	11,069
2030	53,504	3,268
Thereafter	304,679	15,504
Total lease payments	**641,551**	**92,764**
Less: Interest	(194,443)	(14,870)
Present value of lease liabilities	**$ 447,108**	**$ 77,894**

In the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025, the Company classified certain fleet assets previously recognized as lease assets as held for sale. These assets, which are expected to be sold within 12 months, are included in Current assets held for sale on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at the lower of carrying amount or fair value less cost to sell. The carrying amount of these trucks was $2.5 million as of December 28, 2025. No related liabilities were classified as held for sale, and no material gain or loss was recognized in connection with this classification. These lease assets do not constitute a discontinued operation.

In the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025, the Company completed sale-leaseback transactions whereby it disposed of the land at two real estate properties for proceeds of $10.9 million. The Company subsequently leased back the properties, which are accounted for as operating leases. The Company recognized cumulative gains on sale of $6.7 million, which are included in Other income, net on the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

In the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024, the Company completed a sale-leaseback transaction whereby it disposed of the land at two real estate property for proceeds of $6.3 million. The Company subsequently leased back the property, which is accounted for as an operating lease. The Company recognized a gain on sale of $1.6 million, which is included in Other income, net on the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

In fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the Company completed sale-leaseback transactions whereby it disposed of the land at one real estate properties for proceeds of $10.0 million. The Company subsequently leased back the properties, which are accounted for as operating leases. The Company recognized cumulative gains on sale of $9.6 million, which are included in Other income, net on the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Note 11 — Fair Value Measurements

The following table presents assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024:

	December 28, 2025	
	Level 2	
Assets:		
Commodity derivatives		33
Total Assets	**$**	**33**
Liabilities:		
Interest rate derivatives	$	8,386
Foreign currency derivatives	$	12
Total Liabilities	**$**	**8,398**

	December 29, 2024	
	Level 2	
Assets:		
Interest rate derivatives	$	362
Total Assets	**$**	**362**
Liabilities:		
Foreign currency derivatives	$	749
Commodity derivatives		6
Total Liabilities	**$**	**755**

There were no assets or liabilities measured using Level 1 or Level 3 inputs and no transfers of financial assets or liabilities among the levels within the fair value hierarchy during the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024. The Company's derivatives are valued using discounted cash flow analyses that incorporate observable market parameters, such as interest rate yield curves and currency rates.

Note 12 — Derivative Instruments

The Company is exposed to certain risks relating to its ongoing business operations. Management evaluates various strategies in managing its exposure to market-based risks, such as entering into transactions to manage its exposure to commodity price fluctuation, floating interest rate volatility, and foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. The Company does not hold or issue derivative instruments for trading purposes. The Company is exposed to credit-related losses in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to its derivative instruments. The Company mitigates this risk of nonperformance by dealing with highly rated counterparties.

Commodity Price Risk

The Company uses forward contracts to protect against the effects of commodity price fluctuations in the cost of ingredients of its products, of which flour, sugar, and shortening are the most significant, and the cost of fuel used by its delivery vehicles. Management has not designated these forward contracts as hedges. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024 the total notional amount of commodity derivatives was 0.6 million and 1.5 million gallons of fuel, respectively. They were scheduled to mature between January 2026 and March 2026, and January 2025 and October 2025, respectively. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the Company recorded an asset of less than $0.1 million and a liability of less than $0.1 million, respectively, related to the fair market values of its commodity derivatives. The settlement of commodity derivative contracts is reported in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows as a cash flow from operating activities.

Interest Rate Risk

The Company uses interest rate swaps to manage its exposure to interest rate volatility from its debt arrangements. Management has designated the swap agreements as cash flow hedges and recognized the changes in the fair value of these swaps in other comprehensive income. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the Company recorded a liability of $8.4 million and an asset of $0.4 million, respectively, related to the fair market values of its interest rate derivatives. The cash flows associated with the interest rate swaps are reflected in operating activities in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, which is consistent with the classification as operating activities of the interest payments on the term loan.

In the second quarter of fiscal 2024, existing interest rate swap agreements (the “prior agreements”) with an aggregate notional amount of $505.0 million matured. Since then, the Company entered into new interest rate swap agreements (the “new agreements”) with an aggregate notional amount of $550.0 million as of December 28, 2025. The new agreements are substantially similar to the prior agreements with a higher notional amount and new rates on the fixed component of the swaps (weighted average of approximately of 4.0%). The new agreements have a benchmark rate on the floating component of the swaps of one-month SOFR and are scheduled to mature in March 2028.

The net effect of the interest rate swap arrangements will be to fix the variable interest rate on the term loan under the 2023 Facility (as defined in Note 9, Long-Term Debt, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements) up to the notional amount outstanding at the rates payable under the swap agreements plus the Applicable Rate (as defined by the 2023 Facility), through the swap maturity dates in March 2028.

All of the interest rate swap derivatives have certain early termination triggers caused by an event of default or termination. The events of default include failure to make payments when due, failure to give notice of a termination event, failure to comply with or perform obligations under the agreements, bankruptcy or insolvency, and defaults under other agreements (cross-default provisions).

In the first quarter of fiscal 2023, the Company cancelled certain interest rate swap agreements with an aggregate notional amount of $265.0 million, collecting $7.7 million in cash proceeds, and entered into new agreements with the same counterparties. The cash flows are reflected in operating activities in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

The Company is exposed to foreign currency risk primarily from its investments in consolidated subsidiaries that operate in Canada, the U.K., Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, and Japan. In order to mitigate foreign exchange fluctuations, the Company enters into foreign exchange forward contracts. Management has not designated these forward contracts as hedges. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the total notional amount of foreign exchange derivatives was $65.6 million and $152.6 million, respectively. The majority matured in January 2026 and January 2025, respectively. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the Company has recorded liabilities of less than $0.1 million and $0.7 million, respectively, related to the fair market values of its foreign exchange derivatives.

Quantitative Summary of Derivative Positions and Their Effect on Results of Operations

The following tables present the fair values of derivative instruments included in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024 for derivatives not designated as hedging instruments and derivatives designed as hedging instruments, respectively. The Company only has cash flow hedges that are designated as hedging instruments.

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Derivatives Fair Value December 28, 2025	Derivatives Fair Value December 29, 2024	Balance Sheet Location
Commodity derivatives	$ 33	$ —	Prepaid expense and other current assets
Total Assets	**$ 33**	**$ —**	
Foreign currency derivatives	$ 12	$ 749	Accrued liabilities
Commodity derivatives	—	6	Accrued liabilities
Total Liabilities	**$ 12**	**$ 755**	

Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments	Derivatives Fair Value December 28, 2025	Derivatives Fair Value December 29, 2024	Balance Sheet Location
Interest rate derivatives (current)	$ —	$ 112	Prepaid expense and other current assets
Interest rate derivatives (noncurrent)	—	250	Other assets
Total Assets	**$ —**	**$ 362**	
Interest rate derivatives (current)	$ 3,741	$ —	Accrued liabilities
Interest rate derivatives (noncurrent)	4,645	—	Other long-term obligations and deferred credits
Total Liabilities	**$ 8,386**	**$ —**	

The effect of derivative instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Operations for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023 is as follows:

Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments	Derivative Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income in Fiscal Years Ended December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023	Location of Derivative Gain Recognized in Income
Gain on interest rate derivatives	$ 1,064	$ 7,663	$ 8,624	Interest expense, net
	$ 1,064	**$ 7,663**	**$ 8,624**	

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Derivative (Loss)/Gain Recognized in Income in Fiscal Years Ended December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023	Location of Derivative Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income
Gain/(loss) on foreign currency derivatives	$ 737	$ (404)	$ (175)	Other non-operating (income)/expense, net
Gain/(loss) on commodity derivatives	39	107	(627)	Other non-operating (income)/expense, net
	$ 776	**$ (297)**	**$ (802)**	

Note 13 — Employee Benefit Plans

Defined Contribution Plans

The Company has a 401(k) savings plan for Krispy Kremers in the U.S. (the “401(k) Plan”) to which eligible employees may contribute up to 100% of their salary and bonus on a tax deferred basis, subject to statutory limitations. The Company currently matches 100% of the first 3% and 50% of the next 2% of compensation contributed by each employee to the 401(k) Plan. The Company match is immediately 100% vested.

The Company operates defined contribution plans in the U.K. and Ireland (“KK U.K. and Ireland Contribution Plans”), to which eligible employees may contribute up to 100% of their salary, subject to statutory limitations. The Company currently matches contributions at a rate of 3% of pensionable earnings. The KK U.K. and Ireland Contribution Plans are pension plans under which the Company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. The Company has no legal or constructive obligations to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods. The Company has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. The contributions are recognized as employee benefit expense when they are due. Prepaid contributions are recognized as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

KK Australia operates a defined contribution retirement benefit plan for its employees in Australia (the “Australia Plan”) and in New Zealand (the “New Zealand Plan”). The Company contributes 12% of employee compensation to the Australia Plan and matches employee contributions of up to 3% of compensation to the New Zealand Plan.

KK Canada operates a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (“RRSP”) for its employees in Canada (the “Canada Plan”) which allows eligible employees to contribute. For certain salaried employees, the Company will match eligible employee contributions up to 2.5% of their annual base salary.

In Mexico, there is a government-mandated defined contribution plan known as Administradoras de Fondos para el Retiro (AFORE), which are financial institutions responsible for receiving, administering, and investing mandatory retirement contributions on behalf of employees, with the objective of providing income during retirement. Employers are required to comply with this statutory retirement plan. Under this defined contribution retirement plan, the employer is obligated to make contributions based on the employee’s salary, at a rate that ranges from 2% up to 13%, depending on the applicable statutory provisions. Employees are also required to contribute based on their salary, with contribution rates ranging from 0% to 2% of their monthly salary.

Total contribution plan expense for defined contribution plans was $10.7 million, $9.6 million, and $8.5 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

Note 14 — Share-based Compensation

Restricted Stock Units (“RSUs”) and Performance Stock Units (“PSUs”)

KKI issues time-vested RSUs and PSUs under the Krispy Kreme, Inc. 2021 Omnibus Incentive Plan (“Omnibus Plan”). Certain subsidiaries issue time-vested RSUs under their respective executive ownership plans and long-term incentive plans.

The time-vested RSUs are awarded to eligible employees and non-employee directors and entitle the grantee to receive shares of KKI common stock at the end of a vesting period. Certain RSUs vest 54 months from the date of grant. Certain RSUs vest over a 60-month period subsequent to the date of grant (with 60% vesting on the third anniversary of the date of grant, 20% vesting on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant, and 20% vesting on the fifth anniversary of the date of grant). Certain RSUs vest in 36 months from the date of grant. Certain RSUs vest over a 24-month period subsequent to the date of grant (with 60% vesting on the first anniversary of the date of grant and 40% vesting on the second anniversary of the date of grant). Throughout the vesting period and the holding period, shareholders are subject to the market risk on the value of their shares.

The PSU vesting is contingent upon the achievement of certain performance objectives and the awards are subject to a requisite service period. If the Company meets targets for the performance objectives at the end of the performance period, which is generally three fiscal years, the Company awards a resulting number of shares of its common stock to the award holders. The number of shares may be increased to a maximum (up to 200% of the target set at the grant date, for a majority of the awards) or reduced to a minimum threshold (a floor of zero) based on the achievement of these performance objectives in accordance

with the terms established for the applicable grant. The Company estimates the probability that the performance objectives will be achieved periodically and adjusts compensation expenses accordingly.

KKI grants RSUs and PSUs to certain U.S. employees as well as certain employees of the Company's subsidiaries, and grants RSUs to directors, all of which settle in shares of KKI common stock. KK U.K. has granted RSUs to certain U.K. employees which settled in ordinary shares of KK. U.K. KK Australia has granted RSUs to certain Australia employees that settle in ordinary shares of KK Australia. KK Mexico has granted RSUs to certain Mexico employees that settled in Series E shares of the stock of KK Mexico.

Excluding the Insomnia Cookies plan which was removed from the table below due to the divestiture, RSU and PSU activity under the various plans during the fiscal years presented is as follows:

(in thousands, except per share amounts)	**Non-vested shares outstanding at December 31, 2023**	Granted	Vested	Forfeited	**Non-vested shares outstanding at December 29, 2024**	Granted	Vested	Forfeited	**Non-vested shares outstanding at December 28, 2025**
KKI									
RSUs and PSUs	**6,785**	1,934	1,893	842	**5,984**	8,777	1,805	2,287	**10,669**
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	**$ 14.54**	14.19	14.80	14.94	**$ 14.54**	3.80	14.92	12.33	**$ 5.97**
KK U.K.									
RSUs	**7**	—	—	—	**7**	—	5	2	**—**
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	**$ 29.80**	—	—	—	**$ 29.80**	—	29.80	29.80	**$ —**
KK Australia									
RSUs	**185**	—	42	6	**137**	—	116	—	**21**
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	**$ 1.57**	—	2.13	1.91	**$ 1.57**	—	1.57	—	**$ 1.72**
KK Mexico									
RSUs	**20**	—	2	—	**18**	—	17	—	**1**
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	**$ 30.18**	—	29.21	—	**$ 30.18**	—	29.21	—	**$ 40.14**

The Company recorded total non-cash compensation expense related to the RSUs and PSUs under the plans of $12.7 million, $30.0 million, and $20.6 million for fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively. The net deferred tax (expense)/benefit recognized was ($2.1 million), $1.2 million, and $2.1 million for fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

The unrecognized compensation cost related to the unvested RSUs and PSUs and the weighted-average period over which such cost is expected to be recognized are as follows:

	As of December 28, 2025	
	Unrecognized Compensation Cost	**Recognized Over a Weighted-Average Period of**
KKI	$ 38,257	2.4 years
KK Australia	6	0.7 years
KK Mexico	10	0.7 years

The estimated fair value of restricted stock is calculated using a market approach (i.e., market multiple is used for the KK U.K. plan and an agreed-upon EBITDA buyout multiple is used for KK Australia and KK Mexico plans).

The total grant date fair value of shares vested under the Omnibus Plan was $26.9 million, $28.1 million, and $7.8 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively. The total grant date fair value of shares vested under the KK U.K. plan was $0.1 million and $0.7 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 31, 2023; no shares vested during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024. The total grant date fair value of shares vested under the KK Australia plan was $0.2 million, $0.1 million, and $0.2 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively. The total grant date fair value of shares vested under the KK Mexico plan was $0.5 million and $0.1 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively; no shares vested during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

Time-Vested Stock Options

KKI issues time-vested stock options under the Omnibus Plan. The stock options are awarded to eligible employees and entitle the grantee to purchase shares of common stock at the respective exercise price at the end of a vesting period. Certain stock options vest over a 60-month period subsequent to the grant date (with 60% vesting on the third anniversary of the date of grant, 20% vesting on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant, and 20% vesting on the fifth anniversary of the date of grant), and as such are subject to a service condition. Certain stock options vest 36 months from the date of grant. The maximum contractual term of the stock options is 10 years and certain stock option grants have a contractual term of six years.

The fair value of time-vested stock options was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. This model is impacted by the Company's stock price and certain assumptions related to the Company's stock and employees' exercise behavior. The expected term for stock options granted was estimated utilizing the simplified method. Management utilized the simplified method because the Company did not have sufficient historical exercise data to provide a reasonable basis upon which to estimate expected term. The risk-free interest rate assumption was based on yields of U.S. Treasury securities in effect at the date of grant with terms similar to the expected term. Expected volatility was estimated based on the Company's historical volatility, and also considering historical volatility of peer companies over a period equivalent to the expected term. Additionally, the dividend yield was estimated based on dividends currently being paid on the underlying common stock at the date of grant. Estimated and actual forfeitures have not had a material impact on share-based compensation expense.

The following weighted-average assumptions were utilized in determining the fair value of the time-vested stock options granted during the fiscal years presented:

	Fiscal Years Ended	
	December 28, 2025	**December 29, 2024**
KKI		
Risk-free interest rate	3.9 %	3.7 %
Expected volatility	55.2 %	35.1 %
Dividend yield	— %	1.0 %
Expected term (years)	6.0 years	6.5 years

A summary of the status of the time-vested stock options as of December 28, 2025 and changes during fiscal years presented is as follows:

(in thousands, except per share amounts)	**Share options outstanding at December 31, 2023**	Granted	Exercised	Forfeited or expired	**Share options outstanding at December 29, 2024**	Granted	Exercised	Forfeited or expired	**Share options outstanding at December 28, 2025**
KKI									
Options	**2,993**	—	—	331	**2,662**	2,060	—	2,164	**2,558**
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	**$ 5.90**	—	—	6.10	**$ 5.88**	1.58	—	5.83	**$ 2.46**
Weighted Average Exercise Price	**$ 14.30**	—	—	14.61	**$ 14.27**	3.22	—	14.19	**$ 5.43**
Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)	**7.5 years**				**7.1 years**				**5.5 years**
Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in thousands)	**$ 2,352**				**$ —**				**$ 2,187**

The Company recorded total non-cash compensation (benefit)/expense related to the time-vested stock options of $(0.1) million, $5.3 million, and $3.6 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

The unrecognized compensation cost related to the unvested stock options and the weighted-average period over which such cost is expected to be recognized are as follows:

	As of December 28, 2025	
	Unrecognized Compensation Cost	**Recognized Over a Weighted-Average Period of**
KKI	$ 2,952	2.2 years

During the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, 0.1 million and 1.5 million time-vested stock options vested, respectively. No time-vested stock options under the KKI plan vested nor were exercised during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

Note 15 — Income Taxes

(Loss)/income before income taxes consists of:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	**December 29, 2024**	**December 31, 2023**
Domestic	$ (452,522)	$ 20,439	$ (59,174)
Foreign	(92,077)	(670)	18,180
(Loss)/income before income taxes	**$ (544,599)**	**$ 19,769**	**$ (40,994)**

Domestic (loss)/income before income taxes includes unallocated corporate costs, which include general corporate expenses. Presentation of prior year amounts relating to U.S. and Foreign income before taxes have been recast to conform with the current year presentation, in which intercompany eliminations are reflected in U.S. results. This had no effect on the reported results of operations.

The components of the provision for income taxes are as follows:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Current:			
Federal	$ (4)	$ 112	$ (2,213)
State	341	(147)	138
Foreign	14,395	12,922	16,214
Total current	**$ 14,732**	**$ 12,887**	**$ 14,139**
Deferred and other:			
Federal	$ (26,003)	$ 6,232	$ (10,971)
State	(1,125)	(619)	(2,552)
Foreign	(8,424)	(2,546)	(4,963)
Total deferred and other	**$ (35,552)**	**$ 3,067**	**$ (18,486)**
Income tax (benefit)/expense	**$ (20,820)**	**$ 15,954**	**$ (4,347)**

Following the adoption of ASU 2023-09, the reconciliation of income taxes at the U.S. federal statutory income tax rate to the Company's income tax provision (benefit) is as follows:

	December 28, 2025	
	Amount	Percent
U.S. federal statutory rate	$ (114,366)	21.0 %
State and local income taxes, net of federal income tax effect[1]	(620)	0.1 %
Foreign tax effects:		
United Kingdom		
Goodwill impairment	14,485	(2.7) %
Other	813	(0.1) %
Other foreign jurisdictions	10,096	(1.9) %
Effect of cross-border tax laws	(396)	0.1 %
Tax credits	(404)	0.1 %
Changes in valuation allowances	8,873	(1.6) %
Nontaxable or nondeductible items:		
Goodwill impairment	52,216	(9.6) %
Other	4,873	(0.9) %
Changes in unrecognized tax benefits	222	(0.1) %
Other adjustments	3,388	(0.6) %
Effective tax rate	**$ (20,820)**	**3.8 %**

(1) State taxes in California, Florida, Georgia, New York City, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia made up the majority (greater than 50 percent) of the tax effect in this category.

A reconciliation of the statutory U.S. federal income tax rate and the Company’s effective tax rate for years prior to the adoption of ASU 2023-09 is as follows:

	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Statutory federal rate	21.0 %	21.0 %
State income taxes, net of federal benefit	0.2	6.3
Foreign operations	22.5	(11.0)
Change in valuation allowance	13.6	(2.0)
Noncontrolling interest	1.1	(0.2)
Impact of uncertain tax positions	(3.3)	6.2
Other permanent differences	4.2	(0.6)
Deferred adjustments	0.5	(3.8)
Share-based compensation	25.4	(6.3)
Other	(4.5)	1.0
Effective tax rate	**80.7 %**	**10.6 %**

The Company establishes valuation allowances for deferred income tax assets in accordance with GAAP, which provides that such valuation allowances shall be established unless realization of the income tax benefits is more likely than not.

The Company recognizes deferred income tax assets and liabilities based upon its expectation of the future tax consequences of temporary differences between the income tax and financial reporting bases of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax liabilities generally represent tax expense recognized for which payment has been deferred, or expenses which have been deducted in the Company’s tax returns, but which have not yet been recognized as an expense in the financial statements. Deferred tax assets generally represent tax deductions or credits that will be reflected in future tax returns for which the Company has already recorded a tax benefit in the audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company continues to assert permanent reinvestment with respect to its initial basis differences of international affiliates but does not assert indefinite reinvestment on the earnings of the foreign subsidiaries with the exception of its subsidiaries in Canada. Furthermore, with the sale of its operations in Japan, the Company no longer asserts permanent reinvestment on the basis differences of KK Japan. No deferred taxes have been provided for with regard to the Company’s initial basis difference in international affiliates, with exception of KK Japan. Due to the complexities of tax law in the respective jurisdictions, it is not practicable to estimate the tax liability that might be incurred if such earnings were remitted to the U.S. The Company has not established a deferred tax liability for the earnings of the foreign subsidiaries (except KK Japan) as any distributions made from the corresponding relevant jurisdictions are expected to be made in a tax neutral manner.

The tax effects of temporary differences are as follows:

	As of	
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Deferred income tax assets:		
Disallowed interest expense	44,764	35,291
Lease liabilities	115,016	117,619
Foreign net operating loss carryforward	5,955	3,024
Federal net operating loss carryforward	19,110	10,541
Federal tax credits	13,606	18,058
State net operating loss and credit carryforwards	11,446	10,702
Other	30,600	35,033
Gross deferred income tax assets	240,497	230,268
Valuation allowance	(41,665)	(30,617)
Deferred income tax assets, net of valuation allowance	**$ 198,832**	**$ 199,651**
Deferred income tax liabilities:		
Intangible assets	$ (150,145)	$ (157,245)
Subsidiary investments	—	(19,070)
Property and equipment	(16,955)	(20,484)
Foreign reacquired franchise rights	(27,500)	(23,112)
Lease right of use assets	(97,956)	(106,592)
Other	(1,601)	(1,824)
Gross deferred income tax liabilities	(294,157)	(328,327)
Net deferred income tax liabilities	**$ (95,325)**	**$ (128,676)**

The components of the deferred tax assets and liabilities as of December 28, 2025 exclude $2.3 million of deferred tax assets classified as held for sale.

The presentation of deferred income taxes on the Consolidated Balance Sheets is as follows:

	As of	
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Included in:		
Other assets	$ 911	$ 2,069
Deferred income taxes, net	(96,236)	(130,745)
Net deferred income tax liabilities	**$ (95,325)**	**$ (128,676)**

As of December 28, 2025, the Company had net operating loss ("NOL") carryforwards of approximately $236.1 million for U.S. state tax purposes and $91.0 million for U.S. federal tax purposes. As of December 29, 2024, the Company had NOL carryforwards of approximately $220.4 million for U.S. state tax purposes and $50.2 million for U.S. federal tax purposes. U.S. federal NOL carryforwards are eligible to be carried forward indefinitely. A portion of the Company's U.S. state tax carryforwards began to expire in fiscal 2024. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024 the Company had foreign NOL carryforwards of approximately $22.4 million and $10.9 million, respectively. As of December 28, 2025, $6.7 million of the foreign NOL carryforwards have a 10-year carryover period and the remaining $15.7 million have no expiration.

As of December 28, 2025, the Company had various tax credit carryforwards of $13.6 million for U.S. federal purposes and none for U.S. state purposes. As of December 29, 2024, the Company had various tax credit carryforwards of $18.1 million for U.S. federal purposes and none for U.S. state purposes. If not utilized, the credits can be carried forward between 10 and 20 years. A portion of the U.S. tax credit carryforwards expired in fiscal 2025. If certain substantial changes in the entity's ownership occur, there would be an annual limitation on the amount of the NOLs and credits that can be utilized.

The valuation allowances of $41.7 million and $30.6 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024 respectively, represent the portion of its deferred tax assets that the Company does not believe would more likely than not be realized in the future. As of December 28, 2025, the Company established a full valuation allowance against U.S. net definite lived deferred tax assets based on its evaluation of available evidence, including cumulative historical results.

Realization of net deferred tax assets generally is dependent on generation of taxable income in future periods. While the Company believes its forecast of future taxable income is reasonable, actual results will inevitably vary from management's forecasts. Such variances could result in adjustments to the valuation allowance on deferred tax assets in future periods, and such adjustments could be material to the financial statements.

