# FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS INTERNATIONAL INC

Form 10-K March 29, 2016

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

#### FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

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

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015

OR

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

Commission File No. 001-31540

# FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada 91-1922863
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 91-1922863
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

#206 – 920
Hillside Ave
Victoria, British
Columbia, 1Z8
Canada
(Address of
Principal Zip
Executive Code

Registrant's telephone number, including Area Code: (250) 477-9969

Office)

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

Title of each each exchange on which registered

Common Stock, NYSE \$0.001 par MKT value

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. o

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports 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 b No o

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 b No o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K 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. b

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

Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company b (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

As of June 30, 2015 the aggregate market value of the Company's common stock held by non-affiliates was \$17,550,237 based on the closing price for shares of the Company's common stock on the NYSE MKT for that date.

As of March 30, 2016, the Company had 11,427,991 issued and outstanding shares of common stock.

Documents incorporated by reference: None

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 ("Annual Report"), including the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include, without limitation, those statements relating to development of new products, our financial condition and our ability to increase distribution of our products. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "continue," "plans," "intends," or other similar terminology. These forward-looking stater are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what is anticipated or forecasted in these forward-looking statements due to numerous factors, including, but not limited to, our ability to generate or obtain sufficient working capital to continue our operations, changes in demand for our products, the timing of customer orders and deliveries and the impact of competitive products and pricing. In addition, such statements could be affected by general industry and market conditions and growth rates, and general domestic and international economic conditions.

Although we believe that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable and achievable, such statements involve risks and uncertainties and no assurance can be given that our actual results will be consistent with these forward-looking statements. Except as otherwise required by applicable securities laws, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, changed circumstances or any other reason, after the date of this Annual Report.

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#### PART I

#### Item 1. Description of Business

We were incorporated as Flexible Solutions Ltd., a British Columbia corporation on January 26, 1991. On May 12, 1998, we merged Flexible Solutions Ltd. into Flexible Solutions International, Inc., a Nevada corporation. In connection with this merger, we issued 7,000,000 shares of common stock to the former shareholders of Flexible Solutions Ltd. in exchange for all of the outstanding shares of Flexible Solutions Ltd.

In June 2004 we purchased 52 U.S. and 139 International patents, as well as a 56,780 sq. ft. manufacturing plant near Chicago, Illinois from the bankruptcy estate of Donlar Corporation ("Donlar") for \$6.15 million. The patents we acquired from Donlar relate to water-soluble chemicals ("TPAs") which prevent corrosion and scaling in water pipes used in the petroleum, chemical, utility and mining industries. TPAs are also used to enhance fertilizers and improve crop yields and as additives for household laundry detergents, consumer care products and pesticides.

We operate through a number of wholly-owned subsidiaries which are mentioned in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements included as part of this report. Unless otherwise indicated, all references to our business include the operations of these subsidiaries.

Our website is www.flexiblesolutions.com

**Our Products** 

#### HEATSAVR®/ECOSAVR

Our studies indicate that approximately 70% of the energy lost from a swimming pool occurs through water evaporation. HEATSAVR® is a chemical product for use in swimming pools and spas that forms a thin, transparent layer on the water's surface. The transparent layer slows the evaporation of water, allowing the water to retain a higher temperature for a longer period of time and thereby reducing the energy required to maintain the desired temperature of the water. We have received reports from our commercial customers documenting energy savings of between \$2,400 to \$6,000 per year when using HEATSAVR®.

ECOSAVR® is a patented, disposable dispenser designed for the residential pool and spa market. ECOSAVR® is made of molded plastic in the form of a ten-inch long colorful fish that is filled with enough HEATSAVR® to cover the surface of a 400 sq. ft. swimming pool for about one month. The HEATSAVR® solution inside the ECOSAVR® escapes into the water and rises to the surface to form a transparent layer on the water's surface. Once the ECOSAVR® is empty the dispenser is removed and replaced.

