

TORONTO--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Hudson's Bay Company ("HBC" or the "Company") (TSX: [HBC](#))

reported today its results for the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013 (the "second quarter"). Consistent with the first quarter of fiscal 2013, the second quarter was characterized by strong same store sales growth at Hudson's Bay and rising e-commerce sales. These strengths were partially offset by a decline in same store sales at Lord & Taylor.

"Changes in Accounting Policies Including Initial Adoption."

Second Quarter Highlights (13-week period ended August 3, 2013)

- Consolidated sales of \$947.7 million, a 3.9% increase compared to the second quarter of 2012.

- Same store sales:

- Consolidated same store sales grew 3.5%, or 3.0% on a constant currency basis.

- Hudson's Bay same store sales grew 6.2%.

- Lord & Taylor same store sales declined 1.2% on a U.S. dollar basis.

- E-commerce sales were \$37.3 million, an increase of 56.1% compared to the second quarter of 2012.

- Normalized EBITDA was \$58.0 million, a decrease of \$0.9 million compared to the second quarter of 2012.

- Normalized net earnings were \$0.03 per share, compared to a loss of \$0.02 per share in the second quarter of 2012.

- On July 29, 2013, the Company and Saks Incorporated ("Saks") announced that they entered into a definitive merger agreement (the "Merger Agreement") whereby the Company agreed to acquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of Saks in an all-cash transaction valued at approximately U.S. \$2.9 billion, including debt (the "Acquisition").

- Subsequent to the end of the second quarter, on August 20, 2013, the Company announced that it had entered into an underwriting agreement with a syndicate of underwriters to sell 16,050,000 subscription receipts (the "Subscription Receipts") at a price of \$17.15 per Subscription Receipt, for aggregate gross proceeds of \$275.3 million.

The Company will use the proceeds from the Subscription Receipts offering to finance

a portion of the Acquisition.

- On August 30, 2013 the Company announced that it has been notified of the early termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended ("HSR Act") applicable to the Acquisition.

- On September 6, 2013, the "go-shop" period outlined in the Merger Agreement expired. Saks is now subject to customary "no-shop" provisions which are outlined in the Merger Agreement.

- A dividend of \$0.09375 per common share of the Company ("Common Share") was declared, payable on October 15, 2013 to shareholders of record on September 30, 2013. Subsequent to the closing of the Acquisition, the Company expects to reduce its quarterly dividend to \$0.05 per share to accelerate deleveraging of debt in the short-term.

"Hudson's Bay continues to demonstrate industry-leading sales growth," stated Richard Baker, HBC's Governor and Chief Executive Officer. "This performance has been driven by a continued focus on our stated strategic initiatives. We are seeing strong performance from stores and departments that have recently received capital investments. We are also pleased by the continued growth of our e-commerce sales, which accelerated in the second quarter and are up approximately 45% year-to-date following our re-launch of both banner websites. Our online business was a key factor in our results, and reflects our increased investment in this component of our business. We are confident that our inventory is well-positioned for the Fall season and expect stronger financial performance from Lord & Taylor and the overall business in the back half of the year."

Financial Results

Throughout this news release, the terms "Normalized EBITDA" and "Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) - Continuing Operations" have been used to refer to financial results that have been adjusted to exclude certain non-recurring items and charges. For a full explanation of the Company's use of non-IFRS measures, please refer to Note 1 of the Summary Consolidated Financial Information section of this news release. For further discussion of the Company's financial and operating results, please refer to our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (the "MD&A").

13-week period ended August 3, 2013

All comparative figures below and in the "Highlights" section are for the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013 compared to the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012.

Retail sales were \$947.7 million for the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013, an increase of \$35.8 million, or 3.9%, from \$911.9 million for the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012. Consolidated same store sales grew by 3.5% (3.0% excluding the impact of foreign exchange). Hudson's Bay same store stores grew 6.2%, and same store sales at Lord & Taylor declined 1.2% excluding the impact of foreign exchange.