On July 4, 2025, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (the "OBBBA") was enacted in the U.S. The legislation permanently extends certain expiring provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, alters aspects of the U.S. international tax regime, and reinstates certain business tax provisions, among other changes. The OBBBA has multiple effective dates, with provisions becoming effective in 2025 through 2027. While we expect certain provisions of OBBBA to change the timing of U.S. cash taxes related to the current and future periods, OBBBA did not have a material impact to the Company's income tax expense.

The Company files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various U.S. state and foreign jurisdictions. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to examination by U.S., state, or foreign tax authorities for years before 2020.

The amounts of cash income taxes paid by the Company were as follows:

	As of
	December 28, 2025
Federal	$ 152
State	724
Foreign:	
Australia	1,275
Canada	1,478
Japan	2,019
Mexico	3,302
New Zealand	545
South Korea	861
United Kingdom	(3,623)
Other	3,082
Total	**$ 9,815**

Income tax payments, net of refunds, were $18.5 million, and $11.1 million in the fiscal years ended December 29, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively.

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending amounts of unrecognized tax benefits:

	As of	
	December 28, 2025	**December 29, 2024**
Unrecognized tax benefits at beginning of year	$ 9,903	$ 10,536
Decreases related to positions taken in prior years	(74)	(559)
Decreases related to positions taken in prior years due to lapse of statute	(226)	(74)
Unrecognized tax benefits at end of year	**$ 9,603**	**$ 9,903**

Approximately all of the aggregate $9.6 million and $9.9 million of unrecognized income tax benefits as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively, would, if recognized, impact the annual effective tax rate. The Company does not believe that changes in its uncertain tax benefits will result in a material impact during the next 12 months.

The Company’s policy is to recognize interest and penalties related to income tax issues as components of income tax expense. The Company’s Consolidated Balance Sheets reflect approximately $1.6 million of accrued interest and penalties as of both December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024. Interest and penalties were not material during the years presented in the Company’s Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Note 16 — Commitments and Contingencies

Pending Litigation

Securities Litigation

On May 16, 2025, a shareholder of the Company filed a putative federal securities class action in the Western District of North Carolina against the Company, its Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”), and its former Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”). On June 30, 2025, a shareholder of the Company filed a similar putative federal securities class action in the Western District of North Carolina against the Company, its CEO, and its former CFO. Both actions allege that, throughout the proposed putative class periods, defendants made materially false and/or misleading statements and/or failed to disclose materially adverse facts concerning the Company’s business, operations, and prospects related to the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald’s USA. Motions to consolidate the actions and appoint lead plaintiff were filed on June 15, 2025. On November 3, 2025, the court consolidated the actions. On November 20, 2025, the court appointed a lead plaintiff and lead counsel for the class. On November 25, 2025, the court entered a scheduling order governing the filing of an amended complaint and defendants’ response thereto. The amended complaint was filed on January 30, 2026. The motion to dismiss is due on March 31, 2026, and briefing will be complete on May 21, 2026. This matter is currently in the pleading phase. The Company has engaged external counsel and intends to vigorously defend against these claims. It is too soon to predict with any certainty what, if any, damages could be awarded if liability were found.

Data Breach Litigation

On June 16, 2025, the Company released a Notice of Data Breach stating that on November 29, 2024, the Company became aware of the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident (defined below) and on May 22, 2025, the Company’s investigation determined that personal information of certain individuals was affected. Beginning on June 20, 2025, several putative class action lawsuits were filed against the Company in the Middle District of North Carolina, the Western District of North Carolina, and in California state court. The complaints assert claims of negligence, negligence per se, unjust enrichment, breach of implied contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, breach of confidence, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of bailment, invasion of privacy, declaratory judgment, and violations of California and North Carolina statutory law, arising from the Company’s alleged failure to secure and safeguard the personally identifiable information and private health information of plaintiffs and purported class members. On August 19, 2025, plaintiffs in the California action voluntarily dismissed their case. On August 26, 2025, a hearing was held in the Western District of North Carolina on plaintiffs’ motion to consolidate the cases. Following the hearing, plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed the few cases remaining in the Middle District of North Carolina. On September 18, 2025, all cases were consolidated in the Western District of North Carolina. On October 17, 2025, plaintiffs filed an amended consolidated complaint.

The Company has engaged external counsel to defend against the data breach litigation. The Company has reached a settlement with plaintiffs in the amount of approximately $1.6 million, which the court preliminarily approved on March 5, 2026. A final approval hearing on the class action settlement is scheduled for July 6, 2026.

Shareholder Derivative Litigation

On June 13, 2025, June 25, 2025, and August 19, 2025 purported shareholders of the Company filed shareholder derivative actions in the Western District of North Carolina against its CEO, its former CFO, and current and former members of its Board of Directors. The actions allege that the derivative defendants breached their fiduciary duties by allowing the Company to issue materially false and misleading statements and failed to maintain adequate internal controls. On September 4, 2025, the court consolidated the derivative actions and designated co-lead counsel representing plaintiffs. On October 31, 2025, the court granted the parties’ joint motion to stay the consolidated derivative action until a decision is rendered on the motion to dismiss in the related securities class action or upon motion of one of the parties following 30 days’ notice. This matter is currently in the pleading phase, and the Company has engaged external counsel with respect to this matter.

Other Legal Matters

The Company also is engaged in various legal proceedings arising in the normal course of business. The Company maintains insurance policies against certain kinds of such claims and suits, including insurance policies for workers' compensation and personal injury, all of which are subject to deductibles. While the ultimate outcome of these matters could differ from management's expectations, management currently does not believe their resolution will have a material adverse effect on the Company's audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Purchase Commitments

The Company is exposed to the effects of commodity price fluctuations on the cost of ingredients for its products, of which flour, sugar, and shortening are the most significant. In order to secure adequate supplies of products and bring greater stability to the cost of ingredients, the Company routinely enters into forward purchase contracts with vendors under which it commits to purchase agreed-upon quantities of ingredients at agreed-upon prices at specified future dates. Typically, the aggregate outstanding purchase commitment at any point in time will range from one month to several years of anticipated ingredients purchases, depending on the ingredient. In addition, from time to time the Company enters into contracts for the future delivery of equipment purchased for resale and components of doughnut-making equipment manufactured by the Company. As of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, the Company had approximately $74.0 million and $98.9 million, respectively, of commitments under ingredient and other forward purchase contracts. These ingredient and other forward purchase contracts are for physical delivery in quantities expected to be used over a reasonable period in the normal course of business. These agreements often meet the definition of a derivative. However, the Company does not measure its forward purchase commitments at fair value as the amounts under contract meet the physical delivery criteria in the normal purchase exception under ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*. While the Company has multiple vendors for most of the ingredients, the termination of the Company's relationships with vendors with whom it has forward purchase agreements, or those vendors' inability to honor the purchase commitments, could adversely affect the Company's results of operations and cash flows.

Other Commitments and Contingencies

The Company's primary banks and insurance carriers issued letters of credit and surety bonds on its behalf totaling $24.4 million and $20.8 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively, a majority of which secure the Company's reimbursement obligations to insurers under its self-insurance arrangements.

Note 17 — Related Party Transactions

Investments in Unconsolidated Entities

The following table summarizes the Company's investments in unconsolidated entities:

	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024
Insomnia Cookies [(1)]	$ —	$ 86,574
Krispy Kreme-branded international franchisees [(2)]	7,413	4,496
Total investments in unconsolidated entities	**$ 7,413**	**$ 91,070**

(1) The Company held an equity interest in Insomnia Cookies as of December 29, 2024 subsequent to the divestiture of its controlling interest in Insomnia Cookies that occurred during the third quarter of fiscal 2024.The Company sold its remaining interest in Insomnia Cookies in the second quarter of fiscal 2025. As such, the Company did not hold an equity interest in Insomnia Cookies as of December 28, 2025. Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

(2) The Company holds a 33% equity interest in franchisee KK France, a 45% equity interest in franchisee KK Brazil, and a 25% equity interest in franchisee KK Spain as of December 28, 2025. The interests in KK Brazil and KK Spain were acquired during the second quarter of fiscal 2024. Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

Revenues from sales of ingredients and equipment to the equity method franchisees were $15.5 million, $11.9 million, and $9.5 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively. Royalty revenues from these franchisees were $1.7 million for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025, and $1.6 million for both the fiscal years ended December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023. Trade receivables from these franchisees are included in Accounts receivable, net on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. These transactions were conducted pursuant to franchise agreements, the terms of which are substantially the same as the agreements with unaffiliated franchisees. Refer to Note 4, Accounts Receivable, net, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

Other Related Party Activity

Keurig Dr Pepper Inc. ("KDP"), an affiliated company of JAB, licenses the Krispy Kreme trademark for the Company in the manufacturing of portion packs for the Keurig brewing system. KDP also sells beverage concentrates and packaged beverages to the Company for resale through Krispy Kreme shops. Licensing revenues from KDP were $2.1 million, $2.4 million, and $2.2 million for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively.

The Company had service agreements with BDT Capital Partners, LLC ("BDT"), previously a greater than 5% stockholder of KKI, to provide advisory services to the Company, including valuation services related to certain acquisitions. No related costs were incurred for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025 and December 31, 2023, respectively. The Company recognized expenses of $0.5 million related to the service agreements with BDT for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2024.

The Company granted loans to employees of KKI, KK U.K., KK Australia, KK Mexico and Insomnia Cookies for the purchase of shares in those subsidiaries. The balance of these loans was $1.8 million and $1.9 million as of December 28, 2025 and December 29, 2024, respectively, and it is presented as a reduction from Shareholders' equity on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Note 18 — Revenue Recognition

Disaggregation of Revenues

Revenues are disaggregated as follows:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Company Shops, Fresh Delivery, and Branded Sweet Treats	$ 1,445,211	$ 1,574,449	$ 1,592,573
Mix and equipment revenue from franchisees	40,909	53,329	58,593
Franchise royalties and other	36,496	37,619	34,938
Total net revenues	**$ 1,522,616**	**$ 1,665,397**	**$ 1,686,104**

Other revenues include advertising fund contributions from franchisees, rental income, development and franchise fees, and licensing royalties from customers for use of the Krispy Kreme brand, such as Keurig coffee cups.

Contract Balances

Deferred revenue and related receivables are as follows:

	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	Balance Sheet Location
Trade receivables, net of allowances of $976 and $1,060, respectively	$ 55,736	$ 57,439	Accounts receivables, net
Deferred revenue:			
Current	$ 16,668	$ 16,506	Accrued liabilities
Noncurrent	9,780	8,569	Other long-term obligations and deferred credits
Total deferred revenue	**$ 26,448**	**$ 25,075**	

Trade receivables at the end of each fiscal year relate primarily to payments due for royalties, franchise fees, advertising fees, sale of products, and licensing fees. Deferred revenue primarily represents the Company’s remaining performance obligations under gift cards and franchise and development agreements for which consideration has been received or is receivable and is generally recognized on a straight-line basis over the remaining term of the related agreement. The noncurrent portion of deferred revenue primarily relates to the remaining performance obligations in the franchise and development agreements. Of the deferred revenue balances as of December 29, 2024, $10.1 million was recognized as revenue in the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025. Of the deferred revenue balance as of December 31, 2023, $13.5 million was recognized as revenue in fiscal the year ended December 29, 2024.

Transaction Price Allocated to Remaining Performance Obligations

Estimated revenue expected to be recognized in the future related to performance obligations that are either unsatisfied or partially satisfied as of December 28, 2025 is as follows:

Fiscal year		
2026	$	10,940
2027		3,554
2028		2,799
2029		1,416
2030		675
Thereafter		7,064
	$	**26,448**

The estimated revenue in the table above relates to gift cards, consumer loyalty programs, and franchise fees paid upfront which are recognized over the life of the franchise agreement. The estimated revenue does not contemplate future issuances of gift cards nor benefits to be earned by members of consumer loyalty programs. The estimated revenue also does not contemplate future franchise renewals or new franchise agreements for shops for which a franchise agreement or development agreement does not exist as of December 28, 2025. The Company has applied the sales-based royalty exemption which permits exclusion of variable consideration in the form of sales-based royalties from the disclosure of remaining performance obligations in the table above.

Note 19 — Net (Loss)/Earnings per Share

The following table presents the calculations of basic and diluted EPS:

	Fiscal Years Ended					
(in thousands, except per share amounts)	**December 28, 2025**		**December 29, 2024**		**December 31, 2023**	
Net (loss)/income attributable to Krispy Kreme, Inc.	$	(515,767)	$	3,095	$	(37,925)
Adjustment to net (loss)/income attributable to common shareholders		—		—		—
Accretion to redemption value of redeemable noncontrolling interest		(4,290)	$	—	$	—
Net (loss)/income attributable to common shareholders — Basic	$	(520,057)	$	3,095	$	(37,925)
Additional income attributed to noncontrolling interest due to subsidiary potential common shares		(10)		(20)		(28)
Net (loss)/income attributable to common shareholders — Diluted	$	(520,067)	$	3,075	$	(37,953)
Basic weighted average common shares outstanding		170,923		169,341		168,289
Dilutive effect of outstanding common stock options, RSUs, and PSUs		—		2,159		—
Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding		170,923		171,500		168,289
(Loss)/earnings per share attributable to common shareholders:						
Basic	$	(3.04)	$	0.02	$	(0.23)
Diluted	$	(3.04)	$	0.02	$	(0.23)

Potential dilutive shares consist of unvested RSUs and PSUs, calculated using the treasury stock method. The calculation of dilutive shares outstanding excludes certain unvested RSUs granted under certain subsidiaries' executive ownership plans and long-term incentive plans, because their inclusion would have been antidilutive. Refer to Note 14, Share-based Compensation, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for further information about the plans.

The following table summarizes the gross number of potential dilutive unvested RSUs and PSUs excluded due to antidilution (unadjusted for the treasury stock method):

	Fiscal Years Ended		
(in thousands)	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
KKI	10,669	1,421	6,785
KK Australia	21	—	—
KK U.K.	—	7	7
Insomnia Cookies	—	—	47
KK Mexico	—	—	—

For the fiscal years ended December 28, 2025, December 29, 2024, and December 31, 2023, all 2.6 million, 2.7 million, and 3.0 million time-vested stock options, respectively, were excluded from the computation of diluted weighted average common shares outstanding based on application of the treasury stock method.

Note 20 — Segment Reporting

The Company conducts business through the following three reportable operating segments:

- ***U.S.:*** Includes all Company-owned operations in the U.S., and Insomnia Cookies Bakeries globally through the date of deconsolidation (refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information);
- ***International:*** Includes all Company-owned operations in the U.K., Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, and Canada, as well as Japan for all periods covered by the accompanying audited Consolidated Financial Statements; and
- ***Market Development:*** Includes franchise operations across the globe.

Unallocated corporate costs are excluded from the Company's measurement of segment performance. These costs include general corporate expenses not attributable to a specific reportable segment.

Segment information is identified and prepared on the same basis that the CEO, the Company's CODM, evaluates financial results, allocates resources and makes key operating decisions. The CODM allocates resources and assesses performance based on geography and line of business, which represents the Company's operating segments.

The primary financial measures used by the CODM to evaluate the performance of its operating segments are net revenues and segment Adjusted EBIT. For all of the segments, the measure most consistent with results reported in accordance with GAAP that the CODM uses to monitor and evaluate operating performance and to provide a consistent benchmark for comparison across reporting periods is Adjusted EBIT. This measure is prepared on a non-GAAP basis and as such the expense captions underlying it are designated as "adjusted." The adjustments made are explained in the footnotes to the table that follows, which presents the reconciliation of net (loss)/income to Adjusted EBIT.

The following tables reconcile segment results to consolidated results reported in accordance with GAAP. The accounting policies used for internal management reporting at the operating segments are consistent with those described in Note 1, Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company manages its assets on a total company basis and the CODM does not review asset information by segment when assessing performance or allocating resources. Consequently, the Company does not report total assets by reportable segment.

The reportable segment results are as follows:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
U.S.			
Net revenues	$ 913,050	$ 1,058,736	$ 1,104,944
Less:			
Product and distribution costs, adjusted	222,686	251,417	274,828
Operating expenses, adjusted	524,847	563,033	556,283
Selling, general and administrative expense, adjusted	68,483	98,629	111,584
Marketing expenses, adjusted	28,816	31,395	31,407
Other segment items [1]	(11,416)	1,495	(137)
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets, adjusted	63,489	60,406	56,529
Total U.S. Adjusted EBIT	**$ 16,145**	**$ 52,361**	**$ 74,450**
International			
Net revenues	$ 535,088	$ 519,102	$ 489,631
Less:			
Product and distribution costs, adjusted	122,001	125,075	120,015
Operating expenses, adjusted	264,613	242,392	214,395
Selling, general and administrative expense, adjusted	52,761	48,441	47,013
Marketing expenses, adjusted	13,201	11,421	10,971
Other segment items [1]	(559)	1,057	705
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets, adjusted	32,958	31,309	28,367
Total International Adjusted EBIT	**$ 50,113**	**$ 59,407**	**$ 68,165**
Market Development			
Net revenues	$ 74,478	$ 87,559	$ 91,529
Less:			
Product and distribution costs, adjusted	22,600	32,140	37,969
Selling, general and administrative expense, adjusted	4,527	4,449	7,213
Other segment items [1]	3,259	3,066	3,381
Depreciation expense and amortization of right of use assets, adjusted	143	154	259
Total Market Development Adjusted EBIT	**$ 43,949**	**$ 47,750**	**$ 42,707**
Total Reportable Segment			
Total reportable segment net revenues	**$ 1,522,616**	**$ 1,665,397**	**$ 1,686,104**
Total reportable segment Adjusted EBIT	**$ 110,207**	**$ 159,518**	**$ 185,322**

(1) The U.S. and International segments' other segment items consist of pre-opening costs and other income, net. The Market Development segment other segment items consist of operating expenses, marketing expenses, pre-opening costs, and other income, net.

The following table presents a reconciliation of net (loss)/income to Adjusted EBIT:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Net (loss)/income	**$ (523,779)**	**$ 3,815**	**$ (36,647)**
Interest expense, net	65,795	60,066	50,341
Income tax (benefit)/expense	(20,820)	15,954	(4,347)
Share-based compensation	12,865	35,149	24,196
Employer payroll taxes related to share-based compensation	307	358	395
Loss/(gain) on divestiture of Insomnia Cookies	11,501	(90,455)	—
Goodwill impairment	355,958	—	—
Other non-operating (income)/expense, net [1]	(1,967)	1,885	3,798
Strategic initiatives [2]	39,847	19,993	29,057
Acquisition and integration expenses [3]	(111)	3,282	511
New market penetration expenses [4]	560	1,407	1,380
Shop closure expenses, net [5]	56,394	4,861	17,335
Restructuring and severance expenses [6]	6,396	7,561	5,050
Gain on remeasurement of equity method investment [7]	—	(5,579)	—
Gain on sale-leaseback	(6,749)	(1,569)	(9,646)
Gain on refranchising [8]	(1,358)	—	—
Other [9]	8,340	3,203	4,307
Amortization of acquisition related intangibles [10]	31,279	30,297	29,373
Unallocated corporate costs [11]	75,749	69,290	70,219
Reportable segment Adjusted EBIT	**$ 110,207**	**$ 159,518**	**$ 185,322**

(1) Primarily foreign translation gains and losses in each period, as well as equity method income from Insomnia Cookies following the divestiture of a controlling interest during fiscal 2024 until the sale of our remaining interest in the second quarter of fiscal 2025. Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

(2) Fiscal 2025 consists primarily of $33.6 million in costs associated with the U.S. national expansion (including McDonald's USA), including exit costs associated with termination of the Business Relationship Agreement with McDonald's USA, and $2.8 million in costs for the evaluation of potential opportunities to refranchise certain equity markets. Fiscal 2024 consists primarily of $8.2 million in costs associated with the divestiture of the Insomnia Cookies business, $7.3 million in costs preparing for the U.S. national expansion (including McDonald's USA), and $4.0 million in costs associated with global transformation. Fiscal 2023 consists primarily of costs associated with global transformation of $5.9 million and U.S. initiatives such as the decision to exit the Branded Sweet Treats business, including property, plant and equipment impairments, inventory write-offs, employee severance, and other related costs of $17.8 million.

(3) Consists of acquisition and integration-related costs in connection with the Company's business and franchise acquisitions, including legal, due diligence, and advisory fees incurred in connection with acquisition and integration-related activities for the applicable period.

(4) Consists of start-up costs associated with entry into new countries in which the Company has not previously operated, including Brazil and Spain.

(5) Includes lease termination costs, impairment charges, and loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment.

(6) Fiscal 2025 consists primarily of costs associated with restructuring of the U.S. and U.K. businesses. Fiscal 2024 consists primarily of costs associated with the restructuring of the U.S. and U.K. executive teams. Fiscal 2023 consists primarily of costs associated with restructuring of the global executive team.

(7) Consists of a gain related to the remeasurement of the equity method investments in KremeWorks USA, LLC and KremeWorks Canada, L.P. to fair value immediately prior to the acquisition of the shops. Refer to Note 3, Acquisitions and Divestitures, to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for more information.

(8) Includes gains and losses on the deconsolidation of assets and liabilities associated with the refranchising of certain Krispy Kreme shops.

(9) Fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024 consist primarily of $7.4 million and $3.1 million, respectively, related to remediation of the 2024 Cybersecurity Incident, including fees for cybersecurity experts and other advisors, net of $2.4 million of insurance proceeds received in fiscal 2025 relating to these costs. Fiscal 2023 consists primarily of legal and other regulatory expenses incurred outside the ordinary course of business.

(10) Consists of amortization related to acquired intangible assets as reflected within depreciation and amortization in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

(11) Corporate expenses are not included in the CODM's measure of segment profitability. These amounts are presented as a reconciling item between total reportable segment Adjusted EBIT and consolidated Adjusted EBIT. In fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024, corporate expenses consist primarily of $63.8 million and $65.2 million, respectively, in selling, general and administrative expenses, which principally comprise payroll and benefits for corporate functions, professional fees, enterprise information technology, and other headquarters costs.

Geographical information related to consolidated revenues and long-lived assets is as follows:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Net revenues:			
U.S.	$ 937,747	$ 1,091,597	$ 1,144,564
U.K.	159,469	158,459	154,775
Australia / New Zealand	117,876	122,737	117,328
Mexico	125,163	127,230	120,072
All other	182,361	165,374	149,365
Total net revenues	**$ 1,522,616**	**$ 1,665,397**	**$ 1,686,104**

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	December 28, 2025	December 29, 2024	December 31, 2023
Long-lived assets:			
U.S.	$ 600,729	$ 664,299	$ 735,955
U.K.	71,627	82,140	79,039
Australia / New Zealand	64,320	56,399	62,080
Mexico	75,328	61,943	69,616
All other	44,454	56,227	48,494
Total long-lived assets	**$ 856,458**	**$ 921,008**	**$ 995,184**

Total long-lived assets consist of Property and equipment, net and Operating lease right of use asset, net.

Note 21 — Redeemable Noncontrolling Interests

The Company maintains agreements with its joint venture partners who hold noncontrolling interests in the Company's consolidated subsidiaries W.K.S. Krispy Kreme and KK Canada, which include contractual put options. The put options, held by the noncontrolling joint venture partners, provide the right for each such partner to sell its remaining interest in W.K.S. Krispy Kreme and KK Canada to the Company based on a predetermined formula. The put options become exercisable upon the passage of time.

The noncontrolling interests are considered redeemable due to the existence of the put options as (i) the noncontrolling joint venture partners can put their shares of W.K.S. Krispy Kreme and KK Canada to the Company, (ii) the put is outside the Company's control; and (iii) it is probable of becoming redeemable solely based on the passage of time. The put options cannot be separated from the noncontrolling interest and did not require bifurcation from the noncontrolling interest under the guidance in ASC 815.

The noncontrolling interest is classified as redeemable noncontrolling interest within Mezzanine equity on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. When redeemable noncontrolling interest becomes redeemable, or it is probable of becoming redeemable, its value is adjusted to the greater of the current redemption value or carrying value. The redemption value is remeasured on a quarterly basis based on the predetermined formula set forth in the Company's agreements with the joint venture partners.

Changes in the redeemable noncontrolling interests are as follows:

	As of December 28, 2025
Balance as of December 29, 2024	$ 27,297
Net loss attributable to redeemable noncontrolling interest	(8,129)
Accretion to redemption value	4,290
Foreign currency impact	723
Balance at December 28, 2025	$ 24,181

Note 22 — Subsequent Events

Subsequent to the balance sheet date, the noncontrolling interest holders in the Company's consolidated subsidiary KK Canada notified the Company of their election to exercise their rights to require the Company to redeem all interests held by such noncontrolling interest holders, which will require the Company to purchase the additional 43.48% equity interest in KK Canada. The purchase will increase the Company's ownership from 56.52% to 100%. The purchase price for the additional equity interest is approximately $20 to $25 million and is expected to be paid during the second quarter of 2026.