In outdoor pools, the HEATSAVR® also provides convenience compared to pool blankets. Pool blankets are plastic covers which are cut to the size and shape of the surface of the pool or spa. Pool blankets float on the surface and, like the HEATSAVR®, reduce energy costs by inhibiting water evaporation. However, it is often inconvenient to use conventional pool blankets because a pool blanket must be removed and stored before the pool can be used. Pool blankets do not provide any energy savings when not on the pool. Conversely, HEATSAVR® eliminates the need to install, remove and store the blanket and works 24 hours a day. In addition, the use of HEATSAVR® in an indoor pool results in even greater energy savings since indoor pool locations use energy not only to heat the pool water, but also to air condition the pool environment. By slowing the transfer of heat and water vapor from the pool to the atmosphere of the pool enclosure, less energy is required to maintain a pool at the desired temperature and there is a reduced load on the air-conditioning system.

HEATSAVR® retails for between \$250 and \$300 per four gallon case in the United States. ECOSAVR® has a suggested retail price of \$13.00 in the United States. We market our HEATSAVR® and ECOSAVR® products to homeowners with swimming pools and spas as well as operators of swimming pools and spas in hotels, motels, schools, and municipal and private recreational facilities.

We also manufacture and sell products which automatically dispense HEATSAVR® into commercial size swimming pools or spas at the rate of one ounce per 400 sq. ft. of water surface per day.

We have 18 non-exclusive distributorships in Canada and the United States for the sale of bulk HEATSAVR® (without the ECOSAVR® dispenser) and exclusive distributorships in Australia, Chile, Korea, Argentina, South Africa, Taiwan, and parts of Eastern and Western Europe. We support our distributors and seek additional market opportunities by annually attending the major pool industry trade shows in the United States. We also advertise in trade magazines and maintain a website which has information about our products.

#### **WATERSAVR®**

This product utilizes our HEATSAVR technology to reduce water evaporation in reservoirs, potable water storage tanks, livestock watering ponds, aqueducts, canals and irrigation ditches. WATERSAVR may also be used for lawn and turf care and potted and bedding plants.

WATERSAVR® is sold in granulated form and can be applied by hand, by fully automated scheduled metering, or by an automatic dispenser.

Tests have indicated that WATERSAVR®:

Reduces daily water evaporation as much as 54%
Reduces monthly water evaporation as much as 37%
Is odorless
Has no effect on invertebrates or vertebrates
Has no anticipated effect on any current drinking water treatment processes and Is biodegradable

We have one full-time employee and one part-time employee who are involved in the sales and marketing of WATERSAVR®.

TPAs (thermal polyaspartate biopolymers)

TPAs for Oilfields. TPAs are used to reduce scale and corrosion in various "topside" water systems. They are used in place of traditional phosphate and other products when biodegradability is required by environmental regulations. We have the ability to custom manufacture TPAs depending on the specific water conditions associated with any oil well.

TPAs for the Agricultural Industry. TPAs have the ability to reduce fertilizer crystallization before, during and after application and can also prevent crystal formation between fertilizer and minerals present in the soil. Once crystallized, fertilizer and soil minerals are not able to provide plant nourishment. As a result, in select conditions the use of TPAs either blended with fertilizer or applied directly to crops can increase yields significantly. TPAs are designated for crop nutrient management programs and should not be confused with crop protection and pesticides or other agricultural chemical applications. Depending on the application, TPA products are marketed under a variety of brands including Amisorb, LYNX, MAGNET, AmGro and VOLT. Markets of significance include potatoes, sugar beets, cotton, tomatoes, almonds and other high value per acre crops.

TPAs for Irrigation. The crystallization prevention ability of TPAs can also be useful in select irrigation conditions. By reducing calcium carbonate scale propagation, TPAs can prevent early plugging of drip irrigation ports, reduce maintenance costs and lengthen the life of equipment. TPAs compete with acid type scale removers, but have the advantage of a positive yield effect on the plant, as well as an easier deployment formulation with liquid fertilizers when used as part of a "fertigation" program. Our TPAs for drip irrigation scale prevention are at an early stage of commercialization and will be marketed and sold through the same channels as TPAs used by the agricultural industry.

