

LAKELAND INDUSTRIES INC  
Form 10-K  
May 21, 2013

**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 **January 31, 2013**

OR

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: 0-15535

**LAKELAND INDUSTRIES, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

<b>Delaware</b>	<b>13-3115216</b>
<b>(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)</b>	<b>(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)</b>
<b>701 Koehler Ave., Suite 7, Ronkonkoma, NY</b>	<b>11779</b>
<b>(Address of Principal Executive Offices)</b>	<b>(Zip Code)</b>

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code) (631) 981-9700**

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

**Common Stock \$0.01 Par Value**

**(Title of Class)**

**Name of Exchange on which registered - NASDAQ**

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

**Not Applicable**

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 Exchange 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 and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted 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 and post such files).

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this Chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a nonaccelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Nonaccelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12-b-2 of the Exchange Act)

Yes  No

As of July 31, 2012, the aggregate market value of the registrant's common stock held by nonaffiliates of the registrant was \$31,302,417 based on the closing price of the common stock as reported on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System National Market System.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding at May 16, 2013
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share	5,353,176

#### **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Security Exchange Act of 1934, are incorporated by reference into Part III (Items 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14).

**LAKELAND INDUSTRIES, INC.**

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*This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements that are made pursuant to the Safe Harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions as described from time to time in registration statements, annual reports and other periodic reports and filings of the Company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, which address the Company's expectations of sources of capital or which express the Company's expectation for the future with respect to financial performance or operating strategies, can be identified as forward-looking statements. As a result, there can be no assurance that the Company's future results will not be materially different from those described herein as "believed," "anticipated," "estimated" or "expected," "may," "will" or "should" or other similar words which reflect the current views of the Company with respect to future events. We caution readers that these forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. The Company hereby expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in the Company's expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which such statement is based.*

## PART I

Lakeland Industries, Inc. (the "Company" or "Lakeland," "we," "our," or "us") was incorporated in the State of Delaware in 1986. Our executive office is located at 701 Koehler Avenue, Suite 7, Ronkonkoma, New York 11779, and our telephone number is (631) 981-9700. Our website is located at [www.lakeland.com](http://www.lakeland.com). Information contained on our website is not part of this report.

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### Overview

We manufacture and sell a comprehensive line of safety garments and accessories for the industrial protective clothing market. Our products are sold by our in-house customer service group, our regional sales managers and independent sales representatives to a network of over 1,200 North American safety and mill supply distributors. These distributors in turn supply end user industrial customers, such as integrated oil, chemical/petrochemical, utilities, automobile, steel, glass, construction, smelting, munition plants, janitorial, pharmaceutical, mortuaries and high technology electronics manufacturers, as well as scientific and medical laboratories. In addition, we supply federal, state and local governmental agencies and departments, such as fire and law enforcement, airport crash rescue units, the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security and the Centers for Disease Control. However, internationally sales are to a mixture of end users directly and industrial distributors depending on the particular country market. Sales are made to more than 40 foreign countries, but are primarily in Brazil, China, European Community, Canada, Southeast Asia, Australia, Chile and Argentina. In FY13, we had net sales from continuing operations of \$95.1 million and \$96.3 million in FY12. For purposes of this Form 10-K, FY refers to a fiscal year ended January 31; for example, FY13 refers to the fiscal year ended January 31, 2013.

FY13 was a challenging year for management. The Company lost an officer contract dispute where we had substantial documentary evidence that the officer in question had breached his employment contract with Lakeland. Nonetheless, a Brazilian Arbitration Panel awarded this officer a \$12.5 million judgment against Lakeland. According to our local

counsel, arbitration decisions in Brazil are very difficult to successfully appeal. Subsequently, Lakeland successfully negotiated the judgment down to \$8.5 million of which \$6.0 million was payable over six years with no interest. As of April 1, 2013, the remaining liability associated with this arbitration judgment is \$5.75 million and is payable at \$250,000 a quarter over the next 5 ¾ years, with no interest. In addition, the Brazilian government devalued its currency by 10% in 2012 which greatly reduced our margins in Brazil on imported fabrics.