On March 2, 2026, the Company completed the sale of its operations in Japan pursuant to the Japan Share Purchase Agreement.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

In connection with the preparation of this Annual Report, an evaluation was conducted by the Company's management, with participation of our CEO and CFO, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of December 28, 2025. Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our CEO and CFO, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Based on that evaluation, the Company's management concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 28, 2025.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with GAAP. Internal control over financial reporting includes maintaining records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect our transactions; providing reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for preparation of our financial statements; providing reasonable assurance that receipts and expenditures are made in accordance with management authorization; and providing reasonable assurance that unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of Company assets that could have a material effect on our financial statements would be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that a misstatement of our financial statements would be prevented or detected.

Management has assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2025 based on the framework and criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. As a result of this assessment, management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 28, 2025.

Remediation of the Previously Disclosed Material Weakness in the Non-Routine Goodwill Impairment Assessment

As previously disclosed in Item 4 of Part I of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 29, 2025 (the "2025 Q2 10-Q"), a material weakness was identified related to the review of significant inputs and assumptions utilized in the goodwill impairment assessment performed outside of management's routine annual assessment. Specifically, the control activities were not executed at the appropriate level of precision to prevent or detect a material misstatement. Primarily in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025, management implemented a series of measures designed to (i) enhance the level of precision of the review of goodwill impairment assessments utilizing additional resources, and (ii) improve the supporting documentation related to reviews of significant inputs and assumptions associated with the Company's goodwill impairment assessments, which included:

- Engaging an independent, qualified valuation specialist with significant experience in the valuation of intangible assets and reporting units to assist management in performing the annual and interim goodwill impairment assessments.
- Implementing several robust management review controls, including evaluation of the valuation specialist, review and approval over key assumptions used in the impairment analysis, such as forecasts, discount rates, revenue growth projections, terminal value assumptions, and market comparables and review of the valuation methodology and source data.

These actions have been in place for a sufficient period of time, and management has performed adequate testing to conclude that these controls are operating effectively. As a result, management has concluded that this material weakness has been remediated.

Remediation of the Previously Disclosed Material Weakness in System Controls

As previously disclosed in the 2025 Q2 10-Q, management concluded that the material weakness in internal control over financial reporting related to access that could enable the creation of journal entries without review and approval, which was disclosed in Item 9A of Part II of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2024, was remediated as of June 29, 2025. Management designed and implemented during the second quarter of fiscal 2025 additional and enhanced controls to prevent and detect access that could enable the creation of journal entries without review and approval. In addition, management implemented certain system controls to enable proper segregation of duties related to journal entry data and processes, and expects to continue to enhance system controls to strengthen our control environment. These actions were in place for a sufficient period of time, and management performed adequate testing to conclude that these controls are operating effectively.

Changes in Internal Controls over Financial Reporting

Except as discussed above related to remediation of the material weakness in the non-routine goodwill impairment assessment, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting during the fiscal quarter ended December 28, 2025.

Attestation of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Our independent registered public accounting firm, Grant Thornton LLP, has issued an audit report with respect to our internal control over financial reporting, which appears in Item 8 of Part II of this Annual Report.

Item 9B. Other Information

None.

Item 9C. Disclosure Regarding Foreign Jurisdictions that Prevent Inspections

Not applicable.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information required by this item, including information about our Directors, Executive Officers, Audit Committee, Insider Trading Policy, and Code of Conduct, is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement for our 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after December 28, 2025.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement for our 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after December 28, 2025.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement for our 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after December 28, 2025.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement for our 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after December 28, 2025.

Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement for our 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed with the SEC no later than 120 days after December 28, 2025.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

(a) List the Following Documents Filed as Part of this Annual Report:

1. Financial Statements

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report.

2. Financial Statement Schedules

All schedules have been omitted because they are not required or the required information is shown in the Consolidated Financial Statements or notes thereto.

3. Exhibits

EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION OF EXHIBIT
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 18, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein)
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 18, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein)
4.1	Description of Capital Stock (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, File number 001-40573, filed on February 27, 2024, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.1†	Krispy Kreme, Inc. 2021 Omnibus Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.8 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, File number 333-256664, filed on June 22, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein
10.2†	Form of Indemnification Agreement between the Registrant and each of its Executive Officers and Directors (filed as Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, File number 333-256664, filed on June 22, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein
10.3	Investor Rights Agreement by and among Krispy Kreme, Inc., JAB Holdings B.V. and the Holders Listed on Schedule A thereto, dated as of July 6, 2021 (filed as Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, File number 001-40573, filed on March 11, 2022, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.4†	Employee Stock Purchase Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.9 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, File number 333-256664, filed on June 22, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.5†	Krispy Kreme Holdings, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.12 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, File number 333-256664, filed on June 22, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.6†	Award Under the Krispy Kreme Holdings, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Unit Grant Notice (filed as Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, File number 333-256664, filed on June 22, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.7†	Stock Option Award Terms and Conditions Under Krispy Kreme Holdings, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.14 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, File number 333-256664, filed on June 22, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.8†	Restricted Stock Unit Award Terms and Conditions Under Krispy Kreme Holdings, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.15 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, File number 333-256664, filed on June 22, 2021, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.9	Exclusive distribution agreement dated March 15, 2022, by and among Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation and BakeMark USA LLC (filed as Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.10†	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (filed as Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)

10.11†	Form of Performance-Based Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (filed as Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.12†	Form of Option Agreement (filed as Exhibit 10.8 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.13†	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement (2025 Retention Grant) (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on November 6, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.14†	Form of Performance-Based Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement (2025 Retention Grant) (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on November 6, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.15†	Form of Option Award Agreement (2025 Retention Grant) (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on November 6, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.16	Credit Agreement, dated March 23, 2023, by and among Krispy Kreme, Inc., Cotton Parent, Inc., Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Inc., the other borrowers party thereto from time to time, the lenders party thereto and BNP Paribas as administrative agent and collateral agent (filed as Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.17†	Transition & Director and Advisor Services Agreement effective December 1, 2023 between Michael Tattersfield, Krispy Kreme, Inc., and Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation (filed as Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.18†	Key Employment Agreement among Krispy Kreme, Inc., Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation, and Joshua Charlesworth, dated October 12, 2023 (filed as Exhibit 10.11 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.19†	Agreement and General Release, dated as of January 10, 2025, by and between Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation and Matthew Spanjers (filed as Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.20	Incremental Assumption Agreement and Amendment No. 1 to Credit Agreement, dated May 2, 2025, by and among Krispy Kreme, Inc., Cotton Parent, Inc., Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Inc., the other loan parties party thereto, the lenders party thereto and BNP Paribas as administrative agent (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, File number 001-40573, filed on May 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.21	Incremental Assumption Agreement and Amendment No. 2 to Credit Agreement, dated May 7, 2025, by and among Krispy Kreme, Inc., Cotton Parent, Inc., Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Inc., the other loan parties party thereto, the lenders party thereto and BNP Paribas as administrative agent (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, File number 001-40573, filed on May 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.22	Unit Purchase Agreement, dated June 10, 2025, among Verlinvest Cookies Holdings, Inc., Mistral Sleepless Holdings 2, LLC, and Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
10.23*	Share Purchase Agreement, dated December 18, 2025, by and among Krispy Kreme Doughnut Japan Co. Ltd, Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation, and Lei, Inc.
19.1	Krispy Kreme, Inc. Insider Trading Policy (filed as Exhibit 19.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, File number 001-40573, filed on August 8, 2025, and incorporated by reference herein)
21.1*	List of Subsidiaries
23.1*	Consent of Grant Thornton LLP, an Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
31.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer of Krispy Kreme, Inc. pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) promulgated under the Exchange Act
31.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer of Krispy Kreme, Inc. pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) promulgated under the Exchange Act
32.1**	Certifications of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Krispy Kreme, Inc. pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) or 15d-14(b) promulgated under the Exchange Act, and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code

97.1†***	Krispy Kreme, Inc. Clawback Policy
101*	The following financial statements from the Company’s Annual Report for the year ended December 28, 2025, formatted in Inline XBRL: (i) Consolidated Statements of Operations, (ii) Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive (Loss)/Income, (iii) Consolidated Balance Sheets, (iv) Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders’ Equity, (v) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, and (vi) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
104*	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

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* Filed herewith.
** Furnished herewith.
*** Previously filed; being refiled solely to correct formatting. No substantive changes have been made.
† Compensatory plan or arrangement.

Item 16. Form 10-K Summary

None.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 of 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this Annual Report on Form 10-K to be signed on its behalf of the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 6, 2026

Krispy Kreme, Inc.

By:	/s/ Josh Charlesworth
Name:	Josh Charlesworth
Title:	Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1934, this Annual Report on Form 10-K has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated as of March 6, 2026.

Signature	Title
/s/ Josh Charlesworth Josh Charlesworth	Director, President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)
/s/ Raphael Duvivier Raphael Duvivier	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)
/s/ Joseph J. Esposito Joseph J. Esposito	Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)
/s/ Patricia Capel Patricia Capel	Director, Chair of the Board
/s/ Marissa Andrada Marissa Andrada	Director
/s/ David Deno David Deno	Director
/s/ Patrick Grismer Patrick Grismer	Director
/s/ Bernardo Hees Bernardo Hees	Director
/s/ Gerhard Pleuhs Gerhard Pleuhs	Director
/s/ Easwaran Sundaram Easwaran Sundaram	Director

CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THIS EXHIBIT HAVE BEEN OMITTED BECAUSE IT IS BOTH NOT MATERIAL AND IS THE TYPE TYPICALLY TREATED AS PRIVATE OR CONFIDENTIAL. BRACKETS (“[***]”) INDICATE THAT INFORMATION HAS BEEN OMITTED.

SHARE PURCHASE AGREEMENT

dated December 18, 2025

by and among

KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUT JAPAN CO. LTD.,

KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUT CORPORATION,

And

LEI INC.

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SHARE PURCHASE AGREEMENT

This Share Purchase Agreement (this "**Agreement**") is dated December 18, 2025 (the "**Effective Date**"), by and among Krispy Kreme Doughnut Japan Co. Ltd., a Japanese corporation ("**Company**"); Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation, a North Carolina corporation ("**Seller**"), and Lei Inc., a Japanese corporation ("**Buyer**"). Seller, Buyer and the Company are referred to collectively as the "**Parties**" and individually as a "**Party**".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, immediately prior to the Closing, Seller will hold all of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock of the Company (the "**Shares**");

WHEREAS, Seller wishes to sell, and Buyer wishes to purchase, all of the Shares pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, representations, and warranties made herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. DEFINITIONS AND USAGE

SECTION 1.1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this Agreement, the following terms shall bear the following meanings.

"**338(g) Election**" means an election under Section 338(g) of the Code and the U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder (including any corresponding or similar election under any applicable state, local, or non-U.S. tax law as reasonably requested by Seller).

"**338(g) Notice**" is defined in **Section 8.1(b)**.

"**Adjusted EBITDA**" means, with respect to fiscal year 2025, (i) EBITDA for such period, *plus* (ii) [***], *minus* (iii) [***], and *minus* (iv) [***].

"**Adjusted Grossed-Up Basis**" means the amount determined under Section 338(b) of the Code and the U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.

"**Affiliate**" of a Person means any other Person that directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, such Person. The term "control" means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise; ***provided*** that no portfolio company of any funds managed or advised by Unison Capital, Inc. or by any of its Affiliates shall be deemed to be an Affiliate of Buyer. With respect to Buyer, Buyer's Affiliates shall be deemed to include the Company after the Closing, and with respect to Seller, Seller's Affiliates shall be deemed to exclude the Company after the Closing.

"**AFS**" is defined in **Section 9.15(a)**.

"**Agreed Accounting Principles**" means the accounting methodologies, principles, and procedures set forth on **EXHIBIT A** hereto.

“**Agreement**” is defined in the preamble of this Agreement.

“**Allocation**” is defined in **Section 8.1(b)**.

“**Alternative Financing**” is defined in **Section 4.17(b)**.

“**Ancillary Agreements**” means the International Development and Franchise Agreement, the R&W Insurance Policy, and the Commitment Letters.

“**Anti-Social Force**” means any organized crime group (*bouryokudan*), organized crime group member (*bouryokudan-in*), Person for whom five years have not passed since the day on which such Person ceased to be an organized crime group member, quasi-organized crime group member (*bouryokudan-jun-kouseiin*), Person associated with an organized crime group (*bouryokudan-kankei-kigyou*), corporate extortionist (*soukai-ya*), social/political movement racketeer (*shakaiundou-tou-hyoubou-goro*), highly-sophisticated crime syndicate (*tokushu-chinou-bouryoku-shuudan*), Person who has a previous record of conducting illegal acts or making unreasonable demands regarding civil or administrative issues, or other Person similar to any of the foregoing.

“**Antitrust Laws**” all federal, state, and foreign statutes, rules, regulations, Orders, administrative and judicial doctrines, and other Laws that are designed or intended to prohibit, restrict, or regulate actions having the purpose or effect of monopolization, restraint of trade or lessening of competition.

“**Balance Sheet**” has the meaning set forth in the definition of Financial Statements.

“**Business**” means the Company’s business operated in Japan under the Krispy Kreme brand.

“**Business Day**” means any day other than Saturday or Sunday or any other day on which banks in Tokyo, Japan, or North Carolina, U.S.A. are permitted or required to be closed.

“**Buyer**” is defined in the preamble of this Agreement.

“**Buyer Fundamental Warranty**” means the statements set forth in **Paragraphs 3.3.1, 3.3.2**, **3.3.3** and **3.3.8** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Cash and Cash Equivalents**” means, as of any time, in respect of the Company, the aggregate amount of each of the line items (and no others) under the heading “Cash and Cash Equivalents” set forth on the Reference Statement, determined in accordance with the Agreed Accounting Principles. For the avoidance of doubt, Cash and Cash Equivalents shall (i) be calculated net of uncleared checks and drafts issued by such Person and (ii) include uncleared checks and drafts received or deposited for the account of such Person.

“**Change in Control Payments**” means any transaction bonuses, severance payments or other payments payable by the Company to any of its employees or other Persons (including the Company’s share of withholding, payroll, employment or similar Taxes, if any, associated therewith) as a result of the consummation of the sale of Shares at the Closing contemplated by this Agreement, excluding any payments made or liabilities incurred at the direction of, or arranged by, Buyer.

“**Circumstance**” means any change, development, circumstance, effect, event, action or fact.

“**Claim**” means any litigation, claim or Proceeding.

“**Closing**” is defined in **Section 2.3**.

“**Closing Date**” is defined in **Section 2.1**.

“**Closing Date Cash**” means the sum of all Cash and Cash Equivalents as of 11:59 p.m. (Tokyo time) on the day immediately prior to the Closing Date.

“**Closing Date Indebtedness**” means the sum of all Indebtedness of the Company as of 11:59 p.m. (Tokyo time) on the day immediately prior to the Closing Date.

“**Closing Date Schedule**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(b)**.

“**Closing Net Working Capital Amount**” means the Current Assets less the Current Liabilities, as calculated as of 11:59 p.m. (Tokyo time) on the day immediately prior to the Closing Date in accordance with the Agreed Accounting Principles.

“**Code**” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

“**Common Stock**” means common stock of the Company.

“**Commitment Letters**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.3.6(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Company**” is defined in the Recitals.

“**Company Employees**” means the employees of the Company as of immediately prior to the Closing.

“**Company Enterprise Value**” means the Adjusted EBITDA for fiscal year 2025 *multiplied* by [***].

“**Company Intellectual Property**” means the Intellectual Property that is used by the Company in connection with the Business.

“**Company Necessary Intellectual Property (General R&W)**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.2.9** of **EXHIBIT 3.2**.

“**Company Necessary Intellectual Property (Material R&W)**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.1.12** of **EXHIBIT 3.1**.

“**Company Upstream Loan**” means the loan made by the Company to Seller under the Intercompany Loan Agreement between the Company and the Seller, dated May 31, 2023, in the maximum commitment amount of JPY [***].

“**Company IT Systems**” means all software, computer hardware, servers, networks, platforms, peripherals, devices and similar or related items of automated, computerized, or other information technology (IT) networks and systems (including telecommunications networks and systems for voice, data and video) owned, leased, licensed, or used (including through cloud-based or other third-party service providers) by Company.

“**Confidential Information**” is defined in **Section 9.3(a)**.

“**Consent**” means any approval, consent, ratification, waiver, or other authorization.

“**Contracts**” means all contracts, leases, deeds, mortgages, licenses, instruments, notes, commitments, undertakings, indentures, joint ventures, and all other agreements, commitments, and legally binding arrangements, whether written or oral.

“**Current Assets**” means, in respect of the Company as of any date, the aggregate amount of the line items (and no others) under the heading “Current Assets” set forth on the Reference Statement as of such date and determined in accordance with the Agreed

Accounting Principles, but shall not include (a) Cash and Cash Equivalents, (b) prepaid income Taxes assets and deferred Tax assets under the heading “Indebtedness” set forth on the Reference Statement as of such date and determined in accordance with the Agreed Accounting Principles, or (c) HQ Termination Compensation.

“**Current Liabilities**” means, in respect of the Company as of any date, the aggregate amount of each of the line items (and no others) under the heading “Current Liabilities” set forth on the Reference Statement as of such date, determined in accordance with the Agreed Accounting Principles. For the avoidance of doubt, for all purposes of this Agreement, including the calculation of Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Current Liabilities shall not include any portion of any (a) Indebtedness, (b) any Transaction Expenses, or (c) income Tax liabilities and deferred Tax liabilities.

“**Current Representation**” is defined in **Section 9.15(a)**.

“**Data Room Information**” means all of the information made available in the virtual data room for “[***]” operated by [***] in sufficient detail and specificity so as to enable Buyer to assess the substance and significance of the matter disclosed and the impact of such matter upon the Company, as of the fifth (5th) Business Day prior to the Effective Date.

“**Debt Financing**” means the financing committed by the lenders to lend to Buyer the amounts specified for the purpose of funding Buyer’s consummation of the Transactions, as outlined in the debt commitment letter, a copy of which is provided by Buyer to Seller as of the Effective Date.

“**Debt Financing Unavailable Situation**” is defined in **Section 4.17(b)**.

“**Debt Commitment Letter**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.3.6(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Debt Financing**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.3.6(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Definitive Financing Agreements**” is defined in **Section 4.17(a)(i)**.

“**Designated Accounting Firm**” means [***], or if Seller or Buyer shall discover a bona fide conflict with respect to such firm or if such firm resigns or refuses for any reason to resolve any disputed item in accordance with **Section 2.6**, an independent internationally recognized accounting firm (which firm shall not have any material relationship with Seller or Buyer) mutually agreed to in writing by Seller and Buyer.

“**Designated Person**” is defined in **Section 9.15(b)**.

“**Disclosure Letter**” means the disclosure letter delivered by Seller to Buyer concurrently with the execution and delivery of this Agreement.

“**Dispute Notice**” is defined in **Section 2.6(c)(ii)** .

“**Doughnut Factories**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the International Development and Franchise Agreement.

“**EBITDA**” means, for the FY 2025 fiscal year, the earnings of the Company before the payment of or provision for any interest, Taxes, depreciation and amortization calculated using those line items used (or to be used) in the Company’s profit & loss statement set forth in **Exhibit 2.2(a)**, in manner consistent with the calculations presented by the Company to Buyer, and using the same accounting principles, policies, procedures, categorizations, methods, practices, and techniques used in preparation of **Exhibit 2.2(a)** and **Exhibit 2.2(b)** (including in respect of the exercise of management judgment). [***].

“**Effective Date**” is defined in the preamble of this Agreement.

“**Encumbrance**” means any charge, claim, community, or other marital property interest, condition, equitable interest, lien, option, pledge, security interest, encumbrance, mortgage, right of way, easement, encroachment, servitude, right of first option, right of first refusal, or similar restriction, including any restriction on use, voting (in the case of any security or equity interest), transfer, receipt of income, or exercise of any other attribute of ownership.

“**Environmental Claim**” means any Proceeding, Order, lien, fine, penalty, or, as to each, any settlement or judgment arising therefrom, by or from any Person alleging liability of whatever kind or nature (including liability or responsibility for the costs of enforcement proceedings, investigations, cleanup, governmental response, removal or remediation, natural resources damages, property damages, personal injuries, medical monitoring, penalties, contribution, indemnification and injunctive relief) arising out of, based on or resulting from: (a) the presence, Release of, or exposure to, any Hazardous Materials; or (b) any actual or alleged non-compliance with any Environmental Law or term or condition of any Environmental Permit.

“**Environmental Law**” means any applicable Law, and any Order or binding agreement with any Governmental Body: (a) relating to pollution (or the cleanup thereof) or the protection of natural resources, endangered or threatened species, human health or safety, or the environment (including ambient air, soil, surface water or groundwater, or subsurface strata); or (b) concerning the presence of, exposure to, or the management, manufacture, use, containment, storage, recycling, reclamation, reuse, treatment, generation, discharge, transportation, processing, production, disposal or remediation of any Hazardous Materials.

“**Environmental Notice**” means any written directive, notice of violation or infraction, or notice respecting any Environmental Claim relating to actual or alleged non-compliance with any Environmental Law or any term or condition of any Environmental Permit.

“**Environmental Permit**” means any Governmental Authorization, letter, clearance, consent, waiver, closure, exemption, decision or other action required under or issued, granted, given, authorized by or made pursuant to Environmental Law.

“**Equity Commitment Letter**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.3.6(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Equity Financing**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.3.6(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Estimated Closing Date Cash**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(a)**.

“**Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness**” is defined in **Section 2.6(a)**.

“**Estimated Closing Statement**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(a)**.

“**Estimated Company Enterprise Value**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(a)**.

“**Estimated HQ Termination Compensation**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(a)**.

“**Estimated Net Working Capital Amount**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(a)**.

“**Estimated Transaction Expenses**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(a)**.

“**Exemption Event**” means any (i) natural disaster, war or terrorism; (ii) suspension or disruption of electrical, communications, or clearing and settlement systems; (iii) other event affecting the Tokyo interbank market that makes it impossible to make loans or borrow funds in Yen; or (iv) other event similar to the foregoing causes (i) to (iii), the cause of which is not attributable to the relevant lender under any Debt Financing and that, as the lender reasonably determines, results in the making of the loan contemplated by the Debt Commitment Letter to be objectively impossible or extremely difficult.

“**Expert Calculations**” has the meaning set forth in **Section 2.6(c)(iv).**

“**Financial Statements**” means: (i) the balance sheet of the Company as at December 31, 2024 (the “**Balance Sheet**”) and the related income statement of the Company for the period then ended; and (ii) the balance sheet of the Company (the “**Interim Balance Sheet**”) as of July 31, 2025 (the “**Interim Balance Sheet Date**”) and the related income statement of the Company for the 7-month period then ended.

“**Financing Parties**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.3.6(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Financings**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.3.6(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.3**.

“**Fraud**” means the Seller or its Representatives having been aware, prior to the Effective Date, of any fact or circumstance that would reasonably be expected to constitute, or give rise to, a breach of any of Seller’s representation and warranty, and having failed to disclose such fact or circumstance to the Buyer prior to the Effective Date.

“**Fresh Shop**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the International Development and Franchise Agreement.

“**GAAP**” means the generally accepted accounting principles in [***].

“**Governing Documents**” means, with respect to any Person, (a) the certificate of incorporation, by-laws, articles of incorporation, memorandum of association or other equivalent constituent documents of such Person and (b) all shareholders’ agreements, voting agreements, voting trust agreements, joint venture agreements, registration rights agreements, or other agreements or documents relating to the organization, management, or operation of such Person or relating to the rights, duties, and obligations of the shareholders of such Person.

“**Governmental Authorization**” means any Consent, license, registration, or permit issued, granted, given, or otherwise made available by or under the authority of any Governmental Body or pursuant to any Law.

“**Governmental Body**” means any (a) nation, prefecture, city, town, borough, village, district, or other jurisdiction, (b) prefectural, local, municipal, foreign, or other government, (c) self-regulated organization, governmental or quasi-governmental authority of any nature (including any agency, branch, department, board, commission, court, tribunal, or other entity exercising self-regulating, governmental or quasi-governmental powers), (d) multinational organization or body, (e) body exercising, or entitled or purporting to exercise, any administrative, executive, judicial, legislative, police, regulatory, or taxing authority or power (for the avoidance of doubt, including any arbitral or other dispute resolving panel or body), or (f) official of any of the entities set forth in the foregoing clauses (a) to (e).

“**Hazardous Materials**” means: (a) any material, substance, chemical, waste, product, derivative, compound, mixture, solid, liquid, mineral or gas, in each case, whether naturally occurring or manmade, that is hazardous, acutely hazardous, toxic, or words of similar import or regulatory effect under Environmental Laws; and (b) any petroleum or petroleum-derived products, radon, radioactive materials or wastes, asbestos in any form, lead or lead-containing materials, urea formaldehyde foam insulation, and polychlorinated biphenyls.