TPAs for Detergent. In detergents, TPAs are a biodegradable substitute for poly-acrylic acid. In select markets, the use of this substitute outweighs the added cost of TPAs, which has allowed for the continued growth of this TPA product line. However, to increase penetration of this market beyond specialty detergent manufacturers, we will need to decrease the cost of this product or wait for legislative intervention regarding biodegradability of detergent components. In the meantime, we are researching various methods to reduce production costs.

TPAs for Personal Care Products. TPAs can also be used in shampoo and cosmetic products for increased hydration that improves the feel of the core product to consumers. TPA's may also be used as an additive to toothpaste with the documented effect of reducing decay bacteria adhesion to tooth enamel and presumed reduction in total decay. We do not currently sell TPAs for use in personal care products.

#### **Principal Customers**

The table below presents our revenue resulting from purchases by our major customers for the periods presented.

	Year Ended I	Year Ended December 31,	
	2015	2014	
Company A	\$4,854,764	\$4,871,939	
Company B	\$4,144,707	\$4,027,144	
Company C	\$1,421,694	\$1,317,387	

Customers with balances greater than 10% of our receivable balances as of each of the fiscal year ends presented are shown in the following table:

Year Ended 2015	December 31, 2014
\$814,848	\$1,135,336
\$281,816	\$361,025
-	\$272,752
\$202,157	-
	2015 \$814,848 \$281,816

#### Competition

# HEATSAVR® and ECOSAVRTM

Although we are aware of two other companies that manufacture products that compete with HEATSAVR® and ECOSAVR®, we believe our products are more effective and safer. We maintain fair pricing equal to or lower than our competitors and protect our intellectual property carefully. Our products are expected to maintain or increase market share in the competitive pool market.

HEATSAVR® also competes with plastic pool blanket products. However, we believe that HEATSAVR® is more effective and convenient than pool blankets.

#### WATERSAVR®

Ultimate Products (Aust) Pty Ltd. of Australia has a product called Aquatain that directly competes with WATERSAVR®. We believe our WATERSAVR® product is superior for the following reasons: it is safer, much less expensive and has much better test data. Aquatain has not expended the capital to test for environmental effects on insects and other aquatic life whereas WATERSAVR® has recognized third party environmental safety documentation.

As water conservation is an important priority throughout the world, numerous researchers are working to develop solutions that may compete with, or be superior to, WATERSAVR.

#### **TPAs**

Our TPA products have direct competition with Lanxess AG (spun out of Bayer AG), a German manufacturer of TPAs, which uses a patented process different from ours. We have cross-licensed each other's processes and either company can use either process for the term of the patents involved. We believe that Lanxess has approximately the same production capacity and product costs as we do. We believe that we can compete effectively with Lanxess by offering excellent customer service in oilfield sales, superior distributor support in the agricultural marketplace and flexibility due to our relative size. In addition, we intend to continue to seek market niches that are not the primary targets of Lanxess.

Our TPA products face indirect competition from other chemicals in every market in which we are active. For purposes of oilfield scale prevention, phosphonates, phosphates and molibdonates provide the same effect. For crop enhancement, increased fertilizer levels or reduced concentrations can serve as a substitute for TPAs. In irrigation scale control, acid washes are our prime competitor. In detergent, poly-acrylic acid is most often used due to price advantage. Notwithstanding the above, we believe our competitive advantages include:

Biodegradability compared to competing oil field chemicals;

Cost-effectiveness for crop enhancement compared to increased fertilizer use;

Environmental considerations, ease of formulation and increased crop yield opportunities in irrigation scale markets; and

Biodegradability compared to poly-acrylic acid for detergents.

#### Manufacturing

Our HEATSAVR® and ECOSAVR® products and dispensers are made from chemicals, plastic and other materials and parts that are readily available from multiple suppliers. We have never experienced any shortage in the

availability of raw materials and parts for these products and we do not have any long term supply contracts for any of these items. We manufacture these products in our plant in Taber, Alberta, Canada.

Our WATERSAVR® products are manufactured by a third party. We are not required to purchase any minimum quantity of this product.

Our 56,780 sq. ft. facility in Peru, Illinois manufactures our TPA products. Raw materials for TPA production are sourced from various manufacturers throughout the world and we believe they are available in sufficient quantities for any increase in sales. Raw materials are, however, derived from crude oil and are subject to price fluctuations related to world oil prices.

