

COFFEE HOLDING CO INC  
Form 10-K  
January 30, 2012

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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

Form 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Commission file number: 001-32491

COFFEE HOLDING CO., INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

11-2238111  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

3475 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island,  
New York  
(Address of principal executive offices)

10314  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (718) 832-0800

Securities registered under Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class:	Name of each exchange on which registered:
Common Stock, Par Value \$0.001 Per Share	Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Securities registered under Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act:

None

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

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

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the past 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 is not contained herein, and will not be contained in, 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.

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

- |                         |                       |                           |                                  |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Large accelerated filer | <input type="radio"/> | Non-accelerated filer     | <input type="radio"/>            |
| Accelerated filer       | <input type="radio"/> | Smaller Reporting Company | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

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

The aggregate market value of the common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant, computed by reference to the closing price of the registrant's common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market on April 30, 2011 (the last business day of the most recently completed second fiscal quarter), was approximately \$23,750,787, computed by reference to the closing price of \$5.24 for the common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market reported for such date.

As of January 23, 2012, the registrant had 6,372,309 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, outstanding.

Documents incorporated by reference

Portions of the registrant's proxy statement for the 2012 annual meeting of stockholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the registrant's fiscal year ended October 31, 2011, are incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PART I	
ITEM 1.	BUSINESS 3
ITEM 1A.	RISK FACTORS 11
ITEM 1B.	UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS 19
ITEM 2.	PROPERTIES 19
ITEM 3.	LEGAL PROCEEDINGS 19
ITEM 4.	REMOVED AND RESERVED 19
PART II	
ITEM 5.	MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES 20
ITEM 6.	SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA 21
ITEM 7.	MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATION QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES 22
ITEM 7A.	ABOUT MARKET RISK 28
ITEM 8.	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA 29
ITEM 9.	CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE 29
ITEM 9A.	CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES 29
ITEM 9B.	OTHER INFORMATION 30
PART III	
ITEM 10.	DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE 31
ITEM 11.	EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION 31
ITEM 12.	SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS 31
ITEM 13.	CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE 31
ITEM 14.	PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES 31
PART IV	
ITEM 15.	EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES 32
SIGNATURES 33	



## PART I

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### General Overview

**Products and Operations.** We are an integrated wholesale coffee roaster and dealer in the United States. Our core products can be divided into three categories:

**Wholesale Green Coffee:** unroasted raw beans imported from around the world and sold to large and small roasters and coffee shop operators;

**Private Label Coffee:** coffee roasted, blended, packaged and sold under the specifications and names of others, including supermarkets that want to have their own brand name on coffee to compete with national brands; and

**Branded Coffee:** coffee roasted and blended to our own specifications and packaged and sold under our seven proprietary and licensed brand names in different segments of the market.

Our private label and branded coffee products are sold throughout the United States and Canada to supermarkets, wholesalers, and individually owned and multi-unit retail customers. Our unprocessed green coffee, which includes over 90 specialty coffee offerings, is sold to specialty gourmet roasters.

We conduct our operations in accordance with strict freshness and quality standards. All of our private label and branded coffees are produced from high quality coffee beans that are deep roasted for full flavor using a slow roasting process that has been perfected utilizing our more than thirty years of experience in the coffee industry. In order to ensure freshness, our products are delivered to our customers within 72 hours of roasting. We believe that our long history has enabled us to develop a loyal customer base.

We were founded and incorporated in New York State in 1971 and have been a family operated business for almost 40 years. In 1998, we merged with Transpacific International Group Corp. and became a Nevada corporation. In May 2005, we concluded our initial public offering and our common stock began trading on the American Stock Exchange (“AMEX”) under the symbol “JVA.” On March 15, 2010, we filed a Form 25 delisting our common stock from the AMEX and filed a Form 8-A listing our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market (“Nasdaq”) under the symbol “JVA.” Our fiscal year ends on October 31.

Our corporate offices are located at 3475 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island, New York 10314. Our telephone number is (718) 832-0800 and our website address is [www.coffeeholding.com](http://www.coffeeholding.com).

#### Our Competitive Strengths

To achieve our growth objectives described below, we intend to leverage the following competitive strengths:

**National Distribution with Capacity For Growth.** From 1991 to 2004, we expanded our distribution to a national platform while operating from only our Brooklyn, New York location by making capital investments to improve our roasting, packaging and fulfillment infrastructure to support the production and distribution of large quantities of fresh coffee products throughout the United States. In February 2004, we acquired certain assets of Premier Roasters, a roaster-dealer located in La Junta, Colorado, for \$825,000. The assets purchased by us included all of the operating equipment located at Premier Roasters’s La Junta and Rocky Ford, Colorado locations, as well as all labels for all of Premier Roasters’s coffee products. In connection with the acquisition of these assets, we reached an agreement with

the City of La Junta, Colorado on a 20-year lease for a 50,000 square foot facility in La Junta.

In April 2006, we entered into a joint venture with Caruso's Coffee, Inc. of Brecksville, Ohio and formed Generations Coffee Company, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("GCC"), which engages in the roasting, packaging and sale of private label specialty coffee products. We own a 60% equity interest in GCC and are the exclusive supplier of its coffee inventory. We believe that the joint venture with GCC allows us to bid on the private label gourmet whole bean business which we had not been equipped to pursue from an operational standpoint in the past. With this specialty roasting facility in place, in many cases right in the backyard of some of our current wholesale and retail customers, we believe we will be able to successfully combine our canned private label business with high-end private label specialty whole bean business. High-end specialty whole bean coffee sells for as much as three times more per pound than the canned coffees.

In October 2009, we sold our Brooklyn, New York location after ceasing our manufacturing operations there in May. The majority of our processing has been moved to our La Junta, Colorado facility with our GCC facility in Brecksville, Ohio becoming more involved with everyday coffee processing. The closing of our Brooklyn facility reduced our long-term operating expenses, increased efficiencies and ultimately increased the profitability of the Company.

In May 2010, we purchased substantially all of the assets, including fixed assets, inventory, trademarks, customer list and supply chain relationships of Organic Products Trading Company, Inc. ("OPTCO"). A green coffee merchant located on the West Coast who specializes in both the procurement and sales of high end organic and fair trade arabica coffees.

Positioned to Profitably Grow Through Varying Cycles of the Coffee Market. We believe that we are one of the few coffee companies to offer a broad array of branded and private label roasted ground coffees and wholesale green coffee across the spectrum of consumer tastes, preferences and price points. While many of our competitors engage in distinct segments of the coffee business, we sell products in each of the following areas:

- Retail branded coffee;
- Mainstream retail private label coffee;
- Specialty retail coffees both private label and branded;
- Wholesale specialty green and gourmet whole bean coffees;
- Food service;
- Instant coffees; and
- Niche products.

Our branded and private label roasted ground coffees are sold at competitive and value price levels while some of our other branded and specialty coffees are sold predominantly at premium price levels. Premium price level coffee is high-quality gourmet coffee, such as AA Arabica coffee, which sells at a substantial premium over traditional retail canned coffee, while competitive and value price level coffee is mainstream or traditional canned coffee. Because of this diversification, we believe that our profitability is not dependent on any one area of the coffee industry and, therefore, is less sensitive than our competition to potential coffee commodity price and overall economic volatility.

Wholesale Green Coffee Market Presence. As a large roaster-dealer of green coffee, we believe that we are favorably positioned to increase our specialty coffee sales. Since 1998, we have increased the number of our wholesale green coffee customers, including coffee houses, single store operators, mall coffee stores and mail order sellers, by 70% from 150 to 255. We are a charter member of the Specialty Coffee Association of America and one of the largest distributors of Swiss Water Processed Decaffeinated Coffees along the East Coast. In addition, although we do not have any formalized, material agreements or long-term contracts with Green Mountain Coffee Roasters ("GMCR"), we have a 19-year relationship with GMCR, our largest wholesale green coffee customer. Our almost 40 years of experience as a roaster and a dealer of green coffee allows us to provide our roasting experience as a value added

service to our gourmet roaster customers. The assistance we provide to our customers includes training, coffee blending and market identification. We believe that our relationships with wholesale green coffee customers and our focus on selling green coffee as a wholesaler has enabled us to participate in the growth of the specialty coffee market while mitigating the risks associated with the competitive retail specialty coffee environment.

**Diverse Portfolio of Differentiated Branded Coffees.** We have amassed a portfolio of five proprietary name brands sold to supermarkets, wholesalers and individually owned stores in the United States, including brands for specialty espresso, Latin espresso, Italian espresso, 100% Colombian coffee and blended coffee. In addition, we have entered into a licensing agreement with Del Monte Corporation for the exclusive right to use the S&W and IL CLASSICO trademarks in the United States and other countries approved by Del Monte Corporation in connection with the production, manufacture and sale of roasted whole bean and ground coffee for distribution to retail customers. We plan to broaden our customer base and increase penetration with existing customers by expanding the S&W label from a well-known brand on the West Coast to a well-known brand throughout the United States. Our existing portfolio of differentiated brands combined with our management expertise serve as a platform to add additional name brands through acquisition or licensing agreements which target product niches and segments that do not compete with our existing brands.



Management Has Extensive Experience in the Coffee Industry. We have been a family-operated business for three generations. Throughout this time, we have remained profitable through varying cycles in the coffee industry and the economy. Andrew Gordon, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, and David Gordon, our Executive Vice President – Operations, have worked with Coffee Holding for 29 and 31 years, respectively. David Gordon is an original member of the Specialty Coffee Association of America. We believe that our employees and management are dedicated to our vision and mission, which is to produce high quality products, as well as to provide quality and responsive service to our customers.

### Our Growth Strategy

We believe that significant growth opportunities exist by selectively pursuing strategic acquisitions and alliances, targeting the rapidly growing Hispanic market in the United States, increasing penetration with existing customers by adding new products, and developing our food service business. By capitalizing on this strategy, we hope to continue to grow our business with our commitment to quality and personalized service to our customers. We do not intend to compete on price alone nor do we intend to expand sales at the expense of profitability.

Selectively Pursue Strategic Acquisitions and Alliances. We intend to expand our operations by acquiring coffee companies, seeking strategic alliances and acquiring or licensing brands, which complement our business objectives. Consistent with this strategy, in February 2004, we acquired certain assets of Premier Roasters and entered into a licensing agreement with Del Monte Corporation for the exclusive right to use the S&W and IL CLASSICO trademarks, including Premium, Premium Decaf, French Roast, Colombian, Colombian Decaf, Swiss Water Decaf, Kona, and Mellow'd Roast lines, in the United States and other countries approved by Del Monte Corporation in connection with the production, manufacture and sale of roasted whole bean and ground coffee for distribution at the retail level.