Declining sales in FY13 led to quarterly losses in Brazil, which led to the necessity of writing off all goodwill, certain intangibles, and deferred tax assets of Brazil. These factors led to a default on the TD Bank loan, which in turn created substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. Thus, we engaged with new lenders and considered other options, such as the sale of the company, the sale of assets which has occurred, and a refinance of the TD Bank loan. In May 2013, the Company accepted a commitment letter from a bank for a Senior Credit Facility subject to certain terms and conditions and is currently working towards closing this financing. However, no assurance can be given that this transaction or any other transaction will be consummated. We will continue pursuing all options to maximize stockholder value.

As a result of the default under the TD Bank loan, and the risk that such loan could be called as immediately due and payable, we were unable to conclude that we would have the capital to continue our operations through January 31, 2014. Successful completion of the proposed new financing, in management's opinion, would relieve this condition.

We have operated manufacturing facilities in Mexico since 1995, in China since 1996, in India since 2007 (being sold) and in Brazil since 2008 (being restructured). Beginning in 1995, we moved the labor intensive sewing operation for our limited use/disposable protective clothing lines to these facilities. Our facilities and capabilities in China and Mexico allow access to a less expensive labor pool than is available in the United States and permit us to purchase certain raw materials at a lower cost than are available domestically. As we have increasingly moved production of our products to our facilities in Mexico and China, we have experienced improvements in the profit margins for these products. We completed the moving of production of our reusable woven garments and gloves to these facilities in fiscal 2010. As a result, we have experienced cost improvements for these particular product lines.

We are exposed to changes in foreign currency exchange rates as a result of our purchases and sales in other countries. To manage the volatility relating to foreign currency exchange rates, we seek to limit, to the extent possible, our non-US dollar denominated purchases and sales.

In connection with our operations in China, we purchase a significant amount of products from outside of the United States. However, our purchases in China are primarily made in Chinese Yuan, the value of which had been largely pegged to the US dollar for the last decade. However, the Chinese Yuan has been decoupled from the US Dollar and allowed to float by the Chinese government and, therefore, we have been exposed to additional foreign exchange rate risk on our Chinese raw material and component purchases.

Our primary risk from foreign currency exchange rate changes is presently related to non-US dollar denominated sales in Brazil, Canada and Europe and, to a smaller extent, in other South American countries and dollar-denominated payables in Brazil. Our sales to customers in Brazil are denominated in Brazilian Reals, in Canada in Canadian dollars and in Europe in Euros and British pounds. If the value of the US dollar increases relative to the Canadian dollar, the Real, the Pound or the Euro, then our net sales could decrease as our products would be more expensive to these international customers because of changes in rate of exchange. The largest supplier of raw materials to Brazil is an American company, and these payables are denominated in US dollars. If the Brazilian Real weakened against the US dollar, it would make our costs higher and trigger a loss on foreign exchange on the payables. Our sales from China are denominated in the Chinese Yuan, US dollar and Euros;. We did experience some losses between the Chinese Yuan, the Euro and US dollars in FY12, but we have since stepped up our hedging program to include this risk. We manage the foreign currency risk through the use of rolling 90-day forward contracts against the Canadian dollar and Euros and through longer term cash flow hedges in China against the USD and Euro. We also do limited short-term hedging of the Brazilian Real. We do not hedge other currencies at this time. As non-US dollar denominated international purchases and sales grow, exposure to volatility in exchange rates could have a material adverse impact on our financial results. The only significant unhedged foreign exchange exposure we have is the Brazilian Real. Other unhedged currency exposure is not significant. If the Brazilian exchange rates varied either way by +/- 10% it could cause a gain/loss to P&L of \$212,000.