“**Hokkaido Chitose Lease**” means the Fixed Term Building Lease Agreement (Chitose Outlet Mall Rera), dated June 20, 2018, by and between GK Minami Chitose Leasing, as landlord, and the Company, as tenant.

“**Hokkaido Chitose Side Letter**” is defined in **Section 4.1(a).**

“**Hot Light Theater Shop**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the International Development and Franchise Agreement.

“**HQ Lease Agreement**” means, collectively, lease agreements entered into by and between the Company and [***], dated April 1, 2024 and July 1, 2024.

“**HQ Termination Compensation**” means the amount payable to the Company by [***] in respect of the early termination of the HQ Lease Agreement, which amount is expected to be received in 2026 after the Closing Date [***].

“**HQ Related Cash-like Item**” means the aggregate amount of monthly rent (JPY [***]) under the HQ Lease Agreement accruing for the period from and including the Closing Date through and including June 30, 2026 that would otherwise be payable by the Company as lessee but is waived by [***] as lessor [***].

“**Indebtedness**” means, in respect of the Company as of any date, without duplication or double-counting, the aggregate amount of each of the line items (and no others, but subject to the inclusion of additional items set forth below in this definition, as applicable) under the heading “Indebtedness” set forth on the Reference Statement as of such date, determined in accordance with the Agreed Accounting Principles. For the avoidance of doubt, Indebtedness shall include, without duplication or double-counting, (i) the outstanding principal amount of accrued and unpaid interest on, and premium, fee, expenses and other payment obligations (including any prepayment premiums, penalties or termination fees payable thereon as a result of the consummation of the Transactions) in respect of (a) indebtedness for borrowed money, indebtedness issued or incurred in substitution or exchange for indebtedness for borrowed money or for the deferred or contingent purchase price of property or services, and indebtedness for Pre-Closing Taxes under the heading “Indebtedness” set forth on the Reference Statement that are unpaid income Taxes whether or not the final Tax return therefor has become due regardless of the jurisdiction in which they arise under the laws of such jurisdiction other than Pre-Closing Taxes for which original final Tax Returns were required to be filed, and Pre-Closing Taxes that were required to be paid, prior to the Effective Date (taking into account all applicable extensions), regardless of whether such Tax Returns were actually filed (but excluding any Current Liabilities and any trade payables and accrued expenses arising in the Ordinary Course of Business), (b) indebtedness evidenced by any note, bond, debenture or other security or instrument, and (c) clauses (ii) through (vi) below, (ii) commitments or obligations by which the Company assures a creditor against loss including reimbursement obligations with respect to letters of credit, performance bonds, surety bonds, banker’s acceptances or similar credit transactions, in each case only to the

extent drawn or otherwise not contingent, (iii) capitalized or finance lease obligations and installment obligations (*kappu saimu*) that are classified as such in the Financial Statements (but excluding, for clarity, any obligations associated with leases classified as operating leases in the Financial Statements), (iv) all indebtedness secured by any Encumbrance on any property or asset owned or held by such Person, (v) all liabilities for deferred and unpaid purchase price of assets, property, securities or services, including all earn-out payments, seller notes, purchase price true-ups and other similar payments (whether contingent or otherwise) calculated as the maximum amount payable under or pursuant to such obligation, and (vi) all guarantees by the Company of the obligations of any other Person of the type described in the foregoing clauses (i) through (v). The amount of Pre-Closing Taxes in clause (i)(a) above shall be computed (w) net of the Transaction Expenses, including transaction bonuses to be paid to the Company Employees other than Takako Wakatsuki, to the extent that such expenses shall be deductible for Japanese corporate tax purposes under applicable related regulations, (x) net of all income Tax payments (including estimated income Tax payments and prepayments or overpayments of income Taxes to the extent such overpayments are reflected on a Tax Return for a Pre-Closing Tax Period filed by the Company with a Taxing Authority prior to the Closing Date or the Company has records or documentation reasonably supporting such overpayments made prior to the Closing to the extent that such payments have not been used to offset or satisfy Tax liabilities of the Company, (y) net of all income Tax refunds that are due (but have not yet been paid) to the Company as reflected on a Tax Return for a Pre-Closing Tax Period filed by the Company with a Taxing Authority prior to the Closing Date or as reasonably supported by any other records or documentation of the Company (for the avoidance of doubt, not taking into account any amounts including in clause (x)), and (z) based on current practices and procedures of the Company (except as otherwise required by applicable Law).

"**Infringing (General R&W)**" is defined in **Section 3.2.18** of **EXHIBIT 3.2.**

"**Infringing (Material R&W)**" is defined in **Section 3.1.12** of **EXHIBIT 3.1.**

"**Initial Purchase Price**" is defined in **Section 2.2**.

"**Inspection**" is defined in **Section 4.4.**

"**Insurance Proceeds**" is defined in **Section 7.3.**

"**Intellectual Property**" means patents and patent rights (including patent applications), inventions, trademarks and trademark rights (including trademark applications and registrations and all associated goodwill), rights in designs, copyrights (including copyright applications and registrations), and software (whether or not any of these is registered and including applications for registration of any such thing), utility model rights, know-how and trade secrets, social media accounts, internet domain name registrations and all other intellectual property and related proprietary rights, interests and protections, in each case anywhere in the world.

"**Intellectual Property Agreements**" means all Intellectual Property license agreements and related service agreements, the licenses and services granted or provided under which are used in connection with the Business, except for the International Development and Franchise Agreement.

"**Interim Balance Sheet**" is defined in the definition of Financial Statements .

"**Interim Balance Sheet Date**" is defined in the definition of Financial Statements.

"**Intercompany License Termination Agreement**" means the agreement terminating the intercompany license agreement, by and between Seller and the Company, pursuant to which, the Company had the license to operate the Krispy Kreme® brand In Japan.

"**International Development and Franchise Agreement**" means the International Development and Franchise Agreement to be entered into between Seller (or its Affiliate) and the Company at the Closing in the form and substance attached hereto as **EXHIBIT B**.

"**JPY**" means Japanese Yen, the lawful currency of Japan.

"**Knowledge of Seller**" means, with respect to Seller, (i) the actual knowledge of the Company's CEO and CFO and other directors under the Companies Act of Japan, and (ii) [***].

"**Law**" means any federal, state, local, prefectural, municipal, foreign, international, multinational, or other constitution, law, ordinance, principle of common law, code, regulation, statute, treaty or other requirement or rule of law of any Governmental Body.

"**Leased Properties**" means the stores, commissaries, factories, facilities and other real property used by the Company in connection with the Business.

"**Long Stop Date**" is defined in **Section 6.1(a)(ii)**.

"**Losses**" means any losses, damages, liabilities, costs, interest, penalties, fines, Taxes, or expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, in connection with any Claim, in each case to the extent falling within the scope of reasonable causation (i.e., *soto-inga-kankei* under Japanese Law).

"**Management Holders**" means [***].

"**Material Adverse Effect**" means any effect, change, event, or circumstance that, considered individually or together with all other effects, changes, events, and circumstances, is or is reasonably expected to be materially adverse to, or has or results or is reasonably expected to have or result in a material adverse effect (i) on the business, financial condition, assets, liabilities, or results of operations of the Company, or (ii) the consummation of the Transactions, ***provided*** that in no event shall any of the following be taken into account (alone or in combination with any other event identified in this definition) in determining whether there has been such a Material Adverse Effect, except to the extent such matter has a disproportionate effect on the Company relative to other companies operating in the same industry that results in a material disadvantage to the Company vis-à-vis such other companies:

(a) any change in Law or accounting standards or interpretations thereof applicable to the Company or the Business;

(b) any change in economic conditions or industry-wide or financial market conditions generally;

(c) any currency exchange rate fluctuations;

(d) any political conditions (including effects arising out of acts of terrorism, sabotage, armed hostilities or war), natural disasters, spread of disease or other force majeure events;

(e) the announcement of the Transaction;

(f) any action by Seller or the Company required to be taken by this Agreement or with the express consent in writing of Buyer; or

(g) any failure, in and of itself, by the Company to meet projections, budgets, forecasts, revenue or earnings predictions or other similar forward looking statements (it being understood that the facts or occurrences giving rise to or contributing to such failure may be deemed to constitute, or be taken into account in determining whether there has been or will be, a Material Adverse Effect, to the extent not otherwise excluded pursuant to items (a) through (f) above).

"**Material COC Consent Contracts**" means the material Contracts identified on **EXHIBIT 5.1**.

"**Material Contracts (General R&W)s**" is defined in **Paragraph 3.2.16(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.2**.

"**Material Contracts (Material R&W)**" is defined in **Paragraph 3.1.10(a)** of **EXHIBIT 3.1**.

"**Material Leased Properties**" means Leased Properties constituting Doughnut Factories, Hot Light Theater Shops or Fresh Shops.

"**Net Working Capital Lower Collar**" means an amount equal to the Target Net Working Capital Amount *minus* JPY [***].

"**Net Working Capital Upper Collar**" means an amount equal to the Target Net Working Capital Amount *plus* JPY [***].

"**Order**" means any order, injunction, judgment, decree, ruling, assessment or arbitration award of any Governmental Body or arbitrator.

"**Ordinary Course of Business**" means an action taken by a Person that (a) is consistent in nature, scope and magnitude with the past practices of such Person and is taken in the ordinary course of the normal, day-to-day operations of such Person, and (b) does not require authorization by the board of directors or shareholders of such Person.

"**Parties**" and "**Party**" are defined in the preamble of this Agreement.

"**Permitted Encumbrance**" means (a) statutory liens (*sakidori-tokken*), possessory liens (*ryuchi-ken*) and similar statutory Encumbrances arising by operation of Law, in each case to secure payments not yet due and for which adequate reserves have been made with respect thereto, and arising in the ordinary course of business, (b) liens for current Taxes not yet due and payable or for Taxes that are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and for which adequate reserves with respect thereto have been maintained in accordance with GAAP and are reflected in the Financial Statements, (c) liens granted to any financing source at the Closing in connection with any financing by Buyer of the Transactions, and (d) with respect to real property, zoning laws and other land use restrictions that do not impair the present or anticipated use of the property subject thereto.

"**Person**" means an individual, partnership, corporation, business trust, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, joint stock company, trust, unincorporated association, joint venture or other entity or a Governmental Body.

"**Post-Closing Tax Period**" means any taxable period beginning after the Closing Date and, with respect to any taxable period beginning before and ending after the Closing Date, the portion of such taxable period beginning after the Closing Date.

“**Pre-Closing Tax Period**” means any taxable period ending on or before the Closing Date and, with respect to any taxable period beginning before and ending after the Closing Date, the portion of such taxable period ending on and including the Closing Date.

“**Pre-Closing Taxes**” means Taxes of the Company for any Pre-Closing Tax Period.

“**Proceeding**” means any action, arbitration, audit, hearing, investigation, litigation, or suit (whether civil, criminal, administrative, judicial, or investigative, whether formal or informal, whether public or private) commenced, brought, conducted, or heard by or before, or otherwise involving, any Governmental Body or arbitrator.

“**Products**” means the doughnuts and other food and beverage products of the Company, whenever produced or sold by or on behalf of the Company.

“**Projected Relevant Expense Items Amount**” is defined in **Section 2.2**.

“**Purchase Price**” means the Initial Purchase Price as adjusted pursuant to **Section 2.6.**

“**R&W Certificate**” means the certificate for the R&W Insurance Policy, dated as of December 19, 2025, to be issued by the R&W Insurer.

“**R&W Insurance Expenses**” is defined in **Section 4.15**.

“**R&W Insurance Policy**” means that certain Buyer-Side Representations and Warranty Policy bound as of the Closing Date with respect to the Transactions, attached hereto as **EXHIBIT C**.

“R&W Insurer” means [***]and any other insurer under the R&W Insurance Policy.

“**Real Estate Leases**” means the real estate lease agreements or any other agreements executed by the Company granting the Company rights to use the Leased Properties.

“**Real Estate Leases (for Buyer’s CP)**” means [***].

“**Receivables (General R&W)**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.2.9** of **EXHIBIT 3.2**.

“**Receivables (Material R&W)**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.1.3** of **EXHIBIT 3.1**.

“**Receivables**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.2.9** of **EXHIBIT 3.2**.

“**Recitals**” refers to the section of this Agreement labeled “Recitals.”

“**Reference Statement**” is defined in **Section 2.6(g)(i)**.

“**Related Party Transaction**” is defined in **Paragraph 3.2.25** of **EXHIBIT 3.2**.

“**Release**” means any actual or threatened release, spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, abandonment, disposing or allowing to escape or migrate into or through the environment (including, without limitation, ambient air (indoor or outdoor), surface water, groundwater, land surface or subsurface strata or within any building, structure, facility or fixture).

“**Relevant Expense Items**” means, collectively, OP Promotional Expenses (*OP Hanbai Sokushin Hi*), MK Promotional Expenses (*MK Hanbai Sokushin Hi*), Advertising Expenses (*Koukoku Senden Hi*), Employee Recruitment Expenses (*Shain Boshu Hi*), Crew Recruitment Expenses (*Kuru Boshu Hi*) and Repair and Maintenance Expenses (*Shuzen Hi*), each as used in the document titled “2510-2512_PL見込_251113_vS” disclosed to Buyer by Seller on November 26, 2025.

"**Representative**" means with respect to a particular Person, any director, officer, manager, employee, agent, consultant, advisor, accountant, financial advisor, legal counsel, or other representative of that Person.

"**Restraining Order**" is defined in **Section 5.1(g)**.

"**Review Period**" is defined in **Section 2.6(c)(ii)**.

"**Seller**" is defined in the preamble of this Agreement.

"**Seller Fundamental Warranty**" means the statements set forth in **Paragraphs 3.2.1** through **3.2.6**, **3.2.25**, **3.2.27** and **3.2.28** of **EXHIBIT 3.2**.

"**Seller Releasees**" is defined in **Section 7.5(a)**.

"**Shares**" is defined in the Recitals.

"**SIAC**" is defined in **Section 9.14(a)**.

"**SIAC Rules**" is defined in **Section 9.14(a)**.

"**Specified Court**" is defined in **Section 9.14(h)**.

"**Sponsor**" means Unison Capital Partners VI, LPS.

"**Target Cash Amount**" means JPY [***].

"**Target Indebtedness Amount**" means JPY [***].

"**Straddle Period**" is defined in **Section 8.2**.

"**Target Net Working Capital Amount**" means JPY [***].

"**Tax**" means any income, gross receipts, license, payroll, employment, excise, severance, stamp, occupation, premium, property, environmental, windfall profit, customs, vehicle, airplane, boat, vessel or other title or registration, capital stock, franchise, employees' income withholding, foreign or domestic withholding, social security, unemployment, disability, real property, personal property, sales, use, transfer, value added, alternative, add-on minimum and other tax, any fee, assessment, levy, charge or duty of any kind whatsoever in the nature of tax and any interest, penalty, addition or additional amount thereon imposed, assessed or collected by or under the authority of any Governmental Body or payable under any tax-sharing agreement.

"**Tax Claim**" is defined in **Section 8.3.**

"**Taxing Authority**" means the United States Internal Revenue Service and any other Governmental Body or political subdivision thereof responsible for the administration, assessment, enforcement, determination, collection, or imposition of any Tax.

"**Tax Return**" means any return, declaration, report, claim for refund, information return or statement relating to Taxes that in each case is filed or required to be filed with a Taxing Authority, including any schedule or attachment thereto, and including any amendment thereof.

"**Third Party**" means a Person that is not a Party or an Affiliate of a Party.

"**TKI**" is defined in **Section 9.15(a)**.

"**Transaction Expenses**" means, without duplication or double-counting, to the extent unpaid as of the Closing, (a) all amounts due and payable by the Company (if any) as

of the Closing Date incurred in connection with the negotiation or consummation of the Transactions, excluding for the avoidance of doubt any payments made or to be made in connection with Sections 4.5 or 5.1(d) or the Financings, and (b) all Change in Control Payments. Transaction Expenses exclude (i) any amounts due and payable by Seller or its Affiliates (other than the Company), and not by the Company, and (ii) any payments or benefits triggered by actions of the Company or Buyer to the extent such actions are approved, committed and taken after the Closing.

"**Transactions**" means all of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

SECTION 1.2. Construction. For purposes of this Agreement, unless otherwise expressly provided:

(a) the table of contents and headings are inserted for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this Agreement;

(b) references to the preamble, Recitals, Articles, Sections and Exhibits are to the preamble of, recitals of, articles of, sections of, and exhibits and schedules to, this Agreement, and references to this Agreement include its Exhibits;

(c) words and expressions in the singular include the plural and vice versa, and a reference to any gender includes all genders;

(d) where a word or expression is defined, other parts of speech and grammatical forms and the cognate variations of that word or expression shall have corresponding meanings;

(e) words introduced by phrases such as "include", "including", and "in particular" shall not be given a restrictive meaning or limit the generality of any preceding words or be construed as being limited to the same class as the preceding words where a wider construction is possible;

(f) the word "or" is not exclusive;

(g) the words "herein", "hereof", "hereby", "hereto" and "hereunder" refer to this Agreement as a whole;

(h) the terms "shall", "will", and "agrees" or "agree" are mandatory, and the term "may" is permissive;

(i) reference to ordinances, statutes, legislation, enactments or other Laws shall be construed as a reference to such ordinances, statutes, legislation, enactments or other Laws as may be amended or re-enacted from time to time and for the time being in force;

(j) all payments hereunder shall be in JPY by wire transfer of immediately available funds;

(k) references to this "Agreement" or any agreement, deed or document herein shall include their respective supplements and amendments from time to time entered into; and

(l) the date and time referred to in this Agreement shall be the date and time of Japan.

SECTION 1.3. Drafting. Any rule of construction to the effect that ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting Party shall not be applied in the construction or interpretation of this Agreement. The Parties have participated jointly in negotiating and drafting this Agreement. In the event that any ambiguity or question of intent or interpretation arises, this Agreement shall be construed as if drafted jointly by the Parties, and no presumption or burden of proof shall arise favoring or disfavoring any Party or party by virtue of the authorship of any provision of this Agreement.

SECTION 1.4. Disclosure Letter and Exhibits. The Disclosure Letter and Exhibits to this Agreement are an integral part of this Agreement. The Disclosure Letter and all Exhibits annexed hereto or referred to herein are incorporated in and made a part of this Agreement as if set forth in full herein. Any matter or item fairly disclosed in the Disclosure Letter shall be applicable to the representations and warranties to which they expressly relate and shall be deemed to have been disclosed for other representations and warranties to the extent the relevance to such other representations and warranties is reasonably apparent. The disclosure of any item in the Disclosure Letter shall not constitute an admission or indication that any such item is required to be disclosed, or that such item or matter is material or would have a Material Adverse Effect. No disclosure in the Disclosure Letter relating to a possible breach or violation of any contract, Law or Order shall be construed as an admission or indication that breach or violation exists or has actually occurred.

ARTICLE 2. SALE AND TRANSFER OF SHARES; CLOSING

SECTION 2.1. Shares. Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement (including the conditions precedent set forth in **Article 5**), on (i) March 2, 2026, (ii) if the conditions precedent in **Article 5** are not satisfied prior to such date (other than those that by their terms are to be satisfied at the Closing) then: (A) if such conditions are satisfied on or prior to fifth (5th) Business Day of any month after such date (including March in 2026), the first Business Day of the month immediately after such month, or (B) if such conditions are satisfied after the fifth (5th) Business Day of any month after such date (including March in 2026), then on the first Business Day of the second month immediately after such month, or (iii) such other date as may be agreed to by the Parties in writing (the

“**Closing Date**”), Seller shall sell, transfer and deliver the Shares to Buyer, free and clear of all Encumbrances, and Buyer shall purchase the Shares from Seller.

SECTION 2.2. Initial Purchase Price. The initial purchase price (the “**Initial Purchase Price**”) for the Shares shall be equal to:

(a) The Company Enterprise Value, plus the Target Cash Amount, and minus the Target Indebtedness Amount;

(b) plus, in the event the Estimated Closing Date Cash exceeds the Target Cash Amount, the amount by which the Estimated Closing Date Cash exceeds the Target Cash Amount;

(c) minus, in the event the Target Cash Amount exceeds the Estimated Closing Date Cash, the amount by which the Target Cash Amount exceeds the Estimated Closing Date Cash;

(d) plus, in the event the Estimated Net Working Capital Amount exceeds the Net Working Capital Upper Collar, the amount by which the Estimated Net Working Capital Amount exceeds the Net Working Capital Upper Collar;

(e) minus, in the event the Net Working Capital Lower Collar exceeds the Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, the amount by which the Net Working Capital Lower Collar exceeds the Estimated Net Working Capital Amount;

(f) minus, in the event the Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness exceeds the Target Indebtedness Amount, the amount by which the Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness exceeds the Target Indebtedness Amount;

(g) plus, in the event the Target Indebtedness Amount exceeds the Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, the amount by which the Target Indebtedness Amount exceeds the Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness;

(h) minus the Estimated Transaction Expenses, if any;

(i) plus the Estimated HQ Termination Compensation; and,

(j) plus HQ Related Cash-Like Item.

[***]

Notwithstanding the foregoing, (x) as soon as reasonably practicable after January 1, 2026, Seller shall (i) confirm with the Company whether the Relevant Expense Items, paid or incurred by the Company with respect to December in 2025, in the aggregate, were less than the corresponding monthly amount for the same Relevant Expense Items, in the aggregate, with respect to December in 2025 set forth in the document titled “2510-2512_PL見込_251113_vS” disclosed to Buyer by Seller on November 26, 2025 (collectively, the “**Projected Relevant Expense Items Amount**”) by more [***], and (ii) if, on an aggregate basis, the Relevant Expense Items paid or incurred by the Company with respect to December 2025 are less than Projected Relevant Expense Items Amount, notify Buyer of such Relevant Expense Items, the actual amount, and the percentage decrease as compared to the amount set forth in the foregoing disclosed document, and, upon Buyer’s reasonable request, provide a reasonable explanation of the details of such Relevant Expense Items, including the reasons for such decreases; and (y) [***].

SECTION 2.3. Closing. Subject to the satisfaction or waiver of all of the conditions set forth in **Article 5** (other than those that by their terms are to be satisfied at the Closing, but subject to the satisfaction thereof), the purchase and sale of the Shares provided for in this Agreement (the "**Closing**") will take place as separately agreed by the Parties, commencing at 10:00 a.m., Japan time, on the Closing Date, or at other times or through electronic exchange of documents or other means as agreed by Seller and Buyer. All of the actions taken at the Closing shall be deemed to occur simultaneously and none of the actions to be taken at the Closing shall be deemed to have occurred until the Closing is complete unless otherwise agreed by Seller and Buyer. Subject to the provisions of **Article 6**, the failure to consummate the Closing on the Closing Date and at the time and place or by means determined pursuant to this **Section 2.3** will not relieve any Party of any obligation under this Agreement.

SECTION 2.4. Buyer's Closing Obligations. In addition to any other documents or actions to be delivered or taken by Buyer under other provisions of this Agreement, at the Closing:

(a) Buyer shall pay to Seller the Initial Purchase Price by wire transfer of immediately available funds to a bank account in Japan designated by Seller in writing along with any and all banking fees and charges related to payment of the Initial Purchase Price.

(b) Buyer shall deliver to Seller each of the Ancillary Agreements to which Buyer is a party, duly executed by Buyer.

(c) Buyer shall deliver to Seller, a certificate of an authorized officer of Buyer, dated as of the Closing Date, to the effect that the conditions specified in **Section 5.2** have been satisfied.

SECTION 2.5. Seller's Closing Obligations. In addition to any other documents or actions to be delivered or taken by Seller under other provisions of this Agreement, at the Closing:

(a) Seller shall deliver to Buyer a request form (*kabunushi meibo meigi kakikae seikyu sho*), duly executed by Seller, to register Buyer as the holder of the Shares on the Company's shareholders' register.

(b) Seller shall deliver to Buyer each of the Ancillary Agreements to which Seller or the Company is a party, duly executed by Seller or the Company, as the case may be.

(c) Seller shall deliver to Buyer, a certificate of an authorized officer of Seller, dated as of the Closing Date, to the effect that the conditions specified in **Section 5.1** have been satisfied.

SECTION 2.6. Purchase Price Adjustment.

(a) Seller shall deliver to Buyer, at least [***] ([***]) Business Days prior to the Closing Date, a statement of Seller (the "**Estimated Closing Statement**"), certified by an officer of Seller, setting forth in reasonable detail Seller's good faith estimates of the Company Enterprise Value (the "**Estimated Company Enterprise Value**"), Closing Net Working Capital Amount (the "**Estimated Net Working Capital Amount**"), the Closing Date Cash (the "**Estimated Closing Date Cash**"),

the Closing Date Indebtedness ("**Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness**"), Transaction Expenses (the "**Estimated Transaction Expenses**"), HQ Termination Compensation (the "**Estimated HQ Termination Compensation**") and, based on such estimates, a calculation of the Initial Purchase Price, and, in each case along with the supporting detail therefor, and such estimates of: (i) Estimated Enterprise Company Value to be prepared in accordance with the definition of "EBITDA" and **Exhibit 2.2(a)** and **Exhibit 2.2(b)**; and (ii) of Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash; Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, and Estimated Transaction Expenses to be prepared in accordance with the Agreed Accounting Principles and consistent with **Section 2.6(g)**. The Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, the Estimated Closing Date Cash, the Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, the Estimated Transaction Expenses and the Estimated HQ Termination Compensation shall be used to calculate the Initial Purchase Price and shall be subject to adjustment as set forth in this **Section 2.6**.