In April 2006, we entered into a joint venture with Caruso's Coffee, Inc. of Brecksville, Ohio and formed GCC which engages in the roasting, packaging and sale of private label specialty coffee products. We believe this joint venture allows us to successfully bid on and compete for specialty private label coffee opportunities which we were not operationally set up to compete for in the past.

In May 2010, we purchased substantially all of the assets, including fixed assets, inventory, trademarks, customer list and supply chain relationships of OPTCO.

In November 2011, we acquired a 40% interest in Global Mark LLC ("Global Mark"), a new venture focusing on supply of instant coffee and related products. Under the terms of the agreement with Global Mark, we will invest up to an aggregate of \$2.0 million for a 40% interest and we will receive preferred pricing on our instant coffee needs.

Grow Our Cafe Caribe and Cafe Supremo Products. The Hispanic population in the United States is the fastest growing and now represents the largest minority demographic in the United States. We believe there is significant opportunity for our Café Caribe and Café Supremo brands to gain market share among Hispanic consumers in the United States. Café Caribe, which has historically been our leading brand by poundage, is a specialty espresso coffee that targets espresso coffee drinkers and, in particular, Hispanic consumers. Café Supremo is a specialty espresso coffee which is priced for the more price sensitive Hispanic espresso coffee drinker.

Further Market Penetration of Our Niche Products. We intend to capture additional market share through our existing distribution channels by selectively adding or introducing new brand names and products across multiple price points, including:

- Specialty blends;
- Private label “value” blends and trial-sized mini-brick packages;
- Specialty instant coffees;
- Instant cappuccinos and hot chocolates; and
- Tea line products.

Develop Our Food Service Business. We plan to expand further into the food service business by developing new distribution channels for our products. Currently, we have a limited presence in the food service market. In 2003, we began marketing our upscale restaurant and Colombian coffee brands to hotels, restaurants, office coffee services companies and other food service retailers. In addition, we have expanded our food service offerings to include instant cappuccinos, tea products and an equipment program for our customers. We attend various annual trade shows held by different buying groups, which provide us a national audience to market our food service products.

#### Our Core Products

Our core products can be divided into three categories:

Wholesale Green Coffee: unroasted raw beans imported from around the world and sold to large and small roasters and coffee shop operators;

Private Label Coffee: coffee roasted, blended, packaged and sold under the specifications and names of others, including supermarkets that want to have their own brand name on coffee to compete with national brands; and

Branded Coffee: coffee roasted and blended to our own specifications and packaged and sold under our seven proprietary and licensed brand names in different segments of the market.

Wholesale Green Coffee. The specialty coffee market represents the fastest growing area of our industry. The number of gourmet coffee houses have been increasing in all areas of the United States. The growth in specialty coffee sales has created a marketplace for higher quality and differentiated products, which can be priced at a premium in the marketplace. As a large roaster-dealer of green coffee, we are favorably positioned to increase our specialty coffee sales. We sell green coffee beans to small roasters and coffee shop operators located throughout the United States and carry over approximately 90 different varieties. Specialty green coffee beans are sold unroasted, direct from warehouses to small roasters and gourmet coffee shop operators, which then roast the beans themselves. We sell from as little as one bag (132 pounds) to a full truckload (44,000 pounds) of specialty green coffee beans, depending on the size and need of the customer. We believe that we can increase sales of wholesale green coffee without an increase in infrastructure as well as not venturing into the highly competitive retail specialty coffee environment and utilizing our current strategy we can be as profitable or more profitable than our competitors in this segment by selling “one bag at a time” rather than “one cup at a time.”

Private Label Coffee. We roast, blend, package and sell coffee under private labels for companies throughout the United States and Canada. Our private label coffee is sold in cans, brick packages and instants in a variety of sizes. As of October 31, 2011, we supplied coffee under approximately 39 different labels to wholesalers and retailers. We produce private label coffee for customers who desire to sell coffee under their own name but do not want to engage in the manufacturing process. Our private label customers seek a quality similar to the national brands at a lower cost, which represents a better value for the consumer.



Branded Coffee. We roast and blend our branded coffee according to our own recipes and package the coffee at our facilities in La Junta, Colorado and Brecksville, Ohio. We then sell the packaged coffee under our brand labels to supermarkets, wholesalers and individually-owned stores throughout the United States.

We hold trademarks for each of our proprietary name brands and have the exclusive right to use the S&W, IL CLASSICO, and in the United States in connection with the production, manufacture and sale of roasted whole bean and ground coffee for distribution at the retail level. For further information regarding our trademark rights, see “Business—Trademarks.”

Each of our name brands is directed at a particular segment of the coffee market. Our branded coffees are:

Cafe Caribe is a specialty espresso coffee that targets espresso coffee drinkers and, in particular, the Hispanic consumer market;

S&W is an upscale canned coffee established in 1921 and includes Premium, Premium Decaf, French Roast, Colombian, Colombian Decaf, Swiss Water Decaf, Kona, Mellow’d Roast and IL CLASSICO lines;

Cafe Supremo is a specialty espresso that targets espresso drinkers of all backgrounds and tastes. It is designed to introduce coffee drinkers to the tastes of dark roasted coffee;

Don Manuel is produced from the finest 100% Colombian coffee beans. Don Manuel is an upscale quality product which commands a substantial premium compared to the more traditional brown coffee blends. We also use this known trademark in our food service business because of the high brand quality;

Fifth Avenue is a blended coffee that has become popular as an alternative for consumers who purchase private label or national branded coffee. We also market this brand to wholesalers who do not wish to undertake the expense of developing a private label coffee program under their own name;

Via Roma is an Italian espresso targeted at the more traditional espresso drinker; and

IL CLASSICO is an S&W brand espresso product.

#### Other Products

We also offer several niche products, including:

- trial-sized mini-brick coffee packages;
- specialty instant coffees;
- instant cappuccinos and hot chocolates; and
- tea line products.

## Raw Materials

Coffee is a commodity traded on the Commodities and Futures Exchange subject to price fluctuations. Over the past five years, the average price per pound of coffee beans ranged from approximately \$.94 to \$3.05. The price for coffee beans on the commodities market as of October 31, 2011 and 2010 were \$2.27 and \$2.04 per pound, respectively. Specialty green coffee, unlike most coffee, is not tied directly to the commodities cash markets. Instead, it tends to trade on a negotiated basis at a substantial premium over commodity coffee pricing, depending on the origin, supply and demand at the time of purchase. We are a licensed Fair Trade dealer for Fair Trade certified coffee. Fair Trade certified coffee helps small coffee farmers to increase their incomes and improve the prospects of their communities and families by guaranteeing farmers a minimum price of ten cents above the current market price. Our Ohio Facility operated by GCC is certified organic by the Organic Crop Improvement Association (OCIA). All of our specialty green coffees, as well as all of the other coffees we import for roasting, are subject to multiple levels of quality control.

We purchase our green coffee from dealers located primarily within the United States. The dealers supply us with coffee beans from many countries, including Colombia, Mexico, Kenya, Indonesia, Brazil and Uganda. For the fiscal years ended 2011 and 2010, approximately 79% and 85% of all of our green coffee purchases were from ten suppliers. One of these suppliers, Rothfos Corporation, accounted for approximately \$25.3 million or 19% in 2011, and \$19.3 million or 30% in 2010, of our total product purchases. An employee of Rothfos Corporation is one of our directors. Another of these suppliers, Daarnhouwer & Co., B.V., accounted for approximately \$11.6 million or 9% in 2011, and \$5.9 million or 9.2% in 2010, of our total product purchases. We do not have any formalized, material agreements or long-term contracts with any of these suppliers. Rather, our purchases are typically made pursuant to individual purchase orders. We do not believe that the loss of any one supplier, including Rothfos Corporation, would have a material adverse effect on our operations due to the availability of alternate suppliers.

The supply and price of coffee beans are subject to volatility and are influenced by numerous factors which are beyond our control. Supply and price can be affected by factors such as weather, politics and economics within the countries that export coffee. Increases in the cost of coffee beans can, to a certain extent, be passed on to our customers in the form of higher prices for coffee beans and processed coffee. Drastic or prolonged increases in coffee prices may also adversely impact our business as it could lead to a decline in overall consumption of coffee. Similarly, rapid decreases in the cost of coffee beans may force us to lower our sale prices before realizing cost reductions in our purchases.

We subject all of our private unroasted green coffee to both a pre-shipment sample approval and an additional sample approval upon arrival into the United States. Once the arrival sample is approved, we then bring the coffee to one of our facilities to roast and blend according to our own strict specifications. During the roasting and blending process, samples are pulled off the production line and tested on an hourly basis to ensure that each batch roasted is consistent with the others and meets the strict quality standards demanded by our customers and us.

## Our Use of Derivatives

The supply and price of coffee beans are subject to volatility and are influenced by numerous factors which are beyond our control. We have used, and expect to continue to use, short-term coffee futures and options contracts for the purpose of hedging the effects of changing green coffee prices. In addition, we have acquired, and expect to continue to acquire, futures contracts with longer terms, generally three to four months, for the purpose of guaranteeing an adequate supply of green coffee. Realized and unrealized gains or losses on options and futures contracts are reflected in our cost of sales. Gains on options and futures contracts reduce our cost of sales and losses on options and futures contracts increase our cost of sales. The use of these derivative financial instruments has generally enabled us to mitigate the effect of changing prices. However, no strategy can entirely eliminate pricing

risks and we generally remain exposed to losses on futures contracts when prices decline significantly in a short period of time, and we would generally remain exposed to supply risk in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to any futures contracts. Failure to properly design and implement an effective hedging strategy may materially adversely affect our business and operating results. If the hedges that we enter do not adequately offset the risks of coffee bean price volatility or our hedges result in losses, our cost of sales may increase, resulting in a decrease in profitability. Although we have had net gains on options and futures contracts in the past, we have incurred losses on options and futures contracts during some reporting periods, including the three month periods ended July 31, 2011 and October 31, 2011. In these cases, our cost of sales has increased, resulting in a decrease in our profitability. Such losses have and could in the future materially increase our cost of sales and materially decrease our profitability and adversely affect our stock price. While we do intend to continue to use hedging as part of our overall corporate strategy, as a result of our growth and the changes in our revenue mix, we expect that our hedging in the future may be utilized to a lesser extent. See “Item 1A – Risk Factors – If our hedging policy is not effective, we may not be able to control our coffee costs, we may be forced to pay greater than market value for green coffee and our profitability may be reduced” and “Item 7A - Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk—Commodity Price Risks.”