Our major product categories and their applications are described below:

*Limited Use/Disposable Protective Clothing.* We manufacture a complete line of limited use/disposable protective garments offered in coveralls, lab coats, shirts, pants, hoods, aprons, sleeves and smocks. These garments are made from several nonwoven fabrics, such as Micromax<sup>®</sup>, Micromax NS, HBF<sup>®</sup>, SafeGard<sup>®</sup> SMS<sup>®</sup>, Pyrolon XT<sup>®</sup>, Plus 2<sup>®</sup>, RyTex<sup>®</sup>, Zonegard<sup>®</sup> and ChemMax<sup>®</sup> 1 and 2. These garments provide protection from low-risk contaminants or irritants, such as chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers, paint, grease and dust, and from limited exposure to hazardous waste and toxic chemicals, including acids, asbestos, lead and hydro-carbons (or PCBs) that pose health risks after exposure for long periods of time. Additional applications include protection from viruses and bacteria, such as AIDS, streptococcus, SARS and hepatitis, at international hospitals, clinics and emergency rescue sites and use in clean room environments to prevent human contamination in the manufacturing processes.

*High-End Chemical Protective Suits.* We manufacture heavy duty chemical suits made from our Pyrolon® CRFR and ChemMax® 3, 4 and Interceptor product lines. These suits are worn by individuals on hazardous material teams to provide protection from powerful, highly concentrated and hazardous or potentially lethal chemical and biological toxins, such as toxic wastes at Super Fund sites, toxic chemical spills or biological discharges, chemical or biological warfare weapons (such as sarin gas, anthrax or ricin), and hazardous chemicals and petro-chemicals present during the cleaning of refineries and nuclear facilities. These suits can be used in conjunction with a fire protective shell that we manufacture to protect the user from both chemical and flash fire hazards. Homeland Security measures and government funding of personal protective equipment for first responders to terrorist threats or attack we believe will result in increased demand for our high-end chemical suits, and we believe a reasonable demand for these suits will continue in the future as annual state and local Bioterrorism grants are spent.

*Fire Fighting and Heat Protective Apparel.* We manufacture both domestically and internationally an extensive line of firefighting and heat protective apparel for use by fire fighters and other individuals that work in extreme heat environments. Our firefighting apparel is sold to local municipalities and industrial firefighting teams. Our heat protective aluminized fire suits are manufactured from Nomex®, a fire and heat resistant material, and Kevlar®, a cut and heat resistant, high-strength, lightweight, flexible and durable fiber produced by DuPont and woven by Tencate, Springs and other fabric manufacturers. This apparel is also used for maintenance of extreme high temperature equipment, such as coke ovens, kilns, glass furnaces, refinery installations and smelting plants, as well as for military and airport crash and rescue teams.

*Reusable Woven Garments.* We manufacture a line of reusable and washable woven garments that complement our firefighting and heat protective apparel offerings and provide alternatives to our limited use/disposable protective clothing lines. Product lines include electrostatic dissipative apparel used in the pharmaceutical and automotive industries for control of static electricity in the manufacturing process, clean room apparel to prevent human contamination in the manufacturing processes, flame resistant Nomex® and fire resistant (FR) cotton coveralls used in chemical and petroleum plants and for wildland firefighting, and extrication suits for police and ambulance workers.

*High Visibility Clothing.* We manufacture a line of high visibility clothing. This line includes flame retardant and reflective garments for the Fire Industry, Nomex clothing for utilities and high visibility reflective outer wear for industrial uniforms and State Departments of Transportation.

*Glove and Sleeves.* We manufacture gloves and arm guards from Kevlar® and Spectra® cut resistant fibers made by DuPont, Honeywell and similar yarns made by other manufacturers, respectively, as well as engineered composite yarns and our Microgard antimicrobial yarns for food service markets. These gloves are used primarily in the automotive, glass, metal fabrication and food service industries to protect the wearer's hands and arms from lacerations and heat without sacrificing manual dexterity or comfort.