Sales at Hudson's Bay were driven by strong performance of ladies' and men's apparel, ladies' shoes, handbags and accessories, the continued growth of e-commerce and our five Topshop/Topman stores. Sales growth was particularly strong at recently renovated locations, including our Vancouver Flagship store. Sales at Lord & Taylor were impacted by lower customer traffic compared to the second quarter of 2012. Relative strength in men's apparel and shoes, handbags and watches and the continued growth of e-commerce was offset by underperformance in ladies' apparel and other seasonal merchandise. Reflecting the Company's strategic focus on growing its e-commerce channel, online sales once again contributed strongly to sales growth in the quarter, rising to \$37.3 million, an increase of 56.1% when compared to the second quarter of 2012.

Gross profit was \$368.1 million, or 38.8% of retail sales, for the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013, compared to \$364.6 million, or 40.0% of retail sales, for the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012. Both Hudson's Bay and Lord & Taylor experienced gross margin rate deterioration caused by higher markdowns from liquidating seasonal inventories.

Selling, General & Administrative Expenses ("SG&A") were \$359.6 million, or 37.9% of retail sales, for the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013, compared to \$345.5 million, or 37.9% of retail sales, for the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012. Adjusting for non-recurring expenses of \$9.2 million in both periods, SG&A as a percentage of retail sales would have been 37.0% and 36.9%, respectively. The dollar increase in SG&A was primarily driven by four factors: increased depreciation and amortization costs related to capital investments including investments in our online/omni-channel platform, an increase in non-cash share-based compensation, an increase in costs associated with our strategic initiatives (including Topshop/Topman) and a decreased return from credit operations related to the wind down of Zellers. Expense reductions of \$7.5 million realized as a result of rightsizing our corporate infrastructure due to the wind down of Zellers offset this increase.

Normalized EBITDA was \$58.0 million, or 6.1% of sales, in the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013, compared to \$58.9 million, or 6.5% of sales, in the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012, a decrease of \$0.9 million or 40 basis points as a percentage of retail sales.

Finance costs were \$76.9 million for the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013 compared to \$24.9 million for the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012, an increase of \$52.0 million. This increase is driven by non-cash expenses of \$66.4 million, \$59.9 million of which is attributed to the pending Acquisition, and \$5.8 related to deferred financing charges written off in relation to the current quarter re-financings. In connection with the Acquisition, we have issued and plan to issue warrants related to the equity commitments we received from an entity affiliated with Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan and a fund advised by West Face Capital Inc. Due to the variability of the Common Share issue price and certain other features including potential price protection provisions, the equity commitments have been recognized as forward contracts ("Equity Commitment Forwards") that are accounted for as derivative financial instruments. The non-cash charges associated with the warrants and Equity Commitment Forwards will fluctuate with changes in the Common Share price and other factors, as they require mark-to-market adjustments each reporting period. For the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013, we have recorded as finance costs the mark-to-market valuation adjustment of these warrants and Equity Commitment Forwards based upon their end of period valuations. Offsetting these non-cash Acquisition-related increases are lower average outstanding loans and borrowings as well as favourable loan terms from multiple re-financings in Fiscal 2012 and 2013.

Normalized net earnings for the 13-week period ended August 3, 2013 were \$3.9 million, compared to a normalized net loss of \$2.0 million in the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012. Normalized net earnings per share were \$0.03 in the second quarter, compared to a normalized net loss of \$0.02 per share in the 13-week period ended July 28, 2012.

26-week period ended August 3, 2013

All comparative figures below are for the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013 compared to the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012.

Retail sales were \$1,831.7 million for the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013, an increase of \$71.6 million, or 4.1%, from \$1,760.1 million for the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012. Consolidated same store sales increased by 3.8% (3.1% excluding the impact of foreign exchange). Hudson's Bay same store stores grew 6.9%, and same store sales at Lord & Taylor declined 1.3% excluding the impact of foreign exchange.

Sales at Hudson's Bay were driven by strong performance of ladies' and men's apparel, ladies' shoes, handbags and accessories, the continued growth of e-commerce and our five Topshop/Topman stores. Sales at Lord & Taylor were impacted by lower customer traffic compared to the same period in 2012. Relative strength in men's apparel, handbags and watches and the continued growth of e-commerce were offset by underperformance of ladies' apparel and shoes. E-commerce sales grew to \$68.4 million, an increase of 44.6% compared to the twenty-six weeks ended July 28, 2012.