## Trademarks

We hold trademarks, registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, for all seven of our proprietary coffee brands and an exclusive license for S&W, IL CLASSICO brands for sale in the United States. Trademark registrations are subject to periodic renewal and we anticipate maintaining our registrations. We believe that our brands are recognizable in the marketplace and that brand recognition is important to the success of our branded coffee business.

## Customers

We sell our private label and our branded coffee to some of the largest retail and wholesale customers in the United States (according to Supermarket News). We sell wholesale green coffee to GMCR. Sales to GMCR accounted for approximately \$82.3 million or 56% of our net sales for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 and \$39.0 million or 47% for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010.

Although our agreements with wholesale customers generally contain only pricing terms, our contracts with certain customers also contain minimum and maximum purchase obligations at fixed prices. Because our profits on a fixed-price contract could decline if coffee prices increased, we acquire futures contracts with longer terms (generally three to four months) primarily for the purpose of guaranteeing an adequate supply of green coffee at favorable prices. Although the use of these derivative financial instruments has generally enabled us to mitigate the effect of changing prices, no strategy can entirely eliminate pricing risks and we generally remain exposed to losses on futures contracts when prices decline significantly in a short period of time, and we would generally remain exposed to supply risk in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to any futures contracts. See “- Our Use of Derivatives.”

## Marketing

We market our private label and wholesale coffee through trade shows, industry publications, face-to-face contact and through the use of our internal sales force and non-exclusive independent food and beverage sales brokers. We also use our web site ([www.coffeeholding.com](http://www.coffeeholding.com)) as a method of marketing our coffee products and ourselves.

For our private label and branded coffees, we will, from time to time in conjunction with retailers and with wholesalers, conduct in-store promotions, such as product demonstrations, coupons, price reductions, two-for-one sales and new product launches to capture changing consumer taste preferences for upscale canned coffees.

We evaluate opportunities for growth consistent with our business objectives. We have established relationships with independent sales brokers to market our products across the United States, in areas of the country where we have not had a high penetration of sales. In addition, we employ a VP of sales on the west coast who markets our S&W and IL CLASSICO brands, as well as our other branded and private label coffee products. We intend to capture additional market share in our existing distribution channels by selectively adding or introducing new brand names and products across multiple price points, including niche specialty blends, private label “value” blends and mini-brick, filter packages, and peripheral products including, instant cappuccinos and tea line products.

## Charitable Activities

We are also a supporter of several coffee-oriented charitable organizations and during fiscal 2011, we donated approximately \$62,000 to charities.

For over 16 years, we have been members of Coffee Kids, an international non-profit organization that helps to improve the quality of life of children and their families in coffee-growing communities in Mexico, Guatemala,

Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

We are members of Grounds for Health, an organization that educates, screens, and arranges treatment for women who have cancer and live in the rural coffee growing communities of Mexico.

We are a licensed Fair Trade dealer of Fair Trade certified coffee. Fair Trade helps small coffee farmers to increase their incomes and improve the prospects of their communities and families. It guarantees farmers a minimum price of \$1.25 per pound or ten cents above the current market price.

We are the administrative benefactors to a non-profit organization called Cup for Education. After discovering the lack of schools, teachers, and basic fundamental learning supplies in the poor coffee growing communities of Central and Latin America, "Cup" was established by our employee, Karen Gordon, to help build schools, sponsor teachers, and purchase basic supplies such as books, chalk and other necessities for a proper education.

Most recently, we were the national opening ceremony coffee sponsor of the 2011 Avon Walk For Breast Cancer in three (3) cities (Houston, TX, San Francisco and Santa Barbara, CA ) across the United States. Our representatives were on site in all three cities serving our specialty Arabica coffees to the participants who walk 39 miles over two days. The money raised is used to provide women and men with breast cancer screenings, support and applicable treatments regardless of their ability to pay.



## Competition

The coffee market is highly competitive. We compete in the following areas:

**Wholesale Green Coffee.** There are many green coffee dealers throughout the United States. Many of these dealers have greater financial resources than we do. However, we believe that we have both the knowledge and the capability to assist small specialty gourmet coffee roasters with developing and growing their businesses. Our almost 40 years of experience as a roaster and a dealer of green coffee allows us to provide our roasting experience as a value added service to our gourmet roaster customers. While other coffee merchants may be able to offer lower prices for coffee beans, we market ourselves as a value-added supplier to small roasters, with the ability to help them market their specialty coffee products and develop a customer base. The assistance we provide our customers includes training, coffee blending and market identification. Because specialty green coffee beans are sold unroasted to small coffee shops and roasters that market their products to local gourmet customers, we do not believe that our specialty green coffee customers compete with our private label or branded coffee lines of business. We believe that the addition of OPTCO as well as our two green coffee salespersons in South Carolina and Oregon allows us to compete more effectively throughout the country.

**Private Label Competition.** There are several major producers of coffee for private label sales in the United States. Many other companies produce coffee for sale on a regional basis. Our main competitor is the former retail coffee division of Sara Lee Corporation, which was purchased by Segafredo Zanetti Group in 2006, now known as Massimo Zanetti Beverage. Massimo Zanetti Beverage is larger and has more financial and other resources than we do and, therefore, is able to devote more resources to product development and marketing. We believe that we remain competitive by providing a higher level of quality and customer service. This service includes ensuring that the coffee produced for each label maintains a consistent taste and is delivered on time and in the proper quantities. In addition, we provide our private label customers with information on the coffee market on a regular basis.

**Branded Competition.** Our proprietary brand coffees compete with many other brands that are sold in supermarkets and specialty stores, primarily in the Northeastern United States. The branded coffee market in both the Northeast and elsewhere is dominated by three large companies: Kraft General Foods, Inc. (owner of the Maxwell House brand), Smuckers (owner of the Folgers brand) and Massimo Zanetti Beverage which also markets specialty coffee in addition to non-specialty coffee. Our large competitors have greater access to capital and a greater ability to conduct marketing and promotions. We believe that, while our competitors' brands may be more nationally recognizable, our Café Caribe brand is competitive in the fast growing Hispanic demographic and our S&W brand has been a popular and recognizable brand on the West Coast for over 80 years.

## Government Regulation

Our coffee roasting operations are subject to various governmental laws and regulations, which require us to obtain licenses relating to customs, health and safety, building and land use and environmental protection. Our roasting facility is subject to state and local air-quality and emissions regulation. If we encounter difficulties in obtaining any necessary licenses or if we have difficulty complying with these laws and regulations, then we could be subject to fines and penalties, which could have a material adverse effect on our profitability. In addition, our product offerings could be limited, thereby reducing our revenues.

We believe that we are in compliance in all material respects with all such laws and regulations and that we have obtained all material licenses and permits that are required for the operation of our business. We are not aware of any environmental regulations that have or that we believe will have a material adverse effect on our operations.

## Employees

We have 69 full-time employees. None of our employees are represented by unions or collective bargaining agreements. Our management believes that we maintain good working relationships with our employees. To supplement our internal sales staff, we sometimes engage independent national and regional sales brokers as independent contractors who work on a commission basis.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock is subject to risks inherent in our business. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below together with all of the other information included in this report. In addition to the risks and uncertainties described below, other risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. The value or market price of our common stock could decline due to any of these identified or other risks, and you could lose all of your investment.

### Risks affecting our company

Because our business is highly dependent upon a single commodity, coffee, any decrease in demand for coffee could materially adversely affect our revenues and profitability. Our business is centered on essentially one commodity: coffee. Our operations have primarily focused on the following areas of the coffee industry:

- the roasting, blending, packaging and distribution of private label coffee;
- the roasting, blending, packaging and distribution of proprietary branded coffee; and
  - the sale of wholesale specialty green coffee.

Demand for our products is affected by:

- consumer tastes and preferences;
- global economic conditions;
- demographic trends; and
- the type, number and location of competing products.

Because we rely on a single commodity, any decrease in demand for coffee would harm our business more than if we had more diversified product offerings and could materially adversely affect our revenues and operating results.



If we are unable to geographically expand our branded and private label products, our growth will be impeded which could result in reduced sales and profitability. Our business strategy emphasizes, among other things, geographic expansion of our branded and private label products as opportunities arise. We may not be able to implement successfully this portion of our business strategy. Our ability to implement this portion of our business strategy is dependent on our ability to:

- market our products on a national scale;
- increase our brand recognition on a national scale;
- enter into distribution and other strategic arrangements with third party retailers; and
- manage growth in administrative overhead and distribution costs likely to result from the planned expansion of our distribution channels.

Our sales and profitability may be adversely affected if we fail to successfully expand the geographic distribution of our branded and private label products. In addition, our expenses could increase and our profits could decrease as we implement our growth strategy.

If our hedging policy is not effective, we may not be able to control our coffee costs, we may be forced to pay greater than market value for green coffee and our profitability may be reduced. The supply and price of coffee beans are subject to volatility and are influenced by numerous factors which are beyond our control. We have used, and expect to continue to use, short-term coffee futures and options contracts for the purpose of hedging the effects of changing green coffee prices. In addition, we have acquired, and expect to continue to acquire, futures contracts with longer terms, generally three to four months, for the purpose of guaranteeing an adequate supply of green coffee. Realized and unrealized gains or losses on options and futures contracts are reflected in our cost of sales. Gains on options and futures contracts reduce our cost of sales and losses on options and futures contracts increase our cost of sales. The use of these derivative financial instruments has generally enabled us to mitigate the effect of changing prices. However, no strategy can entirely eliminate pricing risks and we generally remain exposed to losses on futures contracts when prices decline significantly in a short period of time, and we would generally remain exposed to supply risk in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to any futures contracts. Historically, we generally have been able to pass green coffee price increases through to customers, thereby maintaining our gross profits; however, we may not be able to pass price increases through to our customers in the future. Failure to properly design and implement an effective hedging strategy may materially adversely affect our business and operating results. If the hedges that we enter do not adequately offset the risks of coffee bean price volatility or our hedges result in losses, our cost of sales may increase, resulting in a decrease in profitability. Although we have had net gains on options and futures contracts in the past, we have incurred losses on options and futures contracts during some reporting periods, including the three month periods ended July 31, 2011 and October 31, 2011. In these cases, our cost of sales has increased, resulting in a decrease in our profitability. Such losses have and could in the future materially increase our cost of sales and materially decrease our profitability and adversely affect our stock price.