(b) As soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than sixty (60) days following the Closing Date, Buyer shall, at its expense, (i) cause to be prepared a statement (the "**Closing Date Schedule**") setting forth in reasonable detail Buyer's good faith calculation of the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and HQ Termination Compensation, in each case without giving effect to the transactions occurring at the Closing or any purchase accounting or similar adjustments resulting from the consummation of the Transactions, and, based on such amounts, Buyer's calculation of the Purchase Price and (ii) deliver to Seller the Closing Date Schedule, together with the supporting detail therefor and a certificate of Buyer confirming that the Closing Date Schedule was prepared in good faith and in accordance with this **Section 2.6**; ***provided*** that such sixty (60)-day period shall be extended for forty-five (45) days to the extent Buyer is unable to complete and submit the Closing Date Schedule within such sixty (60)-day period for reasons outside of Buyer's control. The Closing Date Schedule, including the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and HQ Termination Compensation shall, with respect to the Company Enterprise Value be prepared in accordance with the definition of "EBITDA" and **Exhibit 2.2(a)** and **Exhibit 2.2(b)**, and, with respect to Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and HQ Termination Compensation, be prepared in accordance with the Agreed Accounting Principles and consistent with **Section 2.6(g), Exhibit 2.2(a)** and **Exhibit 2.2(b)**. If Buyer fails to timely deliver the Closing Date Schedule in accordance with this **Section 2.6** within such sixty (60)-day period, as extended pursuant to the proviso of the preceding sentence, then, at the election of Seller in its sole discretion, either (y) the Estimated Closing Statement delivered to Buyer pursuant to **Section 2.6(a)** shall be deemed final for all purposes herein, and the Initial Purchase Price Payment shall be the Purchase Price or (z) Seller shall retain (at the sole cost and expense of Buyer to the extent reasonable) a nationally recognized independent accounting firm to provide an audit of the Company's books and records, and determine the calculation of, and prepare, the Closing Date Schedule consistent with the provisions of this **Section 2.6**, the determination of such accounting firm being conclusive, final and binding on the Parties; ***provided***,

however, that, notwithstanding the foregoing, Seller reserves any and all other rights granted to it in this Agreement. Buyer shall promptly reimburse Seller upon its request for all fees, costs and expenses to the extent reasonably incurred by Seller in connection with clause (z) in the immediately preceding sentence.

(c) Review; Disputes.

(i) From and after the Closing until the Purchase Price is finally determined pursuant to this **Section 2.6,** Buyer shall provide Seller and any accountants or advisors retained by Seller such information and detail as they shall reasonably request for the purpose of enabling Seller and its accountants and advisors to calculate, and to review Buyer's calculation of, the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, HQ Termination Compensation and Purchase Price; ***provided***, that, in no event shall Buyer be required to provide any documents or other information covered by attorney-client privilege, the attorney work product doctrine or other similar protection (it being agreed that Buyer shall be required to notify Seller that it is withholding documents or information because of such privilege or protection and provide documents and information (or the contents thereof) to the extent possible without waiving such privilege or protection).

(ii) If Seller disputes the calculation of any of the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, or HQ Termination Compensation set forth in the Closing Date Schedule, then Seller shall deliver a written notice (a "**Dispute Notice**") to Buyer at any time during the forty-five (45) day period commencing upon receipt by Seller of the Closing Date Schedule and the related certificate of Buyer (the "**Review Period**"). The Dispute Notice shall set forth the basis for the dispute of any such calculation in reasonable detail and Seller's proposed resolution of each such dispute.

(iii) If Seller does not deliver a Dispute Notice to Buyer prior to the expiration of the Review Period, Buyer's calculation of Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, HQ Termination Compensation and Purchase Price set forth in the Closing Date Schedule shall be deemed final, binding and non-appealable for all purposes under this Agreement.

(iv) If Seller delivers a Dispute Notice to Buyer prior to the expiration of the Review Period, then Seller and Buyer shall use commercially reasonable efforts to reach agreement on the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and/or HQ Termination Compensation that are in dispute, and any such negotiations, discussions, or other communications, whether written or oral, shall treated as confidential settlement discussions and shall not be produced or admitted as evidence in any subsequent Proceedings, including civil litigation. If Seller and Buyer are unable to reach agreement on the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and/or HQ Termination Compensation that are in

dispute within twenty (20) days after the end of the Review Period, then Seller or Buyer shall have the right to refer such dispute to the Designated Accounting Firm after such twentieth (20th) day. In connection with the resolution of any such dispute by the Designated Accounting Firm: (A) each of Seller and Buyer shall have a reasonable opportunity to meet with the Designated Accounting Firm to provide its views as to any disputed issues with respect to the calculation of any of the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and/or HQ Termination Compensation; (B) each of Seller and Buyer shall promptly provide, or cause to be provided or made available, to the Designated Accounting Firm all information as is reasonably necessary to permit the Designated Accounting Firm, acting as an expert, not as an arbitrator, to resolve such disputes; (C) the Designated Accounting Firm shall determine the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and/or HQ Termination Compensation in accordance with the terms and definitions of this Agreement (including the Agreed Accounting Principles) within thirty days after such referral, and upon reaching such determination shall deliver a copy of its calculations (the "**Expert Calculations**") to Seller and Buyer; (D) the determination made by the Designated Accounting Firm of the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses and/or HQ Termination Compensation that are in dispute shall be conclusive, binding upon the Parties hereto, non-appealable, and not be subject to further review, except in the case of manifest error; and (E) such calculation shall, with respect to any disputed item, be no greater than the higher amount calculated by Buyer or Seller, and no lower than the lower amount calculated by Buyer or Seller, as the case may be; ***provided***, that, for clarity, Buyer's and Seller's calculations shall be those set forth in the Closing Date Schedule and Dispute Notice, respectively. In calculating Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and HQ Termination Compensation, the Designated Accounting Firm shall be limited to addressing only those particular disputed items referred to in the Dispute Notice. The Expert Calculations shall reflect in detail the differences, if any, between the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and/or HQ Termination Compensation reflected therein and the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and/or HQ Termination Compensation set forth in the Closing Date Schedule. The fees and expenses of the Designated Accounting Firm shall be allocated between Buyer, on the one hand, and Seller, on the other hand, based upon the percentage which the portion of the contested amount not awarded to each Party bears to the amount actually contested by such Party. For example, if Seller claims that the appropriate adjustments are $1,000 greater than the amount determined by Buyer, and if the Designated Accounting Firm ultimately resolves the dispute by awarding to Seller $300 of the $1,000

contested, then the fees, costs and expenses of the Designated Accounting Firm will be allocated 30% (i.e. 300 ÷ 1,000) to Buyer and 70% (i.e. 700 ÷ 1,000) to Seller.

(d) If (i) the Purchase Price calculated using the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and HQ Termination Compensation as finally determined in accordance with this **Section 2.6** and the HQ Related Cash-like Item is greater than (ii) the Initial Purchase Price calculated as set forth in **Section 2.6(a)** using the Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, Estimated HQ Termination Compensation and the HQ Related Cash-like Item, then Buyer shall, no later than [***] ([***]) Business Days after such determination cause to be paid an amount equal to the amount of such difference to Seller.

(e) If (i) the Initial Purchase Price calculated as set forth in **Section 2.6(a)** using the Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, Estimated HQ Termination Compensation, and HQ Related Cash-like Item is greater than (ii) the Purchase Price calculated using the Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, and HQ Termination Compensation as finally determined in accordance with this **Section 2.6**, and the HQ Related Cash-like Item, then Seller shall no later than [***] ([***]) Business Days after such determination pay the amount of such difference to Buyer.

(f) Any payments made pursuant to **Section 2.6** shall constitute an adjustment of the Purchase Price for Tax purposes and shall be treated as such by the recipients thereof on their Tax Returns to the extent permitted by any Law.

(g) Accounting Procedures.

(i) For all purposes hereunder, the Estimated Closing Statement, Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, Estimated HQ Termination Compensation, Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, HQ Termination Compensation, and Closing Date Schedule, and all determinations and calculations by any Person (including the Designated Accounting Firm) of EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, Company Enterprise Value, Cash and Cash Equivalents, Indebtedness, Current Assets, Current Liabilities or Closing Net Working Capital Amount shall in all circumstances be prepared and calculated strictly in accordance with the terms of this Agreement; ***provided*** that such calculations and determinations: (A) shall not include any purchase accounting or other adjustment arising out of the consummation of the Transactions, (B) shall be based on facts and circumstances as they exist prior to the Closing and shall exclude the effect of any act, decision or event occurring on or after the Closing, (C) shall follow the defined terms contained in this Agreement whether or not such terms are

consistent with GAAP, and (D) shall calculate any reserves, accruals or other non-cash expense items on a pro rata (as opposed to actual days) basis to account for a Closing that occurs on any date other than the last day of a calendar month. [***].

(ii) The Parties agree that:

(A) Following the Closing Date through the date on which payment, if any, is made pursuant to **Section 2.6(d)** or **Section 2.6(e)**, or if Seller and Buyer agree that no such payment is required, on the date of such determination, Buyer shall not, and shall cause the Company not to, take any actions with respect to the accounting records, books, policies or procedures of the Company on which the Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Closing Statement, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, Estimated HQ Termination Compensation, Closing Date Schedule (including the determinations and calculations therein), Transaction Expenses and HQ Termination Compensation are to be based that would make it impracticable to calculate Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Closing Statement, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, Estimated HQ Termination Compensation, Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, HQ Termination Compensation or Closing Date Schedule in the manner contemplated by this Agreement.

(B) In no event shall any actions taken by Buyer or the Company following the Closing with respect to the accounting records, books, policies or procedures of the Company on which the Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Closing Statement, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, Estimated HQ Termination Compensation, Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, HQ Termination Compensation or Closing Date Schedule are to be based that are not consistent with the Agreed Accounting Principles (including but not limited to changes in any reserve, allowance or other account, any changes in methodology for inventory valuation or accounting or any reclassification of any asset) have any effect on, or be considered in, the preparation of the Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Closing Statement, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, or Estimated HQ Termination Compensation (including the determinations and calculations contained therein) or the calculation of Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, HQ Termination Compensation and Closing Date Schedule.

(C) The Estimated Closing Statement, Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, Estimated Closing

Date Cash, Estimated Closing Date Indebtedness, Estimated Transaction Expenses, Estimated HQ Termination Compensation, Company Enterprise Value, Closing Net Working Capital Amount, Closing Date Cash, Closing Date Indebtedness, Transaction Expenses, HQ Termination Compensation, or Closing Date Schedule and the respective determinations and calculations contained therein shall be prepared and calculated without regard to any changes in GAAP made or taking effect after the date of the Reference Statement.

(D) Without exception, the Target Net Working Capital Amount shall not be subject to change (including by the Designated Accounting Firm), regardless of whether the items or amounts included therein were recorded in accordance with GAAP.

(E) The determinations of the Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount, and the Closing Net Working Capital Amount and the resulting payment of any adjustment relating thereto contemplated by **Section 2.6(d)** and **Section 2.6(e)** are intended solely to reflect changes between (i) the Estimated Company Enterprise Value and the Company Enterprise Value and (ii) the Closing Net Working Capital Amount and the Target Net Working Capital Amount, and, in each case, any such change can be measured only if the Estimated Company Enterprise Value, Company Enterprise Value, Estimated Net Working Capital Amount and the Closing Net Working Capital Amount and the calculations and determinations thereof (including of EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, Current Assets, Current Liabilities and Closing Net Working Capital Amount) are prepared using the same line items, accounting principles, practices, procedures, policies and methods (with consistent classifications, judgments, elections inclusions, exclusions and valuation and estimation methodologies) as were used and applied in connection with the preparation of the Reference Statement.

SECTION 2.7. Withholding. The Company, Buyer, and Seller shall be entitled to deduct and withhold from the amounts otherwise payable pursuant to this Agreement any amounts that are required under any applicable Law to be deducted and withheld (if any); ***provided***, ***however***, that the applicable withholding agent shall give the applicable payee written notice of the intended deduction or withholding, including the legal basis therefor, at least [***] ([***]) Business Days before such deduction or withholding is required, and the parties shall cooperate in good faith to reduce or eliminate any such withholding requirement. To the extent that any such amounts are so deducted or withheld and remitted to the appropriate Governmental Body, such amounts will be treated for all purposes of this Agreement as having been paid to the Person in respect of which such deduction and withholding was made. The applicable withholding agent will timely pay or cause to be paid any amounts withheld pursuant to this **Section 2.7** to the appropriate Governmental Body.**REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

SECTION 3.1. Seller's Material Representations and Warranties. Subject to the matters set forth in the Disclosure Letter, Seller represents and warrants to Buyer that the

matters set out in **EXHIBIT 3.1** are true and correct as of the Effective Date and the Closing Date (or as of the specific point in time if so indicated expressly in the relevant item).

SECTION 3.2. Seller's General Representations and Warranties. Subject to the matters set forth in the Disclosure Letter, Seller represents and warrants to Buyer that the matters set out in **EXHIBIT 3.2** are true and correct as of the Effective Date and the Closing Date (or as of the specific point in time if so indicated expressly in the relevant item).

SECTION 3.3. Buyer's Representations and Warranties. Buyer represents and warrants to Seller that the matters set out in **EXHIBIT 3.3** are true and correct as of the Effective Date and the Closing Date (or as of the specific point in time if so indicated expressly in the relevant item).

ARTICLE 4. COVENANTS

SECTION 4.1. Operation of Business. From the Effective Date to the Closing Date or the termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, except as otherwise expressly contemplated by this Agreement or as expressly consented to in writing by Buyer (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed), Seller shall (i) cause the Company to (a) operate, with a duty of care of a good manager, in the Ordinary Course of Business and in compliance with applicable Law and (b) preserve substantially intact its business organization , assets and goodwill (including its present relationships with Persons with whom it does business) and (ii) not permit the Company to do any of the following;

(a) terminate or modify in any material respect any Material Contract (General R&W) or enter into any new Material Contract (General R&W), except for renewals on the terms set forth therein or in the Ordinary Course of Business and entry into an agreement for the early termination of the Hokkaido Chitose Lease (the "**Hokkaido Chitose Side Letter**"), ***provided*** Seller consults with, and considers in good faith feedback from, Buyer on such agreement;

(b) initiation, modification, or termination of a material business alliance or capital alliance;

(c) effect any reduction of stated capital (*shihon kin*), capital reserve (*shihon junbikin*) or retained earnings reserve (*rieki junbikin*);

(d) declare, set aside or pay a dividend on, or make any other distribution in respect of, its equity securities, except dividends or distributions payable prior to the date that is seven (7) days before the Closing Date that would not, after giving effect to such dividend or distribution, result in the Company failing to satisfy the condition in Section 5.1(m) on the Closing Date; ***provided*** that, (i) Seller shall notify the amount and the effective date of such dividend or distribution no later than five (5) days prior to the effective date of such dividend or distribution and (ii) Seller shall and shall cause the Company to duly submit the tax treaty application form under Japan-U.S. Tax treaty containing the information required to obtain an exemption from Japanese withholding Tax, prior to paying such dividend or making distribution, and if such tax treaty application form is not submitted prior to paying such dividend or making distribution, Seller shall and shall cause the Company to withhold certain Japanese income Tax amount from the dividend or distribution amount in accordance with applicable Japanese Tax Laws;

(e) (i) issue, sell, transfer, pledge, grant, dispose of, encumber or deliver any equity securities of any class or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for voting or equity securities of any class, including stock options (*shinkabu yoyakuken*) or (ii) adjust, split, consolidate, combine or reclassify any of its equity securities;

(f) cancel, redeem or repurchase or otherwise acquire any of its outstanding shares of capital stock of any class or other equity securities (including stock options (*shinkabu yoyakuken*)), excluding the repurchase of the Management Shares as contemplated by **Section 4.8**;

(g) acquire or agree to acquire in any manner any business or any corporation, partnership, association or other business organization or division thereof of any other Person (including by merger or consolidation with or into, the purchase of more than 50% of the equity interests in, or the purchase of all or substantially all of the assets of, any such Person) or implementation of corporate split (*kaisha bunkatsu*), share-to-share transfer (*kabushiki koukan*), share delivery (*kabushiki kofu*), share exchange (*kabushiki iten*) or transfer of business (*jigyou-jouto*);

(h) adopt any amendments to its Governing Documents or any of its material internal rules and regulations;

(i) merge or consolidate with or into any other Person or dissolve or liquidate;

(j) (i) grant or announce any new incentive awards, bonus or similar compensation or any increase in the salaries or bonuses payable by the Company to any of its employees; ***provided*** that the Company shall be permitted to increase the salaries of its employees and pay bonuses to its employees, in each case in the Ordinary Course of Business, (ii) increase the benefits under any employee benefit plan except for benefit increases in the Ordinary Course of Business, (iii) dismiss (other than for material cause), appoint or hire any executive officer, or (iv) otherwise enter into any transaction with any of its officers, employees or Affiliates (or any directors, managers, officers or employees of any such Affiliate), other than employment or benefit arrangements entered into in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(k) execution or amendment of any Contracts with any Person or any other action that would create Indebtedness (for the avoidance of doubts, not including any accounts payable, trade debts, deposits received or other commercial liability arising in the Ordinary Course of Business) or providing any guarantee with respect to any such Indebtedness of another Person;

(l) mortgage, pledge or subject to any Encumbrance, other than Permitted Encumbrances, any of its properties or assets;

(m) acquire, sell or otherwise dispose any assets, except (i) for assets with a cost basis, in the aggregate, of less than JPY [***], (ii) for purchases of inventory or supplies in the Ordinary Course of Business, and (iii) capital expenditures reasonably required in connection with the Funabashi lease refurbishment;

(n) commence or settle any claim, action or proceeding, in each case involving an amount in excess of JPY [***];

(o) except as required by GAAP or by applicable Law, change any of the material accounting methods, principles or practices used by the Company; or

(p) agree to take any of the actions set forth in the foregoing clauses (a) through (o), except as otherwise contemplated by this Agreement.

Without limiting the forgoing, nothing contained in this Agreement is intended to give Buyer, directly or indirectly, the right to control or direct the Company's operations prior to the Closing.

SECTION 4.2. Approval of the Transactions. At least one (1) Business Day prior to the Closing Date, Seller shall cause the Company to complete all internal procedures necessary to consummate (a) the transfer of the Management Shares from the Management Holders to Seller, (b) the transfer of the Shares from Seller to Buyer in accordance with all applicable Laws and any internal regulations of the Company.

SECTION 4.3. International Development and Franchise Agreement. Prior to the Closing, Seller shall and shall cause the Company to enter into the International Development and Franchise Agreement and the Intercompany License Termination Agreement, in each case, to be effective from and after the Closing.

SECTION 4.4. Access to Information; Contact with Employees, Vendors and Others.

(a) From and after the date hereof until the earlier of the Closing Date or the termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, Seller shall, and shall cause the Company and its respective Representatives to, use commercially reasonable efforts to provide Buyer and its authorized Representatives with reasonable access during normal business hours to the respective properties, facilities, books, Contracts and records of the Company as well as, the opportunity for Buyer and its Representatives to meet with or have access to the directors, statutory auditors, officers and employees of the Company as Buyer may reasonably request (collectively, an "Inspection"); provided, that (i) Buyer shall provide Seller and the Company with reasonable prior notice of any Inspection and (ii) Buyer shall not interfere with the normal business operations of the Company.

(b) All of the information provided or made available pursuant to any Inspection shall be treated as Confidential Information.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, Seller shall not be required to provide, or cause to be provided, (i) any information which (A) it is prohibited from providing to Buyer and its Affiliates and Representatives by reason of applicable Law, or (B) constitutes information protected by the attorney/client and/or attorney work product privilege, or (ii) any confidentiality agreement with a former potential purchaser in connection with a proposed Transaction or any other documentation to the extent related to any sale process with respect to such Transaction. The Parties shall, to the extent legally permissible, reasonably necessary and practicable, make appropriate substitute arrangements under circumstances in which the restrictions of the preceding sentence apply.

SECTION 4.5. Third Party Consents. From the Effective Date until the Closing, Seller shall (and Seller shall cause the Company to) (i) provide notifications to the counterparties under all Contracts which require the Company as a party thereto to make such notifications in connection with the Transactions as set forth in **EXHIBIT 4.5(i)**; and use its commercially reasonable efforts to obtain at the earliest practicable date all Consents required by each Contract listed in **EXHIBIT 4.5(ii)** to consummate the Transactions ("**COC Consent**

Contracts") at its sole cost and expense and in a written form reasonably satisfactory to Buyer without imposing on the Company or Buyer any obligations or liabilities that would reasonably likely to be adverse to the Company or Buyer; ***provided***, ***however***, that neither Seller nor the Company shall be obligated to pay any consideration to any Person from whom consent is requested. Seller and the Company shall not have any liability to Buyer or any of its Affiliates arising out of or relating to the failure of Seller or the Company to obtain any such Consent prior to the Closing to the extent Seller used its commercial reasonable efforts to obtain such Consent, and such failure shall not constitute a breach of this Agreement or affect the validity of the transfer of the Shares to Buyer. At Seller's request, Buyer shall reasonably cooperate with Seller's commercially reasonable efforts under clause (ii) of this **Section 4.5**.

SECTION 4.6. Efforts to Consummate. Upon the terms and subject to the conditions hereof, and without prejudice to (and subject to the provisions of) **Section 4.12**, from the Effective Date until the Closing, each of the Parties hereto shall use its commercially reasonable efforts to take, or cause to be taken, all appropriate action, and to do, or cause to be done, all things necessary, proper or advisable under applicable Laws to consummate and make effective the Transactions and to cause the Closing to occur, including using its commercially reasonable efforts to fulfill the conditions to the Transactions. No Party shall take any actions that would, or that could reasonably be expected to, result in any of the conditions set forth in **Article 5** not being satisfied.

SECTION 4.7. Regulatory Approvals.

(a) [Intentionally omitted.]

(b) Buyer agrees to, and will cause its applicable Affiliates to, use commercially reasonable efforts to take any actions necessary to avoid, eliminate, and resolve any impediments under any Antitrust Law or trade regulation Law that may be asserted by any Governmental Body or any other Person with respect to the Transactions and to obtain all Consents under any Antitrust Law that Buyer or its applicable Affiliates may be required by any Governmental Body to enable the Parties to consummate the Closing as promptly as practicable; ***provided*** that neither Party is obligated to take any action that would require the sale, divestiture, transfer, license, disposition, or hold separate of any assets, properties, or businesses of Buyer or its Affiliates, or the assets, properties, or businesses to be acquired pursuant to this Agreement, or to terminate, modify, or assign any existing relationships, Contracts, or obligations, or to change or modify any course of conduct regarding future operations, except to the extent Buyer determines in its sole discretion.

(c) Buyer and Seller shall each keep the other Party apprised of the status of matters relating to the completion of the Transactions and, without prejudice to (and subject to the provisions of) **Section 4.7**, work cooperatively in connection with obtaining any Consent of any Governmental Body necessary to consummate the Transactions, including, in each case, if reasonably requested by the other Party and to the extent practicable and permitted by applicable Governmental Bodies and under applicable Law, (i) promptly notifying the other of, and if in writing, furnishing the other with copies of (or, in the case of material oral communications, advising the other orally of) any material communications from or with any such Governmental Body with respect to the Transactions, (ii) in connection with any meeting with any such Governmental Body with respect to the Transactions, consulting with the other

Party in advance, (iii) furnishing the other Party with copies of material correspondence, filings and communications (and memoranda setting forth the substance thereof) between it and any such Governmental Body with respect to this Agreement and the Transactions, and (iv) furnishing the other Party with such necessary information and reasonable assistance as such other Party may reasonably request in connection with its preparation of necessary filings or submissions of information to any such Governmental Body required by this Agreement or otherwise with respect to the Transactions.]

SECTION 4.8. Acquisition of Management Shares. Prior to the Closing, Seller shall acquire from the Management Holders all shares of Common Stock held by the Management Holders (such shares, the "**Management Shares**"), without any cost, expense or liability to the Company and pursuant to documentation reasonably acceptable to Buyer.

SECTION 4.9. Executive Service Agreement. At or prior to the Closing, Seller shall (i) use its commercially reasonable efforts to cause [***] to enter into an executive service agreement (the "Executive Service Agreement") in a form and substance satisfactory to Buyer, and (ii) cooperate with Buyer to effect the foregoing.