Gross profit for the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013 was \$724.3 million, or 39.5% of retail sales, compared to \$705.7 million, or 40.1% of retail sales, for the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012. Margin rate deterioration at both Hudson's Bay and Lord & Taylor was caused by higher markdowns from liquidating seasonal inventories.

SG&A was \$731.3 million, or 39.9% of retail sales, for the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013 compared to \$726.8 million, or 41.3% of retail sales, for the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012. Adjusting for non-recurring expenses of \$17.2 million for the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013 and \$45.6 million for the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012, SG&A as a percentage of retail sales would have been 39.0% and 38.7%, respectively. The dollar increase in SG&A was primarily driven by four factors: increased depreciation and amortization costs related to capital investments including investments in our online/omni-channel platform, an increase in non-cash share-based compensation, an increase in costs associated with our strategic initiatives (including Topshop/Topman) and a decreased return from credit operations related to the wind down of Zellers. Expense reductions of \$16.5 million realized as a result of rightsizing our corporate infrastructure due to the wind down of Zellers offset this increase.

Normalized EBITDA was \$89.0 million, or 4.9% of retail sales, in the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013 compared to \$85.0 million, or 4.8% of retail sales, in the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012, an increase of \$4.0 million, or 10 basis points as a percentage of retail sales.

Finance costs were \$89.0 million for the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013 compared to \$49.7 million for the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012, an increase of \$39.3 million. This increase is driven by non-cash expenses of \$67.6 million, \$59.9 million of which is attributed to the pending Acquisition, and \$5.8 related to deferred financing charges written off in relation to the current quarter re-financings. As discussed above, we have recorded as finance costs the mark-to-market valuation adjustment of Acquisition-related warrants and Equity Commitment Forwards based upon their end of period valuations. Offsetting these non-cash Acquisition-related increases are lower average outstanding loans and borrowings as well as favourable loan terms from multiple re-financings in Fiscal 2012 and 2013.

Normalized net loss from continuing operations was \$10.4 million in the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013, compared to a normalized net loss of \$25.2 million in the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012. Normalized net loss per share was \$0.09 in the 26-week period ended August 3, 2013, compared to a normalized net loss per share of \$0.24 in the 26-week period ended July 28, 2012.

Acquisition of Saks

On July 29, 2013, HBC and Saks announced that they had entered into the Merger Agreement whereby HBC will acquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of Saks in an all-cash transaction valued at approximately U.S.\$2.9 billion, including debt. The transaction has been approved by each company's board of directors and is expected to close before the end of the calendar year, subject to approval by Saks shareholders and other customary closing conditions.

The Acquisition will bring together three of the retail industry's most iconic brands—Hudson's Bay, Lord & Taylor and Saks Fifth Avenue—to create a leading North American retailer addressing a broad consumer spectrum across the luxury, mid-tier and outlet retail sectors. The combined company will operate 321 stores, including 179 full-line department stores, 73 outlet stores and 69 home stores in prime retail locations throughout the U.S. and Canada, along with three e-commerce sites. The combined company would have generated pro forma sales and normalized EBITDA in fiscal 2012 of approximately \$7.2 billion and \$600 million, respectively, before any synergies. The Company expects to achieve \$100 million of annual synergies within three years.

Subsequent Events

On August 20, 2013 the Company announced that it had entered into an underwriting agreement with a syndicate of underwriters to sell 16,050,000 Subscription Receipts at a price of \$17.15 per Subscription Receipt, for aggregate gross proceeds of \$275.3 million (the "Offering"). The Company also granted the underwriters an over-allotment option to purchase up to an additional 1,605,000 Subscription Receipts for additional gross proceeds of up to \$27.5 million. The Company will use the proceeds from the Offering to finance a portion of the consideration in connection with the Acquisition. The Company announced the closing of the Offering on September 10, 2013.