Our revenues and profitability could be adversely affected if our joint ventures are not successful. In April 2006, we entered into a joint venture with Caruso's Coffee, Inc. of Brecksville, Ohio and formed GCC, which engages in the roasting, packaging and sale of private label specialty coffee products. In addition, in November 2011, we invested in Global Mark, a new venture focusing on supply of instant coffee and related products. We will continue to seek opportunities for new joint ventures. While we believe that our joint ventures will be successful, losses in our joint ventures or any future joint ventures would hurt our profitability. In addition, we generally will not be in a position to exercise sole decision-making authority regarding our joint ventures. Investments in joint ventures may under certain circumstances, involve risks not present when a third party is not involved, including the possibility that joint venture partners might become bankrupt or fail to fund their share of the required capital contributions. Joint venture partners may have business interests, strategies or goals that are inconsistent with our business interests, strategies or goals and may be, in cases where we have a minority interest, in a position to take actions contrary to our policies, strategies or

objectives. Any disputes that may arise between us and our joint venture partners may result in litigation or arbitration that could increase our expenses and could prevent our officers and/or directors from focusing their time and effort exclusively on our business strategies. In addition, we may in certain circumstances be liable for the actions of our third-party joint venture partners.

Any inability to successfully implement our strategy of growth through selective acquisitions, licensing arrangements and other strategic alliances, including joint ventures, could materially affect our revenues and profitability. Part of our growth strategy utilizes the selective acquisition of coffee companies, the selective acquisition or licensing of additional coffee brands and other strategic alliances, including joint ventures, presents risks that could result in increased expenditures and could materially adversely affect our revenues and profitability, including:

- such acquisitions, licensing arrangements or other strategic alliances may divert our management's attention from our existing operations;
- we may not be able to successfully integrate any acquired coffee companies or new coffee brands into our existing business;
- we may not be able to manage the contingent risks associated with the past operations of, and other unanticipated problems arising in, any acquired coffee company; and
- we may not be able to control unanticipated costs associated with such acquisitions, licensing arrangements or strategic alliances.

In addition, any such acquisitions, licensing arrangements or strategic alliances may result in:

- potentially dilutive issuances of our equity securities;
- the incurrence of additional debt;
- restructuring charges; and
- the recognition of significant charges for depreciation and amortization related to intangible assets.

As has been our practice in the past, we will continuously evaluate any such acquisitions, licensing opportunities or strategic alliances as they arise. However, we have not reached any new agreements or arrangements with respect to any such acquisition, licensing opportunity or strategic alliance (other than those described herein) at this time and we may not be able to consummate any acquisitions, licensing arrangements or strategic alliances on terms favorable to us or at all. The failure to consummate any such acquisitions, licensing arrangements or strategic alliances may reduce our growth and expansion. In addition, if these acquisitions, licensing opportunities or strategic alliances are not successful, our earnings could be materially adversely affected by increased expenses and decreased revenues.

We are dependent on sales of wholesale green coffee to Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. The loss of any of our key customers could negatively affect our revenues and decrease our earnings. We are dependant upon sales of wholesale green coffee to one customer, GMCR. Sales to GMCR accounted for approximately 56% and 47% of our net sales for the fiscal years ended October 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Although no other customer accounted for greater than 10% of our net sales during this period, other customers may account for more than 10% of our net sales in future periods. We generally do not have long-term contracts with these or any of our customers. Accordingly, our customers can stop purchasing our products at any time without penalty and are free to purchase products from our competitors. The loss of, or reduction in sales to, customers such as GMCR or any of our other customers to which we sell a significant amount of our products or any material adverse change in the financial condition of such customers would negatively affect our revenues and decrease our earnings.

If we lose our key personnel, including Andrew Gordon and David Gordon, our revenues and profitability could suffer. Our success depends to a large degree upon the services of Andrew Gordon, our President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, and David Gordon, our Executive Vice President – Operations and Secretary. We also depend to a large degree on the expertise of our coffee roasters. We do not have employment contracts with our coffee roasters. Our ability to source and purchase a sufficient supply of high quality coffee beans and to roast coffee beans consistent with our quality standards could suffer if we lose the services of any of these individuals. As a result, our business and operating results would be adversely affected. We may not be successful in obtaining and retaining a replacement for either Andrew Gordon or David Gordon if they elect to stop working for us. In addition, we do not have key-person insurance on the lives of Andrew Gordon or David Gordon.

Our indebtedness may adversely affect our ability to obtain additional funds and may increase our vulnerability to economic or business downturns. As of October 31, 2011, the total outstanding principal amount of our debt outstanding under our revolving line of credit was \$1.8 million and this debt accrues interest at variable rates. We may experience material increases in our interest expense as a result of increases in general interest rate levels. Subject to certain restrictions, we may incur additional indebtedness in the future. Our outstanding debt could have important negative consequences to the holders of our securities, including the following:

- general domestic and global economic conditions;
- a portion of our cash flow from operations will be needed to pay debt service and will not be available to fund future operations;
  - we have increased vulnerability to adverse general economic and coffee industry conditions; and
- we may be vulnerable to higher interest rates because interest expense on borrowings under our revolving line of credit is based on variable rates.

Our ability to make payments on our indebtedness and to fund our operations depends on our ability to generate cash in the future. Our future operating performance is subject to market conditions and business factors that are beyond our control. If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to allow us to make scheduled payments on our debt, we may have to reduce or delay capital expenditures, sell assets, seek additional capital or restructure or refinance our debt.

Our indebtedness contains covenants that restrict our operations and failure to comply with the terms of such indebtedness could result in a default that could have material adverse consequences for us. Our revolving line of credit contains covenants that place annual restrictions on our operations, including covenants related to debt restrictions, capital expenditures, minimum deposit restrictions, tangible net worth, net profit, leverage, employee loan restrictions, distribution restrictions (common stock and preferred stock), dividend restrictions and restrictions on intercompany transactions. In addition, our revolving line of credit requires that we maintain a minimum working capital at all times. Although we are currently in compliance with the covenants, our ability to comply with these covenants may be affected by general economic and industry conditions, as well as market fluctuations in coffee

prices and other events beyond our control. We do not know if we will be able to satisfy all such covenants in the future. Our breach of any of the covenants contained in our revolving line of credit could result in a default under such agreement. In the event of a default, the lender could elect not to make additional loans to us, could require us to repay some of our outstanding debt prior to maturity, and/or to declare all amounts borrowed by us, together with accrued interest, to be due and payable. In the event that this occurs, we may be unable to repay all such accelerated indebtedness.

We have pledged substantially all of our assets to secure our borrowings and are subject to covenants that may restrict our ability to operate our business. Any indebtedness that we incur under our revolving line of credit is secured by substantially all of our tangible and intangible assets. If we default under the indebtedness secured by our assets, those assets would be available to the secured creditors to satisfy our obligations to the secured creditors.



If our planned increase in marketing expenditures fails to promote and enhance our brands, the value of our brands could decrease and our revenues and profitability could be adversely affected. We believe that promoting and enhancing our brands is critical to our success. We intend to continue to increase our marketing expenditures to increase awareness of our brands, which we expect will create and maintain brand loyalty. If our brand-building strategy is unsuccessful, these expenses may never be recovered, and we may be unable to increase awareness of our brands or protect the value of our brands. If we are unable to achieve these goals, our revenues and ability to implement our business strategy could be adversely affected.

Our success in promoting and enhancing our brands will also depend on our ability to provide customers with high quality products and service. Although we take measures to ensure that we sell only fresh roasted coffee, we have no control over our roasted coffee products once they are purchased by our customers. Accordingly, wholesale customers may store our coffee for longer periods of time or resell our coffee without our consent, in each case, potentially affecting the quality of the coffee prepared from our products. Although we believe we are less susceptible to quality control problems than many of our competitors because a majority of our products are sold in cans or brick packs unlike whole bean coffees, if consumers do not perceive our products and service to be of high quality, then the value of our brands may be diminished and, consequently, our operating results and ability to implement our business strategy may be adversely affected.

Our roasting methods are not proprietary, so competitors may be able to duplicate them, which could harm our competitive position. If our competitive position is weakened, our revenues and profitability could be materially adversely affected. We consider our roasting methods essential to the flavor and richness of our roasted coffee and, therefore, essential to our brands of coffee. Because we do not hold any patents for our roasting methods, it may be difficult for us to prevent competitors from copying our roasting methods if such methods become known. If our competitors copy our roasting methods, the value of our coffee brands may be diminished, and we may lose customers to our competitors. In addition, competitors may be able to develop roasting methods that are more advanced than our roasting methods, which may also harm our competitive position.

The success of our brand also depends in part on our intellectual property. We rely on a combination of trademarks, copyrights, service marks, trade secrets and similar rights to protect our intellectual property. The success of our growth strategy depends on our continued ability to use our existing trademarks and service marks in order to increase brand awareness and further develop our brand in both domestic and international markets. If our efforts to protect our intellectual property are not adequate, or if any third party misappropriates or infringes on our intellectual property, the value of our brand may be harmed, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. We may become engaged in litigation to protect our intellectual property, which could result in substantial costs to us as well as diversion of management attention.

Since we rely heavily on common carriers to ship our coffee on a daily basis, any disruption in their services or increase in shipping costs could adversely affect our relationship with our customers, which could result in reduced revenues, increased operating expenses, a loss of customers or reduced profitability. We rely on a number of common carriers to deliver coffee to our customers and to deliver coffee beans to us. We have no control over these common carriers and the services provided by them may be interrupted as a result of labor shortages, contract disputes and other factors. If we experience an interruption in these services, we may be unable to ship our coffee in a timely manner, which could reduce our revenues and adversely affect our relationship with our customers. In addition, a delay in shipping could require us to contract with alternative, and possibly more expensive, common carriers and could cause orders to be cancelled or receipt of goods to be refused. Any significant increase in shipping costs could lower our profit margins or force us to raise prices, which could cause our revenue and profits to suffer.

If there was a significant interruption in the operation of our Colorado facility, we may not have the capacity to service all of our customers and we may not be able to service our customers in a timely manner, thereby reducing our

revenues and earnings. We are dependent on the continued operations of our Colorado coffee roasting and distribution facility. Our ability to maintain our computer and telecommunications equipment in effective working order and to protect against damage from fire, natural disaster, power loss, telecommunications failure or similar events. In addition, growth of our customer base may strain or exceed the capacity of our systems and lead to degradations in performance or systems failure. Although we continually review and consider upgrades to our order fulfillment infrastructure and provide for system redundancies to limit the likelihood of systems overload or failure, substantial damage to our systems or a systems failure that causes interruptions for a number of days could adversely affect our business. Additionally, if we are unsuccessful in updating and expanding our order fulfillment infrastructure, our ability to grow may be constrained. As a result, our revenues and earnings could be materially adversely affected.

A worsening of the United States economy could materially adversely affect our business. Our revenues and performance depend on consumer confidence and spending, which have recently deteriorated due to current worldwide economic downturn. This economic downturn and decrease in consumer spending may adversely impact our revenues, ability to market our products or otherwise implement our business strategy. For example, we are highly dependent on consumer demand for specialty coffee and a shift in consumer demand away from specialty coffee due to economic or other consumer preferences would harm our business. If the current economic situation deteriorates significantly, our business could be negatively impacted.