In November 2007, we purchased a building and 3.3 acres of land in Taber, Alberta, Canada. The price paid was CDN\$1,325,000 and was financed by cash of \$660,000 and an interest free mortgage that was paid in June 2008. The building has been renovated and can be used for various industrial purposes. It was operated as a fermentation facility for the production of aspartic acid, a key ingredient in TPAs. Aspartic acid made in Taber was then shipped to our plant in Illinois for finishing. In February 2014 we suspended production of aspartic acid at our Taber plant. The suspension was due to the fact that since construction of the plant began in 2008, economic conditions in Alberta and worldwide have changed significantly. In particular, plant operating costs have risen and the price of aspartic acid derived from oil is less than forecast. The future use of the facility has not been determined.

# Government Regulations

#### HEATSAVR® and ECOSAVR®

Chemical products for use in swimming pools are covered by a variety of governmental regulations in all countries where we sell these products. These regulations cover packaging, labeling, and product safety. We believe our products are in compliance with these regulations.

#### **WATERSAVR®**

Our WATERSAVR® product is subject to regulation in most countries, particularly for agricultural and drinking water uses. We do not anticipate that governmental regulations will be an impediment to marketing WATERSAVR® because the components in WATERSAVR® have historically been used in agriculture for many years for other purposes. Nevertheless, we will need to obtain approval to sell WATERSAVR® in the United States for agricultural and drinking water uses. We have received National Sanitation Foundation approval for the use of WATERSAVR® in drinking water in the United States.

# **TPAs**

In the oil field and agricultural markets we have received government approval for all TPAs currently sold. In the detergent market, there are currently no regulatory requirements for use of TPAs in detergent formulations. For personal care products such as shampoo and toothpaste, there are various regulatory bodies, including the National Sanitation Foundation and the United States Food and Drug Administration, which regulate TPA use. If we begin to market our TPA products for personal care use, we will need to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements.

# **Proprietary Rights**

Our success is dependent, in part, upon our proprietary technology. We rely on a combination of patent, copyright, trademarks, trade secrets and nondisclosure agreements to protect our proprietary technology. We currently hold many U.S. and International patents which expire at various dates up to 2032. We also have applied to extend some of these patents to other countries where we operate. There can be no assurance that our foreign patent applications will be granted or that any issued patent will be upheld as valid or prevent the development of competitive products, which may be equivalent to or superior to our products. We have not received any claims alleging infringement of the intellectual property rights of others, but there can be no assurance that we may not be subject to such claims in the future.

#### Research and Development

We spent \$95,265 during the year ended December 31, 2015 and \$134,981 during year ended December 31, 2014 on research and development. This work relates primarily to the development of our water and energy conservation products, as well as new research in connection with our TPA products.

# **Employees**

As of December 31, 2015 we had 29 employees, including one officer, ten sales and customer support personnel, and eighteen manufacturing personnel. None of our employees is represented by a labor union and we have not experienced any work stoppages to date.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

This Form 10-K contains forward-looking information based on our current expectations. Because our actual results may differ materially from any forward-looking statements made by us, this section includes a discussion of important factors that could affect our future operations and result in a decline in the market price of our common stock.

We have incurred significant operating losses since inception and may not sustain profitability in the future.

We have in the past experienced operating losses and negative cash flow from operations and we currently have an accumulated deficit. If our revenues decline, our results of operations and liquidity may be materially and adversely affected. If we experience slower than anticipated revenue growth or if our operating expenses exceed our expectations, we may not be profitable. We may not remain profitable in future periods.

Fluctuations in our operating results may cause our stock price to decline.