On August 30, 2013 the Company announced that it has been notified by the Premerger Notification Office of the U.S. Federal Trade Commission of the early termination of the waiting period under the HSR Act, thereby satisfying such closing condition in the Merger Agreement.

The Merger Agreement contains a 40-day "go-shop" period during which Saks was permitted to solicit alternative proposals from third parties. The Merger Agreement provides that within three business days of the end of the "go-shop" period, Saks will provide the Company with a list of "Excluded Parties," which means any party that submitted a written proposal during the "go-shop" period that the Saks Board of Directors determined either constitutes or could reasonably be expected to constitute a superior proposal. The "go-shop" period expired on September 6, 2013. On September 10, 2013, Saks announced that no party has been designated as an "Excluded Party." Saks is now subject to customary "no-shop" provisions which are outlined in the merger agreement. The Merger Agreement provides the Company certain information and matching rights in connection with other third party proposals.

Quarterly Dividend

The Company announced that its Board of Directors has approved a quarterly dividend for holders of Common Shares in the amount of \$0.09375 per Common Share. The dividend will be paid on October 15, 2013 to shareholders of record at the close of business on September 30, 2013 and is designated as an "eligible dividend" for Canadian tax purposes. Subject to completion of the Acquisition, holders of Subscription Receipts will be entitled to receive, among other things and without payment of additional

consideration or further action, payment in the amount of \$0.09375 per Subscription Receipt.

Conference Call to Discuss Results

Richard Baker, Governor and Chief Executive Officer, and Michael Culhane, Chief Financial Officer, will discuss the quarter's financial results during a conference call on September 12, 2013 at 8:30 am EDT.

The conference call will be accessible by calling the participant operator assisted toll-free dial-in number (877) 852-2926 or international dial-in number (253) 237-1123. A live webcast of the conference call will be accessible on HBC's website at: <http://investor.hbc.com/events.cfm>

The audio instant replay will be available via this link until October 12, 2013.

Unaudited Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis

The Company's unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the thirteen and twenty-six weeks ended August 3, 2013 and the Management's Discussion and Analysis thereon will be available under the Company's profile on SEDAR at www.sedar.com

Summary Consolidated Financial Information

The following tables set out summary unaudited consolidated financial information and supplemental information for the periods indicated. The summary financial information set out below has been derived from unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS for the thirteen week and twenty-six week periods ended August 3, 2013. The financial information presented has been prepared on a basis consistent with our audited consolidated financial statements for Fiscal 2012 except

for the new accounting standards described in Note 2 of the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements. In the opinion of our management, such unaudited financial data reflects all adjustments, consisting of normal and recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of the results for those periods. The results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for a full year or any future period.

13-week period ended

(millions of Canadian dollars except per share amounts)

August 3, 2013

(restated (7)) **July 28, 2012**

August 3, 2013

(restated (7)) **July 28, 2012**

\$

%

Earnings Results

Retail sales	947.7	100.0%
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Cost of sales	(579.6)	(61.2%)
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Gross profit	368.1	38.8%
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SG&A	(359.6)	(37.9%)
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Operating income (loss)	8.5	0.9%
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Total interest expense, net

(17.0)	(1.8%)	(24.9)
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Acquisition-related costs	(59.9)	(6.3%)
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Finance costs	(76.9)	(8.1%)
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Loss before income tax	(68.4)	(7.2%)
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Income tax benefit	1.4	0.2%
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Net loss for the period — continuing operations	(67.0)	
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(7.0)

Net (loss) earnings for the period — discontinued operations, net of tax		
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(15.3)

25.3

(74.8)

(57.4)

Net (loss) earnings for the period	(82.3)	22.2
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Net (Loss) Earnings per⁽²⁾ Common Share — Basic and Diluted

Continuing operations	(0.56)	(0.03)
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Discontinued operations	(0.13)	0.24
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(0.69)	0.21
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Weighted average Common Shares outstanding — basic and diluted	(millions)
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120.0

104.7

120.0

104.7

Supplemental Information – Continuing Operations

EBITDA (1) 48.8

5.1

Normalized EBITDA 58.0

6.1

Normalized net earnings (loss) for the period 3.9

0.4

Normalized net earnings (loss) per Common Share — basic and diluted

0.03

(0.02)