We may seek opportunities to obtain additional capital to continue to grow our business. Our business strategy contemplates potential future access to financing to fund the expansion of our business. Recent events in the financial markets have had an adverse impact on the credit markets and equity securities, including our common stock, have exhibited a high degree of volatility. We may seek opportunities to obtain additional capital. Our ability to obtain additional financing in the future will depend in part upon the prevailing capital market conditions, as well as our business performance. If additional financing is raised by the issuance of common stock you may suffer additional dilution and if additional financing is raised through debt financing, it may involve significant restrictive covenants which could affect our ability to operate our business. The inability to obtain sufficient capital to fund the expansion of our business if needed could have a material adverse effect on us.

If we fail to continue to develop and maintain our brand, our business could suffer. We believe that maintaining and developing our brand is critical to our success and that the importance of brand recognition may increase as a result of competitors offering products similar to ours. If our brand building initiative is unsuccessful, we may never recover the expenses incurred in connection with these efforts and we may be unable to increase our future revenue or implement our business strategy. Our success in promoting and enhancing our brand will also depend on our ability to provide customers with high-quality products and customer service. Although we take measures to ensure that we sell only fresh roasted coffee, we have no control over our coffee products once purchased by customers. Accordingly, customers may prepare coffee from our brands inconsistent with our standards, store our coffee for long periods of time or resell our coffee without our consent, which in each case, potentially affects the quality of the coffee prepared from our products. If customers do not perceive our products and service to be of high-quality, then the value of our brand may be diminished and, consequently, our ability to implement our business strategy may be adversely affected.

#### Risks related to the coffee industry

Increases in the cost of high quality Arabica or Robusta coffee beans could reduce our gross margin and profit. Green coffee is our largest single cost of sales. Coffee is a traded commodity and, in general, its price can fluctuate depending on:

- weather patterns in coffee-producing countries;
- economic and political conditions affecting coffee-producing countries, including acts of terrorism in such countries;
- foreign currency fluctuations; and
- trade regulations and restrictions between coffee-producing countries and the United States.

If the cost of wholesale green coffee increases due to any of these factors, our margins could decrease and our profitability could suffer accordingly. Coffee prices have been very volatile and it is expected that coffee prices will remain volatile in the coming years. Although we have historically attempted to raise the selling prices of our products in response to increases in the price of wholesale green coffee, when wholesale green coffee prices increase rapidly or to significantly higher than normal levels, we are not always able to pass the price increases through to our customers on a timely basis, if at all, which adversely affects our operating margins and cash flow. We may not be able to recover any future increases in the cost of wholesale green coffee. Even if we are able to recover future increases, our operating margins and results of operations may still be materially and adversely affected by time delays in the implementation of price increases. In addition, volatility in coffee prices has also negatively impacted our hedging activities which has negatively impacted our operating results.

Disruptions in the supply of green coffee could result in a deterioration of our relationship with our customers, decreased revenues or could impair our ability to grow our business. Green coffee is a commodity and its supply is subject to volatility beyond our control. Supply is affected by many factors in the coffee growing countries including

weather, pest damage, economic conditions, acts of terrorism, as well as efforts by coffee growers to expand or form cartels or associations. In addition, the political situation in many of the Arabica coffee growing regions, including Africa, Indonesia, and Central and South America, can be unstable, and such instability could affect our ability to purchase coffee from those regions. If Arabica coffee beans from a region become unavailable or prohibitively expensive, we could be forced to discontinue particular coffee types and blends or substitute coffee beans from other regions in our blends. Frequent substitutions and changes in our coffee product lines could lead to cost increases, customer alienation and fluctuations in our gross margins.

Some of the Arabica coffee beans of the quality we purchase do not trade directly on the commodity markets. Rather, we purchase the high-end Arabica coffee beans that we use on a negotiated basis. We depend on our relationships with coffee brokers, exporters and growers for the supply of our primary raw material, high quality Arabica coffee beans. If any of our relationships with coffee brokers, exporters or growers deteriorate, we may be unable to procure a sufficient quantity of high quality coffee beans at prices acceptable to us or at all. In such case, we may not be able to fulfill the demand of our existing customers, supply new retail stores or expand other channels of distribution. A raw material shortage could result in a deterioration of our relationship with our customers, decreased revenues or could impair our ability to expand our business.

The coffee industry is highly competitive and if we cannot compete successfully, we may lose our customers or experience reduced sales and profitability. The coffee markets in which we do business are highly competitive and competition in these markets could become increasingly more intense due to the relatively low barriers of entry. The industry in which we compete is particularly sensitive to price pressure, as well as quality, reputation and viability for wholesale and brand loyalty for retail. To the extent that one or more of our competitors becomes more successful with respect to any key competitive factor, our ability to attract and retain customers could be materially adversely affected. Our private label and branded coffee products compete with other manufacturers of private label coffee and branded coffees. These competitors, such as Kraft General Foods, Inc. (owner of the Maxwell House brand), Massimo Zanetti Beverage, and Smuckers (owner of the Folgers brand), have much greater financial, marketing, distribution, management and other resources than we do for marketing, promotions and geographic and market expansion. In addition, there are a growing number of specialty coffee companies who provide specialty green coffee and roasted coffee for retail sale. If we are unable to compete successfully against existing and new competitors, we may lose our customers or experience reduced sales and profitability.

Besides coffee, we face exposure to other commodity cost fluctuations, which could impair our profitability. In addition to the increase in coffee costs discussed in the risk factor above, we are exposed to cost fluctuation in other commodities, including, in particular, steel, natural gas and gasoline. In addition, an increase in the cost of fuel could indirectly lead to higher electricity costs, transportation costs and other commodity costs. Much like coffee costs, the costs of these commodities depend on various factors beyond our control, including economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, and global weather patterns. To the extent we are unable to pass along such costs to our customers through price increases, our margins and profitability will decrease.

Adverse public or medical opinion about caffeine may harm our business. Coffee contains caffeine and other active compounds, the health effects of some of which are not fully understood. A number of research studies conclude or suggest that excessive consumption of caffeine may lead to increased heart rate, nausea and vomiting, restlessness and anxiety, depression, headaches, tremors, sleeplessness and other adverse health effects. An unfavorable report on the health effects of caffeine or other compounds present in coffee could significantly reduce the demand for coffee, which could harm our business and reduce our sales and profits. In addition, we could become subject to litigation relating to the existence of such compounds in our coffee; litigation that could be costly and could divert management attention.

Risks related to our common stock.

Our operating results may fluctuate significantly, which makes our results of operations difficult to predict and could cause our results of operations to fall short of expectations. Our operating results may fluctuate from quarter to quarter and year to year as a result of a number of factors, many of which are outside of our control. These fluctuations could be caused by a number of factors including:

- fluctuations in purchase prices and supply of green coffee;
- fluctuations in the selling prices of our products;
- the level of marketing and pricing competition from existing or new competitors in the coffee industry;
- the success of our hedging strategy;
- our ability to retain existing customers and attract new customers; and
- our ability to manage inventory and fulfillment operations and maintain gross margins.

As a result of the foregoing, period-to-period comparisons of our operating results may not necessarily be meaningful and those comparisons should not be relied upon as indicators of future performance. Accordingly, our operating results in future quarters may be below market expectations. In this event, the price of our common stock may decline.



The Gordon family has substantial control over us, substantially reducing the influence of our other stockholders. Members of the Gordon family, including Andrew Gordon, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, and David Gordon, our Executive Vice President and Secretary, own, in the aggregate, approximately 28.8% of our outstanding shares of common stock. As a result, the Gordon family is able to influence significantly the actions that require stockholder approval, including:

the election of a majority of our directors;

the amendment of our charter documents; and

the approval of mergers, sales of assets or other corporate transactions or matters submitted for stockholder approval.

As a result, our other stockholders may have reduced influence over matters submitted for stockholder approval. In addition, the Gordon family's influence could preclude any unsolicited acquisition of us and consequently materially adversely affect the price of our common stock.

The market price of our common stock has been volatile over the past several months and may continue to be volatile. The market price and trading volume of our common stock has been volatile over the past several months and it may continue to be volatile. From May 1, 2011 through January 23, 2012, our common stock has traded as low as \$5.27 and as high as \$30.98. We cannot predict the price at which our common stock will trade in the future and it may decline. The price at which our common stock trades may fluctuate significantly and may be influenced by many factors, including our financial results, developments generally affecting the coffee industry, general economic, industry and market conditions, the depth and liquidity of the market for our common stock, fluctuations in coffee prices, investor perceptions of our business, reports by industry analysts, negative announcements by our customers, competitors or suppliers regarding their own performances, and the impact of other "Risk Factors" discussed in this prospectus.

Provisions in our articles of incorporation, bylaws and of Nevada law have anti-takeover effects that could prevent a change in control that could be beneficial to our stockholders, which could depress the market price of shares of our common stock.

Our articles of incorporation, bylaws and Nevada corporate law contain provisions that could delay, defer or prevent a change in control of us or our management that could be beneficial to our stockholders. These provisions could also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for our stockholders to elect directors and take other corporate actions. These provisions might also discourage a potential acquisition proposal or tender offer, even if the acquisition proposal or tender offer is at a price above the then current market price for shares of our common stock. These provisions:

- provide that directors may only be removed upon a vote of at least eighty percent of the shares outstanding;
- establish advance notice requirements for nominating directors and proposing matters to be voted on by shareholders at shareholder meetings;
  - limit the right of our stockholders to call a special meeting of stockholders
- authorize our board of directors to issue preferred stock and to determine the rights and preferences of those shares, which would be senior to our common stock, without prior stockholder approval;

- require amendments to our articles of incorporation to be approved by the holders of at least eighty percent of our outstanding shares of common stock;
- a classified board of directors with three-year staggered terms, which may delay the ability of stockholders to change the membership of a majority of our board of directors; and
- provide a prohibition on stockholder action by written consent, thereby only permitting stockholder action to be taken at an annual or special meeting of our stockholders.

We are also subject to certain anti-takeover provisions under Nevada law. Under Nevada law, a corporation may not, in general, engage in a business combination with any “interested stockholder” which includes, among other things, a holder of 10% or more of its common stock unless the holder has held the stock for three years or, among other things, the board of directors has approved the transaction.



ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Not applicable.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

We are headquartered at 3475 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island, New York, where we lease office and warehouse space. We pay annual rent of \$120,943 under the terms of the lease, which expires on October 31, 2023.

We lease a 50,000 square foot facility located at 27700 Frontage Road in La Junta, Colorado from the City of La Junta. We pay annual rent of \$100,093 through January of 2024.