SECTION 4.10. Notification of Certain Events.

(a) From the Effective Date until the Closing or the termination of this Agreement, whichever is earlier, Seller shall promptly notify Buyer in writing of any Circumstance the existence, occurrence or taking of which (i) has resulted in, or could reasonably be expected to result in, any breach of its covenants or any representation or warranty made by Seller not being true and accurate as if made at and as of such time (except to the extent expressly made as of an earlier date, in which case as of such earlier date) or (ii) has resulted in, or could reasonably be expected to result in, any of the conditions under **Article 5** not being satisfied by and on the Closing Date, to the extent the such Seller obtains knowledge of such breach. No such notification shall affect or be deemed to modify any representation, warranty, covenant or agreements made in this Agreement or to admit any breach of the same.

(b) From the Effective Date until the Closing or the termination of this Agreement, whichever is earlier, Buyer shall promptly notify Seller in writing of any Circumstance, the existence, occurrence or taking of which has resulted in, or could reasonably be expected to result in, any breach of Seller's covenants, to the extent the Buyer obtains actual knowledge of such breach; ***provided***, ***however***, that if Seller has actual knowledge that a breach of its covenants to be performed prior to Closing has beyond a reasonable doubt occurred and fails to deliver the written notice required under the preceding paragraph (a), no failure of Buyer to notify of such breach shall constitute a breach of this paragraph (b).

SECTION 4.11. [Intentionally Omitted.]

SECTION 4.12. Indemnification; Directors' and Officers' Insurance.

(a) Buyer agrees that all rights to indemnification, liability limitation or exculpation in favor of the directors, officers and employees of the Company, as provided in

the Company's Governing Documents and in effect as of the Effective Date with respect to any matters occurring prior to the Closing Date (the "**D&O Rights**"), shall survive the Closing and shall continue in full force and effect and that the Company on its own behalf will perform and discharge the Company's obligations to provide the D&O Rights. The provisions of the Company's Governing Documents providing for the D&O Rights shall not be amended, repealed or otherwise modified after the Closing Date in any manner that would adversely affect the rights thereunder of individuals who, as of the Closing Date or at any time prior to the Closing Date, were directors, officers or, employees of the Company, unless such modification is required by applicable Law.

(b) Contemporaneously with the Closing, the Company shall purchase, and after the Closing Buyer shall cause the Company to maintain in effect, without any lapses in coverage, a "tail" policy providing directors' and officers' liability insurance coverage for the benefit of those Persons who are covered by any directors' and officers' liability insurance policies relating to the Company as of the Effective Date or at the Closing, for a period of six (6) years following the Closing Date with respect to matters occurring prior to the Closing that is at least equal to the coverage provided under such directors' and officers' liability insurance policies of the Company as of the Effective Date and disclosed to Buyer ; ***provided*** that (i) Buyer may permit the Company to substitute therefor policies of at least the same coverage containing terms and conditions that are no less advantageous to the beneficiaries thereof so long as such substitution does not result in gaps or lapses in coverage with respect to matters occurring prior to the Closing Date, and (ii) the aggregate cost of such "tail" policy will not exceed 150% of the current annual premium for such insurance. The fees and expenses of such tail policy (including brokerage fees and commissions) shall be borne by Buyer.

(c) The current and former directors, managers, officers, employees and agents of the Company entitled to the indemnification, liability limitation, exculpation and insurance set forth in this **Section 4.12** are intended to be third party beneficiaries of this **Section 4.12**. This **Section 4.12** shall survive the consummation of the Transactions and shall be binding on all successors and assigns of Buyer.

(d) In case Buyer or the Company breach its obligations under this **Section 4.12,** Buyer agrees to pay, or to cause the Company to pay, jointly and severally, all expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, which may be incurred by the indemnified Persons referred to in this **Section 4.12** to enforce their rights provided in this **Section 4.12** (subject to reimbursement if the indemnified Person is subsequently determined not to be entitled to indemnification under this **Section 4.12**) against Buyer or the Company.

(e) If Buyer, the Company or any of their respective successors or assigns, proposes to (i) consolidate with or merge into any other Person and Buyer or the Company (as applicable) shall not be the continuing or surviving corporation or entity in such proposed transaction, or (ii) transfer all or substantially all of its properties and assets to any Person, then, and in each case, proper provision shall be made prior to or concurrently with the consummation of such transaction so that the successors and assigns of Buyer or the Company, as the case may be, shall, from and after the consummation of such transaction, honor the indemnification and other obligations set forth in this **Section 4.12**.

SECTION 4.13. Documentation and Information. After the Closing Date, Buyer shall cause the Company to, until the [***] of the Closing Date, retain the books and records of the Company in existence on the Closing Date and make the same available for inspection and copying by Seller (at Seller's expense) during normal business hours of the Company, upon reasonable request and upon reasonable notice, ***provided*** that such period shall extend until the [***] of the due date of the first corporate income Tax Return after Closing for books and records that may reasonably required to permit the Seller to perform or satisfy any accounting or regulatory obligation, in connection with any legal proceeding by or before a Taxing Authority or the preparation and filing of Tax filings and other Tax compliance obligations. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, Buyer shall not be required to disclose or provide any information that Buyer reasonably believes would violate applicable Law (including any Antitrust Laws or data protection or privacy Laws).

SECTION 4.14. Contact with Customers, Vendors and Other Business Relations. During the period from the date of this Agreement until the earlier of the Closing Date or the termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, Buyer hereby agrees that it is not authorized to, and shall not (and shall not permit any of its Representatives or Affiliates to), contact any customer, vendor, distributor or other material business relation of the Company regarding the Company, its business or the Transactions without the prior written consent of Seller, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

SECTION 4.15. R&W Insurance. Buyer shall use commercially reasonable efforts to cause the R&W Insurance Policy to be bound effective at or before Closing, with a copy of such policy provided to Seller at least five (5) Business Days prior to Closing, and, to the extent it is within Buyer's control, will not amend, modify or waive any term, provision, right or obligation of or under the R&W Certificate or the R&W Insurance Policy (before or after Closing) in any respect that could reasonably be expected to adversely impact Seller hereunder or otherwise without the prior written consent of Seller. Buyer shall be responsible for all premiums, broker fees and Taxes and other fees and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the R&W Insurance Policy (collectively, "**R&W Insurance Expenses**"). The R&W Insurance Policy shall expressly provide that the insurer writing such policy shall only be entitled to subrogate in instances of Fraud, by Seller, and shall waive all other rights, against Seller (or Seller's direct or indirect equity holders or members, directors, officers, partners, employees or Representatives), except in instances of Fraud by Seller. From and after the Closing Date, Buyer shall not (and shall cause its Affiliates to not) amend, modify, terminate, or waive any term or condition set forth in the R&W Insurance Policy, in any case, in a manner inconsistent with the immediately preceding sentence.

SECTION 4.16. [Intentionally Omitted]

SECTION 4.17. Financing.

(a) Arrangement of Financing. Buyer shall use its commercially reasonable best efforts to take, or cause to be taken, such actions that are necessary to consummate the Financings on the terms and conditions set forth in the Commitment Letters and to satisfy the conditions to the Financings as described in the Commitment Letters, including the execution and delivery of all such instruments and documents as may be reasonably required thereunder. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Buyer shall, except to the extent

(i) that such action would not impact the availability of the Debt Financing on the Closing Date or (ii) where it is reasonably expected that any of the conditions precedent set forth in **Section 5.1** will not be satisfied by the Long Stop Date (for (ii), other than where such expectation is attributable to a failure of Buyer to perform any covenant or obligation in this Agreement required to be performed by Buyer at or prior to the Closing);

(i) Negotiate Definitive Financing Agreements: as promptly as practicable after the date hereof, use commercially reasonable best efforts to negotiate, execute and deliver definitive agreements with respect to the Debt Financing (the "**Definitive Financing Agreements**"), ***provided***, that such Definitive Financing Agreements shall not: (A) result in any reduction of the aggregate amount of the Debt Financing provided for in the Debt Commitment Letter (including by changing the amount of fees or original issue discount contemplated by the Debt Commitment Letter) to an amount that, when combined with the amount of the Equity Financing, is less than the amount sufficient for Buyer to pay the Purchase Price hereunder and pay all related fees and expenses; (B) result in any material expansion or imposition of new conditions or other contingencies to the receipt or funding of the Debt Financing beyond those expressly set forth in the Debt Commitment Letter; or (C) result in any material amendment or modification of any such conditions or contingencies in a manner materially adverse to Buyer;

(ii) Comply with Covenants: use commercially reasonable best efforts to (A) comply on a timely basis with all covenants and other obligations of Buyer set forth in the Commitment Letters and the Definitive Financing Agreements; and (B) satisfy all conditions and other contingencies to the Debt Financing or the Equity Financing set forth in the Commitment Letters and the Definitive Financing Agreements;

(iii) Payment of Fees: pay in a timely manner any commitment or other fees that are or become due and payable by Buyer or Sponsor under any of the Commitment Letters or Definitive Financing Agreements; and

(iv) Enforcement of Rights: use commercially reasonable best efforts to: (A) enforce its rights under the Commitment Letters and Definitive Financing Agreements; (B) cause the lenders under the Debt Commitment Letter and the Definitive Financing Agreements to fund the Debt Financing in accordance with the terms of the Debt Commitment Letter and the Definitive Financing Agreements; and (C) cause the Sponsor to fund the Equity Financing in accordance with the terms of the Equity Commitment Letter.

(b) Arrangement of Alternative Financing. If any portion of the Debt Financing becomes unavailable on the terms and conditions contemplated in the Debt Commitment Letter or Definitive Financing Agreements for any reason, or the Debt Commitment Letter or Definitive Financing Agreements shall be withdrawn, terminated or otherwise amended or modified in any respect such that any portion of the Debt Financing becomes unavailable for any reason (such situation, "**Debt Financing Unavailable Situation**"), then Buyer shall use its commercially reasonable best efforts to arrange and obtain, as promptly as practicable, alternative debt financing ("**Alternative Financing**") in amounts and otherwise on terms and conditions no less favorable in the aggregate to Buyer in all material respects than as set forth in the Debt Commitment Letter. If Buyer proceeds with any Alternative Financing, Buyer

shall be subject to the same obligations with respect to such Alternative Financing as set forth in this Agreement with respect to the Debt Financing.

(c) Amendments. Buyer shall not permit any material amendment, supplement or modification to be made to, or agree to permit any waiver of any provision or remedy under, any Commitment Letter or Definitive Financing Agreement (including any amendment, supplement, modification or waiver that has the effect of changing the amount of fees to be paid or original issue discount) without the Company's prior written consent, not to be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned, except that Buyer may amend, supplement or otherwise modify the Debt Commitment Letter or Definitive Financing Agreements (including by joining one or more additional lenders or agents as parties thereto) if such amendment, supplement or modification: (i) does not result in an aggregate amount of Debt Financing provided for in the Debt Commitment Letter or the Definitive Financing Agreements (including by changing the amount of fees or original issue discount contemplated thereby) that, when combined with the amount of the Equity Financing, is less than the amount sufficient for Buyer to pay the Purchase Price hereunder and pay all related fees and expenses; (ii) does not result in any material expansion or imposition of new conditions or other contingencies to the receipt or funding of the Financings beyond those expressly set forth in the Debt Commitment Letter or Definitive Financing Agreements, in each case that would reasonably be expected to delay the Closing or make the funding of the Debt Financing or Alternative Financing less likely to occur in material respect; (iii) only extends the effective term of the Debt Commitment Letter; or (iv) does not result in any amendment or modification of any such conditions or contingencies in a manner materially adverse to Buyer (including by making such conditions or contingencies materially less likely to be satisfied).

(d) Developments and Changes. Buyer shall promptly provide Seller copies of any Definitive Financing Agreements if executed or executed commitment letter associated with an Alternative Financing if any, if reasonably requested by Seller prior to the Closing Date. In addition to Buyer's obligations pursuant to the prior sentence, if it has resulted in or would reasonably be expected to result in Debt Financing Unavailable Situation, Buyer shall promptly inform Seller and hold telephonic meetings with Seller and its Representatives, during which Buyer shall update Seller as to, and respond to questions regarding, the actions Buyer has taken to comply with **Section 4.17(b)** and the status of Buyer's efforts to consummate the Financings.

(e) Company Obligations in Respect of the Debt Financing. The Company agrees to, and will use commercially reasonable efforts to cause the appropriate officers and employees of the Company to, upon the reasonable request of Buyer, reasonably cooperate in connection with the arrangement of the Debt Financing or the Alternative Financing, as applicable.

(i) Specific Financing Assistance Covenants. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Company shall, and shall use commercially reasonable efforts to cause the appropriate officers and employees of the Company to provide (or cause to be provided) on a timely basis any cooperation reasonably requested by Buyer in connection with Buyer's Debt Financing and the consummation thereof, including:

(A) Drafting and Diligence Sessions: participate in a reasonable number of drafting sessions and due diligence sessions;

(B) Provide Information: furnish Buyer, its Affiliates and its financing sources with such financial and other pertinent information regarding the Company, including the Financial Statements, as may be reasonably requested by Buyer (subject to the financing sources being bound by confidentiality agreements in accordance with customary market practice and as to which the Company and Seller shall be express beneficiaries);

(C) Disclosure Documents and Representation Letters: provide reasonable assistance in the preparation of customary disclosure documents and customary representation letters reasonably required in connection with the Debt Financing;

(D) Collateral and Guarantee: facilitate the pledging of collateral or guarantees (which shall be effective only at or after the Closing) as reasonably requested by Buyer; and

(E) Documents: be available to provide and execute documents (or in the case of documents from advisors, use its commercially reasonable efforts to cause its advisors to provide and execute documents) as may be reasonably requested by Buyer and as are customary for transactions of the type contemplated by this Agreement and that are not effective until as of or after the Closing.

(ii) Conditions to Financing Assistance Covenants.

(A) No Requirement to Take Action Resulting in Liability. Neither the Company nor any of its Representatives shall be required to: (1) take any action that would result in a breach of any Contract, or that would, in the Company's reasonable judgment, unreasonably interfere with the business or operations of the Company prior to the Closing; (2) take any action that would conflict with or result in a breach of any applicable Order or any applicable Law to which the Company is party or bound; or (3) incur any liability or agree to provide any indemnity prior to the Closing.

(B) No Requirement to Approve. Neither the Company, nor any of its Representatives, shall be required to take any action in any capacity to authorize or approve the Financings (or any Alternative Financing).

(f) Indemnification; Confidentiality. Buyer shall promptly, upon request by the Company, reimburse the Company for all reasonable and documented out-of-pocket costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and accountants' fees) incurred by the Company or its Representatives in connection with the execution of documents provided under **Section 4.17(e)(i)(E)** that are to be executed prior to the Closing (if any) to the extent such costs and expenses are approved by Buyer (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned). All information provided by or on behalf of the Company or any of its Affiliates pursuant to **Section 4.17** shall be kept confidential by Buyer and its Affiliates in accordance with **Section 9.3**, except that Buyer shall be permitted to disclose such information to the sources of its Financings, rating agencies and prospective lenders during syndication of the Debt Financing, subject to the sources of Financings, ratings agencies and prospective lenders entering into customary confidentiality undertakings with respect to such information (and as to which the Company and Seller shall be express beneficiaries). This **Section 4.17(f)** shall survive any termination of this Agreement without the Closing occurring.

SECTION 4.18. **Intercompany Accounts**. On or prior to the Closing Date, Seller shall cause any intercompany accounts involving Seller or any of its Affiliates (other than the Company), on the one hand, and the Company, on the other hand, to be fully settled and discharged (through payment, dividend, capitalization or otherwise); ***provided*** that proviso of **Section 4.1(d)** shall be applied in case of dividends or distributions paid or made by the Company to Seller.

SECTION 4.19. **Resignations**. Seller shall deliver to Buyer resignation letters, which shall be in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Buyer (such letters, the "**Resignation Letters**"), effective upon the Closing, of all directors, company auditors and officers of the Company that the Buyer identifies to the Company no later than five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date.

SECTION 4.20. **Remittance of Hokkaido Chitose Lease Payment**. From and after the Closing, (i) Buyer shall, and shall cause the Company to, use reasonable best efforts to collect the full amount due to the Company from GK Minami Chitose Leasing, if any, pursuant to the Hokkaido Chitose Side Letter, and (ii) the Company shall, within [***]of receiving any such payments, remit all proceeds from GK Minami Chitose Leasing (after deduction of any Taxes that would be payable in relation to receipt of such payments) to Seller, including for the avoidance of doubt the amount of any rent relief as proceeds.

SECTION 4.21. **Further Assurances.** The Parties shall execute and procure all other Persons to execute and do (where necessary or appropriate), all such further deeds, assurances, acts, and things as may be reasonably required so that full effect may be given to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 5. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

SECTION 5.1. **Buyer's Conditions Precedent.** Buyer's obligations to purchase the Shares and to take the other actions required to be taken by Buyer at the Closing are subject to the satisfaction, at or prior to the Closing, of each of the following conditions (any of which may be waived by Buyer, in whole or in part):

(a) All of the covenants and obligations that Seller is required to perform or to comply with pursuant to this Agreement at or prior to the Closing have been duly performed and complied with by Seller in all material respects.

(b) Each of Seller's representations and warranties set forth in **Section 3.1** is true and accurate (without giving effect to the terms "material," "materiality," "Material Adverse Effect," or similar qualifications set forth therein) in all respects as of the Effective Date and as of the Closing Date, except where the inaccuracy of such representations or warranties does not, and would not reasonably be expected to, have a Material Adverse Effect and each Seller Fundamental Warranty shall be true and accurate in all respects as of the Effective Date and as of the Closing Date.

(c) Between the Effective Date and the Closing Date, no change, development, circumstance, effect, event or fact shall have occurred that has had or would reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(d) Seller shall, at its sole cost and expense, have obtained all Consents or approvals required for the consummation of the Transactions from the landlords or other counterparties to the Real Estate Leases (for Buyer's CP), in a form reasonably satisfactory to Buyer and without imposing on the Company or Buyer any additional obligations or liabilities that would reasonably be expected to be adverse to the Company or Buyer; ***provided*** that such Consents or approvals shall be deemed obtained if the applicable landlord or counterparty either (i) has delivered a Consent in a form acceptable to Buyer or (ii) has not notified Seller that it withholds Consent to, or otherwise objects to, the consummation of the Transactions.

(e) The Seller shall, at its sole cost and expense, have obtained a written Consent from each counterparty to the Material COC Consent Contracts in a form reasonably satisfactory to Buyer without imposing on the Company or Buyer any additional obligations or liabilities that would reasonably likely be adverse to the Company or Buyer to consummate the Transactions, and a copy of each such written Consent shall have been delivered to Buyer.

(f) [Intentionally omitted.]

(g) No temporary restraining order, preliminary or permanent injunction or other Order preventing the consummation of the Transactions (each, a "**Restraining Order**") has been issued by any court of competent jurisdiction or other Governmental Body in Japan or in any other jurisdiction or remains in effect, and there is no Law or filing of a petition seeking a Restraining Order made by any Third Party which makes the consummation of the Transactions illegal.

(h) The board of directors of the Company shall have duly approved all matters with respect to the Transactions contemplated by **Section 4.2**, and Buyer shall have received a copy of such approval.

(i) Buyer shall have received all Resignation Letters signed by the applicable Persons as provided in **Section 4.19**.

(j) The intercompany accounts involving Seller or any of its Affiliates (other than the Company), on the one hand, and the Company, on the other hand, shall have been fully settled and discharged (through payment).

(k) [Intentionally omitted.]

(l) No Exemption Event shall have occurred.

(m) Cash and Cash Equivalents as of 11:59 p.m. (Tokyo time) on the day immediately prior to the Closing Date shall be at least JPY [***].

(n) Seller shall have duly acquired the Management Shares in accordance with **Section 4.8**.

(o) Seller and the Company shall have duly executed the Subfranchise Addendum and DFD Amendment, each in a form reasonably satisfactory to Buyer and executed in connection with the International Development and Franchise Agreement.

SECTION 5.2. Seller's Conditions Precedent. Seller's obligations to sell the Shares and to take the other actions required to be taken by Seller at the Closing are subject to the satisfaction, at or prior to the Closing, of each of the following conditions (any of which may be waived by Seller, in whole or in part):

(a) All of the covenants and obligations that Buyer is required to perform or to comply with pursuant to this Agreement at or prior to the Closing have been duly performed and complied with in all material respects.

(b) Each of Buyer's representations and warranties set forth in **Section 3.3** other than Buyer Fundamental Warranty is accurate in all material respects as of the Effective Date and the Closing Date, except where the inaccuracy of such representations or warranties does not, and would not reasonably be expected to, have a material adverse effect on Buyer's performance of its covenant under this Agreement, and each Buyer Fundamental Warranty shall be true and accurate in all respects as of the Effective Date and the Closing Date.

(c) [Intentionally omitted.]

(d) No Restraining Order has been issued by any court of competent jurisdiction or other Governmental Body in Japan or in any other jurisdiction or remains in effect, and there is no Law or filing of a petition seeking a Restraining Order made by any Third Party which makes the consummation of the Transactions illegal.

SECTION 5.3. Emergency Circumstance and Frustration of Closing Conditions. Buyer may not rely on the failure of any condition set forth in **Section 5.1**, either as a basis for not consummating the Transactions, or as a basis for terminating this Agreement, if such failure was caused by Buyer's withholding, conditioning or delaying its approval for actions that are reasonably necessary to respond to emergency situations for which Seller sought approval from Buyer to take.

ARTICLE 6. TERMINATION

SECTION 6.1. Termination Events. This Agreement may be terminated, prior to the Closing, as follows:

(a) by Buyer by written notice to Seller if:

(i) Buyer is not then in material breach of any provision of this Agreement, and there has been a breach of Seller Fundamental Warranty or material breach of any representation or warranty made by Seller in **Section 3.1** or of any covenant or obligation made by Seller in this Agreement that would give rise to the failure of any of the conditions specified in **Section 5.1**, and such breach is not cured within thirty (30) days from Seller's receipt of a written notice from Buyer regarding such breach;

(ii) the Closing shall not have occurred on or prior to [***](the "**Long Stop Date**"); ***provided***, ***however***, that (A) Buyer shall, if it is reasonably expected the Closing becomes unlikely to occur on or prior to [***], use reasonable best efforts to obtain an extension of the Debt Commitment Letter to[***], and if such extension is granted, the Long Stop Date shall be [***], and (B) Buyer shall not be permitted to terminate this Agreement pursuant to this **Section 6.1(a)(ii)** if the failure of the Closing to occur by the Long Stop Date is primarily attributable to a failure of Buyer to perform any covenant or obligation in this Agreement required to be performed by Buyer at or prior to the Closing; or

(b) by Seller by written notice to Buyer if:

(i) Seller is not then in material breach of any provision of this Agreement, and there has been a breach of Buyer Fundamental Warranty or material breach of other representation or warranty made by Buyer in **Section 3.3** or of any covenant or agreement made by Buyer in this Agreement that would give rise to the failure of any of the conditions specified in **Section 5.2**, and such breach or condition is not cured within thirty (30) days from Buyer's receipt of a written notice from Seller regarding such breach;

(ii) the Closing shall not have occurred on or prior to the Long Stop Date; ***provided***, ***however***, that Seller shall not be permitted to terminate this Agreement pursuant to this **Section 6.1(b)(ii)** if the failure of the Closing to occur by the Long Stop Date is primarily attributable to a failure of Seller to perform any covenant or obligation in this Agreement required to be performed by Seller at or prior to the Closing; or

(c) by any Party by written notice to the other Party in the event any Order permanently preventing the occurrence of the Closing shall become final and binding; or

(d) by the mutual written agreement of Seller and Buyer.

SECTION 6.2. Effect of Termination. Each Party's right of termination under **Section 6.1** is in addition to any other rights it may have under this Agreement or at law or equity. If this Agreement is terminated pursuant to **Section 6.1**, all obligations of the Parties under this Agreement will terminate, except that the following shall survive: (a) the provisions contained in **Article 7 and 9**, and (b) all liabilities that have accrued prior to termination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the provisions of **Article 1**, **Section 4.13**, this **Article 6**, **Article 8**, **Article 9** shall survive any termination of this Agreement pursuant to **Section 6.1** and remain valid and binding obligations of the Parties.

ARTICLE 7. NON-SURVIVAL; INDEMNIFICATION; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SECTION 7.1. Non-Survival of Representations and Warranties. None of the representations and warranties of Seller contained in this Agreement shall survive the Closing except for cases of fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct, and following the

Closing, other than a claim of fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct against a Party or breach of any Seller Fundamental Warranties, no claims (whether in contract, in tort, in law or in equity, granted by statute or otherwise) may be made against Seller with respect to any of such representations or warranties; it being agreed that all of such other claims that would otherwise arise in respect of the representations and warranties of Seller contained in this Agreement are expressly waived and released by the Parties to the fullest extent permitted by Law; ***provided***, ***however***, the foregoing shall not limit claims made against the insurer under the R&W Insurance Policy. The covenants and agreements of Buyer, Seller and the Company that are required to be performed by such Party under this Agreement shall survive the Closing in accordance with their respective terms. Buyer acknowledges that the provisions of this Agreement, including this **Article 7**, shall apply regardless of whether (i) Buyer maintains the R&W Insurance Policy following the Closing, (ii) the R&W Insurance Policy expires, is revoked, cancelled, or modified, or (iii) any claim made under the R&W Insurance Policy is denied by the insurer.