(0.09)

(0.24)

Declared dividend⁽⁸⁾ per Common Share

0.09375

Same Store Sales Percentage Change

Continuing operations

3.5%

3.9%

3.8%

Continuing operations (excluding impact of foreign exchange)

3.0%

2.0%

3.1%

Hudson's Bay

6.2%

3.2%

6.9%

Lord & Taylor ⁽⁵⁾

(1.2%)

1.5%

(1.3%)

Store Information

Store count ⁽⁶⁾

Hudson's Bay

90

91

Lord & Taylor

48

48

Home Outfitters

69

69

Total square footage ('000)

Hudson's Bay

16,118

16,358

Lord & Taylor

6,710

6,710

Home Outfitters

2,515

2,515

(restated)

Balance Sheet

August 3, 2013

\$

Cash

26.3

Trade and other receivables

62.2

Inventories	1,011.1
Total current assets	1,221.1
Property, plant and equipment	1,401.1
Total assets	3,122.1
Total current liabilities	1,311.1
Loans and borrowings (including current portion)	1,101.1
Shareholders' equity	856.1

Notes:

- (1) See tables below for a reconciliation of
- (2) All references to Common Shares and per Common Share are
- (3) Effective as of the Company's initial public offering ("IPO"), the
- (4) The Company calculates same store sales on a year-over-year
- (5) Same store sales of Lord & Taylor are calculated in U.S. dollars
- (6) Hudson's Bay operates one Hudson's Bay Outlet and three Z
- (7) Certain previously reported figures have been restated due to

Depreciation and amortization	31.3	23.8
Impairment and other non-cash expenses		0.2
Share based compensation	1.9	-
EBITDA	48.8	49.9
Normalizing adjustments – acquisition related expenses	2.5	-
Normalizing adjustments – restructuring and other	6.7	9.0
Normalized EBITDA	58.0	58.9

Note:

(1)

Certain previously reported figures have

The following table shows the reconciliation of Net Loss – Continuing Operations to Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) – Continuing Operations.

13-week period ended

(millions of Canadian dollars)	August 3, 2013	(restated)	(1)
July 28, 2012	August 3, 2013	(restated)	(1)
July 28, 2012	August 3, 2013	(restated)	(1)
	\$	\$	\$
Net Loss for the Period – Continuing Operations	(67.0)	(3.1)	
Normalization adjustments			
Acquisition-related finance costs and expenses	0.5	-	
Restructuring and other, net of tax	5.0	5.5	
Write-off of deferred financing costs, net of tax	0.5	-	
Tax related adjustments	-	(4.4)	
Total normalizing adjustments	70.9	1.1	
Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) for the Period – Continuing Operations			

3.9

(2.0)

(10.4)

(25.2)

Note:

(1)

Certain previously reported figures ha

EBITDA is a non-IFRS measure that we use to assess our operating performance. EBITDA is defined as net earnings before interest expense, income tax, share based compensation expense, depreciation and amortization expense, impairment and other non-cash expenses and pension expense (non-cash). The Company's defined benefit pension plan is currently over-funded, and as a result pension expense is adjusted as management does not expect to make any payments in the foreseeable future. Management also adjusts for non-cash share-based compensation expense.

Normalized EBITDA is defined as EBITDA adjusted to exclude: (i) business and organization restructuring/realignment charges; (ii) merger/acquisition costs and expenses; and (iii) normalizing adjustments, if any, related to transactions that are not associated with day-to-day operations. Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) – Continuing Operations is defined as net earnings (loss) adjusted to exclude: (i) business and organization