We lease office space in Vancouver, Washington. We pay annual rent of \$31,800, under the terms of a lease which expires in June 2012.

We also use a variety of independent, bonded commercial warehouses to store our green coffee beans. Our management believes that our facilities are adequate for our current operations and for our contemplated operations in the foreseeable future.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are not a party to, and none of our property is the subject of, any pending legal proceedings other than routine litigation that is incidental to our business. To our knowledge, no governmental authority is contemplating initiating any such proceedings.

ITEM 4. (REMOVED AND RESERVED)

## PART II

## ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our common stock trades on Nasdaq under the symbol "JVA." On June 25, 2010, our Board of Directors approved a regular dividend program of \$0.03 per share to shareholders (each, a "Quarterly Dividend") and paid a Quarterly Dividend since such time. As of January 23, 2012, we had 350 holders of record.

We did not repurchase any of our common stock during the quarter ended October 31, 2011.

The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices of our common stock for each quarter of the last two fiscal years.

	High	Low
	2011	
1st Quarter	\$4.30	\$3.67
2nd Quarter	\$8.14	\$3.90
3rd Quarter	\$30.98	\$5.27
4th Quarter	\$22.92	\$6.90
	2010	
1st Quarter	\$1.79	\$0.77
2nd Quarter	\$4.91	\$0.56
3rd Quarter	\$4.98	\$1.87
4th Quarter	\$5.21	\$3.55

## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table sets forth selected financial data for the last five years from the consolidated financial statements of Coffee Holding Co., Inc. The following information is only a summary, and you should read it in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and notes beginning on page F-1.

	2011	For the Years Ended October 31,			2007
		2010	2009	2008	
		(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)			
<b>Income Statement Data:</b>					
Net sales	\$ 146,755	\$ 83,492	\$ 74,452	\$ 71,186	\$ 57,365
Cost of sales	138,210	72,932	64,440	68,762	49,071
Gross profit	8,545	10,560	10,012	2,424	8,294
Operating expenses	7,345	6,545	6,389	6,363	6,842
Income (loss) from operations	1,200	4,015	3,623	(3,939)	1,452
Other income (expense)	(124)	(143)	1,869	(86)	(90)
Income (loss) before income taxes	1,076	3,872	5,492	(4,025)	1,362
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	230	1,479	2,159	(1,430)	418
Non controlling interest	(34)	(4)	(42)	(2)	(7)
Net income (loss)	\$ 812	\$ 2,389	\$ 3,291	\$ (2,597)	\$ 937

	At October 31,				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	(Dollars in thousands, except per shares data)				
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Total assets	\$ 38,779	\$ 23,921	\$ 19,804	\$ 21,002	\$ 20,397
Short-term debt	1,820	2,307	792	3,522	897
Long-term debt	—	—	—	—	—
Total liabilities	16,789	10,390	8,625	13,151	8,194
Stockholders' equity	21,907	13,482	11,133	7,847	12,202
Book value per share	\$ 3.44	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.44	\$ 2.21

	For the years ended October 31,				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	(Dollars in thousands, except per shares data)				
<b>Per Common Share Data:</b>					
Basic EPS	\$ .15	\$ .44	\$ .60	\$ (.47)	\$ .17
Diluted EPS	\$ .14	\$ .44	\$ .60	\$ (.47)	\$ .17
Cash dividends declared	\$ 694,658	\$ 333,978	\$ —	\$ 1,544,568	\$ —

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATION

Cautionary Note on Forward-Looking Statements

Some of the matters discussed under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation," "Business," "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this annual report include forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. We have based these forward-looking statements upon information available to management as of the date of this Form 10-K and management's expectations and projections about future events, including, among other things:

- our dependency on a single commodity could affect our revenues and profitability;
- our success in expanding our market presence in new geographic regions;
- the effectiveness of our hedging policy may impact our profitability;
  - the success of our joint ventures;
- our success in implementing our business strategy or introducing new products;
  - our ability to attract and retain customers;
  - our ability to retain key personnel;
  - our ability to obtain additional financing;
- our ability to comply with the restrictive covenants we are subject to under our current financing;
- the effects of competition from other coffee manufacturers and other beverage alternatives;
  - the impact to the operations of our Colorado facility;
- general economic conditions and conditions which affect the market for coffee;
  - the macro global economic environment;
- our ability to maintain and develop our brand recognition;

- the impact of rapid or persistent fluctuations in the price of coffee beans;
  - fluctuations in the supply of coffee beans;
  - the volatility of our common stock; and
- other risks which we identify in future filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”).

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “predict,” “potential,” “continue,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “future,” “intend,” “plan,” “believe,” “estimate” and similar expressions (or the negative of such expressions). Any or all of our forward looking statements in this annual report and in any other public statements we make may turn out to be wrong. They can be affected by inaccurate assumptions we might make or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Consequently, no forward-looking statement can be guaranteed. In addition, we undertake no responsibility to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances, that occur after the date of this annual report.

#### Overview

We are an integrated wholesale coffee roaster and dealer in the United States and one of the few coffee companies that offers a broad array of coffee products across the entire spectrum of consumer tastes, preferences and price points. As a result, we believe that we are well-positioned to increase our profitability and endure potential coffee price volatility throughout varying cycles of the coffee market and economic conditions.

Our operations have primarily focused on the following areas of the coffee industry:

- the sale of wholesale specialty green coffee;
- the roasting, blending, packaging and sale of private label coffee; and
- the roasting, blending, packaging and sale of our seven brands of coffee.

Our operating results are affected by a number of factors including:

- the level of marketing and pricing competition from existing or new competitors in the coffee industry;
- our ability to retain existing customers and attract new customers;
- fluctuations in purchase prices and supply of green coffee and in the selling prices of our products; and
- our ability to manage inventory and fulfillment operations and maintain gross margins.

Our net sales are driven primarily by the success of our sales and marketing efforts and our ability to retain existing customers and attract new customers. For this reason, we have made the strategic decision to invest in measures that are expected to increase net sales. In February 2004, we acquired certain assets of Premier Roasters, LLC, including equipment and a roasting facility in La Junta, Colorado. We also hired a West Coast Brand Manager to market our S&W brand and to increase sales of S&W coffee to new customers. In April 2006, we entered into a joint venture with Caruso's Coffee, Inc. of Brecksville, Ohio and formed GCC, which engages in the roasting, packaging and sale of private label specialty coffee products. We own a 60% equity interest in GCC and we are the exclusive supplier of its coffee inventory. We believe that the joint venture will allow us to bid on the private label gourmet whole bean business which we have not been equipped to pursue from an operational standpoint in the past. With this specialty roasting facility in place, in many cases right in the backyard of our most important wholesale and retail customers, we believe that we are in an ideal position to combine our current canned private label business with high-end private label specialty whole bean business. High-end specialty whole bean coffee sells for as much as three times more per pound than the canned coffees in which we currently specialize. As a result of these efforts, net sales increased in our specialty green coffee, private label and branded coffee business lines in both dollars and pounds sold. In addition, the number of our customers in all three areas increased.

We closed our manufacturing operations at our Brooklyn, New York location in May 2009. The majority of our processing has been moved to our Colorado facility with our GCC facility in Brecksville, Ohio becoming more involved with our everyday coffee production. We have leased office and warehouse space located in Staten Island, New York to house the corporate offices and serve as temporary storage of our branded product. We sold the property located in Brooklyn, New York in October 2009 for a pre-tax gain of approximately \$2,108,000, which enhanced our already strong cash position and liquidity. We used the proceeds of the sale to pay down our line of credit borrowings and reduce interest expense. Although we incurred a related severance cost of \$78,500 in the third quarter of fiscal year 2009, we believe that these measures will reduce long-term operating expenses, increase efficiencies and ultimately increase the profitability of our Company.

On May 17, 2010, we completed the Organic Products Transaction for a purchase price consisting of: a) \$450,000 in cash on the Closing Date, b) an additional \$50,000 in cash if OPTCO generates a pre-tax net profit of \$300,000 or more within during the period from May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011 ("Supplemental Cash Payment") (which was paid during the third quarter of the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011), c) 50,000 shares of Company common stock on the Closing Date (the "Common Stock Payment"), d) up to an additional 5,000 shares of the Company's common stock if the Buyer generates a pre-tax net profit of \$300,000 or more during the period from May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011 (the "First Supplemental Common Stock Payment" and together with the Supplemental Cash Payment, the "Supplemental Payment") (which was paid at the beginning of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011); (e) up to an additional 5,000 shares of the Company's common stock if the Buyer generates a pre-tax net profit of \$300,000 or more during the period from May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012 (the "Second Supplemental Common Stock Payment") and (f) an additional cash payment of \$1,809,924 based on the cost of inventory transferred to the Buyer on the Closing Date. All of the employees of Seller became employees of Buyer at the closing and Buyer has entered into two-year employment agreements with each of Seller's principals, Garth Smith and Gaylene Smith, to ensure continuity of the business. Buyer will operate under the "Organic Products Trading Company" name from Seller's Vancouver, Washington location.

In November 2011, we acquired a 40% interest in Global Mark, a new venture focusing on supply of instant coffee and related products. Under the terms of the agreement with Global Mark, we will invest up to an aggregate of \$2.0 million for a 40% interest and we will receive preferred pricing on our instant coffee needs.

Our net sales are affected by the price of green coffee. We purchase our green coffee from dealers located primarily within the United States. The dealers supply us with coffee beans from many countries, including Colombia, Mexico, Kenya, Indonesia, Brazil and Uganda. The supply and price of coffee beans are subject to volatility and are

influenced by numerous factors which are beyond our control. For example, in Brazil, which produces approximately 40% of the world's green coffee, the coffee crops are historically susceptible to frost in June and July and drought in September, October and November. However, because we purchase coffee from a number of countries and are able to freely substitute one country's coffee for another in our products, price fluctuations in one country generally have not had a material impact on the price we pay for coffee. Accordingly, price fluctuations in one country generally have not had a material effect on our results of operations, liquidity and capital resources. Historically, because we generally have been able to pass green coffee price increases through to customers, increased prices of green coffee generally result in increased net sales.