We maintain manufacturing facilities in Alabama, Mexico, Brazil, China and Pennsylvania, where our products are designed, manufactured and sold. We also have relationships with sewing subcontractors in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and China, which we can utilize for unexpected production requirement. Our international facilities allow us to take advantage of favorable labor and component costs, thereby increasing our profit margins on products manufactured in these facilities. These facilities also allow us to sell in those domestic markets, thereby avoiding high import tariffs in countries like Argentina, Brazil and China. The Company decided to discontinue operations in its India glove manufacturing facility and put the assets and business up for sale during FY12. The Company decided to sell this division primarily because it has incurred significant operating losses since inception, and the Company has been unsuccessful in developing sufficient sales to reach at least break even.

#### Industry Overview

The industrial work clothing market includes our limited use/disposable protective or safety clothing, our high-end chemical protective suits, our firefighting and heat protective apparel, gloves and our reusable woven garments.

The industrial protective safety clothing market in the United States has evolved over the past 40 years as a result of governmental regulations and requirements and commercial product development. In 1970, Congress enacted the Occupational Safety and Health Act, or OSHA, which requires employers to supply protective clothing in certain work environments. Almost two million workers in the US are subject to OSHA standards today. Certain states have also enacted worker safety laws that further supplement OSHA standards and requirements.

The advent of OSHA coincided with the development of light disposable fabrics, such as SMS (a three layered non-woven) and Polypropylene which, for the first time, allowed for the economical production of lightweight, disposable protective clothing. The attraction of disposable garments grew in the late 1970s as a result of increases in labor and material costs of producing cloth garments and the promulgation of federal, state and local safety regulations. Also, in order to comply with World Trade Organization (WTO) entry requirements, foreign countries are beginning to adopt and imitate OSHA regulations, American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Committee European de Normalization (CE) standards. Thus, these developing international markets are growing much more rapidly than the US markets where these regulations and standards have been in effect for over 40 years.

Additionally, in response to the terrorist attacks that took place on September 11, 2001, in the US, the federal government has provided for additional protective equipment funding through programs that are part of the Homeland Security initiative.

Since 2001, federal and state purchasing of industrial protective clothing and federal grants to fire departments have increased demand for industrial protective clothing to protect first responders against actual or threatened terrorist incidents. Specific events, such as British Petroleum oil spill in 2010, the tornado storms of 2011 and Super Storm Sandy in 2012, have also resulted in increased peak demand for our products.

#### International and Domestic Standards

Standards development, within both the US and global markets, continues to challenge manufacturers as the pace of change and adoption of new standards increase. Complex and changing international standards play to Lakeland's strengths when compared to smaller manufacturers.

Globally, standards for lower levels of protection are also changing rapidly. In 1996, the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) adopted a group of standards that collectively comprised the only standards available for chemical protective clothing for general industry. Because these standards established performance requirements for a wide range of chemical protective clothing, these standards have been adopted by many countries and multinational corporations outside of the European Union (EU) as minimum requirements. This is especially true in the Asian and Pacific markets where compliance with occupational health and safety standards is being driven by WTO membership. In addition to CEN, ASTM International and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) are increasing the numbers of "Memorandums of Understanding" (MOUs) they have in place with foreign countries as they vie for relevance on the international stage. Developing nations that want WTO membership must establish worker safety laws as the USA did in 1970 with its OSHA laws. This trend is driving demand for our products internationally, particularly in fast GDP growth countries, such as China, Brazil, India and Russia.

A number of developing nations are now becoming active in their own standards development based on existing international standards. However, the primary goal of their standards writing activity is not focused on worker

protection (that is provided for by the use of international standards), rather they are attempting to establish their own certification criteria that will protect their domestic markets or favor specific regional suppliers. This presents a new challenge in that now not only are we faced with multiple test methods and standards, but we have the potential for multiple certification processes. While this adds to product development and sales expenses, the additional cost is only incremental. The real challenge is in navigating the certification process itself. Lakeland, by virtue of its international manufacturing and sales operations, is in a unique position to capitalize on this new dynamic.