Given the nature of the markets in which we operate, we cannot reliably predict future revenues and profitability. Changes in competitive, market and economic conditions may cause us to adjust our operations. A high proportion of our costs are fixed, due in part to our sales, research and development and manufacturing costs. Thus, small declines in revenue could disproportionately affect our operating results. Factors that may affect our operating results and the market price of our common stock include:

demand for and market acceptance of our products;

competitive pressures resulting in lower selling prices;

adverse changes in the level of economic activity in regions in which we do business; adverse changes in the oil and gas industry on which we are particularly dependent;

changes in the portions of our revenue represented by various products and customers;

delays or problems in the introduction of new products;

the announcement or introduction of new products, services or technological innovations by our competitors;

variations in our product mix;

the timing and amount of our expenditures in anticipation of future sales;

increased costs of raw materials or supplies; and

changes in the volume or timing of product orders.

Our operations are subject to seasonal fluctuation.

The use of our swimming pool products increases in summer months in most markets and results in our sales from January to June being greater than in July through December. Markets for our WATERSAVR® product are also seasonal, depending on the wet versus dry seasons in particular countries. We attempt to sell into a variety of countries with different seasons on both sides of the equator in order to minimize seasonality. Our TPA business is the least seasonal, however there is a small increase in the spring related to inventory building for the crop season in the United States and a small slowdown in December as oilfield customers run down stock in advance of year end, but otherwise, little seasonal variation. We believe we are able to adequately respond to these seasonal fluctuations by reducing or increasing production as needed.

Interruptions in our ability to purchase raw materials and components may adversely affect our profitability.

We purchase certain raw materials and components from third parties pursuant to purchase orders placed from time to time. Because we do not have guaranteed long-term supply arrangements with our suppliers, any material interruption in our ability to purchase necessary raw materials or components could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our WATERSAVR® product has not proven to be a revenue producing product and we may never recoup the cost associated with its development.

The marketing efforts of our WATERSAVR® product may result in continued losses. We introduced our WATERSAVR® product in June 2002 and, to date, we have delivered quantities for testing by potential customers, but only a few customers have ordered the product for commercial use. This product can achieve success only if it is ordered in substantial quantities by commercial customers who have determined that the water saving benefits of the product exceed the costs of purchase and deployment of the product. We can offer no assurance that we will receive sufficient orders of this product to achieve profits or cover the additional expenses incurred to manufacture and market this product. We expect to spend \$200,000 on the marketing and production of our WATERSAVR® product in fiscal 2016.

If we do not introduce new products in a timely manner, our products could become obsolete and our operating results would suffer.

Without the timely introduction of new products and enhancements, our products could become obsolete over time, in which case our revenue and operating results would suffer. The success of our new product offerings will depend upon several factors, including our ability to:

accurately anticipate customer needs;

innovate and develop new products and applications;

successfully commercialize new products in a timely manner;

price our products competitively and manufacture and deliver our products in sufficient volumes and on time; and

differentiate our products from our competitors' products.

In developing any new product, we may be required to make a substantial investment before we can determine the commercial viability of the new product. If we fail to accurately foresee our customers' needs and future activities, we may invest heavily in research and development of products that do not lead to significant revenues.

We are dependent upon certain customers.

Among our current customers, we have identified three that are sizable enough that the loss of any one would be significant. Any loss of one or more of these customers could result in a substantial reduction in our revenues.

Economic, political and other risks associated with international sales and operations could adversely affect our sales.

Revenues from shipments made outside of the United States accounted for approximately 75% of our revenues in the year ended December 31, 2015, 75% in the year ended December 31, 2014 and 73% in the year ended December 31, 2013. Since we sell our products worldwide, our business is subject to risks associated with doing business internationally. We anticipate that revenues from international operations will continue to represent a sizable portion of our total revenue. Accordingly, our future results could be harmed by a variety of factors, including:

changes in foreign currency exchange rates;

changes in a country or region's political or economic conditions, particularly in developing or emerging markets;

longer payment cycles of foreign customers and difficulty of collecting receivables in foreign jurisdictions;

trade protection measures and import or export licensing requirements;

differing tax laws and changes in those laws;

difficulty in staffing and managing widespread operations;

differing laws regarding protection of intellectual property; and

differing regulatory requirements and changes in those requirements.

We are subject to credit risk and may be subject to substantial write-offs if one or more of our significant customers default on their payment obligations to us.