We have used, and expect to continue to use, short-term coffee futures and options contracts primarily for the purpose of partially hedging and minimizing the effects of changing green coffee prices and to reduce our cost of sales. In addition, we have acquired, and expect to continue to acquire, futures contracts with longer terms, generally three to four months, primarily for the purpose of guaranteeing an adequate supply of green coffee at favorable prices. Although the use of these derivative financial instruments has generally enabled us to mitigate the effect of changing prices, no strategy can entirely eliminate pricing risks and we generally remain exposed to loss when prices decline significantly in a short period of time. In addition, we would remain exposed to supply risk in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to any futures contracts. If the hedges that we enter into do not adequately offset the risks of coffee bean price volatility or our hedges result in losses, our cost of sales may increase, resulting in a decrease in profitability, as occurred in the three month periods ended July 31, 2011 and October 31, 2011. While we do intend to continue to use hedging as part of our overall corporate strategy, as a result of our growth and the changes in our revenue mix, we expect that our hedging in the future may be utilized to a lesser extent. See "Item 1 – Business - Our Use of Derivatives."

## Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Estimates are used for, but not limited to, the accounting for the allowance for doubtful accounts, inventories, assets held for sale, income taxes and loss contingencies. Management bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

We believe the following critical accounting policies, among others, may be impacted significantly by judgment, assumptions and estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements:

We recognize revenue in accordance with the relevant authoritative guidance. Revenue is recognized at the point title and risk of ownership transfers to its customers which is upon the shippers taking possession of the goods because i) title passes in accordance with the terms of the purchase orders and with our agreements with our customers, ii) any risk of loss is covered by the customers’ insurance, iii) there is persuasive evidence of a sales arrangement, iv) the sales price is determinable and v) collection of the resulting receivable is reasonably assured. Thus, revenue is recognized at the point of shipment.

Our allowance for doubtful accounts is maintained to provide for losses arising from customers’ inability to make required payments. If there is deterioration of our customers’ credit worthiness and/or there is an increase in the length of time that the receivables are past due greater than the historical assumptions used, additional allowances may be required. For example, every additional one percent of our accounts receivable that becomes uncollectible, would decrease our operating income by approximately \$160,000 for the year ended October 31, 2011. The reserve for sales discounts represents the estimated discount that customers will take upon payment. The reserve for other allowances represents the estimated amount of returns, slotting fees and volume based discounts estimated to be incurred by the Company from its customers.

Inventories are stated at lower of cost (determined on a first-in, first-out basis) or market. Based on our assumptions about future demand and market conditions, inventories are subject to be written-down to market value. If our assumptions about future demand change and/or actual market conditions are less favorable than those projected, additional write-downs of inventories may be required. Each additional one percent of potential inventory writedown would have decreased operating income by approximately \$135,000 for the year ended October 31, 2011.

We account for income taxes in accordance with the relevant authoritative guidance. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are computed for temporary differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities that will result in taxable or deductible amounts in the future based on enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. Deferred tax assets are reflected on the balance sheet when it is determined that it is more likely than not that the asset will be realized. Accordingly, our net deferred tax asset as of October 31, 2011 of \$860,500 may require a valuation allowance if we do not generate taxable income.

Our goodwill consists of the cost in excess of the fair market value of the acquired net assets of OPTCO. This company has been integrated into a structure which does not provide the basis for separate reporting units. Consequently, the Company is a single reporting unit for goodwill impairment testing purposes. We also have intangible assets consisting of customer list and relationships and trademarks acquired from OPTCO. At October 31, 2011 our balance sheet reflected goodwill and intangible assets as set forth below:





	October 31, 2011
Customer list and relationships, net	\$ 138,750
Trademarks	180,000
Goodwill	440,000
	\$ 758,750

Goodwill and the trademarks which are deemed to have indefinite lives are subject to annual impairment tests. Goodwill impairment tests require the comparison of the fair value and carrying value of reporting units. We assess the potential impairment of goodwill and intangible assets annually and on an interim basis whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Upon completion of such review, if impairment is found to have occurred, a corresponding charge will be recorded. The value assigned to the customer list and relationships is being amortized over a twenty year period.

Because the Company is a single reporting unit, the closing NASDAQ Capital Market price of our Common Stock as of the acquisition date was used as a basis to measure the fair value of goodwill. In addition, the Company retained a third party outside valuation firm to assist it in acquisition valuation as of May 17, 2010. Goodwill and the intangible assets will be tested annually at the end of each fiscal year to determine whether they have been impaired. Upon completion of each annual review, there can be no assurance that a material charge will not be recorded. Impairment testing is required more often than annually if an event or circumstance indicates that an impairment or decline in value may have occurred.

Year Ended October 31, 2011 (Fiscal Year 2011) Compared to the Year Ended October 31, 2010 (Fiscal Year 2010)

**Net Income.** We had net income of \$811,930, or \$0.15 per share (basic) and \$0.14 per share (diluted), for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 compared to a net income of \$2,389,361, or \$0.44 per share (basic and diluted) for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. The decrease in net income primarily reflects realized and unrealized hedging losses during fiscal 2011 as discussed below.

**Net Sales.** Net sales totaled \$146,755,165 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011, an increase of \$63,263,198, or 75.8%, from \$83,491,967 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. The increase in net sales reflects higher coffee prices during the fiscal year ended 2011 as compared to the fiscal year ended 2010, as well as an increase in pounds of coffee sold as we surpassed 48 million pounds sold in a fiscal year for the first time in the history of the Company.

**Cost of Sales.** Cost of sales for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 was \$138,210,277, or 94.2% of net sales, as compared to \$72,931,626, or 87.3%, of net sales for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. Cost of sales consists primarily of the cost of green coffee and packaging materials and realized and unrealized gains or losses on hedging activity. The increase in cost of sales primarily reflects the increased cost of green coffee and our realized and unrealized losses on hedging activities. We had green coffee purchases of \$125,478,382 million and \$64,888,163 million for the fiscal years ended 2011 and 2010, of which approximately \$25.3 million and \$19.3 million for the fiscal years ended 2011 and 2010, respectively, were from a related party. In addition, we had net realized and unrealized hedging losses of approximately \$1,222,735 and \$2,143,057, respectively during fiscal 2011 as compared to net realized and unrealized hedging gains of approximately \$1,175,028 and \$198,193, respectively, during fiscal 2010. Extreme volatility in green coffee prices negatively impacted our hedging activities.

**Gross Profit.** Gross profit for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 was \$8,544,888, a decrease of \$2,015,453 from \$10,560,341 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales decreased to 5.8% for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 from 12.6% for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010 due to net realized and unrealized hedging losses of approximately \$1,222,735 and \$2,143,057, respectively during fiscal 2011 as

compared to net realized and unrealized hedging gains of approximately \$1,175,028 and \$198,193, respectively, during fiscal 2010.

Operating Expenses. Total operating expenses increased \$800,555, or 12.2%, to \$7,345,152 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 from \$6,544,597 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010 due to an increase in selling and administrative expense, partially offset by no bonuses paid to our executive officers. Selling and administrative expenses increased \$906,356, or 15.6%, to \$6,715,753 for the year ended October 31, 2011 from \$5,809,397 for 2010. The increase in selling and administrative expenses reflects several factors, including increases of approximately \$391,000 in labor and related taxes \$25,000 in advertising costs, \$79,000 in insurance cost, \$66,000 in rent expense, \$130,000 in bank and credit card fees, \$72,000 in licenses, \$95,000 in freight costs, \$84,000 in travel/show and demo costs, and \$62,000 in charitable donations, partially offset by a decrease of approximately \$144,000 in professional fees. The increase in selling and administrative expenses was due primarily to the fact that our "OPTCO subsidiary was part of our company for the entire twelve months of the fiscal year ended 2011 as compared to five and half months during the fiscal year ended 2010.

Other Income (Expense). Other expense for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 was \$124,231, a decrease of \$18,762 from \$142,993 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. The decrease in other expense was attributable to an increase in interest and other income of \$70,935, partially offset by an increase in interest expense of \$52,173.

Income Before Taxes and Noncontrolling Interest in Subsidiary. We had income of \$1,075,505 before income taxes and noncontrolling interest in subsidiary for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 compared to income of \$3,872,751 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. A decrease of \$2,797,246 for the year ended October 31, 2011. The decrease was primarily attributable to our losses both realized and unrealized on hedging.

Income Taxes. Our provision for income taxes for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 totaled \$229,522 compared to a provision of \$1,479,489 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. The change was attributable to lower total income.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of October 31, 2011, we had working capital of \$19,613,395, which represented a \$8,425,040 increase from our working capital of \$11,188,355 as of October 31, 2010, and total stockholders' equity of \$21,906,758 which increased by \$8,424,412 from our total stockholders' equity of \$13,482,346 as of October 31, 2010. Our working capital increased primarily due to an increase of \$2,571,414 in cash, \$7,241,742 in accounts receivable, \$5,285,435 in inventories, \$822,500 in deferred tax assets, and \$486,640 decrease in line of credit, partially offset by a decrease of \$946,922 in prepaid green coffee, an increase of \$5,255,342 in accounts payable and accrued expenses and an increase in due to broker of \$1,867,558. As of October 31, 2011, the outstanding balance on our line of credit was \$1,820,109 compared to \$2,306,749 as of October 31, 2010. Total stockholders' equity increased primarily due to an increase in additional paid in capital as a result of our September stock issuance and an increase in retained earnings as a result of our net income for fiscal year ended October 31, 2011.

On February 17, 2009, the Company entered into a financing agreement with Sterling National Bank ("Sterling") for a \$5,000,000 credit facility. The credit facility is a revolving \$5,000,000 line of credit and the Company can draw on the line at an amount up to 85% of eligible accounts receivable and 25% of eligible inventory consisting of green coffee beans and finished coffee not to exceed \$1,000,000. Sterling shall have the right from time to time to adjust the foregoing percentages based upon, among other things, dilution, its sole determination of the value or likelihood of collection of eligible accounts receivables owed to the Company, considerations regarding inventory, and other factors. The credit facility is payable monthly in arrears on the average unpaid balance of the line of credit at an interest rate equal to a per annum reference rate (5.00% at October 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively) plus 1.0%. The initial term of the credit facility is three years, expiring February 17, 2012, and shall be automatically extended for successive periods of one year each unless one party shall have provided the other party with a written notice of termination at least ninety days prior to the expiration of the initial contract term or any renewal term. The credit facility is secured by all tangible and intangible assets of the Company.

The credit facility contains covenants that place annual restrictions on the Company's operations, including covenants relating to debt restrictions, capital expenditures, minimum deposit restrictions, tangible net worth, net profit, leverage, employee loan restrictions, distribution restrictions (common stock and preferred stock), dividend restrictions, and restrictions on intercompany transactions. The credit facility also requires that the Company maintain minimum working capital at all times.

On July 22, 2010, the Company had the credit facility increased to \$7,000,000. In addition, OPTCO was added as a co-borrower and the inventory sublimit was raised from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000. The term of the facility has been extended to February 17, 2013. Additionally, the Company received a limited credit guarantee of \$1,800,000 from the not-for-profit entity CORDAID that is available to be used as collateral for the loan facility to Sterling.

CORDAID, a non-profit organization that supports development projects in developing countries, registered under the laws of the Netherlands, has agreed to make available \$1,800,000 to be used as collateral by OPTCO for a loan facility from Sterling to the Company under a Guarantee Agreement. OPTCO has agreed to pre-finance coffee from small coffee producer groups. The Company pays a guarantee fee of 1.5% per year in advance. In addition, the Company has a corporate guarantee as security to CORDAID as to the first loss guarantee of 25% of the outstanding amount of the guarantee from CORDAID, up to a maximum of \$350,000. The initial term of the Guarantee Agreement expired on March 31, 2011 and was extended to March 31, 2012 and reduced to \$1,500,000.

On July 23, 2010, the Company amended their credit facility regarding the payment of dividends. The facility agreement was changed to allow the payment of quarterly dividends of not more than three cents (\$0.03) per share.

As of October 31, 2011 and 2010 the outstanding balance under the bank line of credit was \$1,820,109 and \$2,306,749, respectively. The Company was in compliance with all required financial covenants at October 31, 2011 and 2010.

On February 3, 2011, the Company amended their credit facility regarding the creation of a sublimit within the revolving line of credit in the form of a \$300,000 term loan for the benefit of their 60% owned subsidiary, GCC. The Company has provided a corporate guarantee to Sterling National Bank.

Triodos Bank is one of the world's leading sustainable banks with a mission to make money work for positive social, environmental and cultural change. Triodos has offices in the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, UK and Belgium. The Company initiated a corporate guarantee on April 15, 2011 to Triodos Sustainable Trade Fund("TSTF") up to a maximum amount of \$250,000. TSTF provided financing to two coffee growing cooperatives for \$1,000,000 based upon relationships established with OPTCO.

In October 2011, we sold 890,000 units, each consisting of one share of our common stock and three-tenths of a warrant to purchase one share of our common stock for a purchase price of \$10.40 per unit. The warrants become exercisable in April 2012, expire five years after becoming exercisable and have an exercise price of \$13.59 per share. Net proceeds of the offering, after deducting placement agent fees and other estimated offering expenses payable by us, were approximately \$8.3 million.

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 our operating activities used net cash of \$4,052,560 as compared to the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010 when operating activities provided net cash of \$1,342,092. The decreased cash flow from operations for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 was primarily due to increases in accounts receivable of \$7,241,742, partially offset by our unrealized loss on commodities of \$2,143,057.

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011, our investing activities used net cash of \$526,518 as compared to the fiscal year October 31, 2010 when net cash used by investing activities was \$2,623,687. The decrease in our uses of cash in investing activities was primarily due to the cost of the acquisition of our subsidiary of \$2,259,924.

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011, our financing activities provided net cash of \$7,150,492 compared to net cash provided by financing activities of \$1,181,143 for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. The change in cash flow from financing activities for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011 was primarily due to the net proceeds from the issuance of stock of \$8,331,790, partially offset by the payment of principal on our line of credit of \$486,640 and the payment of dividends of \$694,658.

We expect to fund our operations, including paying our liabilities, funding capital expenditures and making required payments on our debts, through October 31, 2012 with cash provided by operating activities and the use of our credit facility. In addition, an increase in eligible accounts receivable and inventory would permit us to make additional borrowings under our line of credit.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that is material to investors.

#### ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risks relating to our operations result primarily from changes in interest rates and commodity prices as further described below.

**Interest Rate Risks.** We are subject to market risk from exposure to fluctuations in interest rates. As of October 31, 2011, our debt consisted of \$1,820,109 of variable rate debt under our revolving line of credit. Our line of credit

provides for a maximum of \$7,000,000 and is payable monthly in arrears on the average unpaid balance of the line of credit at an interest rate equal to a per annum reference rate (currently 5.00%) plus 1%. This loan is secured by tangible and intangible assets of the Company.

Commodity Price Risks. The supply and price of coffee beans are subject to volatility and are influenced by numerous factors which are beyond our control. We have used, and expect to continue to use, short-term coffee futures and options contracts for the purpose of hedging the effects of changing green coffee prices as further explained in Note 2 of the notes to financial statements in this report. In addition, we have acquired, and expect to continue to acquire, futures contracts with longer terms, generally three to four months, for the purpose of guaranteeing an adequate supply of green coffee. Realized and unrealized gains or losses on options and futures contracts are reflected in our cost of sales. Gains on options and futures contracts reduce our cost of sales and losses on options and futures contracts increase our cost of sales. The use of these derivative financial instruments has generally enabled us to mitigate the effect of changing prices. We believe that, in normal economic times, our hedging policies remain a vital element to our business model not only in controlling our cost of sales, but also giving us the flexibility to obtain the inventory necessary to continue to grow our sales while trying to minimize margin compression during a time of historically high coffee prices. However, no strategy can entirely eliminate pricing risks and we generally remain exposed to losses on futures contracts when prices decline significantly in a short period of time, and we would generally remain exposed to supply risk in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to any futures contracts. Although we have had net gains on options and futures contracts in the past, we have incurred losses on options and futures contracts during some reporting periods, including the three month periods ended July 31, 2011 and October 31, 2011. In these cases, our cost of sales has increased, resulting in a decrease in our profitability. Such losses have and could in the future materially increase our cost of sales and materially decrease our profitability and adversely affect our stock price. While we do intend to continue to use hedging as part of our overall corporate strategy, as a result of our growth and the changes in our revenue mix, we expect that our hedging in the future may be utilized to a lesser extent. See “Item 1A – Risk Factors – If our hedging policy is not effective, we may not be able to control our coffee costs, we may be forced to pay greater than market value for green coffee and our profitability may be reduced.”

As of October 31, 2011, we held 70 future contracts for the purchase of 2,625,000 pounds of coffee at a weighted average price of \$2.525 per pound compared to 37 future contracts for the purchase of 1,387,500 pounds of coffee at a weighted average price of \$1.872 per pound for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010. The fair market value of coffee applicable to such contracts was \$2.27 and \$2.035 per pound, respectively.

#### ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

See pages F-1 through F-26 following the Exhibit Index of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

#### ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures. Management, which includes our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, the Company’s President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file and submit under the Exchange Act is (i) recorded, processed, summarized and reported as and when required and (ii) accumulated and communicated, as is appropriate, to the Company’s management, including its principal executive officer and financial officer to allow timely decisions regarding disclosure.



Management Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. The Company's internal control system is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance to the Company's management and Board of Directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements.

Our internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect transactions and dispositions of assets, provide reasonable assurances that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and the directors, and provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on our financial statements.

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

Our management assessed the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting as of October 31, 2011. In making this assessment, the management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in Internal Control-Integrated Framework. Based on our assessment our management believes that, as of October 31, 2011, our internal control over financial reporting is effective based on those criteria.

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation that occurred during our last fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or that is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Attestation Report of the Registered Public Accounting Firm.

This annual report does not include an attestation report of our registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Management's report was not subject to attestation by our registered public accounting firm pursuant to section 989G of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act that permits us to provide only management's report in this annual report.

#### ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

Information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

Information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) List of Documents filed as part of this Report

(1) Financial Statements

The financial statements and related notes, together with the report of ParenteBeard LLC appear at pages F-1 through F-31 following the Exhibit List as required by Part II, Item 8 “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data” of this Form 10-K.

(2) Financial Statement Schedules

None.

(3) List of Exhibits

(a) Exhibits

The Company has filed with this report or incorporated by reference herein certain exhibits as specified below pursuant to Rule 12b-32 under the Exchange Act. See Exhibit Index following the signature page to this report for a complete list of documents filed with this report.

Exhibit Description  
No.

2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated October 31, 1997, by and among Transpacific International Group Corp. and Coffee Holding Co., Inc. (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2 to Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Company’s Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed on November 10, 1997 (File No. 333-00588-NY)).
2.2	Asset Purchase Agreement, dated February 4, 2004, by and between Coffee Holding Co., Inc. and Premier Roasters LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 20, 2004 (File No. 333-00588-NY)).
3.1	Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Registration Statement on Form 8-A the “2005 Registration Statement” filed on May 2, 2005 (File No. 001-32491)).
3.2	By-Laws of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the 2005 Registration Statement (File No. 001-32491)).
4.1	Form of Stock Certificate of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to the Company’s Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed on June 24, 2004 (Registration No. 333-116838)).
4.2	Form of Common Stock Purchase Warrant (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company’s Report on Form 8-K filed on September 27, 2011 (File No. 001-32491)).

- 10.1 Loan and Security Agreement, dated February 17, 2009, by and between Sterling National Bank and Coffee Holding Co., Inc. (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.21 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 23, 2009 (File No. 001-32491)).
- 10.2 Lease, dated February 4, 2004, by and between Coffee Holding Co., Inc. and the City of La Junta, Colorado (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to Amendment No. 1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form SB-2/A filed on August 12, 2004 (Registration No. 333-116838)).
- 10.3 Trademark License Agreement, dated February 4, 2004, between Del Monte Corporation and Coffee Holding Co, Inc. (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB/A for the quarter ended April 30, 2004 filed on August 26, 2004 (File No. 333-00588-NY)).
- 10.4 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated April 11, 2008, by and between Coffee Holding Co., Inc. and Andrew Gordon (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.14 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 16, 2008 (File No. 001-32491)), as amended by that certain Letter Agreement, dated January 25, 2012 (filed herewith).
- 10.5 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated April 11, 2008, by and between Coffee Holding Co., Inc. and David Gordon (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.15 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 16, 2008 (File No. 001-32491)).
- 10.6 Coffee Holding Co., Inc. Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan (incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB filed on June 14, 2005 (File No. 001-32491)).
- 10.7 Contract of Sale, dated April 14, 2009, by and between Coffee Holding Co., Inc. and 4401 1st Ave LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on January 28, 2010 (File No. 001-32491)).
- 10.8 First Amendment to Loan and Security Agreement between Coffee Holding Co., Inc. and Sterling National Bank, dated July 23, 2010.
- 10.9 Placement Agency Agreement, dated as of September 27, 2011, by and among the Company, the selling stockholders named therein, Roth Capital Partners, LLC and Maxim Group, LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K filed on September 27, 2011 (File No. 001-32491)).
- 10.10 Subscription Agreement, dated as of September 27, 2011, by and between the Company, the selling stockholders named therein and each of the purchasers identified on the signature pages thereto (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Report on Form 8-K filed on September 27, 2011 (File No. 001-32491)).
- 11.1 Calculation of Earnings Per Share.
- 31.1 Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer's Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer's Certification furnished pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.



SIGNATURES

In accordance with Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on January 30, 2012.

COFFEE HOLDING CO., INC.