With the 2010 publication of ANSI/ISEA (International Safety Equipment Association) 103, there are now three standards that apply to chemical protective clothing for industrial applications globally. There are a number of reasons why we believe that none of the three will ever achieve global dominance even among countries that aggressively seek to comply with WTO agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT). This situation favors protective clothing suppliers that manufacture their own garments as they are in the best position to optimize the long certification times and expenses for manufacturing. With manufacturing in multiple countries around the world and a uniquely consolidated international sales force, Lakeland is well positioned to take advantage of this development in international standards.

#### Business Strategy

Key elements of our strategy include:

*Increase International Sales Opportunities.* In the past, we aggressively increased our penetration of the international markets for our product lines. Starting in FY07 and through FY08, we opened sales offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Guangzhou and Weifang, China; Santiago, Chile and Buenos Aires, Argentina and in FY11, we opened sales offices in Russia, India and Kazakhstan. Additionally, sales in our older United Kingdom operation increased 49.3% in FY13 and 27.6% in FY12. We expect our newer operations in South America, Russia and Kazakhstan to ramp up sales on a similar basis to our UK operations. We acquired Qualytextil, a Brazilian manufacturer, in FY08 and in 2013 experienced challenges related to the arbitration settlement and goodwill write down in FY13. While the challenges in Brazil have required much of our focus this year, we continue to believe in this strategy of aggressively penetrating international markets, driven by the fact that many countries have adopted legislation similar to the 1970 US OSHA in order to facilitate their entry into the WTO which has, as a requisite for entry, worker safety laws (like OSHA), social security, environmental and tax laws similar to that of the USA and Europe. These new worker safety laws have driven the demand for our products in these rapidly growing economies.

*Improve Marketing in Existing Markets.* We believe significant growth opportunities are available to us through the better positioning, marketing and enhanced cross-selling of our reusable woven protective clothing, glove and arm guards and high-end chemical suit product lines, along with our limited use/disposable lines as a bundled offering. This allows our customers one stop shopping using combined freight shipments.

*Continued Emphasized Customer Service.* We continue to offer a high level of customer service to distinguish our products and to create customer loyalty. We offer well-trained and experienced sales and support personnel, on-time delivery and accommodation of custom and rush orders. We also seek to advertise our Lakeland branded trade names and trademarks.

*Introduce New Products.* We continue our history of product development and innovation by introducing new proprietary products across all our product lines. Our innovations have included Micromax<sup>®</sup> disposable protective clothing line, our ChemMax<sup>®</sup> line of chemical protective clothing, our Despro<sup>®</sup> patented glove design, Microgard antimicrobial products for food service, our engineered composite glove products for high cut and abrasion protection, our Thermbar<sup>™</sup> glove and sleeve products for heat protection, Grapolator<sup>™</sup> sleeve lines for hand and arm cut protection and our Thermbar<sup>™</sup> Mock Twist glove for hand and arm heat protection. We own 18 patents on fabrics and production machinery and have two foreign applications in process.

In keeping with our US operation's strategic focus on the Energy sector- where we see the greatest growth potential for our products- most new products introduced in FY13 were developed in response to needs in the various key areas of the sector.

The big story in the US (and Canada) is the rejuvenation of domestic oil and gas production due to the recent technological breakthroughs of "Fracking" and directional drilling that make possible extraction from shale formations deep underground.

The resulting spike in exploration and production has already greatly increased demand for the **Fire Resistant (FR)** clothing that must be worn by workers, and the demand is expected to grow for at least the next decade. The Bakken Shale formation in North Dakota, for example, has seen approximately 8000 wells drilled since the new technologies were perfected, and the number is projected to reach as many as 50,000 over the next 20 years. Accordingly, the development of new and improved FR clothing items, along with higher performance fabrics, is a top priority, and will be for the foreseeable future.

During FY13, we introduced insulated versions of FR work clothing, including coveralls, jackets and overalls expressly designed for regions with frigid winter conditions. We also introduced lighter weight FR fabrics for the formations in Texas and other hot climates. We also expanded our line of **Chemical** suits with new jackets, coveralls and overalls made from a heavier weight of Pyrolon, our proprietary fabric that protects against both chemical and fire hazards, for better protection in oil fields and refineries. We anticipate that in FY14 will see the introduction of many more new items targeted to this critical industry.