SECTION 7.2. Indemnification.

(a) From and after the Closing, Buyer shall indemnify Seller and its Affiliates (each a "Seller Indemnified Party") from and against any and all Losses incurred by any Seller Indemnified Party arising out of, based on or resulting from: (i) any breach or inaccuracy of Buyer's representations and warranties, or (ii) any breach of any covenant or agreement of Buyer set forth in this Agreement (other than Section 4.10(b)).

(b) From and after the Closing, Seller shall indemnify Buyer and its Affiliates (including the Company following the Closing) (each a "**Buyer Indemnified Party**") from and against any and all Losses incurred by any Buyer Indemnified Party arising out of, based on or resulting from: (i) any breach or inaccuracy of any Seller Fundamental Warranties, (ii) any breach of any covenant or agreement of Seller set forth in this Agreement, or (iii) any breach of any Seller's representation and warranties involving fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct of Seller. A Person to be indemnified in accordance with this Article as a Seller Indemnified Party or a Buyer Indemnified Party is referred to as an "**Indemnified Party**", and the Party obligated to indemnify in accordance with this Article is referred to as the "**Indemnifying Party**".

(c) Limitations on Time.

(i) Seller shall not be liable in respect of any Claim in respect of any of its covenants, agreements, representation or warranties set forth in this Agreement and any such Claim shall be wholly barred and unenforceable unless Buyer has given notice in writing of such Claim to Seller:

(A) with respect to covenants to be performed at or prior to the Closing Date, within the period of [***] from the Closing Date;

(B) with respect to the Seller Fundamental Warranties, within the period of [***] from the Closing Date;

(C)with respect to covenants to be performed after the Closing Date, within [***] from the date that Buyer recognizes such breach, non-performance, or non-compliance of any such covenant;

(D) with respect to breach of any Seller's representation and warranties involving fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct of Seller, within the period of [***] from the Closing Date; and

(ii) Buyer shall not be liable in respect of any Claim in respect of any of Buyer's representations and warranties or any covenant or agreement of Buyer set forth in this Agreement and any such Claim shall be wholly barred and unenforceable unless Seller has given notice in writing of such Claim to Buyer:

(A) with respect to covenants to be performed at or prior to the Closing Date, within the period of [***] from the Closing Date;

(B)with respect to the Buyer Fundamental Warranties, within the period of [***] from the Closing Date;

(C)with respect to covenants to be performed after the Closing Date, within [***] from the date that Seller recognizes such breach, non-performance, or non-compliance of any such covenant; and

(D) with respect to breach of any Buyer's representation and warranties other than Buyer Fundament Warranties, within the period of [***] from the Closing Date.

(d) Limitations on Amount.

(i) Except for any Claim with respect to fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct, the Seller Fundamental Warranties, or the Buyer Fundamental Warranties, the Indemnifying Party shall not be liable in respect of any Claim by any Indemnified Party arising out of, based on or resulting from this Agreement unless (and subject in all cases to the other provisions of this Article 7):

(A) the amount of an individual Claim exceeds JPY [***](the "**De Minimis Amount**"); and

(B)the aggregate amount of all the individual Claims (other than those excluded for failure to meet the De Minimis Amount) exceeds JPY [***], in which case, the Indemnifying Party shall be liable to pay the full amount of such claims in their entirety.

(ii) Except with respect to fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct, the Seller Fundamental Warranties, or the Buyer Fundamental Warranties, in no event shall the aggregate liability of the Indemnifying Party pursuant to this Agreement exceed [***]of the Purchase Price; ***provided*** that, with respect to fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct, the Seller Fundamental Warranties, or the Buyer Fundamental Warranties, the Indemnifying Party's aggregate liability shall not exceed [***]of the Purchase Price.

(e) Any payments made pursuant to **Section 7.2** shall constitute an adjustment of the Purchase Price for Tax purposes and shall be treated as such by the recipients thereof on their Tax Returns to the extent permitted by any Law.

SECTION 7.3. Calculation of Losses.

(a) For purposes of determining the amount of any Losses subject to indemnification under this Article 7, the amount of such Losses will be determined net of (i) any amounts taken into account in the calculation of the Closing Net Working Capital Amount, (ii) any amounts booked as related liabilities or reserves reflected in the Financial Statements, and (iii) the sum of any amounts recovered under insurance policies (except, solely with respect to determining Losses that Buyer seeks to recover from Seller, for amounts recoverable or for which there is a right of recovery under the R&W Insurance Policy) or other amounts recovered from third parties with respect to such Losses (net of any reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in collecting such amounts) ("**Insurance Proceeds**"). In the event that any Insurance Proceeds are received by an Indemnified Party after payment for the related indemnification claim has been made pursuant to this Article 7, then the Indemnified Party shall pay to the Indemnifying Party, an amount equal to the amount of the reduction in Losses that would have been applied pursuant to the first sentence of this Section 7.3 had such Insurance Proceeds been received at the time such indemnification claim was made. The Indemnified Party shall use commercially reasonable efforts to seek recovery from third parties who may be responsible, in whole or in part, for Losses suffered by such Indemnified Party and to make claims under insurance policies providing coverage with respect to Losses suffered by such Indemnified Party.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, except for the event of fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct, the Buyer Indemnified Parties shall not be entitled to indemnification pursuant to **Section 7.2(b)** for any Losses based upon or arising out of a breach of any covenant to be performed at or prior to Closing if:

(i) Buyer, its Affiliates or any Representative of Buyer or its Affiliates had actual knowledge at or as of the Closing of the breach of the covenant giving rise to such Loss; ***provided***, ***however***, that this clause (i) shall not preclude Buyer Indemnified Parties from indemnification under **Section 7.2(b)** for breaches by Seller of a covenant to be performed at or prior to Closing that, individually or in the aggregate, do not or would not reasonably be expected to result in the condition in **Section 5.1(a)** not being satisfied, of which Buyer had actual knowledge, but only to the extent Buyer complied with its obligation under **Section 4.10(b)**; or

(ii) the Circumstances constituting or resulting in such breach give rise to any breach of representation or warranty that is or would rightfully be the subject of an indemnification claim under the R&W Insurance Policy disregarding applicability of any retention or policy limits for purposes of this Section 7.3(b)(ii).

SECTION 7.4. Acknowledgements.

(a) Buyer hereby acknowledges that the R&W Insurance Policy shall be the sole and exclusive source of recovery and remedy for any Losses sustained, suffered or incurred by Buyer and its Affiliates (including, after the Closing, the Company) resulting from any breach, misstatement, misrepresentation, inaccuracy, or omission by Seller of its representations and warranties contained in this Agreement (other than the Seller's Fundamental Warranties), in each case, other than (i) in the event of fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct and (ii) for the avoidance of doubt, any Claims for not proceeding with the Closing in relation to non-fulfilment of the condition precedents under **Section 5.1** or termination under **Section 6.1(a)(i)**; ***provided*** that, subject to **Section 7.4(b),** the right to indemnification under this **Article 7** and the R&W Insurance Policy, shall constitute Buyer's sole and exclusive remedies with respect to any and all Losses relating to or arising from Seller's fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct, or a breach of Seller's Fundamental Warranties.

(b) For purposes of this **Article 7** and the other applicable provisions of this Agreement, in connection with any claim by a Buyer Indemnified Party for indemnification with respect to a breach of Seller's representation and warranties under this **Article 7**, the aggregate amount of Losses so payable will (i) first, be satisfied by recourse to the R&W Insurance Policy, if available; and (ii) then, subject to the limitations set forth in this Agreement, from Seller.

(c) The provisions of this **Article 7** were specifically bargained-for between the Parties and were taken into account by each Party in arriving at the Purchase Price. The Parties have specifically relied upon the provisions of this **Article 7** in agreeing to the Purchase Price and in agreeing to provide the specific representations and warranties set forth herein.

(d) No past, present or future manager, director, officer, employee, incorporator, member, partner, stockholder, Affiliate, agent, attorney or Representative of the Company, Seller, or any of their respective Affiliates shall have any liability (whether in contract or in tort) for any obligations or liabilities of the Company or Seller arising under this Agreement or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, the sale and purchase of the Companies, including, without limitation, any alleged non-disclosure or misrepresentations made by any such Persons, other than in the event of fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct.

(e) No past, present or future manager, director, officer, employee, incorporator, member, partner, stockholder, Affiliate, agent, attorney or Representative of Buyer, or any of their respective Affiliates shall have any liability (whether in contract or in tort) for any obligations or liabilities of Buyer arising under this Agreement or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, the sale and purchase of the Companies, including, without limitation, any alleged non-disclosure or misrepresentations made by any such Persons, other than in the event of fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct.

SECTION 7.5. Waiver.

(a) Each Party knowingly, willingly, irrevocably and expressly acknowledges and agrees (on behalf of itself, each of its Affiliates and each of its and their Representatives),

that, from and after the Closing and to the fullest extent permitted under any applicable Law, any and all rights, claims, demands, Proceedings, Orders, causes of action (including any statutory rights to contribution or indemnification), obligations, Contracts, agreements, debts and liabilities whatsoever, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, both at law and in equity, it or any of its Affiliates or any of their respective Representatives now has, has ever had, or may hereafter have against the other Party's past, present and future Affiliates or any of their respective past, present and future Representatives, and all of their respective successors and assigns (collectively, the "**Party Releasees**"), in each case to the extent relating to the Company, the Transactions or the subject matter or negotiation of this Agreement or any other document contemplated hereby and arising at or prior to the Closing (other than the Ancillary Agreements, including the International Development and Franchise Agreement, and other than and solely with respect to any of the covenants in this Agreement), whether or not arising under, or based upon, any theory whatsoever, under any Law (including any right, whether arising at law or in equity, to seek indemnification, contribution, cost recovery, damages, or any other recourse of remedy), contract, tort or otherwise are hereby irrevocably waived, released and forever discharged. This **Section 7.5(a)** shall not limit or restrict any Claim based on fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct or the breach of Seller's Fundamental Warranties or Buyer's representations and warranties, or covenant or agreement of each Party set forth in this Agreement; ***provided*** that Seller's Affiliates and Buyer's Affiliates and any of their respective Representatives shall be third party beneficiaries of this **Article 7**.

(b) Each Party hereby irrevocably covenants to refrain from, directly or indirectly, asserting any claim or demand, or commencing, instituting, or causing to be commenced, any Proceeding of any kind against any Party Releasee, based upon any matter purported to be released hereby.

(c) Furthermore, without limiting the generality of this **Section 7.5** from and after the Closing, except for Claims based on fraud, fraudulent acts or willful misconduct or the breach of Seller's Fundamental Warranties or Buyer's representations and warranties, or any covenant or agreement of a Party set forth in this Agreement, no Claim will be brought, encouraged, supported or maintained by, or on behalf of, any Party or the Company or any of their respective Affiliates against the other Party, its Affiliates or any of its or their respective Representatives, and no recourse will be sought or granted, against other Party, its Affiliates or any of its or their respective Representatives, by virtue of, or based upon, any alleged misrepresentation or inaccuracy in, or breach of, any of the representations, warranties, covenants or agreements of the other Party or the Company set forth or contained in this Agreement or any other document contemplated hereby or any certificate, instrument, agreement or other document delivered hereunder (other than the Ancillary Agreements and solely with respect to, any of the covenants in this Agreement), the Transactions, the negotiation or subject matter of this Agreement or any other document contemplated hereby, the ownership, operation, management, use or control of the business or assets of the Company, or any actions or omissions at, or prior to, the Closing.

(d) Each Party acknowledges and agrees that the Party and its Affiliates may not avoid the limitations on liability, recovery and recourse set forth in this **Section 7.5** by (i) seeking damages for breach of contract, tort or pursuant to any other theory of liability, all of which are hereby waived or (ii) asserting or threatening any claim against any Person that is not a party hereto (or a successor to a party hereto). In the event that any provision of this **Section 7.5** is held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the other

provisions of this **Section 7.5** will remain in full force and effect. Any provision of this **Section 7.5** held invalid or unenforceable only in part or degree will remain in full force and effect to the extent not held invalid or unenforceable.

SECTION 7.6. Nature of Representations and Warranties.

All representations and warranties set forth in this Agreement are contractual in nature only and, except with respect to fraud, fraudulent act or willful misconduct, subject to the sole and exclusive remedies set forth herein. No Person is asserting the truth of any representation and warranty set forth in this Agreement; rather, the Parties have agreed that should any representations and warranties of any Party prove untrue, the other Parties shall have the specific rights and remedies herein specified as the exclusive remedy therefor, but that no other rights, remedies or causes of action (whether in law or in equity or whether in contract or in tort) are permitted to any Party as a result of the untruth of any such representation and warranty, except with respect to fraud, fraudulent act or willful misconduct.

ARTICLE 8. TAX MATTERS

SECTION 8.1. Tax Covenants.

(a) Without the prior written consent of Seller (which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed) and subject to **Section 8.1(b)**, Buyer (and, after the Closing, the Company, its Affiliates and their respective Representatives) shall not, to the extent it may affect, or relate to, the Company, make, change or rescind any Tax election, amend any Tax Return or take any position on any Tax Return, take any action, omit to take any action or enter into any other transaction that would have the effect of increasing the Tax liability or reducing any Tax asset of Seller or the Company in respect of any Pre-Closing Tax Period, ***provided***, ***however***, that the foregoing sentence shall not apply in cases where such actions or omittance to take actions are required pursuant to Order, guidance or instructions from a Tax Authority; ***provided further***, that Seller's prior written consent shall not be required in respect of matters that relate to or arise during a Straddle Period so long as Buyer consults with Seller in good faith prior to taking or omitting to take the applicable action described in this Section 8.1(a).

(b) Seller may, by written notice delivered to Buyer no later than thirty (30) days prior to the deadline for making such election (the "**338(g) Notice**"), require Buyer to cause the Company to make a timely and irrevocable 338(g) Election with respect to the acquisition of the Company, and Buyer shall not cause the Company to change, rescind or amend any 338(g) Election without the prior written consent of Seller (which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed). If Seller delivers a 338(g) Notice, Buyer shall, and shall cause the Company to, (a) make the 338(g) Election on IRS Form 8023 (and any required statements or schedules, including Form 8883) on a timely basis, (b) not revoke or attempt to revoke such election, and (c) make, or cause to be made, any analogous elections under applicable state, local, or non-U.S. tax laws to the extent requested by Seller and available. Buyer shall deliver to Seller a copy of the filed Form 8023 and related filing proofs without delay after filing. In connection with the 338(g) Election, Seller shall prepare an allocation of the Adjusted Grossed-Up Basis among the assets of the Company (and its relevant subsidiaries) in accordance with Section 338 of the Code and the U.S. Treasury Regulations thereunder (and any applicable analogous provisions of state, local, or non-U.S. law) (the

"**Allocation**"). The Parties shall file all Tax Returns (including IRS Form 8883 and any comparable statements) consistently with the Allocation as finally determined and shall not take any position inconsistent therewith in any Tax Return or audit, except as otherwise required by a final "determination" within the meaning of Section 1313(a) of the Code. Notwithstanding any limitations provided under **Section 7.2**, Buyer shall be entitled to send a written notice to Seller to claim for all reasonable out-of-pocket costs (including all personnel costs and fess payable to legal counsel and accountants and any Tax liabilities) incurred by Buyer or its Affiliates in connection with such 338(g) Election, and Seller shall, promptly after receipt of such notice (together with documentation reasonably supporting such costs), reimburse Buyer for such claimed and reasonably documented costs and shall otherwise hold harmless Buyer and its Affiliates from and against any and all Losses with respect to Tax liabilities, out-of-pocket costs, and other similar expenses incurred by them arising out of, based on or resulting from their actions pursuant to this paragraph (b).

(c) Buyer shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, all Tax Returns required to be filed by the Company after the Closing Date with respect to any Pre-Closing Tax Periods and Straddle Periods and that reflect any Tax items taken into account in the calculation of the Initial Purchase Price or Purchase Price or that affect Tax liability of the Seller. Any such income Tax Return with respect to any Straddle Period shall be prepared and filed following a consultation with Seller in good faith. Any such income Tax Return with respect to any Pre-Closing Tax Period other than a Straddle Period shall be prepared in a manner consistent with past practice (unless otherwise required by Law) and without a change of any election or any accounting method and shall be submitted by Buyer to Seller (together with schedules, statements and, to the extent requested by Seller, supporting documentation) at least twenty-five (25) days prior to the due date (including extensions) of such Tax Return. If Seller objects to any item on any such Tax Return, it shall, within ten (10) days after delivery of such Tax Return, notify Buyer in writing that it so objects, specifying with particularity any such item and stating the specific factual or legal basis for any such objection. If a notice of objection shall be duly delivered, Buyer and Seller shall negotiate in good faith and use their reasonable best efforts to resolve such items. If Buyer and Seller are unable to reach such agreement within ten (10) days after receipt by Buyer of such notice, the disputed items shall be resolved by the Designated Accounting Firm and any determination by the Designated Accounting Firm shall be final. The Designated Accounting Firm shall resolve any disputed items within fifteen (15) days of having the item referred to it pursuant to such procedures as it may require. If the Designated Accounting Firm is unable to resolve any disputed items before the due date for such Tax Return, the Tax Return shall be filed as prepared by Buyer and then amended to reflect the Designated Accounting Firm's resolution. The costs, fees and expenses of the (i) Designated Accounting Firm incurred in connection with such a dispute shall be borne equally by Buyer and Seller, and (ii) any other costs reasonably incurred by the Company or Buyer in connection with submission of the relevant Tax Returns to Seller pursuant to this paragraph (c), including reasonable translation cost therefor, shall be borne by Seller; provided however, that such costs of (ii) shall not exceed $[***] in total in respect of all Tax Returns prepared pursuant to this Section 8.1(c).

SECTION 8.2. **Straddle Period**. In the case of Pre-Closing Taxes that are payable with respect to a taxable period that begins before and ends after the Closing Date (each such period, a "**Straddle Period**"), the portion of any such Taxes that are treated as

Pre-Closing Taxes for purposes of this Agreement (in particular the Closing Date Schedule) shall be:

(a) in the case of Taxes (i) based upon, or related to, income, receipts, profits, wages, capital or net worth, (ii) imposed in connection with the sale, transfer or assignment of property, or (iii) required to be withheld, deemed equal to the amount which would be payable if the taxable year ended with the Closing Date; and

(b) in the case of other Taxes, deemed to be the amount of such Taxes for the entire period multiplied by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of days in the period ending on the Closing Date and the denominator of which is the number of days in the entire period.

SECTION 8.3. Contests. Buyer agrees to give written notice to Seller of the receipt of any written notice by the Company, Buyer or any of Buyer's Affiliates which involves the assertion of any claim, or the commencement of any Proceeding with respect to income Taxes relating to any Pre-Closing Tax Period (a "**Tax Claim**"). Buyer shall control the contest or resolution of any Tax Claim relating to Post-Closing Tax Periods; ***provided*** that, if the amount of Taxes that may need to be paid as a result of such Tax Claim exceeds JPY [***], Buyer shall not enter into any settlement that would adversely affect Seller (i) without Seller's prior written consent (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed) with respect to Taxes relating to the Tax period ending on or before the Closing Date and (ii) without consultation with Seller in good faith with respect to Taxes relating to the Straddle Period; and, ***provided further***, that, to the extent that Seller reasonably determines that the Tax Claim may have a material adverse effect on the Seller, Seller shall be entitled to participate in the defense of any Tax Claim relating to Pre-Closing Tax Periods or Straddle Periods and to employ counsel of its choice for such purpose, the fees and expenses of which separate counsel shall be borne solely by Seller.

SECTION 8.4. Cooperation and Exchange of Information. Seller and Buyer shall provide each other in accordance with this **Section 8.4** with such cooperation and information as either of them reasonably may request of the other in filing any Tax Return or in connection with any audit or other Proceeding in respect of Taxes of the Company. Such cooperation and information shall include providing copies of relevant Tax Returns or portions thereof, together with accompanying schedules, related work papers and documents relating to rulings or other determinations by Tax authorities. Buyer shall provide Seller with all reasonably necessary information for Seller to prepare the Allocation and compute income inclusions under Section 951, 951A or 956 of the Code in respect of the Company and the Company's income or earnings; ***provided*** that Buyer shall be entitled to send a written notice to Seller to claim for all reasonable out-of-pocket costs (including all personnel costs and fess payable to legal counsel and accountants) incurred by Buyer or its Affiliates in connection with collection or provision of such information, and Seller shall, promptly after receipt of such notice (together with documentation reasonably supporting such costs), reimburse Buyer for such claimed and reasonably documented costs. Each of Seller and Buyer shall retain all Tax Returns, schedules and work papers, records and other documents in its possession relating to Tax matters of the Company for any taxable period beginning before the Closing Date until the expiration of the statute of limitations of the taxable periods to which such Tax Returns and other documents relate, without regard to extensions except to the extent notified by the other party in writing of such extensions for the respective Tax periods. Prior to transferring, destroying or discarding any Tax Returns, schedules and work papers, records

and other documents in its possession relating to Tax matters of the Company for any taxable period beginning before the Closing Date, Seller shall provide Buyer with reasonable written notice and offer the other party the opportunity to take custody of such materials.

ARTICLE 9. GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 9.1. Expenses. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, each Party shall bear its respective fees and expenses incurred in connection with the preparation, negotiation, execution and performance of this Agreement and the Transactions, including all fees and expense of its Representatives. Each Party shall pay the fees charged by its bank in connection with such Party's dispatch or receipt of funds from or in its bank account. If this Agreement is terminated, the obligation of each Party to pay its own fees and expenses will be subject to any rights of such Party arising from a breach of this Agreement by the other Party, if any.

SECTION 9.2. Public Announcements. All press releases, public announcements, or public relations activities by each Party in regard to the Transactions shall be mutually approved by the Parties in advance of such release, announcement or activity. The foregoing restriction shall not, however, prevent a Party from, after reasonable consultation with the other Party and providing the other Party with copies of applicable information, in each case to the extent legally permissible or commercially practicable, disclosing such information that is required under applicable Law or stock exchange regulations.

SECTION 9.3. Confidentiality.

(a) Without the prior written consent of the other Party, each Party shall not, and shall ensure that their respective Representatives do not (i) use for any purposes other than the performance of this Agreement, the full enjoyment of its rights hereunder, or legitimate business purposes or (ii) disclose or divulge to any Third Party, the Confidential Information. "**Confidential Information**" shall mean the existence and substance of this Agreement, the process and substance of the negotiations for this Agreement, or any other information received from the other party in relation to this Agreement and the Transactions contemplated hereby that (A) should, by its nature, be treated in confidence, (B) otherwise concerns the business or affairs of the Company or the Business, or (C) otherwise concerns the business or affairs of the disclosing Party or its Affiliates.

(b) The confidentiality obligation set forth in this **Section 9.3(a)** shall not apply in the following cases:

(i) the information is already in the public domain at the time of the receipt by the receiving Party or has come into the public domain after the receipt by the receiving Party without a breach of this Agreement;

(ii) the information is already known to the receiving Party before the disclosure by the disclosing Party;

(iii) the information is lawfully acquired by the receiving Party without owing any confidentiality obligations from a Third Party duly authorized to disclose such information;

(iv) the disclosure is made to (A) a Party's Affiliates (including, in the case of Buyer, Unison Capital, Inc.), (B) the insurance broker or insurance company for the R&W Insurance Policy, (C) in the case of disclosure made by Buyer, existing or potential debt or equity funding sources of Buyer (including any banks or other financial institutions or investors (and their agents or trustees) providing financing in respect of the Transactions, or any of Buyer's or its Affiliates' partners, (D) potential buyer or investors of Buyer or their Affiliates or (E) respective directors, officers, employees, counsels, advisors, auditors, attorneys, certified public accountants, tax accountants, financial advisors or other professional advisors and other authorized representatives of (A) to (D), to the extent reasonably necessary or desirable for purposes connected with this Agreement, in which case such Party is responsible for ensuring that the relevant Person who receives such information complies with the terms of this **Section 9.3** as if it were a party to this Agreement;

(v) the disclosure is made to any Governmental Body or arbitrator to the extent reasonably required in connection with any Proceeding or other dispute resolution mechanism relating to the enforcement of this Agreement;

(vi) the disclosure is made to any Governmental Body with respect to which Consents, Governmental Authorizations, notices, reports, or other filings may be required under this Agreement or by Law;

(vii) after the Closing, inclusion of information pertaining the Company in any of Seller's, Buyer' or their respective Affiliates' Tax Returns and financial statements, as reasonably required; or

(viii) the disclosure is required by Law or by any Governmental Body having applicable jurisdiction.