restructuring/realignment charges; (ii) merger/acquisition costs and expenses; and (iii) normalizing adjustments, if any, related to transactions that are not associated with day-to-day operations. We have included Normalized EBITDA and Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) – Continuing Operations to provide investors with supplemental measures of our operating performance. We believe Normalized EBITDA and Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) – Continuing Operations are important supplemental measures of operating performance because they eliminate items that have less bearing on our operating performance and thus highlight trends in our core business that may not otherwise be apparent when relying solely on IFRS financial measures. We also believe that securities analysts, investors and other interested parties frequently use EBITDA, Normalized EBITDA, and Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) – Continuing Operations in the evaluation of issuers, many of which present similar metrics when reporting their results. Our management also uses Normalized EBITDA in order to facilitate operating performance comparisons from period to period, prepare annual operating budgets and assess our ability to meet our future debt service, capital expenditure and working capital requirements and our ability to pay dividends on our shares. As other companies may calculate EBITDA, Normalized EBITDA, or Normalized Net Earnings (Loss) – Continuing Operations differently than we do, these metrics are not comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.

About Hudson's Bay Company

HBC, founded in 1670, is North America's longest continually operated company. In Canada, HBC operates Hudson's Bay, Canada's largest department store with 90 locations, unsurpassed in its fashion, beauty, home and accessory designers and brands, as well as thebay.com. HBC also operates Home Outfitters, Canada's largest home specialty superstore with 69 locations across the country. In the United States, HBC operates Lord & Taylor, a department store with 48 full-line store locations throughout the northeastern United States and in two major cities in the Midwest, and lordandtaylor.com.

With approximately 29,000 Associates in Canada and the U.S., Hudson's Bay Company banners provide stylish, quality merchandise at great value, with a dedicated focus on service excellence. Hudson's Bay Company trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol "HBC".

Forward-Looking Statements

Information in this press release that is not current or historical factual information may

constitute forward-looking information, including future-oriented financial information and financial outlooks, within the meaning of securities laws. This information is based on certain assumptions regarding expected growth, results of operations, performance, and business prospects and opportunities. While the Company considers these assumptions to be reasonable, based on information currently available, they may prove to be incorrect. Forward-looking information is subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from what the Company currently expects. These risks, uncertainties and other factors include, but are not limited to: credit, market, currency, operational, liquidity and funding risks, including changes in economic conditions, interest rates or tax rates, the timing and market acceptance of future products, competition in the Company's markets, the growth of certain business categories and market segments and the willingness of customers to shop at the Company's stores, the Company's margins and sales and those of the Company's competitors, the Company's reliance on customers, risks and uncertainties relating to information management, technology, supply chain, product safety, changes in law, regulations, competition, seasonality, commodity price and business disruption, the Company's relationships with suppliers and manufacturers, changes to existing accounting pronouncements, the ability of the Company to successfully implement its strategic initiatives, changes in consumer spending, managing our portfolio of brands and our merchandising mix, seasonal weather patterns, economic, social, and political instability in jurisdictions where suppliers are located, increased shipping costs, potential transportation delays and interruptions, the risk of damage to the reputation of brands promoted by the Company and the cost of store network expansion and retrofits, compliance costs associated with environmental laws and regulations, fluctuations in currency and exchange rates, commodity prices, the Company's ability to maintain good relations with its employees, changes in the law or regulations regarding the environment or other environmental liabilities, the Company's capital structure, funding strategy, cost management programs and share price, the Company's ability to integrate acquisitions and the Company's ability to protect its intellectual property.

For more information on these risks, uncertainties and other factors the reader should refer to the Company's filings with the securities regulatory authorities, including the Company's annual information form dated April 30, 2013, which is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com

In addition, please refer to the Risk Factors in the Short Form Prospectus dated August 30, 2013 for specific risks related to the Acquisition, the Offering and the post-Acquisition business and operations of the Company and Saks. To the extent any forward-looking information in this press release constitutes future-oriented financial information or financial outlooks, within the meaning of securities laws, such information is being provided to demonstrate the potential of the Company and readers are cautioned that this information may not be appropriate for any other purpose. Future-oriented financial information and financial outlooks, as with forward-looking information generally, are based on assumptions and subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors. Actual results may differ materially from what the Company currently expects. Other than as required

under securities laws, the Company does not undertake to update any forward-looking information at any particular time. The reader should not place undue importance on forward-looking information and should not rely upon this information as of any other date. All forward-looking information contained in this press release is expressly qualified in its entirety by this cautionary statement.

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