To serve other parts of the energy sector, our **Disposables** division introduced a heavier weight SMS fabric for the nuclear services industry, and our **Glove** division a new Kevlar glove coated with latex for use in manufacturing wind turbine blades.

The other significant driver of energy-related demand growth is in the utility industry, both electric and gas, for our **Reflective** clothing division. Already a steadily growing area for Lakeland due to enhanced visibility regulations for utility workers, a new emphasis on fabrics that protect against arc flash and ignition of gases due to static charges, provides a further avenue for growth.

Accordingly, we introduced new reflective coveralls, overalls, vests, shirts and rainwear that are both FR and arc flash-rated. We also introduced new reflective vests and jackets that are not FR, but designed for use by road and transportation workers, such as utility, railroad and road construction crews, as well as emergency workers.

At the end of FY13 our **Fire** division introduced our all-new line of turnout gear designed to meet the new NFPA 2012/13 standards. We believe that the many design innovations of these new suits will garner notice and positive results for the division.

*Decrease Manufacturing Expenses by Moving Production to International Facilities.* We have additional opportunities to take advantage of our low cost production capabilities in China, Mexico and Brazil. Beginning in 1995, we successfully moved the labor intensive sewing operation for our limited use/disposable protective clothing lines to facilities in Mexico and China. Beginning January 1, 2005, pursuant to the United States World Trade Organization Treaty with China and the 1995 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the reduction in quota requirements and tariffs imposed by the US and Canada on textiles goods, such as our reusable woven garments, have made it more cost effective to move production for some of these product lines to our assembly facilities in China and Mexico. Additionally,

We continue to press our raw material and component suppliers for price reductions and better payment terms. We are sourcing more raw materials and components from our China based operations as opposed to sourcing from Europe and North America.

We are re-engineering many products to reduce the amount of raw materials used and reduce the direct labor required.

In FY13 we relocated the operations in our facility in Missouri and moved the production into our Alabama facility and to our newly expanded facility in Mexico. This move is expected to result in a significant net overhead reduction commencing in FY14.

Subsequent to year end FY13, the Company's plant in Qingdao China was closed and is in process of being sold. All production was relocated from this plant to other Lakeland facilities.

## **Our Competitive Strengths**

Our competitive strengths include:

*Industry Reputation.* We devote significant resources to creating customer loyalty by accommodating custom and rush orders and focusing on on-time delivery. Additionally, our ISO 9001 and 9002 certified facilities manufacture

high-quality products. As a result of these factors, we believe that we have an excellent reputation in the industry.

*International Manufacturing Capabilities.* We have operated our own manufacturing facilities in Mexico since 1995 and in China since 1996. Our facilities in China in FY13 totaled 437,916 sq. ft. of manufacturing, warehousing and administrative space and our facility in Mexico totaled 74,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing, warehousing and administrative space. Our facilities and capabilities in China and Mexico allow access to a less expensive labor pool than is available in the US and permits us to purchase certain raw materials at a lower cost than are available domestically.

*International Sales Offices.* We have sales offices around the world to service various major markets, a greatly expanded Toronto, Canada facility that went on line in January 2008 for the Canadian market, an expanded Newport, United Kingdom office for the European Community that went on line in late 2011 and opened sales offices in Beijing, Weifang, Guangzhou, Chongqing and Shanghai, China covering China, Australia and Southeast Asia; Santiago, Chile; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Jerez, Mexico for the South American market. In FY11 we also opened sales offices in Moscow, Russia and Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan. In FY10, we opened a sales office in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Subsequent to year end the company's plant in Qingdao China was closed and is in process of being sold. All production was relocated from this plant to other Lakeland facilities

*Comprehensive Inventory.* We have a large product offering with numerous specifications, such as size, styles and pockets, and maintain a large inventory of each in order to satisfy customer orders in a timely manner. Many of our customers traditionally make purchases of industrial