(c) If this Agreement is terminated prior to Closing, the Parties' rights and obligations under this **Section 9.3** shall survive such termination and continue for a period of three (3) years thereafter. Upon Closing and the successful completion of the Transactions, all rights under this **Section 9.3** with respect to any information concerning the business or affairs of the Company or the Business shall transfer to Buyer (and the restrictions and obligations with respect to such information shall transfer to Seller, if applicable), and the Parties' obligations under this **Section 9.3** shall survive the Closing and continue for a period of three (3) years thereafter. For the avoidance of doubt, with respect to Buyer, on and after the Closing, Confidential Information shall not include information concerning the business or affairs of the Company or the Business.

SECTION 9.4. Notices. All notices, Consents, waivers and other communications required or permitted by this Agreement shall be in writing (including electronic mail transmission) and shall be deemed given to a Party when (a) delivered to the appropriate address by hand or by nationally recognized overnight courier service (costs

prepaid); (b) received or rejected by the addressee, if sent by certified mail, return receipt requested; or (c) sent by electronic mail (without notice of failure of delivery); in each case to the following addresses and marked to the attention of the person (by name or title) designated below (or to such other address or person as a Party may designate by notice to the other Party):

If to Seller:

2116 Hawkins Street, Suite 101
Charlotte, NC 28203
Attention: [***]
Email address: [***]
[***]

with mandatory copy, which shall not constitute notice, to:

ArentFox Schiff LLP
1717 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006
Attention: [***]
Email address: [***]
[***]

If to Buyer:

The New Otani Garden Court 9F
4-1 Kioicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan 102-0094
Attention: [***]
Email address: [***]
[***]
[***]
[***]
[***]
[***]

with mandatory copy, which shall not constitute notice, to:

Mori Hamada & Matsumoto
16th Floor, Marunouchi Park Building 2-6-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8222, Japan
Attention: [***]
Email address: [***]
[***]
[***]

or such other address or facsimile number as such Party may hereafter specify for the purpose by notice to the other Party. All such notices, requests and other communications shall be deemed received on the date of receipt by the recipient thereof if received prior to 5:00 p.m. in the place of receipt and such day is a Business Day in the place of receipt. Otherwise, any such notice, request or communication shall be deemed not to have been received until the next succeeding Business Day in the place of receipt.

SECTION 9.5. Entire Agreement. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, whether written or oral, between the Parties with respect to its subject matter (including the Confidentiality Agreement) and constitutes (along with the Disclosure Letter, Exhibits and other documents delivered pursuant to this Agreement) a complete and exclusive statement of the terms of the agreement between the Parties with respect to its subject matter.

SECTION 9.6. Waiver. No delay or failure by a Party to exercise or enforce (in whole or in part) any right provided by this Agreement or by applicable Laws shall operate as a release or waiver, or in any way limit that Party's ability to further exercise or enforce that, or any other, right. A waiver of any right or condition under this Agreement shall not be effective, or implied, unless that waiver is in writing and is signed by the Party against whom that waiver is claimed.

SECTION 9.7. Remedies Cumulative; Accrued Rights. The rights and remedies of the Parties to this Agreement are cumulative and not alternative. The expiry or termination of this Agreement shall be without prejudice to any rights that have already accrued to each Party pursuant to this Agreement.

SECTION 9.8. Amendments. This Agreement shall not be amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified except by a written agreement signed by the Parties.

SECTION 9.9. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Except as provided in **Sections 4.12, 7.4** and **9.15**, no provision of this Agreement is intended to confer any rights, benefits, remedies, obligations, or liabilities hereunder upon any Person other than the Parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

SECTION 9.10. Successors and Assignments. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns. A Party shall not assign any of its rights or delegate any of its obligations under this Agreement without the prior written Consent of the other Party, except that Buyer may assign, without Seller's consent, any or all of Buyer's rights, benefits or obligations under this Agreement to the Company or any financing parties as a collateral security interest in respect of the Debt Financing.

SECTION 9.11. Severability. If at any time any one or more provisions hereof is held to be void, invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such provisions shall be modified to the extent necessary to render them valid, legal, and enforceable and to carry out the intent of the Parties. The remaining provisions hereof shall not be affected or impaired by such void, invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provisions.

SECTION 9.12. **Time.** With regard to all dates and time periods set forth or referred to in this Agreement, time is of the essence.

SECTION 9.13. **Governing Law.** This Agreement (including the negotiation, execution, performance and interpretation hereof and any claims based upon or related to any representation or warranty made in connection with this Agreement or as an inducement to enter into this Agreement) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the Laws of Japan, without reference to conflict of law principles.

SECTION 9.14. **Arbitration.**

(a) Arbitration. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the breach, termination or invalidity hereof, will be submitted for binding arbitration administered by the Singapore International Arbitration Centre ("**SIAC**") in accordance with the provision of the Arbitration Rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre SIAC Rules ("**SIAC Rules**"), except that the parties hereto agree that depositions may be taken during the arbitration proceedings. If a dispute arises over the extent of or propriety of any discovery request, the arbitration panel will make a final determination over the discovery request after hearing each party's position. The arbitration proceedings must be conducted in the English language. The arbitration provisions contained herein will continue in full force and effect subsequent to and notwithstanding expiration or termination of this Agreement.

(b) Location of Arbitration. The legal seat of such arbitration proceedings will be Singapore and, except as otherwise provided herein, will be heard before a panel of three (3) arbitrators. All matters relating to arbitration will be governed by the SIAC Rules and not by any state or foreign arbitration law.

(c) Number of Arbitrators. Seller and Buyer will each appoint one (1) arbitrator and the two (2) arbitrators so appointed will appoint a third arbitrator to act as chairman of the tribunal. If a party fails to nominate an arbitrator within thirty (30) days from the date when a party's request for arbitration has been communicated to the other party, such appointment will be made by the SIAC. The two (2) arbitrators thus appointed will attempt to agree upon the third arbitrator to act as chairman. If said two (2) arbitrators fail to nominate the chairman within thirty (30) days from the date of appointment of the second arbitrator, the chairman will be appointed by the SIAC. No arbitrator selected can be related to or affiliated with Seller, Buyer or their Affiliates, principals or agents.

(d) Arbitrator's Award. The arbitrators will have the right to award or include in their award any relief which they deem proper under the circumstances, including, without limitation, monetary damages (with interest on unpaid amounts from date due), specific performance, injunctive relief and attorneys' fees and costs. The award and decision of the arbitrators will be conclusive and final and binding upon all parties hereto and judgment upon the award may be entered in any court of competent jurisdiction, and Seller and Buyer waive any right to contest the validity or enforceability of such award. All of the arbitrators must be fluent in English.

(e) Limitations on Claims. The Parties further agree to be bound by the provisions of any applicable limitation on the period of time in which claims must be brought under this

Agreement. Each of the Parties further agrees that they will consolidate all claims (i) brought against the other Party and (ii) arising from the same events or circumstances within the same proceeding. The Parties further agree that arbitration will be conducted on an individual, not a class-wide basis, and that any arbitration proceeding between Seller and Buyer will not be consolidated with any other arbitration proceeding involving Seller, Buyer, the Company and any other person or entity.

(f) Confidentiality of Arbitration Proceedings. All arbitration proceedings respecting this Agreement will be kept confidential and no Party will disclose to any Person other than those necessary to the arbitration (a) the existence of the arbitration, (b) any document, testimony or other information relating to the arbitration, or (c) any settlement or arbitral awards or orders, except to the extent that such disclosure is required by Law or advised by legal counsel.

(g) Injunctive Relief. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this **Section 9.14** (including **Section 9.14(a)**), Seller and Buyer agree that if a Party or its Representatives breach or threaten to breach any of the terms of this Agreement related to the confidentiality obligations, the other Party will be entitled to seek a preliminary or permanent injunction or such other appropriate remedy restraining such breach and/or a decree of specific performance, without showing or proving any actual damage, and without any requirement to post a bond, together with recovery of reasonable attorneys' fees and other costs and expenses incurred in obtaining such equitable relief or other appropriate remedy.

(h) Venue. Seller and Buyer unconditionally and irrevocably consent to the non-exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the District Court in Tokyo (the "**Specified Court**") in any action, suit or proceeding with respect to the enforcement of the arbitration agreement in this **Section 9.14**, and the non-exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the Specified Court with respect to (i) the enforcement of any award or judgment and (ii) any injunctive, permanent, provisional or temporary relief permitted to be brought pursuant to **Section 9.14(g)**. Seller and Buyer expressly waive any objection, and they agree not to plead or claim, that (A) the Specified Court does not possess personal jurisdiction over the parties, or (B) any such Proceeding has been brought in an inconvenient forum; ***provided*** that, each Party shall have the right to bring a Proceeding in any other appropriate jurisdiction to enforce any award or judgment against the other Party, including in a court of competent jurisdiction in the country where the other Party is located.

SECTION 9.15. Conflicts; Privileges.

(a) Acknowledgement of Representation. It is acknowledged by each of the Parties that the Company and Seller have retained ArentFox Schiff LLP ("**AFS**") and Tokyo International Law Office ("**TKI**") to act as their counsel in connection with this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements, the Confidentiality Agreement and any transaction contemplated hereby or thereby (the "**Current Representation**"), and that no other Party to this Agreement has the status of a client of AFS or TKI for conflict of interest or any other purposes as a result thereof.

(b) Affirmation of Representation. Buyer and the Company hereby agree that, after the Closing, AFS and TKI may represent Seller or any officer, director, manager, employee, shareholder, partner or member of Seller or any Affiliate of Seller (other than the

Company) (any such Person, a "**Designated Person**") in any matter involving or arising from the Current Representation, including any interpretation or application of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement, and including for the avoidance of doubt any litigation, arbitration, dispute or mediation between or among Buyer, the Company or any of their respective Affiliates, and any Designated Person, even though the interests of such Designated Person may be directly adverse to Buyer, the Company or any of their respective Affiliates, and even though AFS and/or TKI may have represented the Company in a substantially related matter, or may be representing Seller or its Affiliates in ongoing matters.

(c) Waiver of Conflict. Buyer and the Company hereby waive and agree not to assert any claim that AFS or TKI has a conflict of interest in any representation described in **Section 9.15(b)**, and (ii) any confidentiality obligation with respect to any communication between AFS or TKI, on one hand, and any Designated Person, on the other hand, occurring during the Current Representation.

(d) Retention of Privilege. Buyer and the Company hereby agree that, as to all communications (whether before, at or after the Closing) between or among AFS, TKI and any Designated Person that relate in any way to the Current Representation, the attorney-client privilege and all rights to any other evidentiary privilege, and the protections afforded to information relating to representation of a client under applicable rules of professional conduct, belong to such Designated Person and may be controlled by such Designated Person and shall not pass to or be claimed by Buyer or the Company. Without limiting the foregoing, notwithstanding any policy of Buyer or the Company or any agreement between the Company and any Designated Person or any Representative of any Designated Person or the Company, whether established or entered into before, at or after the Closing, neither Buyer nor the Company may review or use for any purpose without such Designated Person's written consent, or seek to compel disclosure to Buyer or the Company (or any of their Representatives) any communication or information (whether written, oral, electronic or in any other medium) described in the previous sentence.

(e) Further Assurances. Buyer and the Company agree to take, and to cause their respective Affiliates to take, all reasonable steps that are necessary to implement the intent of this **Section 9.15**. Buyer, Seller and the Company further agree that AFS and TKI and their respective partners and employees are third party beneficiaries of this **Section 9.15**.

SECTION 9.16. Execution of Agreement. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed to be an original copy of this Agreement and all of which, when taken together, will be deemed to constitute one and the same agreement. The exchange of copies of this Agreement and of signature pages by facsimile or electronic transmission shall constitute effective execution and delivery of this Agreement as to the Parties and may be used in lieu of the original Agreement for all purposes. Signatures of the Parties transmitted by facsimile or electronic means shall be deemed to be their original signatures for all purposes.

[signature page follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUT JAPAN CO. LTD.

By: _/s/ Raphael Duvivier________________
Name: Raphael Duvivier
Title: Director

[*Signature page to Stock Purchase Agreement*]

KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUT CORPORATION

By: __/s/ Josh Charlesworth_______________
Name: Josh Charlesworth
Title: Chief Executive Officer

[*Signature page to Stock Purchase Agreement*]

Lei Inc.

/s/ Miao Chu

Name: Miao Chu
Title: Representative Director

[*Signature page to Stock Purchase Agreement*]

Subsidiaries of Krispy Kreme, Inc.
As of December 28, 2025

Name of Subsidiary		Jurisdiction of Formation
1.	1456212 Ontario Inc.	Canada
2.	Awesome Doughnut, LLC	Delaware
3.	Cotton Parent, Inc.	Delaware
4.	Glaseadas Originales S.L.	Spain
5.	Glaze International Holding Ltd.	England & Wales
6.	Glazed Brasil, S.A.	Brazil
7.	HDN Development Corporation	Kentucky
8.	HDN Motor Coach, LLC	North Carolina
9.	KK Canada AcquisitionCo Inc.	Canada
10.	KK Canada HoldCo ULC	British Columbia
11.	KK Canada Holdings, LLC	Delaware
12.	Krispy K Canada Inc.	Canada
13.	Krispy Kreme Australia PTY Ltd.	Australia
14.	Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation	North Carolina
15.	Krispy Kreme Doughnut Japan Co., Ltd.	Japan
16.	Krispy Kreme Doughnuts DMCC	United Arab Emirates
17.	Krispy Kreme Doughnuts France SAS	Republic of France
18.	Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Inc.	North Carolina
19.	Krispy Kreme Holding UK Ltd.	England & Wales
20.	Krispy Kreme Holdings PTY Ltd.	Australia
21.	Krispy Kreme Ireland Limited	Republic of Ireland
22.	Krispy Kreme Mexico Holding, S.A. P.I. de C.V.	Mexico
23.	Krispy Kreme Mexico S. de R.L. de C.V.	Mexico
24.	Krispy Kreme New Zealand Limited	New Zealand
25.	Krispy Kreme Servicios Administrativos, S.A. de C.V.	Mexico
26.	Krispy Kreme Texas, LLC	Delaware
27.	Krispy Kreme UK Limited	England & Wales
28.	Original Doughnuts International Limited	England & Wales
29.	Sonoflou, LLC	Delaware
30.	W.K.S. Krispy Kreme, LLC	Delaware

Exhibit 23.1

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We have issued our reports dated March 6, 2026, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting in the Annual Report of Krispy Kreme, Inc. on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2025. We consent to the incorporation by reference of said reports in the Registration Statements of Krispy Kreme, Inc. on Form S-8 (File No. 333-276045 and File No. 333-257696).

/s/GRANT THORNTON LLP

Denver, Colorado
March 6, 2026

Exhibit 31.1

Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

I, Josh Charlesworth, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the annual period ended December 28, 2025 of Krispy Kreme, Inc.;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

    a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

    b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

    c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant’s disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

    d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant’s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant’s most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant’s fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant’s internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant’s auditors and the audit committee of the registrant’s board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

    a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant’s ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and

    b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant’s internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 6, 2026

/s/ Josh Charlesworth
Josh Charlesworth
Chief Executive Officer

Exhibit 31.2

Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

I, Raphael Duvivier, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the annual period ended December 28, 2025 of Krispy Kreme, Inc.;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

    a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

    b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

    c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant’s disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

    d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant’s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant’s most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant’s fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant’s internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant’s auditors and the audit committee of the registrant’s board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

    a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant’s ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and

    b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant’s internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 6, 2026

/s/ Raphael Duvivier
Raphael Duvivier
Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 32.1

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

In connection with the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Krispy Kreme, Inc. (the “Company”), for the annual period ended December 28, 2025, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), each of the undersigned officers of the Company certifies pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: March 6, 2026

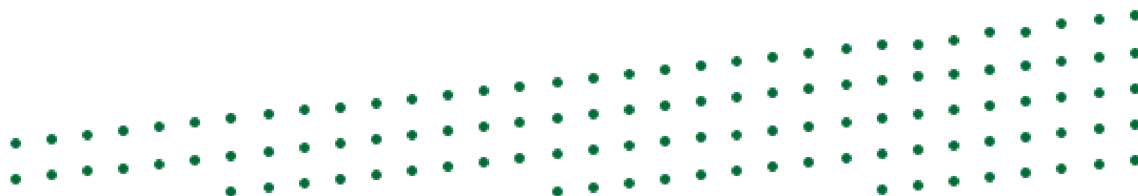
/s/ Josh Charlesworth
Josh Charlesworth
Chief Executive Officer

Date: March 6, 2026

/s/ Raphael Duvivier
Raphael Duvivier
Chief Financial Officer

CLAWBACK POLICY

Originating Department:	Legal
Approved By:	Board of Directors of Krispy Kreme, Inc.
Date Issued:	September 22, 2023
Supersedes:	June 21, 2021



CLAWBACK POLICY

Background

The Board of Directors (the "***Board***") of Krispy Kreme, Inc. (the "***Company***") has adopted, based on the recommendation of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee of the Board (the "***Committee***"), this Krispy Kreme, Inc. Clawback Policy (this "***Policy***"). It is the intention of the Board that this Policy be interpreted and administered in a manner consistent with applicable laws and regulations and Nasdaq listing requirements. In the event of a conflict between this Policy and such laws, regulations, and listing requirements, the applicable laws, regulations, and listing requirements shall govern.

This Policy applies to awards of Incentive-Based Compensation received on or after October 2, 2023, by current and former Executive Officers of the Company. The Krispy Kreme, Inc. Clawback Policy adopted on June 21, 2021 shall apply to awards of Incentive-Based Compensation received before October 2, 2023.

Definitions

"***Executive Officer***" means the Company's president, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer (or if there is no such accounting officer, the controller), any vice president of the Company in charge of a principal business unit, division, or function (such as sales, administration, or finance), any other officer who performs a policy-making function, or any other person who performs similar policymaking functions for the Company. Executive officers of the Company's subsidiaries are deemed Executive Officers of the Company if they perform such policymaking functions for the Company. The Company's Executive Officers are those officers who are listed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

"***Excess Incentive-Based Compensation***" means the amount of Incentive-Based Compensation received by a current or former Executive Officer that exceeds the amount of Incentive-Based Compensation that otherwise would have been received had the amount of such Incentive-Based Compensation been determined based on the accounting restatement, computed without regard to taxes paid by the Executive Officer. For Incentive-Based Compensation based on stock price or total shareholder return, where the amount of Excess Incentive-Based Compensation is not subject to mathematical recalculation directly from the information in an accounting restatement, Excess Incentive-Based Compensation means a reasonable estimate of the effect of the accounting restatement on the applicable Financial Reporting Measure.

"***Financial Reporting Measure***" means any measure that is determined and presented in accordance with the accounting principles used to prepare the Company's financial statements, and any measures that are derived wholly or in part from such measures. Stock price and total shareholder return metrics are also Financial Reporting Measures. For the avoidance of doubt, a Financial Reporting Measure need not be presented in the Company's financial statements or included in a filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"***Incentive-Based Compensation***" means any compensation that is granted, earned, or vested based wholly or in part upon the attainment of a Financial Reporting Measure.

"***Lookback Period***" means the three completed fiscal years immediately preceding the date on which the Company is required to prepare an accounting restatement. For purposes of this definition, the date on which the Company is required to prepare an accounting restatement shall be deemed to be the earlier of (a) the date the Company's Board, a committee of the Board, or the officer(s) of the Company authorized to take such action (if Board action is not required) concludes, or reasonably should have concluded, that the Company is required to prepare an accounting restatement; and (b) the date a court, regulator, or other legally authorized body directs the Company to prepare an accounting restatement.

"***Nasdaq***" means Nasdaq Global Select Market or any other securities exchange upon which the Company's common stock trades.

Recoupment for an Accounting Restatement

The Company shall recover reasonably promptly any Excess Incentive-Based Compensation in the event that the Company is required to restate its financial statements due to the material noncompliance of the Company with any financial reporting requirement under the federal securities laws, including any required accounting restatement to correct an error (i) in previously issued financial statements that is material to the previously issued financial statements or (ii) that would result in a material misstatement if the error were corrected in the current period or left uncorrected in the current period. The preceding sentence shall apply to Excess Incentive-Based Compensation received by any current or former Executive Officer: (a) after beginning service as an Executive Officer; (b) who served as an Executive Officer at any time during the performance period for the applicable Incentive-Based Compensation; (c) while the Company has a class of securities listed on a national securities exchange or a national securities association; and (d) during the Lookback Period. For purposes of this paragraph, Incentive- Based Compensation is deemed "received" in the Company's fiscal period during which the Financial Reporting Measure specified in the Incentive-Based Compensation is attained, even if the payment or grant of the Incentive-Based Compensation occurs after the end of that period.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Committee makes a determination that recovery would be impracticable, and one of the following enumerated conditions is satisfied, the Company need not recover such Excess Incentive-Based Compensation.

- Expenses Exceed Recovery Amount: If the direct expense to be paid to a third party to assist in enforcing this Policy would exceed the amount to be recovered; provided, however, that the Company must make a reasonable attempt to recover the Excess Incentive-Based Compensation and document such attempt(s) prior to the Committee's determination that recovery would be impracticable. The Company must provide documentation evidencing the attempt(s) to Nasdaq consistent with Nasdaq listing standards.

- Recovery Would Violate Home Country Law: If recovery would violate home country law where that law was adopted prior to November 28, 2022; *provided*, *however*, that the Company must obtain an opinion of home country counsel, in a form acceptable to Nasdaq, that recovery would result in such violation. The Company must provide the opinion to Nasdaq consistent with Nasdaq listing standards.

- Recovery Would Violate ERISA Anti-Alienation Provisions: If recovery would likely cause an otherwise tax-qualified plan, under which benefits are broadly available to employees of the

Company, to fail to meet the anti-alienation provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, contained in 26 U.S.C. § 401(a)(13) or 26 U.S.C. § 411(a), and regulations promulgated thereunder.

Method of Recoupment

The Committee shall have the sole discretion and authority to determine the means, timing (which shall in all circumstances be reasonably prompt) and any other terms by which any recoupment required by this Policy shall occur and impose any other terms, conditions or procedures (*e.g.*, the imposition of interest charges on un-repaid amounts) to govern the current or former Executive Officer's repayment of Excess Incentive-Based Compensation. The means of recoupment may include, without limitation (a) seeking reimbursement of all or part of any cash or equity-based award, (b) cancelling prior cash or equity-based awards, whether vested or unvested or paid or unpaid, (c) cancelling or offsetting against any planned future cash or equity-based awards, (d) forfeiture of deferred compensation, subject to compliance with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder, and (e) any other method permitted by applicable law or contract.

Other Policy Terms

Any applicable award agreement, plan or other document setting forth the terms and conditions of any Incentive-Based Compensation covered by this Policy shall be deemed to (a) incorporate this Policy by reference and (b) be governed by the terms of this Policy in the event of any inconsistency with the terms of the Incentive-Based Compensation. Acceptance of any Incentive-Based Compensation by an Executive Officer shall be deemed to include acceptance of this Policy.

Any recoupment under this Policy is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies or rights that may be available to the Company or its affiliates under applicable law, including, without limitation: (a) terminating the employment of an Executive Officer; (b) adjusting the future compensation of an Executive Officer; or (c) authorizing legal action or taking such other action to enforce an Executive Officer's obligations to the Company or its affiliates as it may deem appropriate in view of all of the facts and circumstances surrounding the particular case.

Incentive-Based Compensation and other compensation paid to employees of the Company and its affiliates may also be subject to other recoupment or similar policies, and this Policy does not supersede any such other policies. However, in the event of any conflict or duplication between any such policy and this Policy, this Policy shall govern and take precedence.

Executive Officers shall not be entitled to any indemnification by or from the Company or its affiliates with respect to any amounts subject to recoupment pursuant to this Policy.

This Policy is made, and actions taken hereunder shall be governed by and construed, in accordance with the laws of North Carolina, excluding any conflicts or choice of law rule or principle that might otherwise refer construction or interpretation of the Plan to the substantive law of another jurisdiction. Claims or disputes under this Policy are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the federal or state courts of North Carolina.

Administration

The Board has delegated the administration of this Policy to the Committee. The Committee is responsible for monitoring the application of this Policy with respect to all Executive Officers. The Committee shall have the sole authority to review, interpret, construe, and implement the provisions of this Policy and to delegate to one or more Executive Officers and/or employees certain administrative

and record-keeping responsibilities, as appropriate, with respect to the implementation of this Policy; provided, however, that no such action shall contravene the federal securities laws or Nasdaq rules. Any determinations of the Board or the Committee under this Policy shall be binding on the applicable individual.

The Board may amend, modify, or change this Policy, as well as any related rules and procedures, at any time and from time to time as it may determine, in its sole discretion, is necessary or appropriate.