We currently allow our major customers between 30 and 45 days to pay for each sale. This practice, while customary, presents an accounts receivable write-off risk in that if one or more of our significant customers defaulted on their payment obligations to us, such write-off, if substantial, would have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Our products can be hazardous if not handled, stored and used properly; litigation related to the handling, storage and safety of our products would have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Some of our products are flammable and must be stored properly to avoid fire risk. Additionally, some of our products may cause irritation to a person's eyes if they are exposed to the concentrated product. Although we label our products to warn of such risks, our sales could be reduced if our products were considered dangerous to use or if they are implicated in causing personal injury or property damage. We are not currently aware of any circumstances in which our products have caused harm or property damage to consumers. Nevertheless, litigation regarding the handling, storage and safety of our products would have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Our failure to comply with environmental regulations may create significant environmental liabilities and force us to modify our manufacturing processes.

We are subject to various federal, state and local environmental laws, ordinances and regulations relating to the use, storage, handling and disposal of chemicals. Under such laws, we may become liable for the costs of removal or remediation of these substances that have been used by our consumers or in our operations. Such laws may impose liability without regard to whether we knew of, or caused, the release of such substances. Any failure by us to comply with present or future regulations could subject us to substantial fines, suspension of production, alteration of manufacturing processes or cessation of operations, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our failure to protect our intellectual property could impair our competitive position.

While we own certain patents and trademarks, some aspects of our business cannot be protected by patents or trademarks. Accordingly, in these areas there are few legal barriers that prevent potential competitors from copying certain of our products, processes and technologies or from otherwise entering into operations in direct competition with us. In particular, we have been informed that our former exclusive agent for the sale of our products in North America is now competing with us in the swimming pool and personal spa markets. As a former distributor, they were given access to many of our sales, marketing and manufacturing techniques.

Our products may infringe on the intellectual property rights of others, and resulting claims against us could be costly and prevent us from making or selling certain products.

Third parties may seek to claim that our products and operations infringe on their patents or other intellectual property rights. We may incur significant expense in any legal proceedings to protect our proprietary rights or to defend infringement claims by third parties. In addition, claims of third parties against us could result in awards of substantial damages or court orders that could effectively prevent us from making, using or selling our products in the United States or abroad.

A claim for damages could materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Our business exposes us to potential product liability risks, particularly with respect to our consumer swimming pool and consumer TPA products. There are many factors beyond our control that could lead to liability claims, including the failure of our products to work properly and the chance that consumers will use our products incorrectly or for purposes for which they were not intended. There can be no assurance that the amount of product liability insurance that we carry will be sufficient to protect us from product liability claims. A product liability claim in excess of the amount of insurance we carry could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our ongoing success is dependent upon the continued availability of certain key employees.

Our business would be adversely affected if the services of Daniel B. O'Brien ceased to be available to us because we currently do not have any other employee with an equivalent level of expertise in and knowledge of our industry. If Mr. O'Brien no longer served as our President and Chief Executive Officer, we would have to recruit one or more new executives, with no real assurance that we would be able to engage a replacement executive with the required skills on satisfactory terms. The market for skilled employees is highly competitive, especially for employees in the fields in which we operate. While our compensation programs are intended to attract and retain qualified employees, there can be no assurance that we will be able to retain the services of all our key employees or a sufficient number to execute our plans, nor can there be any assurances that we will be able to continue to attract new employees as required.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.

Not applicable.

Item 2. Properties.

We lease 1,100sq.ft. in Victoria, British Columbia that is used for administration and sales at \$1,121 per month, effective to October 2016. We also have a 6,400 sq. ft. facility in Naperville, Illinois which we use for offices and laboratories at a cost of \$5,440 per month with a lease effective to December 2020. We own a 56,780 sq. ft. facility in Peru, Illinois which is used to manufacture our TPA line of products as well as a building and 3.3 acres of land in Taber, Alberta, Canada. Our building in Taber has been renovated and can be used for various industrial purposes. In February 2014, we decided to stop aspartic acid production at the Taber facility. The future use of the facility has not been determined.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings.

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosure

Not applicable.

# PART II

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

Our common stock is traded on the NYSE MKT under the symbol "FSI". The following is the range of high and low closing prices for our common stock for the periods indicated: