### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **FORM 10-Q**

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

For the quarterly period ended December 31, 2014

Commission file number 1-5128



## MEREDITH CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Iowa

42-0410230

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa

50309-3023

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (515) 284-3000

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes ⊠ No □

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T 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 whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer 

Accelerated filer □ Non-accelerated filer □ Smaller reporting company □

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

Yes □ No ⊠

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

Shares of stock outstanding at December 31, 2014							
Common shares	37,246,735						
Class B shares	7,287,666						
Total common and Class B shares	44,534,401						

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Meredith Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries are referred to in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (Form 10-Q) as *Meredith, the Company, we, our,* and *us.* 

## PART I

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**Item 1.** Financial Statements

## Meredith Corporation and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

Assets	De	ecember 31, 2014		June 30, 2014
(In thousands)				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	18,123	\$	36,587
Accounts receivable, net.		289,658		257,644
Inventories		26,213		24,008
Current portion of subscription acquisition costs		97,609		96,893
Current portion of broadcast rights.		12,083		4,551
Assets held for sale		54,610		32,900
Other current assets		24,381		17,429
Total current assets		522,677		470,012
Property, plant, and equipment.		524,803		501,216
Less accumulated depreciation		(312,274)		(296,168
Net property, plant, and equipment		212,529		205,048
Subscription acquisition costs		105,808		101,533
Broadcast rights		2,809		3,114
Other assets		87,419		86,935
Intangible assets, net		930,090		835,531
Goodwill		941,237		841,627
Total assets	\$	2,802,569	\$	2,543,800
Current liabilities  Current parties of least town debt	ø.	(2.500	¢	97.500
Current portion of long-term debt	\$	62,500	\$	87,500
Current portion of long-term broadcast rights payable		12,137		4,511
Accounts payable		76,308		81,402
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		149,186		136,047
Current portion of unearned subscription revenues		184,282		173,643
Total current liabilities		484,413		483,103
Long-term debt		796,250		627,500
Long-term broadcast rights payable		4,223		4,327
Unearned subscription revenues		166,464		151,533
Deferred income taxes		287,509		277,477
Other noncurrent liabilities		140,604		108,208
Total liabilities		1,879,463		1,652,148
Shareholders' equity				
Series preferred stock				_
Common stock		37,247		36,776
Class B stock		7,288		7,700
Additional paid-in capital		43,555		41,884
Retained earnings		844,189		814,050
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(9,173)		(8,758
Total shareholders' equity		923,106		891,652
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	2,802,569	\$	2,543,800

## Meredith Corporation and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings (Unaudited)

	Three Months					Six Months					
Periods ended December 31,		2014		2013		2014		2013			
(In thousands except per share data)				'							
Revenues											
Advertising	\$	241,422	\$	193,531	\$	459,453	\$	392,078			
Circulation		59,468		67,733		125,353		143,467			
All other		98,015		92,784		185,283		174,955			
Total revenues		398,905		354,048		770,089		710,500			
Operating expenses											
Production, distribution, and editorial		140,283		132,216		282,170		272,993			
Selling, general, and administrative		175,452		158,341		339,128		319,413			
Depreciation and amortization		14,308		11,590		27,077		23,385			
Total operating expenses.		330,043		302,147		648,375		615,791			
Income from operations		68,862		51,901		121,714		94,709			
Interest expense, net		(4,785)		(2,555)		(9,027)		(5,268)			
Earnings before income taxes		64,077		49,346		112,687		89,441			
Income taxes		(24,486)		(18,777)		(43,731)		(34,831)			
Net earnings		39,591	\$	30,569	\$	68,956	\$	54,610			
Basic earnings per share	\$	0.89	\$	0.68	\$	1.55	\$	1.22			
Basic average shares outstanding		44,483		44,696		44,471		44,672			
Diluted earnings per share	\$	0.87	\$	0.67	\$	1.52	\$	1.20			
Diluted average shares outstanding		45,268		45,619		45,224		45,499			
Dividends paid per share	\$	0.4325	\$	0.4075	\$	0.8650	\$	0.8150			

## Meredith Corporation and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)

	Three I	Months	Six M	onths
Periods ended December 31,	2014	2013	2014	2013
(In thousands)		,		
Net earnings	\$ 39,591	\$ 30,569	\$ 68,956	\$ 54,610
Other comprehensive income, net of income taxes				
Pension and other postretirement benefit plans activity	42	268	84	658
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps	(1,276)	_	(499)	_
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income taxes	(1,234)	268	(415)	658
Comprehensive income	\$ 38,357	\$ 30,837	\$ 68,541	\$ 55,268

## Meredith Corporation and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity (Unaudited)

(In thousands except per share data)	Common Stock - \$1 par value	Class B Stock - \$1 par value	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss		Total
Balance at June 30, 2014	\$ 36,776	\$ 7,700	\$ 41,884	\$ 814,050	\$	(8,758)	\$ 891,652
Net earnings	_	_	_	68,956		_	68,956
Other comprehensive loss, net of income taxes	_	_	_	_		(415)	(415)
Share-based incentive plan transactions	786	786 — 27,603 —			_	28,389	
Purchases of Company stock	(726)	(1)	(35,450)	_		_	(36,177)
Share-based compensation		_	8,431	_		_	8,431
Conversion of Class B to common stock	411	(411)	_	_		_	_
Dividends paid							
Common stock	_	_	_	(32,509)		_	(32,509)
Class B stock	_	_	_	(6,308)		_	(6,308)
Tax benefit from share-based awards	_	_	1,087	_		_	1,087
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$ 37,247	\$ 7,288	\$ 43,555	\$ 844,189	\$	(9,173)	\$ 923,106

## Meredith Corporation and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013
(In thousands)	"	
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net earnings \$	68,956	\$ 54,610
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	18,806	16,735
Amortization	7,012	6,650
Share-based compensation	8,431	7,926
Deferred income taxes	13,486	10,764
Amortization of broadcast rights	8,063	4,437
Payments for broadcast rights	(7,847)	(5,338)
Provision for write-down of impaired assets	1,450	_
Fair value adjustment to contingent consideration.	(1,100)	(1,100)
Excess tax benefits from share-based payments	(6,035)	(3,866)
Changes in assets and liabilities	(36,853)	(30,131)
Net cash provided by operating activities.	74,369	60,687
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisitions of and investments in businesses	(183,944)	(879)
Additions to property, plant, and equipment	(11,855)	(11,272)
Net cash used in investing activities	(195,799)	(12,151)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	285,000	106,000
Repayments of long-term debt	(141,250)	(116,000)
Dividends paid	(38,817)	(36,628)
Purchases of Company stock	(36,177)	(58,198)
Proceeds from common stock issued	28,389	50,633
Excess tax benefits from share-based payments	6,035	3,866
Other	(214)	_
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	102,966	(50,327)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(18,464)	(1,791)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	36,587	27,674
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	18,123	\$ 25,883

Meredith Corporation and Subsidiaries Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation—The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Meredith Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiaries (Meredith or the Company), after eliminating all significant intercompany balances and transactions. Meredith does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements. The Company's use of special-purpose entities is limited to Meredith Funding Corporation, whose activities are fully consolidated in Meredith's condensed consolidated financial statements.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for complete financial statements. These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements, which are included in Meredith's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2014, filed with the SEC.

The condensed consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2014, and for the three and six months ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, are unaudited but, in management's opinion, include all normal, recurring adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the results of interim periods. The year-end condensed consolidated balance sheet data as of June 30, 2014, were derived from audited financial statements, but do not include all disclosures required by GAAP. The results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the entire fiscal year.

Derivative Financial Instruments—Meredith does not engage in derivative or hedging activities, except to hedge interest rate risk on debt as described in Note 6. Fundamental to our approach to risk management is the desire to minimize exposure to volatility in interest costs of variable rate debt, which can impact our earnings and cash flows. In the first quarter of fiscal 2015, we entered into interest rate swap agreements with counterparties that are major financial institutions. These agreements effectively fix the variable rate cash flow on \$200 million of a combination of our variable-rate private placement senior notes and bank term loan. We designated and accounted for the interest rate swaps as cash flow hedges in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*. The effective portion of the change in the fair value of interest rate swaps is reported in other comprehensive income (loss). The gain or loss included in other comprehensive income (loss) is subsequently reclassified into net earnings on the same line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings as the hedged item in the same period that the hedge transaction affects net earnings. The ineffective portion of a change in fair value of the interest rate swaps would be reported in interest expense. During the first six months of fiscal 2015, the interest rate swap agreements were considered effective hedges and there were no material gains or losses recognized in earnings for hedge ineffectiveness.

Adopted Accounting Pronouncements—In July 2013, the FASB issued guidance on the presentation of an unrecognized tax benefit when a net operating loss carryforward, a similar tax loss, or a tax credit carryforward exists. The guidance requires the netting of unrecognized tax benefits against a deferred tax asset for a loss or other carryforward that would apply in settlement of uncertain tax positions. Under the new standard, unrecognized tax benefits will be netted against all available same-jurisdiction loss or other tax carryforwards that would be utilized, rather than only against carryforwards that are created by the unrecognized tax benefits. The guidance was effective for the Company in the first quarter of fiscal 2015. The adoption of this guidance did not have an impact on our results of operations or cash flows and we have updated our presentation of unrecognized tax benefits net of our deferred tax assets where applicable on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

### 2. Acquisitions

#### Fiscal 2015

On October 31, 2014, Meredith acquired WGGB, the ABC affiliate in Springfield, Massachusetts. The results of WGGB's operations have been included in the condensed consolidated financial statements since that date. The acquisition-date fair value of the consideration totaled \$53.3 million, which consisted of \$50.0 million of cash and \$3.3 million of contingent consideration. The contingent consideration arrangement requires the Company to pay contingent payments based on certain future regulatory actions. We estimated the fair value of the contingent consideration using a probability-weighted discounted cash flow model. The fair value is based on significant inputs not observable in the market and thus represents a Level 3 measurement as defined in Note 9. As of December 31, 2014, the Company estimates the future payments will range from zero to \$4.0 million. The maximum amount of contingent payments the seller may receive is \$4.0 million.

Effective November 1, 2014, Meredith completed its acquisition of *Martha Stewart Living* magazine and its related digital assets (collectively Martha Stewart Living Media Properties). In addition, Meredith entered into a 10-year licensing arrangement with Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia (MSLO) for the licensing of the Martha Stewart Living trade name. The acquired business operations include sales and marketing, circulation, production, and other non-editorial functions. Meredith will source editorial content from MSLO. The results of the Martha Stewart Living Media Properties have been included in the condensed consolidated financial statements since the effective date. There was no consideration exchanged in this transaction.

On November 13, 2014, Meredith acquired 100 percent of the membership interests in My Wedding, LLC (Mywedding) resulting in the acquisition of Mywedding.com. Mywedding.com is one of the top five wedding websites in the U.S., providing couples with a complete wedding planning product suite. The results of Mywedding have been included in the condensed consolidated financial statements since that date. The acquisition-date fair value of the consideration was \$42.6 million, which consisted of \$20.0 million of cash and \$22.6 million of contingent consideration. The contingent consideration arrangement requires the Company to pay a contingent payment based on certain financial targets achieved during fiscal 2018 generally based on earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA), as defined in the acquisition agreement. The contingent consideration is not dependent on the continued employment of the sellers. We estimated the fair value of the contingent consideration using a probability-weighted discounted cash flow model. The fair value is based on significant inputs not observable in the market and thus represents a Level 3 measurement as defined in Note 9. As of December 31, 2014, the Company estimates the future payments will range from \$11.1 million to \$40.0 million. The maximum amount of contingent payments the seller may receive is \$40.0 million.

On December 19, 2014, Meredith acquired WALA, the FOX affiliate in Mobile, Alabama-Pensacola, Florida. The results of WALA's operations have been included in the condensed consolidated financial statements since that date. The cash purchase price, including the purchase of working capital, was \$89.9 million.

On December 30, 2014, Meredith acquired 100 percent of the outstanding stock of Selectable Media, Inc. (Selectable Media), a leading native and engagement-based digital advertising company. The results of Selectable Media have been included in the condensed consolidated financial statements since that date. The acquisition-date fair value of the consideration totaled \$30.2 million, which consisted of \$23.0 million of cash and \$7.2 million of contingent consideration. The contingent consideration arrangement requires the Company to pay contingent payments based on certain financial targets over the next three fiscal years generally based on revenue, as defined in the acquisition agreement. The contingent consideration is not dependent on the continued employment of the sellers. We estimated the fair value of the contingent consideration using a probability-weighted discounted cash flow model. The fair value is based on significant inputs not observable in the market and thus represents a Level 3 measurement as defined in Note 9. As of December 31, 2014, the Company estimates the future payments will range from \$7.3 million to \$8.0 million. The maximum amount of contingent payments the seller may receive is \$8.0 million.

As of the date of each acquisition, Meredith allocates the purchase price to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their respective preliminary fair values. The Company is in the process of obtaining third-party valuations of fixed and intangible assets; thus, the provisional measurements of fixed assets, intangible assets, goodwill, and deferred income tax balances are subject to change. The following table summarizes the total estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed by segment:

(In thousands)	Local Media Acquisitions	National Media Acquisitions	Total
Accounts receivable	\$ 4,375	\$ 4,060	\$ 8,435
Current portion of broadcast rights	1,582	_	1,582
Other current assets	1,106	1,070	2,176
Property, plant, and equipment	13,695	140	13,835
Other noncurrent assets	1,907	3,063	4,970
Intangible assets	107,518	17,400	124,918
Total identifiable assets acquired	130,183	25,733	155,916
Deferred subscription revenue		(26,866)	(26,866)
Current portion of broadcast rights	(1,582)	<del>-</del>	(1,582)
Other current liabilities	(1,387)	(7,702)	(9,089)
Long-term liabilities	(5,242)	(31,434)	(36,676)
Total liabilities assumed	(8,211)	(66,002)	(74,213)
Net identifiable assets acquired	121,972	(40,269)	81,703
Goodwill	17,974	83,269	101,243
Net assets acquired	\$ 139,946	\$ 43,000	\$ 182,946

The following table provides details of the acquired intangible assets by acquisition:

(In thousands)	WGGB	Martha Stewart	Mywedding	WALA	Selectable Media	Total
Intangible assets			, <u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>			
subject to amortization						
National media						
Advertiser relationships \$	_	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,700	\$ —	\$ 3,200 \$	8,400
Customer lists	_	1,500	_	_	<u>—</u>	1,500
Other	_	_	_	_	700	700
Local media						
Retransmission agreements	761	_	_	3,254	_	4,015
Other	70	_	_	102	<u> </u>	172
Total	831	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,700	\$ 3,356	\$ 3,900 \$	14,787
Intangible assets not			-			
subject to amortization						
National media						
Trademarks	_	_	6,500	_	300	6,800
Local media						
FCC licenses	33,116	_	_	70,215	_	103,331
Total	33,116	_	6,500	70,215	300	110,131
Intangible assets, net\$	33,947	\$ 4,000	\$ 9,200	\$ 73,571	\$ 4,200 \$	124,918

The useful life of the advertiser relationships ranges from three to five years, the customer lists useful lives are two years, and other national media intangible assets useful lives are five years. The useful lives of the retransmission agreements are six years and other local media other intangible assets useful lives are three years.

For all acquisitions, goodwill is attributable primarily to expected synergies and the assembled workforces. Goodwill, with a provisionally assigned value of \$76.2 million, is expected to be fully deductible for tax purposes.

Mywedding and Selectable Media are subject to legal and regulatory requirements, including but not limited to those related to taxation, in each of the jurisdictions in the countries in which they operate. The Company has conducted a preliminary assessment of liabilities arising in each of these jurisdictions, and has recognized provisional amounts in its initial accounting for the acquisitions for all identified liabilities in accordance with the business combinations guidance. However, the Company is continuing its review of these matters during the measurement period, and if new information about facts and circumstances that existed at the acquisition date identifies adjustments to the liabilities initially recognized, or any additional liabilities that existed at the acquisition date, the acquisition accounting will be revised to reflect the resulting adjustments to the provisional amounts initially recognized.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2015, acquisition related costs of \$1.3 million were incurred. These costs are included in the selling, general, and administrative line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings.

#### Fiscal 2014

Effective February 28, 2014, Meredith acquired KMOV. The results of KMOV's operations have been included in the consolidated financial statements since that date. During the first quarter of fiscal 2015, the provisional amounts recorded to the network affiliation agreements intangible asset were increased \$1.0 million, other intangibles were decreased \$0.1 million, and a corresponding decrease of \$0.9 million was recorded to goodwill based on an updated valuation report.

Effective June 19, 2014, Meredith acquired KTVK and an interest in the assets of KASW. The results of KTVK's operations have been included in the consolidated financial statements since that date. As part of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) approval of the transaction, Meredith is required to sell its interest in the KASW assets. Accordingly, this interest is shown on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as assets held for sale. During the second quarter of fiscal 2015, the provisional amount recorded to assets held for sale were increased \$23.0 million, partially offset by \$1.4 million of estimated costs to sell. A corresponding adjustment to the assets of KTVK was recorded as a \$23.9 million reduction to the FCC license and \$0.8 million reduction of goodwill, partially offset by a \$1.7 million increase in retransmission agreements. All adjustments were based on an updated valuation report. The Company is in the process of obtaining third-party valuations of fixed and intangible assets; thus, the provisional measurements of fixed assets, intangible assets, goodwill, and deferred income tax balances are subject to change for KTVK and KASW.

## 3. Inventories

Major components of inventories are summarized below. Of total net inventory values shown, 45 percent are under the last-in first-out (LIFO) method at December 31, 2014, and 49 percent at June 30, 2014.

(In thousands)	ember 31, 2014	J	une 30, 2014	
Raw materials	\$ 12,072	\$	11,993	
Work in process	15,971		13,398	
Finished goods	2,367	2,814		
	30,410		28,205	
Reserve for LIFO cost valuation	(4,197)		(4,197)	
Inventories	\$ 26,213	\$	24,008	

## 4. Intangible Assets and Goodwill

Intangible assets consist of the following:

		Dece	mber 31, 2014			June 30, 2014						
(In thousands)	Gross Amount		ccumulated nortization	A	Net Amount		Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization		A	Net Amount	
Intangible assets												
subject to amortization												
National media												
Advertiser relationships	\$ 15,529	\$	(5,097)	\$	10,432	\$	8,752	\$	(6,069)	\$	2,683	
Customer lists	7,570		(5,320)		2,250		16,257		(14,852)		1,405	
Other	17,025		(5,938)		11,087		17,105		(5,608)		11,497	
Local media												
Network affiliation agreements	229,309		(126,149)		103,160		228,314		(122,888)		105,426	
Retransmission agreements	21,290		(1,313)		19,977		15,713		(188)		15,525	
Other	1,194		(210)		984		1,020		_		1,020	
Total	\$ 291,917	\$	(144,027)		147,890	\$	287,161	\$	(149,605)		137,556	
Intangible assets not												
subject to amortization												
National media												
Internet domain names					1,827						1,827	
Trademarks					155,689						148,889	
Local media												
FCC licenses					624,684						547,259	
Total					782,200						697,975	
Intangible assets, net				\$	930,090					\$	835,531	

Amortization expense was \$7.0 million for the six months ended December 31, 2014. Annual amortization expense for intangible assets is expected to be as follows: \$13.8 million in fiscal 2015, \$16.0 million in fiscal 2016, \$14.3 million in fiscal 2017, \$12.6 million in fiscal 2018, and \$11.7 million in fiscal 2019.

Changes in the carrying amount of goodwill were as follows:

Six months ended December 31,			2014		2013					
(In thousands)	National Media		Local Media	Total	National Media		Local Media		Total	
Balance at beginning of period	\$	789,038	\$ 52,589	\$ 841,627	\$	788,854	\$	_	\$ 788,854	
Acquisitions		83,269	16,341	99,610		(68)			(68)	
Balance at end of period	\$	872,307	\$ 68,930	\$ 941,237	\$	788,786	\$	_	\$ 788,786	

## 5. Restructuring Accrual

During the second quarter of fiscal 2015, management committed to several performance improvement plans related to business realignments resulting primarily from recent broadcast station acquisitions, recent digital business acquisitions, and other selected workforce reductions. In connection with these plans, the Company recorded a pre-tax restructuring charge of \$6.7 million. The restructuring charge includes severance and related benefit costs of \$5.3 million related to the involuntary termination of employees and other write-downs and accruals of \$0.2 million, which are recorded in the selling, general, and administrative line of the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings. The Company also wrote down video production fixed assets that the Company plans to abandon for \$1.2 million, which is recorded in the depreciation and amortization line of the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings. The majority of severance costs will be paid out over the next 12 months. The plans affect approximately 140 employees.

Details of changes in the Company's restructuring accrual are as follows:

Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013
(In thousands)		
Balance at beginning of period\$	13,545	\$ 8,103
Severance accrual	5,273	_
Other accruals	110	_
Cash payments	(7,123)	(2,272)
Balance at end of period\$	11,805	\$ 5,831

#### 6. Long-term Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following:

(In thousands)	Dec	ember 31, 2014	•	June 30, 2014
Variable-rate credit facilities				
Asset-backed bank facility of \$100 million, due 4/24/2015	\$	80,000	\$	70,000
Revolving credit facility of \$200 million, due 3/27/2019		85,000		20,000
Term loan of \$250 million, due 3/27/2019		243,750		250,000
Private placement notes				
7.19% senior notes, due 7/13/2014		_		25,000
2.62% senior notes, due 3/1/2015		50,000		50,000
3.04% senior notes, due 3/1/2016		50,000		50,000
3.04% senior notes, due 3/1/2017		50,000		50,000
3.04% senior notes, due 3/1/2018		50,000		50,000
Floating rate senior notes, due 12/19/2022		100,000		_
Floating rate senior notes, due 2/28/2024		150,000		150,000
Total long-term debt		858,750		715,000
Current portion of long-term debt		(62,500)		(87,500)
Long-term debt	\$	796,250	\$	627,500

In connection with the asset-backed bank facility, Meredith entered into a revolving agreement to sell all of its rights, title, and interest in the majority of its accounts receivable related to advertising and miscellaneous revenues to Meredith Funding Corporation, a special-purpose entity established to purchase accounts receivable from Meredith. At December 31, 2014, \$168.6 million of accounts receivable net of reserves was outstanding under the agreement. Meredith Funding Corporation in turn may sell receivable interests to a major national bank. In consideration of the sale, Meredith receives cash and a subordinated note, bearing interest at the prime rate, 3.25 percent at December 31, 2014, from Meredith Funding Corporation. The agreement is structured as a true sale under which the creditors of Meredith Funding Corporation will be entitled to be satisfied out of the assets of Meredith Funding Corporation prior to any value being returned to Meredith or its creditors. The accounts of Meredith Funding Corporation are fully consolidated in Meredith's condensed consolidated financial statements.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2015, the Company entered into interest rate swap agreements to hedge variable interest rate risk on the \$150 million floating-rate senior notes and on \$50 million of the term loan. The expiration of the swaps is as follows: \$50 million in August 2018 and \$150 million in August 2019. Under the swaps the Company will pay fixed rates of interest (1.36 percent on the swap maturing in August 2018 and 1.76 percent on the swaps maturing in August 2019) and receive variable rates of interest based on the one to three-month London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) (0.17 percent on the swap maturing in August 2018 and 0.23 percent on the swaps maturing in August 2019 at December 31, 2014) on the \$200 million notional amount of indebtedness. The swaps are designated as cash flow hedges. The Company evaluates the effectiveness of the hedging relationships on an ongoing basis by recalculating changes in fair value of the derivatives and related hedged items independently.

Unrealized gains or losses on cash flow hedges are recorded in other comprehensive loss to the extent the cash flow hedges are effective. The amount of the swap that offsets the effects of interest rate changes on the related debt is subsequently reclassified into interest expense. Any ineffective portions on cash flow hedges are recorded in interest expense. No material ineffectiveness existed at December 31, 2014.

The fair value of the interest rate swap agreements is the estimated amount the Company would pay or receive to terminate the swap agreements. At December 31, 2014, the swaps had a fair value of \$0.8 million net liability. The

Company is exposed to credit-related losses in the event of nonperformance by counterparties to the swap agreements. This exposure is managed through diversification and the monitoring of the creditworthiness of the counterparties. The maximum amount of loss that the Company would incur on the interest rate swaps if the counterparties were to fail to meet their obligations under the agreements was \$1.6 million at December 31, 2014. Given the strong creditworthiness of the counterparties, management does not expect any of them to fail to meet their obligations. Additionally, the concentration of risk with any individual counterparty is not considered significant at December 31, 2014.

Meredith guaranteed \$12.5 million of debt of an unrelated third party in connection with the unrelated third party's purchase of title to the assets of KASW. This debt is expected to be repaid upon the sale of this station in fiscal 2015, at which time the guarantee will be released. The Company believes the likelihood of the guarantee being called is remote.

### 7. Pension and Postretirement Benefit Plans

The following table presents the components of net periodic benefit costs:

	Three I	ths		Six M	Months		
Periods ended December 31,	 2014	2013		2013			2013
(In thousands)							
Pension benefits							
Service cost	\$ 3,043	\$	2,537	\$	6,086	\$	5,075
Interest cost.	1,396		1,397		2,792		2,795
Expected return on plan assets	(2,759)		(2,422)		(5,518)		(4,844)
Prior service cost amortization	56		80		112		161
Actuarial loss amortization	169		511		338		1,022
Net periodic benefit costs	\$ 1,905	\$	2,103	\$	3,810	\$	4,209
Postretirement benefits							
Service cost	\$ 29	\$	35	\$	58	\$	100
Interest cost	102		116		204		247
Prior service cost amortization	(108)		(105)		(216)		(230)
Actuarial gain amortization	(108)		(101)		(216)		(162)
Curtailment credit	_		_		_		(1,511)
Net periodic benefit	\$ (85)	\$	(55)	\$	(170)	\$	(1,556)

The amortization of amounts related to unrecognized prior service costs and net actuarial loss were reclassified out of other comprehensive income as components of net periodic benefit costs.

The curtailment credit was triggered by a change in the postretirement benefit plan to no longer subsidize retiree medical coverage and life insurance for non-vested future non-union retirees.

## 8. Earnings per Share

The following table presents the calculations of earnings per share:

	Three Months			Six Mo			onths	
Periods ended December 31,	2014		2013		2014		2013	
(In thousands except per share data)								
Net earnings	\$ 39,591	\$	30,569	\$	68,956	\$	54,610	
Basic average shares outstanding	44,483		44,696		44,471		44,672	
Dilutive effect of stock options and equivalents	785		923		753		827	
Diluted average shares outstanding	45,268		45,619		45,224		45,499	
Earnings per share								
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.89	\$	0.68	\$	1.55	\$	1.22	
Diluted earnings per share	0.87		0.67		1.52		1.20	

For the three months ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, antidilutive options excluded from the above calculations totaled 1.0 million (with a weighted average exercise price of \$50.29) and 0.8 million (with a weighted average exercise price of \$51.78), respectively. For the six months ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, antidilutive options excluded from the above calculations totaled 1.4 million (with a weighted average exercise price of \$50.16) and 1.7 million (with a weighted average exercise price of \$50.76), respectively.

In the six months ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, options were exercised to purchase 0.8 million and 1.2 million common shares, respectively.

#### 9. Fair Value Measurements

We have estimated the fair value of our financial instruments using available market information and valuation methodologies we believe to be appropriate for these purposes. Considerable judgment and a high degree of subjectivity are involved in developing these estimates and, accordingly, they are not necessarily indicative of amounts that we would realize upon disposition.

The fair value hierarchy consists of three broad levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value, which are described below:

- Level 1 Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are either directly or indirectly observable;
- Level 3 Assets or liabilities for which fair value is based on valuation models with significant unobservable pricing inputs and which result in the use of management estimates.

The following table sets forth the carrying value and the estimated fair value of the Company's financial instruments:

	Decembe	er 31, 2014	June 3	0, 2014
(In thousands)	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
Broadcast rights payable	\$ 16,360	\$ 15,878	\$ 8,838	\$ 8,408
Long-term debt	858,750	860,856	715,000	717,032

The fair value of broadcast rights payable was determined using the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the Company's current borrowing rate with inputs included in Level 3. The fair value of long-term debt was determined using the present value of expected future cash flows using borrowing rates currently available for debt with similar terms and maturities with inputs included in Level 2.

The following table sets forth the assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

(In thousands)		ember 31, 2014	June 30, 2014		
Other assets					
Interest rate swaps	\$	1,567	\$	_	
Accrued expenses and other liabilities					
Contingent consideration		_		50	
Interest rate swaps		2,390		_	
Other noncurrent liabilities					
Contingent consideration		33,735		1,650	

The fair value of interest rate swaps is determined based on discounted cash flows derived using market observable inputs including swap curves that are included in Level 2. The fair value of the contingent consideration is based on significant inputs not observable in the market and thus represents Level 3 measurements.

#### 10. Financial Information about Industry Segments

Meredith is a diversified media company focused primarily on the home and family marketplace. On the basis of products and services, the Company has established two reportable segments: national media and local media. There have been no changes in the basis of segmentation since June 30, 2014. There are no material intersegment transactions.

There are two principal financial measures reported to the chief executive officer for use in assessing segment performance and allocating resources. Those measures are operating profit and EBITDA. Operating profit for segment reporting, disclosed below, is revenues less operating costs excluding unallocated corporate expenses. Segment operating expenses include allocations of certain centrally incurred costs such as employee benefits, occupancy, information systems, accounting services, internal legal staff, and human resources administration. These costs are allocated based on actual usage or other appropriate methods, primarily number of employees. Unallocated corporate expenses are corporate overhead expenses not directly attributable to the operating groups. In accordance with authoritative guidance on disclosures about segments of an enterprise and related information, EBITDA is not presented below.

The following table presents financial information by segment:

		Three I	Mon	ths	Six Months		ıs
Periods ended December 31,	2014			2013	2014		2013
(In thousands)							
Revenues							
National media	\$	242,381	\$	249,694	\$ 488,707	\$	516,593
Local media		156,524		104,354	281,382		193,907
Total revenues	\$	398,905	\$	354,048	\$ 770,089	\$	710,500
Segment profit							
National media	\$	26,107	\$	28,070	\$ 55,002	\$	56,146
Local media		54,986		35,225	91,298		60,901
Unallocated corporate		(12,231)		(11,394)	(24,586)		(22,338)
Income from operations		68,862		51,901	121,714		94,709
Interest expense, net		(4,785)		(2,555)	(9,027)		(5,268)
Earnings before income taxes	\$	64,077	\$	49,346	\$ 112,687	\$	89,441
Depreciation and amortization							
National media	\$	3,487	\$	4,783	\$ 7,112	\$	9,733
Local media		10,395		6,399	19,110		12,832
Unallocated corporate		426		408	855		820
Total depreciation and amortization		14,308	\$	11,590	\$ 27,077	\$	23,385

## Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (MD&A) contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon management's current expectations and are subject to various uncertainties and changes in circumstances. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements are set forth below under the heading "Forward Looking Statements."

#### **EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW**

Meredith Corporation has been committed to service journalism for more than 110 years. Today, Meredith uses multiple distribution platforms—including broadcast television, print, digital, mobile, tablets, and video—to provide consumers with content they desire and to deliver the messages of its advertising and marketing partners.

Meredith operates two business segments: local media and national media. The local media segment includes 17 owned or operated television stations reaching 11 percent of U.S. households. Meredith's portfolio is concentrated in large, fast-growing markets, with seven stations in the nation's Top 25 markets—including Atlanta, Phoenix, and Portland—and 13 in Top 50 markets. Meredith's stations produce approximately 650 hours of local news and entertainment content each week, and operate leading local digital destinations.

Our national media segment reaches a multi-channel audience of more than 230 million consumers monthly, including 100 million unduplicated women and 60 percent of American millennial women. Meredith is the leader in creating content across media platforms in key consumer interest areas such as food, home, parenthood, and health through well-known brands such as Better Homes and Gardens, Parents, and Allrecipes. The national media segment features robust brand licensing activities, including more than 3,000 SKUs of branded products at 4,000 Walmart stores across the U.S. Meredith Xcelerated Marketing is a leader at developing and delivering custom content and customer relationship marketing programs for many of the world's top brands.

Both segments operate primarily in the U.S. and compete against similar media and other types of media on both a local and national basis. The national media segment accounted for 63 percent of the Company's \$770.1 million in revenues in the first six months of fiscal 2015 while the local media segment contributed 37 percent.

#### **LOCAL MEDIA**

Local media derives the majority of its revenues—77 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015—from the sale of advertising, both over the air and on our stations' websites and apps. The remainder comes from television retransmission fees, station operation management fees, television production services and products, and other services. Political advertising revenues are cyclical in that they are significantly greater during biennial election campaigns (which take place primarily in odd-numbered fiscal years) than at other times. Local media's major expense categories are employee compensation costs and programming fees paid to the networks.

## **NATIONAL MEDIA**

Advertising revenues made up 50 percent of national media's first six months' revenues. These revenues were generated from the sale of advertising space in our magazines and on our websites and apps to clients interested in promoting their brands, products, and services to consumers. Circulation revenues accounted for 25 percent of national media's first six months' revenues. Circulation revenues result from the sale of magazines to consumers

through subscriptions and by single copy sales on newsstands in print form, primarily at major retailers and grocery/drug stores, and in digital form on tablets and other media devices. The remaining 25 percent of national media's revenues came from a variety of activities that included the sale of customer relationship marketing products and services and books as well as brand licensing, product sales, and other related activities. National media's major expense categories are production and delivery of publications and promotional mailings and employee compensation costs.

#### FIRST SIX MONTHS FISCAL 2015 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

- Meredith completed several strategic acquisitions during the second quarter of fiscal 2015 including the
  October 2014 acquisition of WGGB, the ABC affiliate in Springfield, Massachusetts; the November 2014
  acquisitions of the Martha Stewart Living media properties and related digital assets and of
  Mywedding.com; and the December 2014 acquisitions of WALA, the Fox affiliate in Mobile, AlabamaPensacola, Florida and of Selectable Media.
- In October 2014, the Company entered into a \$100 million note purchase agreement. Proceeds were used primarily to fund the WALA acquisition.
- Management committed to several performance improvement plans related primarily to business realignments from recent broadcast station acquisitions, business realignments from recent digital business acquisitions, and other selected workforce reductions. In connection with these plans, the Company recorded a pre-tax restructuring charge of \$6.7 million. The restructuring charge includes severance and related benefit costs of \$5.3 million related to the involuntary termination of employees, the write-down of video production fixed assets that the Company plans to abandon of \$1.2 million, and other write-downs and accruals of \$0.2 million.
- Local media revenues increased 45 percent and operating profit rose 50 percent compared to the prior-year period reflecting the acquisition of two television stations in the second half of fiscal 2014, the acquisition of two television stations in the second quarter of fiscal 2015, and increased cyclical political advertising.
- National media revenues declined 5 percent as compared to the prior-year period as declines in the revenues of our magazine operations of \$44.5 million more than offset increased revenues in our interactive media operations of \$15.4 million. Forty-five percent of the decline in revenues of our magazine operations was due to the conversion of *Ladies' Home Journal* from a monthly subscription magazine to a newsstand-only special interest publication. National media operating profit decreased 2 percent as declines in the operating profit of our magazine operations of \$9.4 million and the national media portion of the restructuring charge discussed above of \$3.6 million more than offset increased operating profits in our interactive media operations of \$9.4 million, our integrated marketing operations of \$1.9 million, and our licensing operations of \$1.0 million.
- Diluted earnings per share increased 27 percent to \$1.52 from \$1.20 in the prior-year first six months.

#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Three months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands except per share data)			
Total revenues	\$ 398,905	\$ 354,048	13%
Operating expenses	(330,043)	(302,147)	9%
Income from operations	68,862	\$ 51,901	33%
Net earnings	39,591	\$ 30,569	30%
Diluted earnings per share	0.87	0.67	30%
Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
Six months ended December 31, (In thousands except per share data)	2014	2013	Change
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$ <b>2014</b> 770,089	\$ <b>2013</b> 710,500	Change 8%
(In thousands except per share data)	-	\$	
(In thousands except per share data)  Total revenues	770,089	\$ 710,500	8%
(In thousands except per share data)  Total revenues  Operating expenses	\$ 770,089 (648,375)	 710,500 (615,791)	8% 5%

The following sections provide an analysis of the results of operations for the local media and national media segments and an analysis of the consolidated results of operations for the three and six months ended December 31, 2014, compared with the prior-year periods. This commentary should be read in conjunction with the interim condensed consolidated financial statements presented elsewhere in this report and with our Annual Report on Form 10-K (Form 10-K) for the year ended June 30, 2014.

### **ACQUISITIONS**

During the second quarter of fiscal 2015, Meredith completed several strategic acquisitions including the October 2014 acquisition of WGGB and the December 2014 acquisition of WALA in our local media segment, and the November 2014 acquisitions of the Martha Stewart Living media properties and related digital assets and of Mywedding.com, and the December 2014 acquisition of Selectable Media in our national media segment. In the second half of fiscal 2014, Meredith completed the acquisitions of KMOV, the CBS affiliate in St. Louis, Missouri, and KTVK, an independent station in Phoenix, Arizona. The results of these acquisitions have been included in the Company's consolidated operating results since their respective acquisition dates. See Note 2 to the condensed consolidated financial statements for further information.

#### LOCAL MEDIA

Local media operating results were as follows:

Three months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands)			
Non-political advertising\$	95,326	\$ 78,270	22%
Political advertising	29,322	718	3,984%
Other	31,876	25,366	26%
Total revenues	156,524	104,354	50%
Operating expenses	(101,538)	(69,129)	47%
Operating profit\$	54,986	\$ 35,225	56%
Operating profit margin	35.1%	33.8%	
Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands)			

Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands)			
Non-political advertising\$	175,162	\$ 142,622	23%
Political advertising	42,285	1,229	3,341%
Other	63,935	50,056	28%
Total revenues	281,382	193,907	45%
Operating expenses	(190,084)	(133,006)	43%
Operating profit\$	91,298	\$ 60,901	50%
Operating profit margin	32.4%	31.4%	

#### Revenues

Local media revenues increased 50 percent in the second quarter and 45 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 primarily reflecting revenues from acquisitions and higher political advertising related to the November 2014 elections. Political advertising revenues totaled \$29.3 million in the second quarter and \$42.3 million in the first six months of the current fiscal year compared with \$0.7 million in the prior-year second quarter and \$1.2 million in the prior-year six-month period. Political revenues from acquisitions accounted for almost 25 percent of the increase in political advertising revenues in both periods. Fluctuations in political advertising revenues at our stations and throughout the broadcasting industry generally follow the biennial cycle of election campaigns. Political advertising displaces a certain amount of non-political advertising; therefore, the revenues are not entirely incremental. Non-political advertising revenues increased 22 percent in the second quarter due primarily to the addition of \$21.1 million of non-political revenue from acquisitions and 23 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 due primarily to the addition of \$38.3 million of non-political revenue from acquisitions. Local non-political advertising revenues grew 20 percent in the second quarter and 22 percent for the first six months of fiscal 2015. National non-political advertising increased 22 percent as compared to the prior-year second quarter and 21 percent for the first half of fiscal 2015. Online advertising for the second quarter and first six months of fiscal 2015 increased 54 percent and 49 percent as compared to the prior-year periods, respectively, primarily due to the addition of the acquisitions.

Other revenues increased 26 percent in the second quarter primarily due to the addition of \$5.6 million from acquisitions and increased retransmission fees of \$2.3 million. They grew 28 percent in the six-month period primarily due to the addition of \$10.2 million from acquisitions and increased retransmission fees of \$5.4 million.

## **Operating Expenses**

Local media operating expenses increased 47 percent in the second quarter of fiscal 2015. Approximately 60 percent of the increase was due to the addition of acquisition operating expenses. In addition, programming fees paid to the networks increased \$4.4 million and legal services expense increased \$2.7 million, while the Company incurred severance and related benefit accruals of \$1.7 million and video production fixed assets write-downs of

\$1.2 million related to recent performance improvement plans. Local media operating expenses increased 43 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015. Approximately 65 percent of the increase was due to the addition of acquisition operating expenses. In addition, programming fees paid to the networks increased \$8.7 million and legal services expense increased \$2.4 million, while the Company incurred severance and related benefit accruals of \$1.7 million and write-downs on video production fixed assets of \$1.2 million related to recent performance improvement plans.

## **Operating Profit**

Local media operating profit increased 56 percent in the second quarter of fiscal 2015 and 50 percent in the first six months compared with the prior-year periods reflecting the increase in political advertising revenues as well as the addition of the acquisitions.

#### **NATIONAL MEDIA**

National media operating results were as follows:

Three months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands)			
Advertising	\$ 116,774	\$ 114,543	2 %
Circulation	59,468	67,733	(12)%
Other	66,139	67,418	(2)%
Total revenues.	242,381	249,694	(3)%
Operating expenses	(216,274)	(221,624)	(2)%
Operating profit	\$ 26,107	\$ 28,070	(7)%
Operating profit margin	10.8%	11.2%	
			•
Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
Six months ended December 31, (In thousands)	2014	2013	Change
		<b>2013</b> \$ 248,227	Change (3)%
(In thousands)			
(In thousands) Advertising	\$ 242,006	\$ 248,227	(3)%
(In thousands) Advertising Circulation	\$ 242,006 125,353	\$ 248,227 143,467	(3)% (13)%
(In thousands) Advertising Circulation Other Total revenues	\$ 242,006 125,353 121,348	\$ 248,227 143,467 124,899	(3)% (13)% (3)%
(In thousands) Advertising Circulation Other	\$ 242,006 125,353 121,348 488,707 (433,705)	\$ 248,227 143,467 124,899 516,593	(3)% (13)% (3)% (5)%

#### Revenues

National media advertising revenues increased 2 percent in the second quarter whereas they decreased 3 percent for the first six months of fiscal 2015. Magazine advertising revenues declined 11 percent in the second quarter and 10 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015. More than 45 percent of the decline in magazine advertising revenues was due to the conversion of *Ladies' Home Journal* from a monthly subscription magazine to a newsstand-only special interest publication. Total advertising pages declined in the mid to high-teens on a percentage basis. Excluding *Ladies' Home Journal*, they decreased in the low-teens, with most of our titles showing declines. Among our core advertising categories, prescription drugs showed strength while most other categories were weaker. Online advertising revenues in our digital and mobile media operations increased 44 percent in the second quarter and 33 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 primarily due to acquisitions and strong performance at Allrecipes.com.

Magazine circulation revenues decreased 12 percent in the second quarter and 13 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015. While subscription revenues decreased in the low-teens on a percentage basis, newsstand revenues declined more than 10 percent in the second quarter and more than 20 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015. The decrease in subscription revenues was primarily due to the conversion of *Ladies' Home Journal* from a monthly subscription magazine to a newsstand-only special interest publication. The decline in newsstand revenues was primarily due to overall weaker demand and a wholesaler disruption in the newsstand channel.

Other revenues decreased 2 percent in the second quarter primarily due to declines in list rental revenues in our magazine operations. Other revenues decreased 3 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 primarily due to declines in marketing and print services revenues and list rental revenues in our magazine operations.

#### **Operating Expenses**

National media operating expenses decreased 2 percent in the second quarter and 6 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015.

For the second quarter, the conversion of *Ladies' Home Journal* from a monthly subscription magazine to a newsstand-only special interest publication reduced operating expenses by \$10.2 million. Circulation expenses decreased \$3.9 million. Paper costs declined \$2.1 million primarily due to the decrease in printing volumes. In addition to the decrease in the volume of paper used, paper expense also decreased due to a mid-single digit decline in average paper prices as compared to the prior-year period. Editorial costs declined \$1.4 million. These decreases were partially offset by the addition of expenses from acquisitions of \$10.1 million and a restructuring severance and related benefits accrual of \$3.6 million related to a business realignment in our digital business and other selected workforce reductions.

For the first six months of fiscal 2015, the conversion of *Ladies' Home Journal* reduced operating expenses by \$21.7 million. Paper costs declined \$5.2 million primarily due to the decrease in printing volumes. In addition to the decrease in the volume of paper used, paper expense also decreased due to a mid-single digit decline in average paper prices as compared to the prior-year period. Circulation expenses declined \$5.1 million. Editorial costs decreased \$1.9 million. Payroll and related costs declined \$2.2 million. These declines were partially offset by expenses from acquisitions of \$10.1 million and a restructuring severance and related benefits accrual of \$3.6 million related to a business realignment in our digital business and other selected workforce reductions.

## **Operating Profit**

National media operating profit decreased 7 percent in the second quarter as the \$3.6 million restructuring accrual and a decline of magazine operating profit of \$3.3 million more than offset increase interactive media operating profit of \$4.8 million. National media operating profit declined 2 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 as a decline of magazine operating profit of \$9.4 million and the \$3.6 million restructuring accrual more than offset operating profit improvements in interactive media of \$9.4 million, Meredith Xcelerated Marketing of \$1.9 million, and brand licensing of \$1.0 million.

### UNALLOCATED CORPORATE EXPENSES

Unallocated corporate expenses are general corporate overhead expenses not attributable to the operating groups. These expenses were as follows:

Unallocated Corporate Expenses	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands)	,		
Three months ended December 31,	\$ 12,231	\$ 11,394	7%
Six months ended December 31,	24,586	22,338	10%

Unallocated corporate expenses increased 7 percent in the second quarter and 10 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 compared with the prior-year periods. The second quarter increase was primarily due to an increase in performance-based incentive accruals. The increase in the first six months of fiscal 2015 was primarily due to an increase in charitable contributions.

### **CONSOLIDATED**

### **Consolidated Operating Expenses**

Consolidated operating expenses were as follows:

Three months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands)			
Production, distribution, and editorial	\$ 140,283	\$ 132,216	6%
Selling, general, and administrative	175,452	158,341	11%
Depreciation and amortization	14,308	11,590	23%
Operating expenses	\$ 330,043	\$ 302,147	9%
Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013	
six months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change
(In thousands)		2015	Change
	\$ 282,170	\$ 272,993	
(In thousands)	\$ 282,170		3% 6%
(In thousands) Production, distribution, and editorial	\$ 282,170 339,128	\$ 272,993	3%

Fiscal 2015 production, distribution, and editorial costs increased 6 percent in the second quarter and 3 percent in the first six months as compared to the prior-year periods. For the second quarter, the addition of local media acquisition expenses of \$10.5 million and increases in programming fees paid to the networks of \$4.4 million were partially offset by a reduction in *Ladies Home Journal* expenses of \$5.0 million and declines in paper expense of \$2.1 million. For the first six months of fiscal 2015, the addition of local media acquisition expenses of \$20.5 million and increases in programming fees paid to the networks of \$8.7 million were partially offset by a reduction in *Ladies Home Journal* expenses of \$10.2 million and declines in paper expense of \$5.2 million. In addition, customer relationship marketing expenses declined \$5.5 million in the six-month period primarily due to a change in product mix.

Selling, general, and administrative expenses increased 11 percent in the second quarter and 6 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015. For the second quarter, the addition of acquisition expenses of \$15.9 million, severance and related benefit accruals of \$5.3 million, increases in performance-based incentive accruals of \$1.9 million, increases in consulting costs of \$1.2 million, and increases in transaction costs of \$1.2 million more than offset a reduction in *Ladies Home Journal* expenses of \$5.2 million and a decline in circulation expenses of \$3.9 million. For the first six months of fiscal 2015, the addition of acquisition expenses of \$22.6 million, severance and related benefit accruals of \$5.3 million, charitable contributions of \$1.5 million, and increases in transaction costs of \$1.2 million more than offset a reduction in *Ladies Home Journal* expenses of \$11.6 million, a decline in circulation expenses of \$5.1 million, and lower payroll and related costs of \$1.9 million. Customer relationship marketing expenses increased \$4.6 million in the six-month period primarily due to a change in product mix.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased 23 percent in the second quarter and 16 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015. Due to restructuring plans committed to by management during the second quarter of fiscal 2015, video production fixed assets were deemed to be impaired and were written down by \$1.2 million. Excluding these impairments, depreciation and amortization expense increased primarily due to local media acquisitions.

### **Income from Operations**

Income from operations increased 33 percent in the second quarter and 29 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015. The increase in income from operations in the second quarter was primarily due to the addition of local media acquisitions operating profit of \$13.0 million, higher operating profits in our local media segment of \$9.8 million, and improved operating results in our national media interactive media operations of \$4.8 million partially offset by restructuring charges of \$6.7 million and declines in the operating profit of our magazine operations of \$3.3 million. For the first six months of fiscal 2015, the addition of local media acquisitions operating profit of \$19.2 million, higher operating profits in our local media segment of \$14.3 million, and improved operating results in our national media interactive media operations of \$9.4 million were partially offset by restructuring charges of \$6.7 million and declines in the operating profit of our magazine operations of \$9.4 million.

#### **Net Interest Expense**

Net interest expense increased to \$4.8 million in the fiscal 2015 second quarter compared with \$2.6 million in the prior-year second quarter. For the six months ended December 31, 2014, net interest expense was \$9.0 million versus \$5.3 million in the first six months of fiscal 2014. Average long-term debt outstanding was \$771.1 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2015 and \$747.1 million for the six-month period compared with \$357.5 million in the prior-year second quarter and \$356.3 million in the prior-year six-month period. The Company's approximate weighted average interest rate was 2.4 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 and 3.0 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2014.

#### **Income Taxes**

Our effective tax rate was 38.2 percent in the second quarter and 38.8 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2015 as compared to 38.1 percent in the second quarter and 38.9 percent in the first six months of fiscal 2014.

### **Net Earnings and Earnings per Share**

Net earnings were \$39.6 million (\$0.87 per diluted share) in the quarter ended December 31, 2014, up 30 percent from \$30.6 million (\$0.67 per diluted share) in the prior-year second quarter. For the six months ended December 31, 2014, net earnings were \$69.0 million (\$1.52 per diluted share), an increase of 26 percent from prior-year six months earnings of \$54.6 million (\$1.20 per diluted share). The increases in net earnings were primarily due to the growth in income from operations as discussed above reduced by increased interest expense. Both average basic and diluted shares outstanding decreased slightly in the current year periods.

#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Six months ended December 31,	2014	2013	Change	
(In thousands)				
Net earnings	\$ 68,956	\$ 54,610	26%	
Cash flows provided by operating activities	\$ 74,369	\$ 60,687	23%	
Cash flows used in investing activities	(195,799)	(12,151)	1,511%	
Cash flows provided by (used in) financing activities	102,966	(50,327)	n/m	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	\$ (18,464)	\$ (1,791)	931%	

n/m - Not meaningful

### **OVERVIEW**

Meredith's primary source of liquidity is cash generated by operating activities. Debt financing is typically used for significant acquisitions. We expect cash on hand, internally generated cash flow, and available credit from financing agreements will provide adequate funds for operating and recurring cash needs (e.g., working capital, capital expenditures, debt repayments, and cash dividends) into the foreseeable future. As of December 31, 2014, we had up to \$115.0 million of additional available borrowings under our revolving credit facility, and up to \$20.0 million of additional available borrowings under our asset-backed bank facility (depending on levels of accounts

receivable). While there are no guarantees that we will be able to replace current credit agreements when they expire, we expect to be able to do so.

#### SOURCES AND USES OF CASH

Cash and cash equivalents decreased \$18.5 million in the first six months of fiscal 2015; they decreased \$1.8 million in the first six months of fiscal 2014.

#### **Operating Activities**

The largest single component of operating cash inflows is cash received from advertising customers. Other sources of operating cash inflows include cash received from magazine circulation sales and other revenue generating transactions such as customer relationship marketing, retransmission consent fees, brand licensing, and product sales. Operating cash outflows include payments to vendors and employees and payments of interest and income taxes. Our most significant vendor payments are for production and delivery of publications and promotional mailings, broadcasting programming rights, employee benefit plans (including pension plans), and other services and supplies.

Cash provided by operating activities totaled \$74.4 million in the first six months of fiscal 2015 compared with \$60.7 million in the first six months of fiscal 2014. The change is primarily due to increased net earnings.

### **Investing Activities**

Investing cash inflows generally include proceeds from the sale of assets or a business. Investing cash outflows generally include payments for the acquisition of new businesses; investments; and additions to property, plant, and equipment.

Net cash used by investing activities increased to \$195.8 million in the first six months of fiscal 2015 from \$12.2 million in the prior-year period. The increase primarily reflects cash used for the acquisitions during the second quarter of fiscal 2015.

#### **Financing Activities**

Financing cash inflows generally include borrowings under debt agreements and proceeds from the exercise of common stock options issued under share-based compensation plans. Financing cash outflows generally include the repayment of long-term debt, the payment of dividends, and repurchases of Company stock.

Net cash provided by financing activities totaled \$103.0 million in the six months ended December 31, 2014, compared with net cash used in financing activities of \$50.3 million for the six months ended December 31, 2013. The change in cash used for financing activities is primarily due to a net \$143.8 million of debt being issued in the current year to fund current year acquisitions as compared to a net \$10.0 million of debt being paid down in the prior year.

#### **Long-term Debt**

At December 31, 2014, long-term debt outstanding totaled \$858.8 million. The balance consisted of \$243.8 million under a term loan, \$200.0 million in fixed-rate unsecured senior notes, \$250.0 million in floating-rate unsecured senior notes, \$80.0 million under an asset-backed bank facility, and \$85.0 million outstanding under a revolving credit facility.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2015, the Company entered into interest rate swap agreements to hedge variable interest rate risk on the \$150.0 million floating-rate senior notes and on \$50.0 million of the term loan. The expiration of the swaps is as follows: \$50 million in August 2018 and \$150 million in August 2019. Under the swaps the Company will pay fixed rates of interest (1.36 percent on the swap maturing in August 2018 and 1.76 percent on the swaps maturing in August 2019) and receive variable rates of interest based on the one to three-month London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) (0.17 percent on the swap maturing in August 2018 and 0.23

percent on the swap maturing in August 2019 at December 31, 2014) on the \$200 million notional amount of indebtedness.

The revolving credit facility has a capacity of up to \$200 million. Both the revolving credit facility and the term loan have a five-year term which will expire in March 2019. The interest rate under both the revolving credit facility and the term loan is variable based on LIBOR and Meredith's debt to trailing 12 month EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization as defined in the debt agreement) ratio. The term loan is payable in quarterly installments based on an amortization schedule as set forth in the agreement. At December 31, 2014, \$243.8 million was outstanding under the term loan and \$85.0 million was outstanding under the revolver. Of the term loan, \$12.5 million is due in the next 12 months. We expect to repay this with cash from operations and credit available under existing credit agreements.

Of the fixed-rate unsecured senior notes, \$50.0 million is due in the next 12 months. We expect to repay these senior notes with cash from operations and credit available under existing credit agreements. The weighted average effective interest rate for the fixed-rate notes was 2.94 percent at December 31, 2014. The floating-rate unsecured senior notes are due in December 2022 and February 2024. The weighted average effective interest rate for \$150 million of the floating-rate unsecured senior notes was 3.26 percent at December 31, 2014, after taking into account the effect of outstanding interest rate swap agreements. The weighted average effective interest rate for \$100 million of the floating-rate unsecured senior notes was 1.75 percent at December 31, 2014. None of the floating-rate senior notes are due in the next 12 months. The interest rate on the asset-backed bank facility is variable based on LIBOR plus a fixed spread. As of December 31, 2014, the asset-backed bank facility had a capacity of up to \$100 million (depending on levels of accounts receivable). This facility will expire in April 2015.

All of our debt agreements include financial covenants, and failure to comply with any such covenants could result in the debt becoming payable on demand. The Company was in compliance with all financial covenants at December 31, 2014.

## **Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes our principal contractual obligations as of December 31, 2014, that have materially changed from those disclosed in our Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2014:

Payments Due by Period							
Contractual obligations	Total	Le	ess than 1 Year	1-3 Years	4-5 Years		After 5 Years
(In millions)		,					
Long-term debt\$	858.8	\$	62.5	\$ 143.8	\$ 402.5	\$	250.0
Debt interest <sup>1</sup>	65.1		14.2	21.8	13.1		16.0
Broadcast rights and network programming <sup>2</sup>	246.0		70.1	137.1	36.8		2.0
Contingent consideration <sup>3</sup>	39.0			3.7	35.3		_

<sup>1</sup> Debt interest represents semi-annual interest payments due on fixed-rate senior notes outstanding at December 31, 2014, and estimated interest payments on variable-rate term loan and variable-rate private placement senior notes outstanding at December 31, 2014. Interest payments on variable-rate debt is estimated using the effective interest rate as of December 31, 2014.

#### **Share Repurchase Program**

As part of our ongoing share repurchase program, we spent \$36.2 million in the first six months of fiscal 2015 to repurchase 728,000 shares of common stock at then-current market prices. We spent \$58.2 million to repurchase

<sup>2</sup> Commitments for broadcasting rights and network programming consist of future rights to broadcast television programming and future programming costs pursuant to network affiliate agreements. Broadcast rights include \$19.5 million owed for broadcast rights that are not currently available for airing and are therefore not included in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2014

<sup>3</sup> These amounts include contingent acquisition payments. While it is not certain if and /or when these payments will be made, we have included the payments in the table based on our best estimates of the amounts and dates when the contingencies may be resolved.

1,203,000 shares in the first six months of fiscal 2014. We expect to continue repurchasing shares from time to time subject to market conditions. Shares that are deemed to be delivered to us on tender of stock in payment for the exercise price of options do not reduce the repurchase authority granted by our Board. Of the 728,000 shares of common stock purchased during the first six months of the current fiscal year, 515,000 were deemed to be delivered to us on tender of stock in payment for the exercise price of options. As of December 31, 2014, \$98.1 million remained available under the current authorization for future repurchases. The status of the repurchase program is reviewed at each quarterly Board of Directors meeting. See Part II, Item 2 (c), *Issuer Repurchases of Equity Securities*, of this Form 10-Q for detailed information on share repurchases during the quarter ended December 31, 2014.

#### **Dividends**

Dividends paid in the first six months of fiscal 2015 totaled \$38.8 million, or \$0.8650 per share, compared with dividend payments of \$36.6 million, or \$0.8150 per share, in the first six months of fiscal 2014.

### **Capital Expenditures**

Investment in property, plant, and equipment totaled \$11.9 million in the first six months of fiscal 2015 compared with prior-year first six months investment of \$11.3 million. Current year and prior year investment spending primarily relate to assets acquired in the normal course of business. We have no material commitments for capital expenditures. We expect funds for future capital expenditures to come from operating activities or, if necessary, borrowings under credit agreements.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Meredith's critical accounting policies are summarized in our Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2014. As of December 31, 2014, the Company's critical accounting policies had not changed from June 30, 2014.

The Company has a significant amount of goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets that are reviewed at least annually for impairment. At December 31, 2014, goodwill and intangible assets totaled \$1.9 billion with \$1.1 billion in the national media group and \$0.8 billion in the local media group.

Management is required to evaluate goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives for impairment on an annual basis or when events occur or circumstances change that would indicate the carrying value exceeds the fair value. In reviewing goodwill for impairment, the Company may first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. At May 31, 2014, the date the Company last performed its annual evaluation of impairment of goodwill, management elected to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test for all reporting units. The first step of this test is to compare the fair value of a reporting unit to its carrying value. In reviewing other indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment, the Company compares the fair value of the asset to the asset's carrying value. No impairment was recorded as a result of the review.

Fair value is determined using a discounted cash flow model which requires us to estimate the future cash flows expected to be generated by the reporting unit or to result from the use of the assets. These estimates depend upon assumptions about future revenues (including projections of overall market growth and our share of market), estimated costs, and appropriate discount rates where applicable. Our assumptions are based on historical data, various internal estimates, and a variety of external sources and are consistent with the assumptions used in both our short-term financial forecasts and long-term strategic plans. Depending on the assumptions and estimates used, future cash flow projections can vary within a range of outcomes. Changes in key assumptions about the local media and national media businesses and their prospects or changes in market conditions could result in an impairment charge. See Item 1A. *Risk Factors*, in our Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2014, for other factors which could affect our assumptions. Also see Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements in our Form 10-K for

the year ended June 30, 2014, for additional information. The impairment analysis of these assets is considered critical because of their significance to the Company and our local media and national media segments.

#### ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING DEVELOPMENTS

There were no new accounting pronouncements issued or effective during the fiscal year which have had or are expected to have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements. See Note 1 to the condensed consolidated financial statements for further detail on applicable accounting pronouncements that were adopted in the first six months of fiscal 2015 or will be effective for fiscal 2016.

#### FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Except for the historical information contained herein, the matters discussed in this Form 10-Q are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those predicted by such forward-looking statements. These statements are based on management's current knowledge and estimates of factors affecting the Company's operations. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking information. Factors that could adversely affect future results include, but are not limited to, downturns in national and/or local economies; a softening of the domestic advertising market; world, national, or local events that could disrupt broadcast television; increased consolidation among major advertisers or other events depressing the level of advertising spending; the unexpected loss or insolvency of one or more major clients; the integration of acquired businesses; changes in consumer reading, purchasing and/or television viewing patterns; increases in paper, postage, printing, syndicated programming or other costs; changes in television network affiliation agreements; technological developments affecting products or methods of distribution; changes in government regulations affecting the Company's industries; increases in interest rates; and the consequences of acquisitions and/or dispositions. Meredith's Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2014, includes a more complete description of the risk factors that may affect our results. The Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

## Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Meredith is exposed to certain market risks as a result of our use of financial instruments, in particular the potential market value loss arising from adverse changes in interest rates. The Company does not utilize financial instruments for trading purposes and does not hold any derivative financial instruments that could expose the Company to significant market risk. Readers are referred to Item 7A, *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk*, in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2014, for a more complete discussion of these risks.

## **Interest Rates**

We generally manage our risk associated with interest rate movements through the use of a combination of variable and fixed-rate debt. At December 31, 2014, Meredith had \$200.0 million outstanding in fixed-rate long-term debt. In addition, Meredith has effectively converted the \$150.0 million floating-rate senior notes and \$50.0 million of the term loan to fixed-rate debt through the use of interest rate swaps. Since the interest rate swaps hedge the variability of interest payments on variable-rate debt with the same terms, they qualify for cash flow hedge accounting treatment. There are no earnings or liquidity risks associated with the Company's fixed-rate debt. The fair value of the fixed-rate debt (based on discounted cash flows reflecting borrowing rates currently available for debt with similar terms and maturities) varies with fluctuations in interest rates. A 10 percent decrease in interest rates would have changed the fair value of the fixed-rate debt to \$202.9 million from \$202.1 million at December 31, 2014.

At December 31, 2014, \$658.8 million of our debt was variable-rate debt before consideration of the impact of the swaps. The Company is subject to earnings and liquidity risks for changes in the interest rate on this debt. A 10 percent increase in interest rates would increase annual interest expense by \$1.1 million.

The fair value of the interest rate swaps is the estimated amount, based on discounted cash flows, the Company would pay or receive to terminate the swap agreements. We intend to continue to meet the conditions for hedge accounting. However, if hedges were not to be highly effective in offsetting cash flows attributable to the hedged risk, the changes in the fair value of the derivatives used as hedges could have an impact on our consolidated net earnings.

## **Broadcast Rights Payable**

There has been no material change in the market risk associated with broadcast rights payable since June 30, 2014.

#### **Item 4.** Controls and Procedures

Meredith's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded, based on their evaluation as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed in the reports that Meredith files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is (i) recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the United States Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms and (ii) accumulated and communicated to Meredith's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. There have been no significant changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting in the quarter ended December 31, 2014, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II** 

OTHER INFORMATION

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes to the Company's risk factors as disclosed in Item 1A, *Risk Factors*, in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2014.

## Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

### (c) Issuer Repurchases of Equity Securities

The following table sets forth information with respect to the Company's repurchases of common stock during the quarter ended December 31, 2014.

Period	(a) Total number of shares purchased <sup>I, 2, 3</sup>	(b) Average price paid per share	(c) Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced programs	(d) Approximate dollar value of shares that may yet be purchased under programs
				(in thousands)
October 1 to October 31, 2014	40,671	\$ 50.59	8,649	\$ 99,667
November 1 to November 30, 2014	222,960	53.05	18,732	98,685
December 1 to December 31, 2014	98,818	53.44	10,198	98,143
Total	362,449		37,579	

<sup>1</sup> Total number of shares purchased includes the purchase of 600 shares and 36 shares of Class B common stock in November 2014 and December 2014, respectively.

In October 2011, Meredith announced the Board of Directors had authorized the repurchase of up to \$100.0 million in additional shares of the Company's stock through public and private transactions. This authorization was completed in October 2014. In May 2014, the Board authorized an additional \$100.0 million in shares for repurchase.

For more information on the Company's share repurchase program, see Part I, Item 2, *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*, under the heading "Share Repurchase Program."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The number of shares purchased includes 7,981 shares in October 2014, 13,881 shares in November 2014, and 9,420 shares in December 2014 delivered or deemed to be delivered to us in satisfaction of tax withholding on option exercises and the vesting of restricted shares. These shares are included as part of our repurchase program and reduce the repurchase authority granted by our Board. The number of shares repurchased excludes shares we reacquired pursuant to forfeitures of restricted stock.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The number of shares purchased includes 32,022 shares in October 2014, 204,228 shares in November 2014, and 88,620 shares in December 2014 deemed to be delivered to us on tender of stock in payment for the exercise price of options. These shares do not reduce the repurchase authority granted by our Board.

## Item 6. Exhibits

4.1	Note Purchase Agreement dated as of October 31, 2014, among Meredith Corporation, as issuer and seller, and named purchasers.
10.1	Meredith Corporation 2014 Stock Incentive Plan is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 18, 2014.
10.2	Form of the Nonqualified Stock Option Award Agreement for Employees is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 18, 2014.
10.3	Form of the Nonqualified Stock Option Award Agreement for Non-Employee Directors is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 18, 2014.
10.4	Form of the Restricted Stock Award Agreement for Employees is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 18, 2014.
10.5	Form of the Restricted Stock Award Agreement for Non-Employee Directors is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 18, 2014.
10.6	Form of the Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement - Performance Based is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 18, 2014.
10.7	Form of the Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement - Time Vested is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 18, 2014.
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.
32	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

## **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

MEREDITH CORPORATION

Registrant

/s/ Joseph Ceryanec

Joseph Ceryanec

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Date: January 28, 2015

## INDEX TO ATTACHED EXHIBITS

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# **Meredith Corporation**

\$100,000,000 Floating Rate Senior Notes, Series Q, due 2022

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**Note Purchase Agreement** 

Dated as of October 31, 2014

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Material Schedules and Exhibits (those marked with \*) are included in this filing.

# Meredith Corporation 1716 Locust Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309

# \$100,000,000 Floating Rate Senior Notes, Series Q, due 2022

Dated as of October 31, 2014

To Each of the Purchasers listed in Schedule A hereto:

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

Meredith Corporation, an Iowa corporation (together with any successor thereto that becomes such in accordance with Section 10.5, the "Company"), agrees with each of the purchasers whose names appear at the end hereof (each, a "Purchaser" and, collectively, the Purchasers") as follows:

#### **Section 1.** Authorization of Notes.

The Company will authorize the issue and sale of \$100,000,000 aggregate principal amount of its Floating Rate Senior Notes, Series Q, due 2022 (as amended, restated or otherwise modified from time to time, the "Notes", such term to include any such notes issued in substitution therefore pursuant to Section 13). The Notes shall be substantially in the form set forth in <a href="Exhibit 1">Exhibit 1</a> with such changes therefrom, if any, as may be approved by the Purchasers and the Company. Certain capitalized and other terms used in this Agreement are defined in <a href="Schedule B">Schedule B</a>. References to a "Schedule" or an "Exhibit" are, unless otherwise specified, to a Schedule or an Exhibit attached to this Agreement; references to a "Section" are, unless otherwise specified, to a Section of this Agreement.

#### Section 2. Sale and Purchase of Notes.

Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Company will issue and sell to each Purchaser and each Purchaser will purchase from the Company, at the Closing provided for in Section 3, Notes in the principal amount specified opposite such Purchaser's name in <u>Schedule A</u> at the purchase price of 100% of the principal amount thereof. The Purchasers' obligations hereunder are several and not joint obligations, and no Purchaser shall have any liability to any Person for the performance or non-performance of any obligation by any other Purchaser hereunder.

# Section 3. Closing.

The sale and purchase of the Notes to be purchased by each Purchaser shall occur at the offices of Bingham McCutchen LLP, 399 Park Avenue, New York, New York at 10:00 a.m. at a closing (the "Closing") on a Business Day on or prior to January 30, 2015, as may be agreed upon by the Company and the Purchasers at least three Business Days prior to such date of Closing. At the Closing the Company will deliver to each Purchaser the Notes to be purchased by such Purchaser in the form of a single Note (or such greater number of Notes in denominations of at least \$100,000 as such Purchaser may request) dated the date of the Closing and registered in such Purchaser's name (or in the name of its

nominee), against delivery by such Purchaser to the Company or its order of immediately available funds in the amount of the purchase price therefor by wire transfer of immediately available funds for the account of the Company to account number 0289646226 at Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., San Francisco, CA, USA ABA #121000248. If at the Closing the Company shall fail to tender such Notes to any Purchaser as provided above in this Section 3, or any of the conditions specified in Section 4 shall not have been fulfilled to such Purchaser's satisfaction, such Purchaser shall, at its election, be relieved of all further obligations under this Agreement, without thereby waiving any rights such Purchaser may have by reason of such failure or such nonfulfillment.

# Section 4. Conditions to Closing.

Each Purchaser's obligation to purchase and pay for the Notes to be sold to such Purchaser at the Closing is subject to the fulfillment to such Purchaser's satisfaction, prior to or at the Closing, of the following conditions:

# **Section 4.1** Representations and Warranties.

The representations and warranties of the Company in this Agreement shall be correct when made and at the time of the Closing both before and after giving effect to the consummation of the Acquisition and the issue and sale of the Notes (and the application of the proceeds thereof as contemplated by Section 5.14 on the date of the Closing).

# Section 4.2 Performance; No Default.

The Company shall have performed and complied with all agreements and conditions contained in this Agreement required to be performed or complied with by it prior to or at the Closing and from the date of this Agreement to the Closing assuming that Sections 9 and 10 are applicable from the date of this Agreement. From the date of this Agreement until the Closing, before and after giving effect to the Acquisition and the issue and sale of the Notes (and the application of the proceeds thereof as contemplated by Section 5.14), no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary shall have entered into any transaction since June 30, 2014 that would have been prohibited by Sections 10.1, 10.4 or 10.5 had such Sections applied since such date.

# **Section 4.3** Compliance Certificates.

- (a) *Officer's Certificate*. The Company shall have delivered to such Purchaser an Officer's Certificate, dated the date of the Closing, certifying that the conditions specified in Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.9 have been fulfilled.
- (b) *Secretary's Certificate*. The Company shall have delivered to such Purchaser a certificate of its Secretary or Assistant Secretary, dated the date of Closing, certifying as to the resolutions attached thereto and other corporate proceedings relating to the authorization, execution and delivery of the Notes and this Agreement.

# **Section 4.4 Opinions of Counsel.**

Such Purchaser shall have received opinions in form and substance satisfactory to such Purchaser, dated the date of the Closing (a) from Sidley Austin LLP, special counsel for the Company, covering the matters set forth in <u>Exhibit 4.4(a)</u> and (b) from John S. Zieser, Esq., Chief Development Officer, General Counsel and Secretary of the Company, covering the matters set forth in <u>Exhibit 4.4(b)</u> and covering such other matters incident to the transactions contemplated hereby as such Purchaser or its counsel may

reasonably request (and the Company hereby instructs its counsel to deliver such opinion to the Purchasers) and (c) from Bingham McCutchen LLP, the Purchasers' special counsel in connection with such transactions, substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit 4.4(c) and covering such other matters incident to such transactions as such Purchaser may reasonably request.

# Section 4.5 Purchase Permitted By Applicable Law, Etc.

On the date of the Closing, such Purchaser's purchase of Notes shall (a) be permitted by the laws and regulations of each jurisdiction to which such Purchaser is subject, without recourse to provisions (such as section 1405(a)(8) of the New York Insurance Law) permitting limited investments by insurance companies without restriction as to the character of the particular investment, (b) not violate any applicable law or regulation (including, without limitation, Regulation T, U or X of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System) and (c) not subject such Purchaser to any tax, penalty or liability under or pursuant to any applicable law or regulation, which law or regulation was not in effect on the date hereof. If requested by such Purchaser, such Purchaser shall have received an Officer's Certificate certifying as to such matters of fact as such Purchaser may reasonably specify to enable such Purchaser to determine whether such purchase is so permitted.

#### **Section 4.6** Sale of Other Notes.

Contemporaneously with the Closing, the Company shall sell to each other Purchaser, and each other Purchaser shall purchase, the Notes to be purchased by it at the Closing as specified in Schedule A.

# **Section 4.7** Payment of Fees.

Without limiting the provisions of Section 15.1, the Company shall have paid on or before the date of this Agreement and the date of Closing, the fees, charges and disbursements of the Purchasers' special counsel referred to in Section 4.4 to the extent reflected in a statement of such counsel rendered to the Company at least one Business Day prior to such date.

#### **Section 4.8** Private Placement Number.

A Private Placement Number issued by Standard & Poor's CUSIP Service Bureau (in cooperation with the SVO) shall have been obtained for the Notes.

# **Section 4.9** Changes in Corporate Structure.

Except as specified in <u>Schedule 5.4</u> or as described in a written notice provided by the Company to the Purchasers, the Company shall not have changed its jurisdiction of incorporation or been a party to any merger or consolidation, or succeeded to all or any substantial part of the liabilities of any other entity, at any time following the date of the most recent financial statements referred to in <u>Schedule 5.5</u>.

# **Section 4.10 Funding Instructions.**

At least two Business Days prior to the date of the Closing, each Purchaser shall have received written instructions, signed by a Responsible Officer on letterhead of the Company setting forth the proposed date of Closing and confirming the information specified in the second sentence of Section 3 including (a) the name and address of the transferee bank, (b) such transferee bank's ABA number, and (c) the account name and number into which the purchase price for the Notes is to be deposited.

# Section 4.11 Acquisition.

The Acquisition shall be consummated, substantially concurrently with the Closing hereunder, in accordance with the Acquisition Agreement. The Purchasers shall have received an Officer's Certificate, dated the date of the Closing, (a) certifying that all conditions precedent in the Acquisition Agreement to the consummation of the Acquisition (other than payment of the cash consideration from the proceeds of the Notes) have been satisfied or waived, and (b) attaching thereto a true, correct and complete copy of the final, fully executed Acquisition Agreement.

# Section 4.12 Proceedings and Documents.

All corporate and other proceedings in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and all documents and instruments incident to such transactions shall be satisfactory to such Purchaser and its special counsel, and such Purchaser and its special counsel shall have received all such counterpart originals or certified or other copies of such documents as such Purchaser or such special counsel may reasonably request.

# Section 5. Representations and Warranties of the Company.

The Company represents and warrants to each Purchaser that:

# Section 5.1 Organization; Power and Authority.

The Company is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of its jurisdiction of incorporation, and is duly qualified as a foreign corporation and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required by law, other than those jurisdictions as to which the failure to be so qualified or in good standing could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. The Company has the corporate power and authority to own or hold under lease the properties it purports to own or hold under lease, to transact the business it transacts and proposes to transact, to execute and deliver this Agreement, the Notes and the Acquisition Agreement and to perform the provisions hereof and thereof.

#### Section 5.2 Authorization, Etc.

This Agreement, the Notes and the Acquisition Agreement have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action on the part of the Company, and this Agreement and the Acquisition Agreement constitute, and upon execution and delivery thereof each Note will constitute, a legal, valid and binding obligation of the Company enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by (i) applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally and (ii) general principles of equity (regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law).

#### Section 5.3 Disclosure.

This Agreement and the documents, certificates or other writings delivered to the Purchasers by or on behalf of the Company in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby (including, without limitation, the Acquisition) and identified in <u>Schedule 5.3</u>, and the financial statements listed in <u>Schedule 5.5</u> (this Agreement and such documents, certificates or other writings and such financial statements being referred to, collectively, as the "**Disclosure Documents**"), taken as a whole, do not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary to make the

statements therein not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made, it being understood that no representation or warranty is made with respect to the projections included therein other than that they are based on assumptions and calculated in a manner the Company believed and believes as of the date thereof and hereof to be reasonable. Except as disclosed in the Disclosure Documents, since June 30, 2014, there has been no change in the financial condition, operations, business, properties or prospects of the Company or any Subsidiary except changes that individually or in the aggregate could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. To the best knowledge and belief of senior management of the Company, there is no fact known to the Company that could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect that has not been set forth herein or in the Disclosure Documents.

# Section 5.4 Organization and Ownership of Shares of Subsidiaries; Affiliates.

- (a) <u>Schedule 5.4</u> contains (except as noted therein) complete and correct lists (i) of the Company's Subsidiaries, showing, as to each Subsidiary, the correct name thereof, the jurisdiction of its organization, and the percentage of shares of each class of its capital stock or similar equity interests outstanding owned by the Company and each other Subsidiary, (ii) of the Company's Affiliates, other than Subsidiaries, and (iii) of the Company's directors and senior officers.
- (b) All of the outstanding shares of capital stock or similar equity interests of each Subsidiary shown in <u>Schedule 5.4</u> as being owned by the Company and its Subsidiaries have been validly issued, are fully paid and nonassessable and are owned by the Company or another Subsidiary free and clear of any Lien (except as otherwise disclosed in <u>Schedule 5.4</u>).
- (c) Each Subsidiary identified in <u>Schedule 5.4</u> is a corporation or other legal entity duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of its jurisdiction of organization, and is duly qualified as a foreign corporation or other legal entity and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required by law, other than those jurisdictions as to which the failure to be so qualified or in good standing could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. Each such Subsidiary has the corporate or other power and authority to own or hold under lease the properties it purports to own or hold under lease and to transact the business it transacts and proposes to transact.
- (d) No Subsidiary is a party to, or otherwise subject to any legal, regulatory, contractual or other restriction (other than the agreements listed on Schedule 5.4 and customary limitations imposed by corporate law or similar statutes) restricting the ability of such Subsidiary to pay dividends out of profits or make any other similar distributions of profits to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries that owns outstanding shares of capital stock or similar equity interests of such Subsidiary.

#### **Section 5.5** Financial Statements.

The Company has delivered to each Purchaser copies of the financial statements of the Company and its Subsidiaries listed on <u>Schedule 5.5</u>. All of said financial statements (including in each case the related schedules and notes) fairly present in all material respects the consolidated financial position of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the respective dates specified in such Schedule and the consolidated results of their operations and cash flows for the respective periods so specified and have been prepared in accordance with GAAP consistently applied throughout the periods involved except as set forth in the notes thereto (subject, in the case of any interim financial statements, to normal year-end adjustments).

The Company and its Subsidiaries do not have any Material liabilities that are not disclosed on such financial statements or otherwise disclosed in the Disclosure Documents.

# Section 5.6 Compliance with Laws, Other Instruments, Etc.

The execution, delivery and performance by the Company of this Agreement, the Notes and the Acquisition Agreement will not (i) contravene, result in any breach of, or constitute a default under, or result in the creation of any Lien in respect of any property of the Company or any Subsidiary under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan, purchase or credit agreement, lease, corporate charter or by-laws, or any other agreement or instrument to which the Company or any Subsidiary is bound or by which the Company or any Subsidiary or any of their respective properties may be bound or affected, (ii) conflict with or result in a breach of any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any order, judgment, decree, or ruling of any court, arbitrator or Governmental Authority applicable to the Company or any Subsidiary or (iii) violate any provision of any statute or other rule or regulation of any Governmental Authority applicable to the Company or any Subsidiary.

# Section 5.7 Governmental Authorizations, Etc.

No consent, approval or authorization of, or registration, filing or declaration with, any Governmental Authority is required in connection with the execution, delivery or performance by the Company of this Agreement or the Notes.

# Section 5.8 Litigation; Observance of Agreements, Statutes and Orders.

- (a) There are no actions, suits, investigations or proceedings pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened against or affecting the Company or any Subsidiary or any property of the Company or any Subsidiary in any court or before any arbitrator of any kind or before or by any Governmental Authority that, individually or in the aggregate, could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.
- (b) Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is in default under any term of any agreement or instrument to which it is a party or by which it is bound, or any order, judgment, decree or ruling of any court, arbitrator or Governmental Authority or is in violation of any applicable law, ordinance, rule or regulation (including without limitation Environmental Laws, the USA PATRIOT Act and any of the other laws and regulations that are referred to in Section 5.16) of any Governmental Authority, which default or violation, individually or in the aggregate, could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

#### Section 5.9 Taxes.

The Company and its Subsidiaries have filed all tax returns that are required to have been filed in any jurisdiction, and have paid all taxes shown to be due and payable on such returns and all other taxes and assessments levied upon them or their properties, assets, income or franchises, to the extent such taxes and assessments have become due and payable and before they have become delinquent, except for any taxes and assessments (a) the amount of which is not individually or in the aggregate Material or (b) the amount, applicability or validity of which is currently being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and with respect to which the Company or a Subsidiary, as the case may be, has established adequate reserves in accordance with GAAP. The Company knows of no basis for any other tax or assessment that could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. The charges, accruals and reserves on the books of the Company and its Subsidiaries in respect of federal, state or other taxes

for all fiscal periods are adequate. The federal income tax liabilities of the Company and its Subsidiaries have been finally determined (whether by reason of completed audits or the statute of limitations having run) for all fiscal years up to and including the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005.

# Section 5.10 Title to Property; Leases.

The Company and its Subsidiaries have good and sufficient title to their respective properties that individually or in the aggregate are Material, including all such properties reflected in the most recent audited balance sheet referred to in Section 5.5 or purported to have been acquired by the Company or any Subsidiary after said date (except as sold or otherwise disposed of in the ordinary course of business), in each case free and clear of Liens prohibited by this Agreement. All leases that individually or in the aggregate are Material are valid and subsisting and are in full force and effect in all material respects.

# Section 5.11 Licenses, Permits, Etc.

- (a) The Company and its Subsidiaries own or possess all licenses, permits, franchises, authorizations, patents, copyrights, proprietary software, service marks, trademarks and trade names, or rights thereto, that individually or in the aggregate are Material, without known conflict with the rights of others which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.
- (b) To the best knowledge of the Company, no product or service of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries infringes in any material respect any license, permit, franchise, authorization, patent, copyright, proprietary software, service mark, trademark, trade name or other right owned by any other Person which infringement could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.
- (c) To the best knowledge of the Company, there is no Material violation by any Person of any right of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries with respect to any patent, copyright, proprietary software, service mark, trademark, trade name or other right owned or used by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries which violation could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

# Section 5.12 Compliance with ERISA.

- (a) The Company and each ERISA Affiliate have operated and administered each Plan in compliance with all applicable laws except for such instances of non-compliance as have not resulted in and could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. Neither the Company nor any ERISA Affiliate has incurred any liability pursuant to Title I or IV of ERISA or the penalty or excise tax provisions of the Code relating to employee benefit plans (as defined in section 3 of ERISA), and no event, transaction or condition has occurred or exists that could, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in the incurrence of any such liability by the Company or any ERISA Affiliate, or in the imposition of any Lien on any of the rights, properties or assets of the Company or any ERISA Affiliate, in either case pursuant to Title I or IV of ERISA or to section 430(k) of the Code or to any such penalty or excise tax provisions under the Code or Federal law or section 4068 of ERISA or by the granting of a security interest in connection with the amendment of a Plan, other than such liabilities or Liens as would not be individually or in the aggregate Material.
- (b) The present value of the aggregate benefit liabilities under each of the Plans subject to Title IV of ERISA (other than Multiemployer Plans), determined as of the end of such Plan's most

recently ended plan year on the basis of the actuarial assumptions specified for funding purposes in such Plan's most recent actuarial valuation report, did not exceed the aggregate current value of the assets of such Plan allocable to such benefit liabilities by more than \$10,000,000 in the case of any single Plan and by more than \$10,000,000 in the aggregate for all Plans. The present value of the accrued benefit liabilities (whether or not vested) under each Non-U.S. Plan that is funded, determined as of the end of the Company's most recently ended fiscal year on the basis of reasonable actuarial assumptions, did not exceed the current value of the assets of such Non-U.S. Plan allocable to such benefit liabilities by more than \$10,000,000. The term "benefit liabilities" has the meaning specified in section 4001 of ERISA and the terms "current value" and "present value" have the meaning specified in section 3 of ERISA.

- (c) The Company and its ERISA Affiliates have not incurred (i) withdrawal liabilities (and are not subject to contingent withdrawal liabilities) under section 4201 or 4204 of ERISA in respect of Multiemployer Plans that individually or in the aggregate are Material or (ii) any obligation in connection with the termination of or withdrawal from any Non-U.S. Plan.
- (d) The expected postretirement benefit obligation (determined as of the last day of the Company's most recently ended fiscal year in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Section 715-60, without regard to liabilities attributable to continuation coverage mandated by section 4980B of the Code) of the Company and its Subsidiaries is not Material or has otherwise been properly disclosed in the Company's most recent audited financial statements.
- (e) The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the issuance and sale of the Notes hereunder will not involve any transaction that is subject to the prohibitions of section 406 of ERISA or in connection with which a tax could be imposed pursuant to section 4975(c)(1)(A)-(D) of the Code. The representation by the Company to each Purchaser in the first sentence of this Section 5.12(e) is made in reliance upon and subject to the accuracy of such Purchaser's representation in Section 6.2 as to the sources of the funds used to pay the purchase price of the Notes to be purchased by such Purchaser.
- (f) All Non-U.S. Plans have been established, operated, administered and maintained in compliance with all laws, regulations and orders applicable thereto, except where failure so to comply could not be reasonably expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. All premiums, contributions and any other amounts required by applicable Non-U.S. Plan documents or applicable laws to be paid or accrued by the Company and its Subsidiaries have been paid or accrued as required, except where failure so to pay or accrue could not be reasonably expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

# Section 5.13 Private Offering by the Company.

Neither the Company nor anyone acting on its behalf has offered the Notes or any similar Securities for sale to, or solicited any offer to buy any of the same from, or otherwise approached or negotiated in respect thereof with, any Person other than the Purchasers and not more than one (1) other Institutional Investor (as defined in clause (c) of the definition of such term), each of which has been offered the Notes at a private sale for investment. Neither the Company nor anyone acting on its behalf has taken, or will take, any action that would subject the issuance or sale of the Notes to the registration requirements of section 5 of the Securities Act or the registration requirements of any securities or blue sky laws of any applicable jurisdiction.

# Section 5.14 Use of Proceeds; Margin Regulations.

The Company will apply the proceeds of the sale of the Notes as set forth in Schedule 5.14. No part of the proceeds from the sale of the Notes hereunder will be used, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of buying or carrying any margin stock within the meaning of Regulation U of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (12 CFR 221), or for the purpose of buying or carrying or trading in any Securities under such circumstances as to involve the Company in a violation of Regulation X of said Board (12 CFR 224) or to involve any broker or dealer in a violation of Regulation T of said Board (12 CFR 220). Margin stock does not constitute more than 5.0% of the value of the consolidated assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries and the Company does not have any present intention that margin stock will constitute more than 5.0% of the value of such assets. As used in this Section, the terms "margin stock" and "purpose of buying or carrying" shall have the meanings assigned to them in said Regulation U.

# Section 5.15 Existing Debt; Future Liens.

- (a) Except as described therein, Schedule 5.15 sets forth a complete and correct list of all outstanding Debt of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of September 30, 2014 (including a description of the obligors and obligees, principal amount outstanding and collateral therefor, if any, and Guaranty therefor, if any), since which date there has been no material change in the amounts, interest rates, sinking funds, installment payments or maturities of the Debt of the Company or its Subsidiaries, except to the extent described in such schedule. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is in default and no waiver of default is currently in effect, in the payment of any principal or interest on any Debt of the Company or such Subsidiary and no event or condition exists with respect to any such Debt of the Company or any Subsidiary that would permit (or that with notice or the lapse of time, or both, would permit) one or more Persons to cause such Debt to become due and payable before its stated maturity or before its regularly scheduled dates of payment.
- (b) Except as disclosed in <u>Schedule 5.15</u>, neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has agreed or consented to cause or permit in the future (upon the happening of a contingency or otherwise) any of its property, whether now owned or hereafter acquired, to be subject to a Lien not permitted by Section 10.4.
- (c) Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is a party to, or otherwise subject to any provision contained in any instrument evidencing Debt of the Company or such Subsidiary, any agreement relating thereto or any other agreement (including, but not limited to, its charter or other organizational document) which limits the amount of, or otherwise imposes restrictions on the incurring of, Debt of the Company, except as specifically indicated in <u>Schedule 5.15</u>.

# Section 5.16 Foreign Assets Control Regulations, Etc.

(a) Neither the Company nor any Controlled Entity is (i) a Person whose name appears on the list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons published by the Office of Foreign Assets Control, United States Department of the Treasury ("OFAC") (an "OFAC Listed Person") (ii) an agent, department, or instrumentality of, or is otherwise beneficially owned by, controlled by or acting on behalf of, directly or indirectly, (x) any OFAC Listed Person or (y) any Person, entity, organization, foreign country or regime that is subject to any OFAC Sanctions Program, or (iii) otherwise blocked, subject to sanctions under or engaged in any activity in violation of other United States economic sanctions, including but not limited to, the Trading with the Enemy Act,

the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Divestment Act ("CISADA") or any similar law or regulation with respect to Iran or any other country, the Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act, any OFAC Sanctions Program, or any economic sanctions regulations administered and enforced by the United States or any enabling legislation or executive order relating to any of the foregoing (collectively, "U.S. Economic Sanctions") (each OFAC Listed Person and each other Person, entity, organization and government of a country described in clause (i), clause (ii) or clause (iii), a "Blocked Person"). Neither the Company nor any Controlled Entity has been notified that its name appears or may in the future appear on a state list of Persons that engage in investment or other commercial activities in Iran or any other country that is subject to U.S. Economic Sanctions.

- (b) No part of the proceeds from the sale of the Notes hereunder constitutes or will constitute funds obtained on behalf of any Blocked Person or will otherwise be used by the Company or any Controlled Entity, directly or indirectly, (i) in connection with any investment in, or any transactions or dealings with, any Blocked Person, or (ii) otherwise in violation of U.S. Economic Sanctions.
- (c) Neither the Company nor any Controlled Entity (i) has been found in violation of, charged with, or convicted of, money laundering, drug trafficking, terrorist-related activities or other money laundering predicate crimes under the Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act of 1970 (otherwise known as the Bank Secrecy Act), the USA PATRIOT Act or any other United States law or regulation governing such activities (collectively, "Anti-Money Laundering Laws") or any U.S. Economic Sanctions violations, (ii) to the Company's actual knowledge after making due inquiry, is under investigation by any Governmental Authority for possible violation of Anti-Money Laundering Laws or any U.S. Economic Sanctions, (iii) has been assessed civil penalties under any Anti-Money Laundering Laws or any U.S. Economic Sanctions, or (iv) has had any of its funds seized or forfeited in an action under any Anti-Money Laundering Laws. The Company has established procedures and controls which it reasonably believes are adequate (and otherwise comply with applicable law) to ensure that the Company and each Controlled Entity is and will continue to be in compliance with all applicable Anti-Money Laundering Laws and U.S. Economic Sanctions.
- (d) (1) Neither the Company nor any Controlled Entity (i) has been charged with, or convicted of bribery or any other anti-corruption related activity under any applicable law or regulation in a U.S. or any non-U.S. country or jurisdiction, including but not limited to, the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and the U.K. Bribery Act 2010 (collectively, "Anti-Corruption Laws"), (ii) to the Company's actual knowledge after making due inquiry, is under investigation by any U.S. or non-U.S. Governmental Authority for possible violation of Anti-Corruption Laws, (iii) has been assessed civil or criminal penalties under any Anti-Corruption Laws or (iv) has been or is the target of sanctions imposed by the United Nations or the European Union;
- (2) To the Company's actual knowledge after making due inquiry, neither the Company nor any Controlled Entity has, within the last five years, directly or indirectly offered, promised, given, paid or authorized the offer, promise, giving or payment of anything of value to a Governmental Official or a commercial counterparty for the purposes of: (i) influencing any act, decision or failure to act by such Government Official in his or her official capacity or such commercial counterparty, (ii) inducing a Governmental Official to do or omit to do any act in violation of the Governmental Official's lawful duty, or (iii) inducing a Governmental Official or a commercial counterparty to use his or her influence with a government or instrumentality to affect any act or decision of such government or entity; in each case in order to obtain, retain or direct

business or to otherwise secure an improper advantage in violation of any applicable law or regulation or which would cause any Purchaser or any holder to be in violation of any law or regulation applicable to such Purchaser or holder; and

(3) No part of the proceeds from the sale of the Notes hereunder will be used, directly or indirectly, for any improper payments, including bribes, to any Governmental Official or commercial counterparty in order to obtain, retain or direct business or obtain any improper advantage. The Company has established procedures and controls which it reasonably believes are adequate (and otherwise comply with applicable law) to ensure that the Company and each Controlled Entity is and will continue to be in compliance with all applicable Anti-Corruption Laws.

## Section 5.17 Status under Certain Statutes.

Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is subject to regulation under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005, as amended, the ICC Termination Act of 1995, as amended, or the Federal Power Act, as amended.

# Section 5.18 Notes Rank Pari Passu.

The obligations of the Company under this Agreement and the Notes rank at least *pari passu* in right of payment with all other senior unsecured Debt (actual or contingent) of the Company, including, without limitation, all senior unsecured Debt of the Company described in <u>Schedule 5.15</u> hereto.

#### Section 5.19 Environmental Matters.

- (a) Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has knowledge of any claim or has received any notice of any claim, and no proceeding has been instituted raising any claim against the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or any of their respective real properties now or formerly owned, leased or operated by any of them or other assets, alleging any damage to the environment or violation of any Environmental Laws, except, in each case, such as could not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.
- (b) Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has knowledge of any facts which would give rise to any claim, public or private, of violation of Environmental Laws or damage to the environment emanating from, occurring on or in any way related to real properties now or formerly owned, leased or operated by any of them or to other assets or their use, except, in each case, such as could not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.
- (c) Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has stored any Hazardous Materials on real properties now or formerly owned, leased or operated by any of them and has not disposed of any Hazardous Materials in a manner contrary to any Environmental Laws in each case in any manner that could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.
- (d) All buildings on all real properties now owned, leased or operated by the Company or any Subsidiary are in compliance with applicable Environmental Laws, except where failure to comply could not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

# **Section 6.** Representations of the Purchaser.

#### **Section 6.1 Purchase for Investment.**

Each Purchaser severally represents that it is purchasing the Notes for its own account or for one or more separate accounts maintained by such Purchaser or for the account of one or more pension or trust funds and not with a view to the distribution thereof, *provided* that the disposition of such Purchaser's or their property shall at all times be within such Purchaser's or their control. Each Purchaser understands that the Notes have not been registered under the Securities Act and may be resold only if registered pursuant to the provisions of the Securities Act or if an exemption from registration is available, except under circumstances where neither such registration nor such an exemption is required by law, and that the Company is not required to register the Notes.

#### Section 6.2 Source of Funds.

Each Purchaser severally represents that at least one of the following statements is an accurate representation as to each source of funds (a "**Source**") to be used by such Purchaser to pay the purchase price of the Notes to be purchased by such Purchaser hereunder:

- (a) the Source is an "insurance company general account" (as the term is defined in the United States Department of Labor's Prohibited Transaction Exemption (as further defined in Schedule B, "PTE") 95-60) in respect of which the reserves and liabilities (as defined by the annual statement for life insurance companies approved by the NAIC (the "NAIC Annual Statement")) for the general account contract(s) held by or on behalf of any employee benefit plan together with the amount of the reserves and liabilities for the general account contract(s) held by or on behalf of any other employee benefit plans maintained by the same employer (or affiliate thereof as defined in PTE 95-60) or by the same employee organization in the general account do not exceed 10% of the total reserves and liabilities of the general account (exclusive of separate account liabilities) plus surplus as set forth in the NAIC Annual Statement filed with such Purchaser's state of domicile; or
- (b) the Source is a separate account that is maintained solely in connection with such Purchaser's fixed contractual obligations under which the amounts payable, or credited, to any employee benefit plan (or its related trust) that has any interest in such separate account (or to any participant or beneficiary of such plan (including any annuitant)) are not affected in any manner by the investment performance of the separate account; or
- (c) the Source is either (i) an insurance company pooled separate account, within the meaning of PTE 90-1, or (ii) a bank collective investment fund, within the meaning of PTE 91-38 and, except as disclosed by such Purchaser to the Company in writing pursuant to this clause (c), no employee benefit plan or group of plans maintained by the same employer or employee organization beneficially owns more than 10% of all assets allocated to such pooled separate account or collective investment fund; or
- (d) the Source constitutes assets of an "investment fund" (within the meaning of Part VI of PTE 84-14 (the "QPAM Exemption")) managed by a "qualified professional asset manager" or "QPAM" (within the meaning of Part VI of the QPAM Exemption), no employee benefit plan's assets that are managed by the QPAM in such investment fund, when combined with the assets of all other employee benefit plans established or maintained by the same employer or by an affiliate (within the meaning of Part VI(c)(1) of the QPAM Exemption) of such employer or by the same employee organization and managed by such QPAM, represent more than 20% of the total client assets managed by such QPAM, the conditions of Part I(c) and (g) of the QPAM Exemption are satisfied, neither the QPAM nor a person controlling or controlled by the QPAM maintains an ownership interest in the Company that would cause the QPAM and the Company to be "related"

within the meaning of Part VI(h) of the QPAM Exemption and (i) the identity of such QPAM and (ii) the names of any employee benefit plans whose assets in the investment fund, when combined with the assets of all other employee benefit plans established or maintained by the same employer or by an affiliate (within the meaning of Part VI(c)(1) of the QPAM Exemption) of such employer or by the same employee organization, represent 10% or more of the assets of such investment fund, have been disclosed to the Company in writing pursuant to this clause (d);or

- (e) the Source constitutes assets of a "plan(s)" (within the meaning of Part IV(h) of PTE 96-23 (the "INHAM Exemption")) managed by an "in-house asset manager" or "INHAM" (within the meaning of Part IV(a) of the INHAM Exemption), the conditions of Part I (a), (g) and (h) of the INHAM Exemption are satisfied, neither the INHAM nor a person controlling or controlled by the INHAM (applying the definition of "control" in Part IV(d)(3) of the INHAM Exemption) owns a 10% or more interest in the Company and (i) the identity of such INHAM and (ii) the name(s) of the employee benefit plan(s) whose assets constitute the Source have been disclosed to the Company in writing pursuant to this clause (e); or
  - (f) the Source is a governmental plan; or
- (g) the Source is one or more employee benefit plans, or a separate account or trust fund comprised of one or more employee benefit plans, each of which has been identified to the Company in writing pursuant to this clause (g); or
- (h) the Source does not include assets of any employee benefit plan, other than a plan exempt from the coverage of ERISA.

As used in this Section 6.2, the terms "employee benefit plan," "governmental plan," and "separate account" shall have the respective meanings assigned to such terms in section 3 of ERISA.

# Section 7. Information as to the Company.

#### Section 7.1 Financial and Business Information.

The Company shall deliver to each Purchaser and each holder of a Note that is an Institutional Investor:

- (a) *Quarterly Statements* within 60 days (or such shorter period as is 15 days greater than the period applicable to the filing of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (the "**Form 10-Q**") with the SEC) after the end of each quarterly fiscal period in each fiscal year of the Company (other than the last quarterly fiscal period of each such fiscal year), duplicate copies of:
  - (1) a consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as at the end of such quarter, and
  - (2) consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such quarter and (in the case of the second and third quarters) for the portion of the fiscal year ending with such quarter,

setting forth in each case in comparative form the figures for the corresponding periods in the previous fiscal year, all in reasonable detail, prepared in accordance with GAAP applicable to quarterly financial statements generally, and certified by a Senior Financial Officer as fairly presenting, in all material respects, the financial position of the companies being reported on and

their results of operations and cash flows, subject to changes resulting from year-end adjustments, provided that delivery within the time period specified above of copies of the Company's Form 10-Q prepared in compliance with the requirements therefor and filed with the SEC shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of this Section 7.1(a), provided, further, that the Company shall be deemed to have made such delivery of such Form 10-Q if it shall have timely made such Form 10-Q available on "EDGAR" and on its home page on the worldwide web (at the date of this Agreement located at: http://www.meredith.com) and shall have given each Purchaser and each holder of a Note prior notice of such availability on EDGAR and on its home page in connection with each delivery (such availability and notice thereof being referred to as "Electronic Delivery");

- (b) Annual Statements within 105 days (or such shorter period as is 15 days greater than the period applicable to the filing of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K (the "Form 10-K") with the SEC) after the end of each fiscal year of the Company, duplicate copies of:
  - (1) a consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries, as at the end of such year, and
  - (2) consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows of the Company and its Subsidiaries, for such year,

setting forth in each case in comparative form the figures for the previous fiscal year, all in reasonable detail, prepared in accordance with GAAP, and accompanied by:

- (A) an opinion thereon (without a "going concern" or similar qualification or exception and without any qualification or exception as to the scope of the audit on which such opinion is based) of independent public accountants of recognized national standing, which opinion shall state that such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the companies being reported upon and their results of operations and cash flows and have been prepared in conformity with GAAP, and that the examination of such accountants in connection with such financial statements has been made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and that such audit provides a reasonable basis for such opinion in the circumstances, and
- (B) a certificate of such accountants stating that they have reviewed this Agreement and stating further whether, in making their audit, they have become aware of any condition or event that then constitutes a Default or an Event of Default, and, if they are aware that any such condition or event then exists, specifying the nature and period of the existence thereof (it being understood that such accountants shall not be liable, directly or indirectly, for any failure to obtain knowledge of any Default or Event of Default unless such accountants should have obtained knowledge thereof in making an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards or did not make such an audit),

provided that the delivery within the time period specified above of the Company's Form 10-K for such fiscal year (together with the Company's annual report to shareholders, if any, prepared pursuant to Rule 14a-3 under the Exchange Act) prepared in accordance with the requirements therefor and filed with the SEC, together with the accountant's certificate described in clause (B) above (the "Accountants' Certificate"), shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of this

Section 7.1(b), *provided, further*, that the Company shall be deemed to have made such delivery of such Form 10-K if it shall have timely made Electronic Delivery thereof, in which event the Company shall separately deliver, concurrently with such Electronic Delivery, the Accountants' Certificate;

- (c) SEC and Other Reports promptly upon their becoming available, one copy of (i) each financial statement, report, notice or proxy statement sent by the Company or any Subsidiary to its principal lending banks as a whole (excluding information sent to such banks in the ordinary course of administration of a bank facility, such as information relating to pricing and borrowing availability) or to its public Securities holders generally, and (ii) each regular or periodic report, each registration statement (without exhibits except as expressly requested by such Purchaser or holder), and each prospectus and all amendments thereto filed by the Company or any Subsidiary with the SEC and of all press releases and other statements made available generally by the Company or any Subsidiary to the public concerning developments that are Material;
- (d) *Notice of Default or Event of Default* promptly, and in any event within five days after a Responsible Officer becoming aware of the existence of any Default or Event of Default or that any Person has given any notice or taken any action with respect to a claimed default hereunder or that any Person has given any notice or taken any action with respect to a claimed default of the type referred to in Section 11(f), a written notice specifying the nature and period of existence thereof and what action the Company is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto;
- (e) *ERISA Matters* promptly, and in any event within five days after a Responsible Officer becoming aware of any of the following, a written notice setting forth the nature thereof and the action, if any, that the Company or an ERISA Affiliate proposes to take with respect thereto:
  - (1) with respect to any Plan, any reportable event, as defined in section 4043(c) of ERISA and the regulations thereunder, for which notice thereof has not been waived pursuant to such regulations as in effect on the date hereof; or
  - (2) the taking by the PBGC of steps to institute, or the threatening by the PBGC of the institution of, proceedings under section 4042 of ERISA for the termination of, or the appointment of a trustee to administer, any Plan, or the receipt by the Company or any ERISA Affiliate of a notice from a Multiemployer Plan that such action has been taken by the PBGC with respect to such Multiemployer Plan; or
  - (3) any event, transaction or condition that could result in the incurrence of any liability by the Company or any ERISA Affiliate pursuant to Title I or IV of ERISA or the penalty or excise tax provisions of the Code relating to employee benefit plans, or in the imposition of any Lien on any of the rights, properties or assets of the Company or any ERISA Affiliate pursuant to Title I or IV of ERISA or such penalty or excise tax provisions, if such liability or Lien, taken together with any other such liabilities or Liens then existing, could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; or
  - (4) receipt of notice of the imposition of a Material financial penalty (which for this purpose shall mean any tax, penalty or other liability, whether by way of indemnity or otherwise) with respect to one or more Non-U.S. Plans;

- (f) *Notices from Governmental Authority* promptly, and in any event within 30 days of receipt thereof, copies of any notice to the Company or any Subsidiary from any federal or state Governmental Authority relating to any order, ruling, statute or other law or regulation that could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; and
- (g) *Requested Information* with reasonable promptness, such other data and information relating to the business, operations, affairs, financial condition, assets or properties of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries (including, but without limitation, actual copies of the Company's Form 10-Q and Form 10-K) or relating to the ability of the Company to perform its obligations hereunder and under the Notes as from time to time may be reasonably requested by any such Purchaser or holder of Notes.

# Section 7.2 Officer's Certificate.

Each set of financial statements delivered to a Purchaser or a holder of Notes pursuant to Section 7.1(a) or Section 7.1(b) shall be accompanied by a certificate of a Senior Financial Officer setting forth (which, in the case of Electronic Delivery of any such financial statements, shall be by separate concurrent delivery of such certificate to each Purchaser and each holder of Notes):

- (a) Covenant Compliance the information (including detailed calculations) required in order to establish whether the Company was in compliance with the requirements of Section 10.2 through Section 10.5 hereof, inclusive, during the quarterly or annual period covered by the statements then being furnished (including with respect to each such Section, where applicable, the calculations of the maximum or minimum amount, ratio or percentage, as the case may be, permissible under the terms of such Sections and the calculation of the amount, ratio or percentage then in existence); and
- (b) Event of Default a statement that such Senior Financial Officer has reviewed the relevant terms hereof and has made, or caused to be made, under his or her supervision, a review of the transactions and conditions of the Company and its Subsidiaries from the beginning of the quarterly or annual period covered by the statements then being furnished to the date of the certificate and that such review shall not have disclosed the existence during such period of any condition or event that constitutes a Default or an Event of Default or, if any such condition or event existed or exists (including, without limitation, any such event or condition resulting from the failure of the Company or any Subsidiary to comply with any Environmental Law), specifying the nature and period of existence thereof and what action the Company shall have taken or proposes to take with respect thereto.

#### Section 7.3 Visitation.

The Company shall permit the representatives of each Purchaser and each holder of Notes that is an Institutional Investor:

(a) *No Default* - if no Default or Event of Default then exists, at the expense of such Purchaser or such holder and upon reasonable prior notice to the Company, to visit the principal executive office of the Company, to discuss the affairs, finances and accounts of the Company and its Subsidiaries with the Company's officers, and (with the consent of the Company, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld) its independent public accountants, and (with the consent of the Company, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld) to visit the other offices and properties of the Company and each Subsidiary, all at such reasonable times and as often as may

be reasonably requested in writing, but not more frequently than twice in any twelve month period; and

(b) *Default* - if a Default or Event of Default then exists, at the expense of the Company, to visit and inspect any of the offices or properties of the Company or any Subsidiary, to examine all their respective books of account, records, reports and other papers, to make copies and extracts therefrom, and to discuss their respective affairs, finances and accounts with their respective officers and independent public accountants (and by this provision the Company authorizes said accountants to discuss the affairs, finances and accounts of the Company and its Subsidiaries), all at such times and as often as may be requested.

# Section 8. Payment and Prepayment of the Notes.

# **Section 8.1** Maturity.

As provided therein, the entire unpaid principal balance of each Note shall be due and payable on the Maturity Date thereof.

# Section 8.2 Optional Prepayments with Yield-Maintenance Amount and Breakage Amount.

The Company may, at its option, upon notice as provided below, prepay at any time all, or from time to time any part of, the Notes, in an amount not less than 10% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding in the case of a partial prepayment, at 100% of the principal amount so prepaid, together with interest accrued thereon to the date of such prepayment, plus the applicable Yield-Maintenance Amount and the Breakage Amount (if any, in accordance with Section 8.10(b) hereof to each holder of Notes that delivers to the Company, whether before, on or after the applicable date of prepayment, the notice required by Section 8.10(b), unless the specified prepayment date is the last day of an Interest Period) determined for the prepayment date with respect to such principal amount. The Company will give each holder of Notes written notice of each optional prepayment under this Section 8.2 not less than 30 days and not more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for such prepayment. Each such notice shall specify such date (which shall be a Business Day), the aggregate principal amount of the Notes to be prepaid on such date, the principal amount of each Note held by such holder to be prepaid (determined in accordance with Section 8.4), and the interest to be paid on the prepayment date with respect to such principal amount being prepaid, and shall be accompanied by a certificate of a Senior Financial Officer as to the estimated Yield-Maintenance Amount due with respect to the Notes in connection with such prepayment (calculated as if the date of such notice were the date of the prepayment), setting forth the details of such computation. Two Business Days prior to such prepayment, the Company shall deliver to each holder of Notes a certificate of a Senior Financial Officer specifying the calculation of such Yield-Maintenance Amount with respect to the Notes as of the specified prepayment date. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, if any prepayment is made after a request for payment is made pursuant to Section 8.10(c), no Yield-Maintenance Amount shall be due and payable.

# Section 8.3 Change in Control.

(a) *Notice of Change in Control or Control Event*. The Company will, within five Business Days after any Responsible Officer has knowledge of the occurrence of any Change in Control or Control Event, give written notice of such Change in Control or Control Event to each holder of Notes unless notice in respect of such Change in Control (or the Change in Control contemplated by such Control Event) shall have been given pursuant to subparagraph (b) of this

- Section 8.3. If a Change in Control has occurred, such notice shall contain and constitute an offer to prepay the Notes, on a pro rata basis in respect of all Notes outstanding at such time, as described in subparagraph (c) of this Section 8.3 and shall be accompanied by the certificate described in subparagraph (g) of this Section 8.3.
- (b) Condition to Company Action. The Company will not take any action that consummates or finalizes a Change in Control unless (i) at least 30 days prior to such action it shall have given to each holder of Notes written notice containing and constituting an offer to prepay the Notes, on a *pro rata* basis in respect of all Notes outstanding at such time, as described in subparagraph (c) of this Section 8.3, accompanied by the certificate described in subparagraph (g) of this Section 8.3, and (ii) contemporaneously with such action, it prepays all Notes required to be prepaid in accordance with this Section 8.3.
- (c) Offer to Prepay Notes. The offer to prepay Notes contemplated by subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this Section 8.3 shall be an offer to prepay, in accordance with and subject to this Section 8.3, all, but not less than all, of the Notes held by each holder (in this case only, "holder" in respect of any Note registered in the name of a nominee for a disclosed beneficial owner shall mean such beneficial owner) on a date specified in such offer (the "Proposed Prepayment Date"). If such Proposed Prepayment Date is in connection with an offer contemplated by subparagraph (a) of this Section 8.3, such date shall be not less than 30 days and not more than 120 days after the date of such offer (if the Proposed Prepayment Date shall not be specified in such offer, the Proposed Prepayment Date shall be the first Business Day after the 45th day after the date of such offer).
- (d) *Acceptance*. A holder of Notes may accept the offer to prepay made pursuant to this Section 8.3 by causing a notice of such acceptance to be delivered to the Company not later than 15 days after receipt by such holder of the most recent offer of prepayment. A failure by a holder of Notes to respond to an offer to prepay made pursuant to this Section shall be deemed to constitute a rejection of such offer by such holder.
- (e) *Prepayment*. Prepayment of the Notes to be prepaid pursuant to this Section 8.3 shall be at 100% of the principal amount of such Notes, together with interest on such Notes accrued to the date of prepayment and any applicable Breakage Amount (to each holder of Notes that delivers to the Company, on or prior to the applicable date of prepayment, the notice required by Section 8.10(b); *provided* that the Company shall also pay any Breakage Amount, if applicable, to each holder of Notes that delivers such notice to the Company after the applicable date of prepayment in accordance with Section 8.10(b)), but without payment of the Yield-Maintenance Amount or any other premium. The prepayment shall be made on the Proposed Prepayment Date except as provided in subparagraph (f) of this Section 8.3.
- (f) *Deferral Pending Change in Control*. The obligation of the Company to prepay Notes pursuant to the offers required by subparagraph (c) and accepted in accordance with subparagraph (d) of this Section 8.3 is subject to the occurrence of the Change in Control in respect of which such offers and acceptances shall have been made. In the event that such Change in Control has not occurred on the Proposed Prepayment Date in respect thereof, the prepayment shall be deferred until, and shall be made on, the date on which such Change in Control occurs. The Company shall keep each holder of Notes reasonably and timely informed of (i) any such deferral of the date of prepayment, (ii) the date on which such Change in Control and the prepayment are expected to occur, and (iii) any determination by the Company that efforts to effect

such Change in Control have ceased or been abandoned (in which case the offers and acceptances made pursuant to this Section 8.3 in respect of such Change in Control shall be deemed rescinded).

- (g) Officer's Certificate. Each offer to prepay the Notes pursuant to this Section 8.3 shall be accompanied by a certificate, executed by a Senior Financial Officer of the Company and dated the date of such offer, specifying: (i) the Proposed Prepayment Date; (ii) that such offer is made pursuant to this Section 8.3; (iii) the principal amount of each Note offered to be prepaid (without any Yield-Maintenance Amount); (iv) the interest that would be due on each Note offered to be prepaid, accrued to the Proposed Prepayment Date; (v) that the conditions of this Section 8.3 have been fulfilled; and (vi) in reasonable detail, the nature and date or proposed date of the Change in Control.
- (h) Certain Definitions. "Change in Control" shall be deemed to have occurred if any person (as such term is used in section 13(d) and section 14(d)(2) of the Exchange Act as in effect on the date hereof) or related persons constituting a group (as such term is used in Rule 13d-5 under the Exchange Act as in effect on the date hereof), other than members of the Meredith Family,
  - (1) become the "beneficial owners" (as such term is used in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act as in effect on the date hereof), directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of the total voting power of all classes then outstanding of the Company's Voting Stock, or
  - (2) acquire after the date hereof (x) the power to elect, appoint or cause the election or appointment of at least a majority of the members of the board of directors of the Company, through beneficial ownership of the capital stock of the Company or otherwise, or (y) all or substantially all of the properties and assets of the Company.

#### "Control Event" means:

- (i) the execution by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or Affiliates of any agreement or letter of intent with respect to any proposed transaction or event or series of transactions or events which, individually or in the aggregate, may reasonably be expected to result in a Change in Control,
- (ii) the execution of any written agreement which, when fully performed by the parties thereto, would result in a Change in Control, or
- (iii) the making of any written offer by any person (as such term is used in section 13(d) and section 14(d)(2) of the Exchange Act as in effect on the date hereof) or related persons constituting a group (as such term is used in Rule 13d-5 under the Exchange Act as in effect on the date hereof) to the holders of the common stock of the Company, which offer, if accepted by the requisite number of holders, would result in a Change in Control.

All calculations contemplated in this Section 8.3 involving the capital stock of any Person shall be made with the assumption that all convertible Securities of such Person then outstanding and all convertible Securities issuable upon the exercise of any warrants, options and other rights outstanding at such time were converted at such time and that all options, warrants and similar rights to acquire shares of capital stock of such Person were exercised at such time.

# **Section 8.4** Allocation of Partial Prepayments.

In the case of each partial prepayment of the Notes pursuant to Section 8.2, the principal amount of the Notes to be prepaid shall be allocated among all of the Notes at the time outstanding in proportion, as nearly as practicable, to the respective unpaid principal amounts thereof not theretofore called for prepayment. All partial prepayments made pursuant to Section 8.3 or 8.8 shall be applied only to the Notes of the holders who have elected to participate in such prepayment.

# Section 8.5 Maturity; Surrender, Etc.

In the case of each prepayment of Notes pursuant to this Section 8, the principal amount of each Note to be prepaid shall mature and become due and payable on the date fixed for such prepayment (which shall be a Business Day), together with interest on such principal amount accrued to such date and the applicable Yield-Maintenance Amount, if any, and/or Breakage Amount, if any (in accordance with Section 8.10(b) hereof, payable to each holder of Notes that delivers to the Company, on or prior to the applicable date of prepayment, the certificate required by Section 8.10(b); *provided* that the Company shall also pay any Breakage Amount, if applicable, to each holder of Notes that delivers such notice to the Company after the applicable date of prepayment in accordance with Section 8.10(b)). From and after such date, unless the Company shall fail to pay such principal amount when so due and payable, together with the interest and Yield-Maintenance Amount and/or Breakage Amount, if any, as aforesaid, interest on such principal amount shall cease to accrue. Any Note paid or prepaid in full shall be surrendered to the Company and cancelled and shall not be reissued, and no Note shall be issued in lieu of any prepaid principal amount of any Note.

#### Section 8.6 Purchase of Notes

The Company will not and will not permit any Affiliate to purchase, redeem, prepay or otherwise acquire, directly or indirectly, any of the outstanding Notes except (a) upon the payment or prepayment of the Notes in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and the Notes or (b) pursuant to an offer to purchase made by the Company or an Affiliate pro rata to the holders of all Notes at the time outstanding upon the same terms and conditions. Any such offer shall provide each holder with sufficient information to enable it to make an informed decision with respect to such offer, and shall remain open for at least 30 days. If the holders of more than 50% of the principal amount of the Notes then outstanding accept such offer, the Company shall promptly notify the remaining holders of such fact and the expiration date for the acceptance by holders of Notes of such offer shall be extended by the number of days necessary to give each such remaining holder at least 15 days from its receipt of such notice to accept such offer. The Company will promptly cancel all Notes acquired by it or any Affiliate pursuant to any payment, prepayment or purchase of Notes pursuant to any provision of this Agreement and no Notes may be issued in substitution or exchange for any such Notes.

# Section 8.7 [Intentionally omitted.]

# **Section 8.8** Sale of Assets Prepayment.

(a) In the event the Company makes an offer of prepayment of the Notes in accordance with Section 10.5(b), the Company shall give written notice thereof (a "Sale of Assets Notice") to each holder of Notes. Such Sale of Assets Notice shall contain, and shall constitute, an irrevocable offer to prepay, at the election of each holder, a portion of the Notes held by such holder equal to such holder's Ratable Portion of the Net Proceeds in respect of the relevant asset disposition on a date specified in such notice (the "Sale of Assets Prepayment Date") that is not less than 30 days

and not more than 60 days after the date of such notice, together with interest on the amount to be so prepaid accrued to the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date. If the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date shall not be specified in such Sale of Assets Notice, the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date shall be the 60th day after the date of such notice.

- (b) To accept an offer of prepayment set forth in a Sale of Assets Notice, a holder of Notes shall cause a notice of such acceptance to be delivered to the Company not later than 20 days after the date of such Sale of Assets Notice, provided, that a holder's failure to accept such offer in writing within 20 days after the date of such Sale of Assets Notice shall be deemed to constitute its rejection of such prepayment offer. If so accepted by any holder of a Note, such offered prepayment (equal to such holder's Ratable Portion of the Net Proceeds in respect of the relevant asset disposition) shall be due and payable on the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date. Such offered prepayment shall be made at 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being so prepaid, together with interest on such principal amount then being prepaid accrued to the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date and any applicable Breakage Amount (to each holder of Notes that delivers to the Company, on or prior to the applicable date of prepayment, the notice required by Section 8.10 (b); provided that the Company shall also pay any Breakage Amount, if applicable, to each holder of Notes that delivers such notice to the Company after the applicable date of prepayment in accordance with Section 8.10(b)), determined as of the date of such prepayment, but without payment of the Yield-Maintenance Amount or any other premium. The prepayment shall be made on the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date.
- (c) Each offer to prepay the Notes pursuant to this Section 8.8 shall be accompanied by a certificate, executed by a Senior Financial Officer of the Company and dated the date of such offer, specifying (i) the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date, (ii) the Net Proceeds in respect of the relevant asset disposition, (iii) that such offer is being made pursuant to this Section 8.8 and Section 10.5(b) of this Agreement, (iv) the principal amount of each Note offered to be prepaid (without any Yield-Maintenance Amount), (v) the interest that would be due on each Note offered to be prepaid, accrued to the Sale of Assets Prepayment Date, and (vi) in reasonable detail, the nature of the relevant asset disposition and certifying that no Default or Event of Default exists or would exist after giving effect to the prepayment contemplated by such offer.

# **Section 8.9 Interest Rate**.

(a) Floating Interest Rate. Subject to Section 8.9(c) and Section 8.10(a), the outstanding principal amount of the Notes shall bear interest, for each Interest Period applicable thereto, at the relevant LIBO Rate for such Interest Period. The LIBO Rate shall be determined by the Company for the Notes, and notice of the LIBO Rate shall be given to the holders of the Notes on the first day of each Interest Period, together with a copy of the relevant screen used for the determination of the LIBO Rate, a calculation of the LIBO Rate for such Interest Period in reasonable detail, the number of days in such Interest Period, the date on which interest for such Interest Period will be paid and the amount of interest to be paid to each holder of Notes on such date. In the event that the Required Holders do not concur with any such determination by the Company, within ten Business Days after receipt by the holders of a notice delivered by the Company pursuant to the immediately preceding sentence, such holders shall provide notice to the Company, together with a copy of the relevant screen used for the determination of LIBO Rate, a calculation of the LIBO Rate for such Interest Period in reasonable detail, the number of days in such Interest Period, the date on which interest for such Interest Period will be paid and the amount of interest to be paid to each holder of Notes on such date, and any such determination

made in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon the Company absent manifest error.

- (b) <u>Calculation of Interest</u>. Interest on the Notes shall be calculated as to each Interest Period or other period during which interest accrues from and including the first day thereof to but excluding the last day thereof.
- Inability to Determine LIBO Rate. If, prior to the first Business Day of any Interest Period, the basis for determining the LIBO Rate ceases to be reported on the applicable LIBOR01 or LIBOR02 page of the Reuters screen (and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., is not quoting the rate contemplated by clause (b) of the definition of "LIBO Rate") and if the Required Holders, or their designated agent, shall have reasonably determined (which determination shall be conclusive and binding upon the Company) that, by reason of circumstances affecting the relevant market, other adequate and reasonable means do not exist for ascertaining the interest rate applicable to the offering of Dollar deposits to major banks in the London interbank eurodollar market for such Interest Period, then the Required Holders shall forthwith give notice thereof to the Company. If such notice is given, (i) the interest rate applicable to the LIBOR-Based Notes for such Interest Period shall be the Prime Rate, determined and effective as of the first day of such Interest Period. (ii) each reference herein and in the Notes to the "LIBO Rate" for any Interest Period shall be deemed thereafter to be a reference to the Prime Rate, and (iii) subject to Section 8.9(d) below, such substituted rate shall thereafter be determined by the Required Holders in accordance with the terms hereof. Until notice contemplated by Section 8.9(d) is furnished by the Required Holders, the LIBO Rate (defined without giving effect to clause (ii) of this Section 8.9(c)) shall not apply to any LIBOR-Based Note.
- (d) Reinstatement of LIBO Rate. If there has been at any time an interest rate substituted for the LIBO Rate in accordance with Section 8.9(a) or Section 8.9(c) and if in the reasonable opinion of the Required Holders, the circumstances causing such substitution have ceased, then the Required Holders shall promptly notify the Company in writing of such cessation, and on the first day of the next succeeding Interest Period the LIBO Rate shall be determined as originally defined hereby. Nevertheless, thereafter the provisions of Section 8.9(a) and Section 8.9 (c) above shall continue to be effective.

### **Section 8.10** Yield Protection and Illegality in respect of the Notes.

# (a) <u>Illegality</u>.

- (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if, after the date of Closing, any Change in Law shall make it unlawful for any holder of Notes to maintain any LIBOR-Based Note, then by written notice to the Company,
  - (A) such holder shall promptly notify the Company of such circumstances, including a description of and the effective date of such Change in Law (which notice shall be withdrawn whenever such circumstances no longer exist);
  - (B) such holder may require that all outstanding LIBOR-Based Notes held by it be converted to Prime Rate Notes that bear interest at the Prime Rate, in which event all such LIBOR-Based Notes shall be converted automatically to

Prime Rate Notes bearing interest at the Prime Rate as of the effective date specified in such notice; and

- (C) such notice shall cease to be effective at such time as it shall no longer be unlawful for such holder to maintain any LIBOR-Based Note and, effective as of the first day of the next succeeding Interest Period, the Notes shall bear interest in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.9(a);
- (ii) For purposes of this Section 8.10(a), a notice to the Company by a holder of a Note shall be effective on the last day of the Interest Period during which such notice is given unless the effective date specified in such notice is an earlier date (which earlier date may be specified only if required by such change in law, regulation or interpretation), in which event such notice shall be effective as of such earlier date. If any such conversion to the Prime Rate occurs on a day which is not the last day of an Interest Period, the Company shall pay to such holder such amounts, if any, as may be required pursuant to Section 8.10 (b).
- (b) <u>Breakage Cost Indemnity</u>. The Company agrees to indemnify each holder of Notes for, and promptly to pay to each such holder upon the written request of such holder, any amounts required to compensate such holder for any reasonable losses, costs or expenses sustained or incurred by such holder arising out of:
  - (i) any event (including any acceleration of Notes in accordance with Section 12.1 and any prepayment of Notes pursuant to Section 8.2, 8.3, 8.5, 8.8 or 10.5(b)) which results in:
    - (A) such holder receiving any amount on account of the principal of any Note prior to the end of the Interest Period in effect therefor, or
    - (B) the conversion of any LIBOR-Based Note to a Prime Rate Note other than on the last day of the Interest Period in effect therefor, or
  - (ii) the failure by the Company to pay any amount in respect of a payment or prepayment required to be made hereunder on the date due in respect of any LIBOR-Based Note,

including, without limitation, any reasonable loss, cost or expense incurred by reason of the liquidation or reemployment of deposits or other funds acquired by such holder to fund or maintain such LIBOR-Based Notes.

A certificate of any such holder of Notes setting forth, in reasonable detail, the calculations of any amount or amounts which such holder is entitled to receive pursuant to this Section 8.10(b) and the basis therefor, shall be delivered by such holder to the Company no later than ten (10) Business Days after the occurrence of any event set forth in clause (i) or (ii) above and shall be prima facie evidence of such amount absent manifest error unless the Company notifies such holder in writing to the contrary within 30 days after such certificate is delivered to the Company. The provisions of this Section 8.10(b) shall remain operative and in full force and effect regardless of prepayment of the Notes, the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, the repayment of any Notes, the invalidity or unenforceability of any other term or provision of this Agreement or the Notes or any investigation made by or on behalf of any such holder.

# (c) Reserve Requirements; Change in Circumstances.

- (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if after the date of Closing any Change in Law shall change the basis of taxation of payments to any holder of Notes of the principal of or interest on any LIBOR-Based Note made by such holder or any fees or expenses or indemnities payable hereunder (other than changes in respect of franchise taxes or taxes imposed on or measured by the gross revenues or net income of any such holder, in each case imposed by the United States of America or the jurisdiction in which such holder is organized or has its principal office or any permanent establishment or by any political subdivision or taxing authority therein), or shall impose, modify or deem applicable any reserve, special deposit or similar requirement against assets of, or credit extended by, any holder, or LIBOR-Based Notes made by any holder, and the collective result of the foregoing shall be to increase the cost to any such holder of making or maintaining any LIBOR-Based Note on the basis of the LIBO Rate or to reduce the amount of any sum received or receivable by any such holder hereunder or under the Notes (whether of principal, interest or otherwise) by an amount deemed by such holder to be material, then such holder shall deliver to the Company a certificate setting forth such additional amount or amounts as will compensate such holder for such additional costs incurred or reduction suffered
- (ii) If, after the date of Closing, any holder of Notes shall have reasonably determined that any Change in Law regarding capital adequacy or liquidity requirements applicable to such holder of Notes has or would have the effect of increasing the cost to such holder of making or maintaining its investment in the Notes or reducing the rate of return on such holder's capital as a consequence of the Notes to a level below that which such holder could have achieved but for such Change in Law (taking into consideration such holder's policies with respect to capital adequacy or liquidity requirements) by an amount deemed by such holder to be material, then such holder shall deliver to the Company a certificate setting forth such additional amount or amounts as will compensate such holder for any such reduction suffered.
- (iii) The certificate of any holder of Notes delivered to the Company pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) above shall set forth, in reasonable detail, the calculation of the amount or amounts necessary to compensate such holder as specified in clause (i) or (ii) above and the basis therefor (which shall include notice of the Change in Law giving rise to such increased costs or reductions) and shall be prima facie evidence of such amount absent manifest error unless the Company notifies such holder in writing to the contrary within 30 days of the delivery of such certificate. The Company agrees to pay such holder the amount shown as due on any such certificate delivered by it within five (5) Business Days after the Company's receipt of the same unless the Company has provided such holder with prior written notice of its intention to prepay such Notes in accordance with Section 8.10 (b) and such prepayment occurs within fifteen (15) Business Days of the Company's receipt of such certificate.
- (iv) Failure or delay on the part of any holder of Notes to demand compensation for any increased costs or reduction in amounts received or receivable or reduction in return on capital shall not constitute a waiver of such holder's right to demand such compensation with respect to any Interest Period or any other period; *provided* that the Company shall not be required to compensate any holder of Notes pursuant to this Section for any increased costs or reductions incurred more than 180 days prior to the date that

such holder notifies the Company of any Change in Law giving rise to such increased costs or reductions and of such holder's intention to claim compensation therefor; *provided further* that, if such event giving rise to such increased costs or reductions is retroactive, the 180-day period referred to above shall be extended to include the period of retroactive effect thereof. The protection of this Section 8.10(c) shall be available to such holder regardless of any possible contention of the invalidity or inapplicability of the law, rule, regulation, agreement, guideline or other change or condition that shall have occurred or been imposed; *provided* that to the extent any holder of Notes determines that it has received a rebate in respect of such costs or reductions, such holder shall reimburse the Company therefor.

#### Section 9. Affirmative Covenants.

From the date of this Agreement until the Closing and thereafter, so long as any of the Notes are outstanding, the Company covenants that:

# Section 9.1 Compliance with Law.

Without limiting Section 10.7, the Company will, and will cause each of its Subsidiaries to, comply with all laws, ordinances or governmental rules or regulations to which each of them is subject, including, without limitation, ERISA, the USA PATRIOT Act and the other laws and regulations that are referred to in Section 5.16, applicable laws in respect of Non-U.S. Plans and all Environmental Laws, and will obtain and maintain in effect all licenses, certificates, permits, franchises and other governmental authorizations necessary to the ownership of their respective properties or to the conduct of their respective businesses, in each case to the extent necessary to ensure that non-compliance with such laws, ordinances or governmental rules or regulations or failures to obtain or maintain in effect such licenses, certificates, permits, franchises and other governmental authorizations could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

#### Section 9.2 Insurance.

The Company will, and will cause each of its Subsidiaries to, maintain, with financially sound and reputable insurers, insurance with respect to their respective properties and businesses against such casualties and contingencies, of such types, on such terms and in such amounts (including deductibles, coinsurance and self-insurance, if adequate reserves are maintained with respect thereto) as is customary in the case of entities of established reputations engaged in the same or a similar business and similarly situated.

# **Section 9.3 Maintenance of Properties.**

The Company will, and will cause each of its Subsidiaries to, maintain and keep, or cause to be maintained and kept, their respective properties in good repair, working order and condition (other than ordinary wear and tear), so that the business carried on in connection therewith may be properly conducted at all times; *provided* that this Section shall not prevent the Company or any Subsidiary from discontinuing the operation and the maintenance of any of its properties if such discontinuance is desirable in the conduct of its business and the Company has concluded that such discontinuance could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

# **Section 9.4** Payment of Taxes and Claims.

The Company will, and will cause each of its Subsidiaries to, file all tax returns required to be filed in any jurisdiction and to pay and discharge all taxes shown to be due and payable on such returns and all other taxes, assessments, governmental charges, or levies imposed on them or any of their properties, assets, income or franchises, to the extent the same have become due and payable and before they have become delinquent and all claims for which sums have become due and payable that have or might become a Lien on properties or assets of the Company or any Subsidiary, *provided* that neither the Company nor any Subsidiary need pay any such tax, assessment, charge, levy or claim if (i) the amount, applicability or validity thereof is contested by the Company or such Subsidiary on a timely basis in good faith and in appropriate proceedings, and the Company or a Subsidiary has established adequate reserves therefor in accordance with GAAP on the books of the Company or such Subsidiary or (ii) the nonpayment of all such taxes, assessments, charges, levies and claims in the aggregate could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

# Section 9.5 Corporate Existence, Etc.

Subject to Section 10.5, the Company will at all times preserve and keep in full force and effect its corporate existence. Subject to Section 10.5, the Company will at all times preserve and keep in full force and effect the corporate existence of each of its Subsidiaries (unless merged into the Company or a Wholly-Owned Subsidiary) and all rights and franchises of the Company and its Subsidiaries unless, in the good faith judgment of the Company, the termination of or failure to preserve and keep in full force and effect such corporate existence, right or franchise could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

#### Section 9.6 Notes to Rank Pari Passu.

The Notes and all other obligations under this Agreement of the Company are and at all times shall remain direct and unsecured obligations of the Company ranking *pari passu* as against the assets of the Company with all other Notes from time to time issued and outstanding hereunder without any preference among themselves and *pari passu* with all other present and future unsecured Debt (actual or contingent) of the Company which is not expressed to be subordinate or junior in rank to any other unsecured Debt of the Company.

## Section 9.7 Books and Records.

The Company will, and will cause each of its Subsidiaries to, maintain proper books of record and account in conformity with GAAP and all applicable requirements of any Governmental Authority having legal or regulatory jurisdiction over the Company or such Subsidiary, as the case may be. The Company will, and will cause each of its Subsidiaries to, keep books, records and accounts which, in reasonable detail, accurately reflect all material transactions and dispositions of assets. The Company and its Subsidiaries have devised a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that their respective books, records, and accounts accurately reflect all material transactions and dispositions of assets and the Company will, and will cause each of its Subsidiaries to, continue to maintain such system.

# Section 9.8 Guaranty by Subsidiaries; Liens.

(a) If at any time, pursuant to the terms and conditions of any Major Credit Facility, any existing or newly acquired or formed Subsidiary of the Company becomes obligated as a guarantor

or obligor under such Major Credit Facility, the Company will, at its sole cost and expense, cause such Subsidiary to, prior to or concurrently therewith, become a Guarantor in respect of this Agreement and the Notes and deliver to each of the holders of the Notes the following items:

- (1) an executed guaranty in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Required Holders (a "Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement");
- (2) such documents and evidence with respect to such Subsidiary as the Required Holders may reasonably request in order to establish the existence and good standing of such Subsidiary and the authorization of the transactions contemplated by such Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement;
- (3) an opinion letter of counsel to such Subsidiary in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Required Holders which shall include, without limitation, opinions to the effect, subject to customary assumptions, qualifications and exceptions, that (x) such Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by such Subsidiary, (y) such Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement constitutes the legal, valid and binding contract and agreement of such Subsidiary, enforceable in accordance with its terms (except as enforcement of such terms may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance and similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally and by general equitable principles) and (z) the execution, delivery and performance by such Subsidiary of such Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement do not (A) violate any law, rule or regulation applicable to such Subsidiary, or (B) (1) require the creation or imposition of any Lien not permitted by Section 10.4 or (2) conflict with or result in any breach of any of the provisions of or constitute a default under (I) the provisions of the charter, bylaws, certificate of formation, operating agreement or other constitutive documents of such Subsidiary, or (II) any material agreement or other instrument to which such Subsidiary is a party or by which such Subsidiary may be bound; and
- (4) such other certificates, resolutions, opinions, documents and instruments as may be reasonably requested by the Required Holders to give effect to the undertaking of such Subsidiary becoming a Guarantor.
- (b) If at any time, pursuant to the terms and conditions of any Major Credit Facility, any Guarantor is discharged and released from its Guaranty of Debt under such Major Credit Facility and (i) such Guarantor is not a co-obligor under such Major Credit Facility and (ii) the Company will have delivered to each holder of Notes an Officer's Certificate certifying that (x) the condition specified in clause (i) above has been satisfied and (y) immediately preceding the release of such Guarantor from its Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement and after giving effect thereto, no Default or Event of Default will have existed or would exist, then, upon receipt by the holders of Notes of such Officer's Certificate, such Guarantor will be discharged and released, automatically and without the need for any further action, from its obligations under its Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement; provided that, if in connection with any release of a Guarantor from its Guaranty of Debt under such Major Credit Facility any fee or other consideration (excluding, for the avoidance of doubt, any repayment of the principal or interest or payment of any pre-existing prepayment or similar repayment fee under such Major Credit Facility in connection with such release) is paid or given to any holder of Debt under such Major Credit Facility in connection with such release, each holder of a Note shall receive equivalent consideration on a pro rata basis (determined, in respect of revolving credit facilities, based upon the commitment in effect thereunder rather than amounts

outstanding thereunder) in connection with *such* Guarantor's release from its Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, for purposes of further assurance, each of the holders of the Notes agrees to provide to the Company and such Guarantor, if reasonably requested by the Company or such Guarantor and at the Company's expense, written evidence of such discharge and release signed by such holder.

- (c) If at any time, pursuant to the terms and conditions of any Major Credit Facility, the Company or any of its Subsidiaries are required to or elect to grant Liens on any of their assets to secure the Debt evidenced by such Major Credit Facility, the Company will, at its sole cost and expense, prior to or concurrently therewith, grant, or cause such Subsidiary to grant, Liens on such assets in favor of the holders of the Notes (or in favor of a collateral agent reasonably acceptable to the Required Holders for the benefit of the holders of the Notes) and deliver to each of the holders of the Notes the following items:
  - (1) such security documents as the Required Holders deem necessary or advisable to grant to the holders of Notes (or such collateral agent for the benefit of the holders of Notes) a perfected security interest having priority on a *pari passu* basis with such Major Credit Facility to (or for the benefit of) the holders of Notes;
  - (2) such documents and evidence with respect to such Liens as the Required Holders may reasonably request in order to establish the existence and priority of such Liens and the authorization of the transactions contemplated by such security documents;
  - (3) an opinion letter of counsel to the Company or such Subsidiary in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Required Holders which shall include, without limitation, opinions to the effect, subject to customary assumptions, qualifications and exceptions, that (w) such security documents have been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company or such Subsidiary, (x) such security documents constitute the legal, valid and binding contract and agreement of the Company or such Subsidiary, enforceable in accordance with their terms (except as enforcement of such terms may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance and similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally and by general equitable principles), (y) the execution, delivery and performance by the Company or such Subsidiary of such security documents do not (A) violate any law, rule or regulation applicable to the Company or such Subsidiary, or (B)(1) require the creation or imposition of any Lien not permitted by Section 10.4 or (2) conflict with or result in any breach of any of the provisions of or constitute a default under (I) the provisions of the charter, bylaws, certificate of formation, operating agreement or other constitutive documents of the Company or such Subsidiary, or (II) any material agreement or other instrument to which the Company or such Subsidiary is a party or by which such Subsidiary may be bound, and (z) such security documents create a perfected security interest in such assets; and
  - (4) such other certificates, resolutions, opinions, documents and instruments as may be reasonably requested by the Required Holders to give effect to the granting of such Liens by such Subsidiary.
- (d) If at any time, pursuant to the terms and conditions of any Major Credit Facility, Liens granted by the Company or any Subsidiary are released under such Major Credit Facility and the Company will have delivered to each holder of Notes an Officer's Certificate certifying that immediately preceding the release of such Liens and after giving effect thereto, no Default or

Event of Default will have existed or would exist, then, upon receipt by the holders of Notes of such Officer's Certificate, such Liens in favor of the holders of Notes will be discharged and released, automatically and without the need for any further action; *provided* that, if in connection with any release of such Liens under such Major Credit Facility any fee or other consideration (excluding, for the avoidance of doubt, any repayment of the principal or interest or payment of any pre-existing prepayment or similar repayment fee under such Major Credit Facility in connection with such release) is paid or given to any holder of Debt under such Major Credit Facility in connection with such release, each holder of a Note shall receive equivalent consideration on a pro rata basis (determined, in respect of revolving credit facilities, based upon the commitment in effect thereunder rather than amounts outstanding thereunder) in connection with such release of Liens securing the Debt evidenced by this Agreement and the Notes. Without limiting the foregoing, for purposes of further assurance, each of the holders of the Notes agrees to provide to the Company, if reasonably requested by the Company and at the Company's expense, written evidence of such discharge and release signed by such holder (or the collateral agent appointed by the holders of Notes).

# **Section 9.9 Intercreditor Agreement.**

If at any time, pursuant to the terms and conditions of any Major Credit Facility, the Company or any of its Subsidiaries are required to grant Liens on any of their assets to secure the Debt evidenced by such Major Credit Facility, and the Company or such Subsidiaries are required to grant Liens to secure the Debt evidenced by this Agreement and the Notes, then the Company will, concurrently with the granting of such Liens, cause the lenders under such Major Credit Facility to enter into, and the holders of Notes hereby agree to enter into, an intercreditor agreement in form and substance (including, without limitation, as to the sharing of recoveries and set offs) reasonably satisfactory to the Required Holders (the "Intercreditor Agreement") with the holders of Notes, or enter into a joinder agreement to such Intercreditor Agreement in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Required Holders. Within ten (10) Business Days following the execution of any such Intercreditor Agreement (or any joinder thereto), the Company will deliver an executed copy thereof to each holder of Notes.

Although it will not be a Default or an Event of Default if the Company fails to comply with any provision of Section 9 on or after the date of this Agreement and prior to the Closing, if such a failure occurs, then any of the Purchasers may elect not to purchase the Notes on the date of Closing that is specified in Section 3.

#### **Section 10.** Negative Covenants.

From the date of this Agreement until the Closing and thereafter, so long as any of the Notes are outstanding, the Company covenants that:

# **Section 10.1** Transactions with Affiliates.

The Company will not and will not permit any Subsidiary to enter into directly or indirectly any Material transaction or Material group of related transactions (including without limitation the purchase, lease, sale or exchange of properties of any kind or the rendering of any service) with any Affiliate (other than the Company or another Subsidiary), except in the ordinary course and pursuant to the reasonable requirements of the Company's or such Subsidiary's business and upon fair and reasonable terms no less favorable to the Company or such Subsidiary than would be obtainable in a comparable arm's-length transaction with a Person not an Affiliate.

# **Section 10.2 Interest Coverage Ratio.**

The Company will not at any time permit the ratio of (a) Consolidated EBITDA to (b) Consolidated Interest Expense for each period of four consecutive fiscal quarters to be less than 2.75 to 1.0.

#### Section 10.3 Limitations on Debt.

- (a) The Company will not at any time permit the ratio of (i) Consolidated Total Debt at such time to (ii) Consolidated EBITDA for the period of the four consecutive fiscal quarters then most recently ended to exceed 3.75 to 1.0. The maximum amount of Consolidated Total Debt permitted pursuant to the terms of this Section 10.3(a) is hereafter referred to as "Maximum Permitted Total Debt".
- (b) The Company will not at any time permit Priority Debt to exceed an amount equal to 25% of Maximum Permitted Total Debt.

#### Section 10.4 Liens.

The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly create, incur, assume or permit to exist (upon the happening of a contingency or otherwise) any Lien on or with respect to any property or asset (including, without limitation, any document or instrument in respect of goods or accounts receivable) of the Company or any such Subsidiary, whether now owned or held or hereafter acquired, or any income or profits therefrom, or assign or otherwise convey any right to receive income or profits (unless it makes, or causes to be made, effective provision whereby the Notes will be equally and ratably secured with any and all other obligations thereby secured, such security to be pursuant to an agreement reasonably satisfactory to the Required Holders and, in any such case, (x) the Notes shall have the benefit, to the fullest extent that, and with such priority as, the holders of the Notes may be entitled under applicable law, of an equitable Lien on such property and (y) in respect of any Lien securing any Major Credit Facility, the Company or such Subsidiary has complied with Sections 9.8 and 9.9), except:

- (a) Liens for taxes, assessments or other governmental charges which are not yet due and payable or the payment of which is not at the time required by Section 9.4;
- (b) statutory Liens of landlords and Liens of carriers, warehousemen, mechanics, materialmen and other similar Liens, in each case, incurred in the ordinary course of business for sums not yet due and payable or the payment of which is not at the time required by Section 9.1 or Section 9.4;
- (c) Liens (other than any Lien imposed by ERISA) incurred or deposits made in the ordinary course of business (i) in connection with workers' compensation, unemployment insurance and other types of social security or retirement benefits, or (ii) to secure (or to obtain letters of credit that secure) the performance of tenders, statutory obligations, surety bonds, appeal bonds (not in excess of \$25,000,000), bids, leases (other than Capital Leases), performance bonds, purchase, construction or sales contracts and other similar obligations, in each case not incurred or made in connection with the borrowing of money, the obtaining of advances or credit or the payment of the deferred purchase price of property;
- (d) any attachment or judgment Lien, unless (i) the judgment it secures shall not, within 60 days after the entry thereof, have been discharged or execution thereof stayed pending appeal, or

shall not have been discharged within 60 days after the expiration of any such stay or (ii) the uninsured portion of the judgment such Lien secures, including any portion for which the insurer has not acknowledged responsibility, exceeds \$25,000,000;

- (e) leases or subleases granted to others, easements, rights-of-way, restrictions and other similar charges or encumbrances, in each case incidental to, and not interfering with, the ordinary conduct of the business of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, *provided* that such Liens do not, in the aggregate, materially detract from the value of such property;
- (f) Liens on property or assets of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries securing Debt owing to the Company or to any of its Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries;
- (g) Liens on all existing or hereafter acquired or arising Receivables of the Company or any Subsidiary, the Related Security with respect thereto, the collections and proceeds of such Receivables and Related Security, all lockboxes, lockbox accounts, collection accounts or other deposit accounts into which such collections are deposited and all other rights and payments relating to such Receivables (collectively, "Receivables Assets"), which are transferred to the Company, a Subsidiary or a Receivables Purchaser in connection with Receivables Facility Attributed Indebtedness; *provided* such Receivables Facility Attributed Indebtedness is permitted under Section 10.3(b);
- (h) any Lien created to secure all or any part of the purchase price, or to secure Debt incurred or assumed to pay all or any part of the purchase price or cost of construction, of property (or any improvement thereon) acquired or constructed by the Company or a Subsidiary after the date of the Closing, *provided* that:
  - (1) any such Lien shall extend solely to the item or items of such property (or improvement thereon) so acquired or constructed and, if required by the terms of the instrument originally creating such Lien, other property (or improvement thereon) which is an improvement to or is acquired for specific use in connection with such acquired or constructed property (or improvement thereon) or which is real property being improved by such acquired or constructed property (or improvement thereon),
  - (2) the principal amount of the Debt secured by any such Lien shall at no time exceed an amount equal to the lesser of (i) the cost to the Company or such Subsidiary of the property (or improvement thereon) so acquired or constructed and (ii) the fair market value (as determined in good faith by the board of directors of the Company) of such property (or improvement thereon) at the time of such acquisition or construction, and
  - (3) any such Lien shall be created contemporaneously with, or within eighteen (18) months after, the acquisition or construction of such property;
- (i) any Lien existing on property of a Person immediately prior to its being consolidated with or merged into the Company or a Subsidiary or its becoming a Subsidiary, or any Lien existing on any property acquired by the Company or any Subsidiary at the time such property is so acquired (whether or not the Debt secured thereby shall have been assumed), *provided* that (i) no such Lien shall have been created or assumed in contemplation of such consolidation or merger or such Person's becoming a Subsidiary or such acquisition of property, and (ii) each such Lien shall extend solely to the item or items of property so acquired and, if required by the terms

of the instrument originally creating such Lien, other property which is an improvement to or is acquired for specific use in connection with such acquired property;

- (j) any Lien renewing, extending or refunding any Lien permitted by paragraphs (h) or (i) of this Section 10.4, *provided* that (i) the principal amount of Debt secured by such Lien immediately prior to such extension, renewal or refunding is not increased or the maturity thereof reduced, (ii) such Lien is not extended to any other property, and (iii) immediately after such extension, renewal or refunding no Default or Event of Default would exist;
- (k) the security interest contemplated by Section 18.3 of the Trademark License Agreement among Meredith Corporation, as Licensor, Better Homes & Garden Real Estate Licensee LLC, as the successor to Project Five TM LLC, as Licensee, and Realogy Corporation, as Guarantor, dated as of October 3, 2007, as amended (so long as any such amendment does not provide for any change to the obligations secured thereby as in effect on February 29, 2012);
  - (l) Liens on Margin Stock;
  - (m) Liens arising from precautionary UCC Financing Statements or similar filings;
- (n) licenses and sublicenses granted to others in the ordinary course of business of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries and not involving indebtedness for borrowed money; and
- (o) other Liens not otherwise permitted by subparagraphs (a) through (n) securing Debt, *provided* that (x) all Debt secured by such Liens shall have been incurred within the applicable limitations of Section 10.3, including, without limitation, that after giving effect thereto Priority Debt will not exceed 25% of Maximum Permitted Total Debt and (y) no such Liens under this clause (o) shall secure the obligations under any Major Credit Facility.

#### Section 10.5 Mergers, Consolidations and Sales of Assets.

- (a) The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, consolidate with or be a party to a merger with any other Person, or sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets; *provided* that:
  - (1) any Subsidiary may merge or consolidate with or into the Company or any Subsidiary so long as in (i) any merger or consolidation involving the Company, the Company shall be the surviving or continuing corporation, and (ii) any merger or consolidation involving a Wholly-Owned Subsidiary (and not the Company), the Wholly-Owned Subsidiary shall be the surviving or continuing Person;
  - (2) the Company may consolidate or merge with or into any other corporation if (i) the corporation which results from such consolidation or merger (the "surviving corporation") is organized under the laws of any state of the United States or the District of Columbia, (ii) the due and punctual payment of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on all of the Notes, according to their tenor, and the due and punctual performance and observation of all of the covenants in the Notes and this Agreement to be performed or observed by the Company are expressly assumed in writing by the surviving corporation and the surviving corporation shall furnish to the holders of the Notes an opinion of counsel satisfactory to the Required Holders to the effect that the instrument of assumption has been duly authorized, executed and delivered and constitutes the legal, valid and binding contract and agreement of the surviving corporation enforceable in

accordance with its terms, except as enforcement of such terms may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally and by general equitable principles, (iii) at the time of such consolidation or merger and immediately after giving effect thereto, no Default or Event of Default would exist, and (iv) the Company or such surviving corporation shall have complied with all obligations under this Agreement with respect to any Change in Control resulting from such transaction;

- (3) the Company may sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets to any Person for consideration which represents the fair market value of such assets (as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company) at the time of such sale or other disposition if (i) the Person which is acquiring all or substantially all of the assets of the Company is a corporation organized under the laws of any state of the United States or the District of Columbia, (ii) the due and punctual payment of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on all the Notes, according to their tenor, and the due and punctual performance and observance of all of the covenants in the Notes and in this Agreement to be performed or observed by the Company are expressly assumed in writing by the acquiring corporation and the acquiring corporation shall furnish to the holders of the Notes an opinion of counsel satisfactory to the Required Holders to the effect that the instrument of assumption has been duly authorized, executed and delivered and constitutes the legal, valid and binding contract and agreement of such acquiring corporation enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement of such terms may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally and by general equitable principles, (iii) at the time of such sale or disposition and immediately after giving effect thereto, no Default or Event of Default would exist, and (iv) the Company or such acquiring corporation shall have complied with all obligations under this Agreement with respect to any Change in Control resulting from such transaction; and
- (4) the Company or any Subsidiary may sell or otherwise dispose of assets as part of any Permitted Receivables Transaction so long as, after giving effect thereto, the aggregate amount of Priority Debt (including Receivables Facility Attributed Indebtedness) does not exceed 25% of Maximum Permitted Total Debt.
- (b) The Company will not, and will not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, sell, lease, transfer, abandon or otherwise dispose of assets (except assets sold in the ordinary course of business for fair market value and except as provided in Section 10.5(a)(3)); *provided* that the foregoing restrictions do not apply to:
  - (1) (i) the sale, lease, transfer or other disposition of assets of a Subsidiary to the Company or another Subsidiary or by the Company to a Wholly-Owned Subsidiary or (ii) the sale, lease, transfer or other disposition of assets (valued at net book value) of the Company to another Subsidiary not to exceed in any 12-month period 10% of Consolidated Total Assets as of the last day of the fiscal quarter immediately preceding such sale, lease, transfer or other disposition; or
  - (2) the sale or other disposition of assets as part of any Permitted Receivables Transaction so long as, after giving effect thereto, the aggregate amount of Priority Debt (including Receivables Facility Attributed Indebtedness) does not exceed 25% of Maximum Permitted Total Debt; or

- (3) the sale of inventory in the ordinary course of business; or
- (4) the sale of assets for cash or other property to a Person or Persons other than an Affiliate if all of the following conditions are met:
  - (i) such assets (valued at net book value) do not, together with all other assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries previously disposed of during the immediately preceding 36 calendar month period (other than in the ordinary course of business), exceed 30% of the average of Consolidated Total Assets as of the last day of each of the 12 consecutive fiscal quarters then most recently ended;
  - (ii) in the opinion of the Board of Directors of the Company, the sale is for fair value and is in the best interests of the Company and its Subsidiaries; and
  - (iii) immediately before the consummation of the transaction and after giving effect thereto, no Default or Event of Default would exist;

provided, however, that for purposes of the foregoing calculation, there shall not be included any assets the proceeds of which were or are applied either (A) within 12 months before or 12 months after the effective date of such asset disposition to the acquisition of assets useful and intended to be used in the operation of the business of the Company and its Subsidiaries as described in Section 10.6 and having a fair market value (as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company) at least equal to that of the assets so disposed of or (B) within 180 days after the effective date of such asset disposition to the prepayment at any applicable prepayment premium of Senior Debt of the Company on a pro rata basis (other than (x) Senior Debt owing to the Company, any of its Subsidiaries or any Affiliate and (y) Senior Debt in respect of any revolving credit or similar facility providing the Company or any such Subsidiary with the right to obtain loans or other extensions of credit from time to time, unless in connection with such payment of Senior Debt, the availability of credit under such credit facility is permanently reduced by an amount not less than the amount of such proceeds applied to the payment of such Senior Debt), based upon principal amount then outstanding, provided that, the Company offers to prepay (at par, without Yield-Maintenance Amount or any other premium, but with any applicable Breakage Amount) each outstanding Note, in accordance with Section 8.8, in a principal amount equal to the Ratable Portion of such Note in respect of such asset disposition.

#### Section 10.6 Nature of Business.

The Company will not, and will not permit any Subsidiary to, engage in any business if, as a result, the general nature of the business, in which the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, would then be engaged would be substantially changed from the general nature of the business in which the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, are engaged on the date of this Agreement as described in Schedule 10.6 (it being understood that this covenant shall not require the Company to remain in any current business if it remains in one or more current businesses of the Company or its Subsidiaries).

#### **Section 10.7 Terrorism Sanctions Regulations.**

The Company will not and will not permit any Controlled Entity (a) to become (including by virtue of being owned or controlled by a Blocked Person), own or control a Blocked Person or any Person that is the target of sanctions imposed by the United Nations or by the European Union, or (b) directly or indirectly to have any investment in or engage in any dealing or transaction (including, without limitation, any investment, dealing or transaction involving the proceeds of the Notes) with any Person if such investment, dealing or transaction (i) would cause any holder to be in violation of any law or regulation applicable to such holder, or (ii) is prohibited by or subject to sanctions under any U.S. Economic Sanctions, or (c) to engage, nor shall any Affiliate of either engage, in any activity that could subject such Person or any holder to sanctions under CISADA or any similar law or regulation with respect to Iran or any other country that is subject to U.S. Economic Sanctions.

Although it will not be a Default or an Event of Default if the Company fails to comply (before or after giving effect to the issuance of the Notes on a pro forma basis) with any provision of Section 10 on or after the date of this Agreement and prior to the Closing, if such a failure occurs, then any of the Purchasers may elect not to purchase the Notes on the date of Closing that is specified in Section 3.

#### Section 11. Events of Default.

An "Event of Default" shall exist if any of the following conditions or events shall occur and be continuing:

- (a) the Company defaults in the payment of any principal, Yield-Maintenance Amount or Breakage Amount, if any, on any Note when the same becomes due and payable, whether at maturity or at a date fixed for prepayment or by declaration or otherwise; or
- (b) the Company defaults in the payment of any interest on any Note for more than five Business Days after the same becomes due and payable; or
- (c) the Company defaults in the performance of or compliance with any term contained in Sections 10.1 through 10.5 and such default is not remedied within 10 days after the earlier of (A) a Responsible Officer obtaining actual knowledge of such default and (B) the Company receiving written notice of such default from any holder of a Note (any such written notice to be identified as a "notice of default" and to refer specifically to this paragraph (c) of Section 11); or
- (d) the Company defaults in the performance of or compliance with any term contained herein (other than those referred to in Sections 11(a), (b) and (c)) and such default is not remedied within 30 days after the earlier of (i) a Responsible Officer obtaining actual knowledge of such default and (ii) the Company receiving written notice of such default from any holder of a Note (any such written notice to be identified as a "notice of default" and to refer specifically to this Section 11(d)); or
- (e) any representation or warranty made in writing by or on behalf of the Company or by any officer of the Company in this Agreement or in any writing furnished in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby proves to have been false or incorrect in any material respect on the date as of which made; or
- (f) (i) the Company or any Subsidiary is in default (as principal or as guarantor or other surety) in the payment of any principal of or premium, yield-maintenance amount, breakage cost or make-whole amount or interest on any Debt that is outstanding in an aggregate principal

amount of at least \$35,000,000 (or the equivalent in other applicable currencies) beyond any period of grace provided with respect thereto, or (ii) the Company or any Subsidiary is in default in the performance of or compliance with any term of any evidence of any Debt in an aggregate outstanding principal amount of at least \$35,000,000 (or the equivalent in other applicable currencies) or of any mortgage, indenture or other agreement relating thereto or any other condition exists, and as a consequence of such default or condition such Debt has become, or has been declared, due and payable before its stated maturity or before its regularly scheduled dates of payment, or (iii) as a consequence of the occurrence or continuation of any event or condition (other than the passage of time or the right of the holder of Debt to convert such Debt into equity interests), the Company or any Subsidiary has become obligated to purchase or repay Debt before its regular maturity or before its regularly scheduled dates of payment in an aggregate outstanding principal amount of at least \$35,000,000, or (iv) the occurrence of any "Amortization Event" under any Permitted Receivables Transaction which event has not been cured, waived or rescinded, or (v) the Company shall be removed as the "Servicer" under any Permitted Receivables Transaction; or

- (g) the Company or any Material Subsidiary (i) is generally not paying, or admits in writing its inability to pay, its debts as they become due, (ii) files, or consents by answer or otherwise to the filing against it of, a petition for relief or reorganization or arrangement or any other petition in bankruptcy, for liquidation or to take advantage of any bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar law of any jurisdiction, (iii) makes an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, (iv) consents to the appointment of a custodian, receiver, trustee or other officer with similar powers with respect to it or with respect to any substantial part of its property, (v) is adjudicated as insolvent or to be liquidated, or (vi) takes corporate action for the purpose of any of the foregoing; or
- (h) a court or other Governmental Authority of competent jurisdiction enters an order appointing, without consent by the Company or any of its Material Subsidiaries, a custodian, receiver, trustee or other officer with similar powers with respect to the Company or any Material Subsidiary or with respect to any substantial part of the property of the Company or any Material Subsidiary, or constituting an order for relief or approving a petition for relief or reorganization or any other petition in bankruptcy or for liquidation or to take advantage of any bankruptcy or insolvency law of any jurisdiction, or ordering the dissolution, winding-up or liquidation of the Company or any of its Material Subsidiaries, or any such petition shall be filed against the Company or any of its Material Subsidiaries and such petition shall not be dismissed within 60 days; or
- (i) a final judgment or judgments for the payment of money aggregating in excess of \$35,000,000 (or the equivalent in other applicable currencies) are rendered against one or more of the Company and its Subsidiaries and which judgments are not, within 60 days after entry thereof, bonded, discharged or stayed pending appeal, or are not discharged within 60 days after the expiration of such stay; or
- (j) if (i) any Plan shall fail to satisfy the minimum funding standards of ERISA or the Code for any plan year or part thereof or a waiver of such standards or extension of any amortization period is sought or granted under section 412 of the Code, (ii) a notice of intent to terminate any Plan shall have been or is reasonably expected to be filed with the PBGC or the PBGC shall have instituted proceedings under ERISA section 4042 to terminate or appoint a trustee to administer any Plan or the PBGC shall have notified the Company or any ERISA Affiliate that a Plan may become a subject of any such proceedings, (iii) the sum of (x) the aggregate "amount of unfunded

benefit liabilities" (within the meaning of section 4001(a)(18) of ERISA) under all Plans, determined in accordance with Title IV of ERISA, plus (y) the amount (if any) by which the aggregate present value of accrued benefit liabilities under all funded Non-U.S. Plans exceeds the aggregate current value of the assets of such Non-U.S. Plans allocable to such liabilities, shall exceed \$35,000,000, (iv) the Company or any ERISA Affiliate shall have incurred or is reasonably expected to incur any liability pursuant to Title I or IV of ERISA or the penalty or excise tax provisions of the Code relating to employee benefit plans, (v) the Company or any ERISA Affiliate withdraws from any Multiemployer Plan, (vi) the Company or any Subsidiary establishes or amends any employee welfare benefit plan that provides post-employment welfare benefits in a manner that would increase the liability of the Company or any Subsidiary thereunder, (vii) the Company or any Subsidiary fails to administer or maintain a Non-U.S. Plan in compliance with the requirements of any and all applicable laws, statutes, rules, regulations or court orders or any Non-U.S. Plan is involuntarily terminated or wound up, or (viii) the Company or any Subsidiary becomes subject to the imposition of a financial penalty (which for this purpose shall mean any tax, penalty or other liability, whether by way of indemnity or otherwise) with respect to one or more Non-U.S. Plans; and any such event or events described in clauses (i) through (viii) above, either individually or together with any other such event or events, could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; or

(k) (i) a default shall occur under any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement by a Subsidiary of the Debt under this Agreement and the Notes granted pursuant to Section 9.8 and such default shall continue beyond the period of grace, if any, allowed with respect thereto or (ii) except as expressly permitted under Section 9.8(b), any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement shall cease to be in full force and effect for any reason whatsoever with respect to one or more Guarantors, including, without limitation, a determination by any Governmental Authority or court that such agreement is invalid, void or unenforceable with respect to one or more Guarantors or any Guarantor shall contest or deny in writing the validity or enforceability of any of its obligations under any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement.

As used in Section 11(j), the terms "employee benefit plan" and "employee welfare benefit plan" shall have the respective meanings assigned to such terms in section 3 of ERISA.

#### Section 12. Remedies on Default, Etc.

#### Section 12.1 Acceleration.

- (a) If an Event of Default with respect to the Company described in Section 11(g) or (h) (other than an Event of Default described in clause (i) of Section 11(g) or described in clause (vi) of Section 11(g) by virtue of the fact that such clause encompasses clause (i) of Section 11(g)) has occurred, all the Notes then outstanding shall automatically become immediately due and payable.
- (b) If any other Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Required Holders may at any time at its or their option, by notice or notices to the Company, declare all the Notes then outstanding to be immediately due and payable.
- (c) If any Event of Default described in Section 11(a) or (b) has occurred and is continuing, any holder or holders of Notes at the time outstanding affected by such Event of Default may at any time, at its or their option, by notice or notices to the Company, declare all the Notes held by it or them to be immediately due and payable.

Upon any Notes becoming due and payable under this Section 12.1, whether automatically or by declaration, such Notes will forthwith mature and the entire unpaid principal amount of such Notes, plus (x) all accrued and unpaid interest thereon (including, but not limited to, any interest accrued thereon at the Default Rate), (y) all Yield-Maintenance Amounts then due and owing prior to such acceleration as a result of any prepayment pursuant to Section 8.2 in respect of such Notes (to the full extent permitted by applicable law), and (z) the Breakage Amount in respect thereof (to each holder of Notes that delivers to the Company, on or prior to the applicable date of prepayment, the notice required by Section 8.10(b): provided that the Company shall also pay any Breakage Amount, if applicable, to each holder of Notes that delivers such notice to the Company after the applicable date of prepayment in accordance with Section 8.10(b)), shall all be immediately due and payable, in each and every case without presentment, demand, protest or further notice (other than the notice described in Section 8.10(b) with respect to Breakage Amount), all of which are hereby waived. The Company acknowledges, and the parties hereto agree, that each holder of a Note has the right to maintain its investment in the Notes free from repayment by the Company (except as herein specifically provided for), and that the provision for payment of a Yield-Maintenance Amount and/or Breakage Amount, if any, by the Company, in the event that the Notes are prepaid or are accelerated as a result of an Event of Default, is intended to provide compensation for the deprivation of such right under such circumstances.

#### Section 12.2 Other Remedies.

If any Default or Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, and irrespective of whether any Notes have become or have been declared immediately due and payable under Section 12.1, the holder of any Note at the time outstanding may proceed to protect and enforce the rights of such holder by an action at law, suit in equity or other appropriate proceeding, whether for the specific performance of any agreement contained herein or in any Note, or for an injunction against a violation of any of the terms hereof or thereof, or in aid of the exercise of any power granted hereby or thereby or by law or otherwise.

#### Section 12.3 Rescission.

At any time after any Notes have been declared due and payable pursuant to clause Section 12.1(b) or (c), the Required Holders, by written notice to the Company, may rescind and annul any such declaration and its consequences if (a) the Company has paid all overdue interest on the Notes, all principal of and applicable Yield-Maintenance Amount then due and owing (as a result of prepayment pursuant to Section 8.2) and/or applicable Breakage Amount, if any, on any Notes that are due and payable and are unpaid other than by reason of such declaration, and all interest on such overdue principal and Yield-Maintenance Amount and/or Breakage Amount, if any, and (to the extent permitted by applicable law) any overdue interest in respect of the Notes, at the Default Rate, (b) neither the Company nor any other Person shall have paid any amounts which have become due solely by reason of such declaration, (c) all Events of Default and Defaults, other than non-payment of amounts that have become due solely by reason of such declaration, have been cured or have been waived pursuant to Section 17, and (d) no judgment or decree has been entered for the payment of any monies due pursuant hereto or to the Notes. No rescission and annulment under this Section 12.3 will extend to or affect any subsequent Event of Default or impair any right consequent thereon.

#### Section 12.4 No Waivers or Election of Remedies, Expenses, Etc.

No course of dealing and no delay on the part of any holder of any Note in exercising any right, power or remedy shall operate as a waiver thereof or otherwise prejudice such holder's rights, powers or remedies. No right, power or remedy conferred by this Agreement or by any Note upon any holder thereof shall be exclusive of any other right, power or remedy referred to herein or therein or now or

hereafter available at law, in equity, by statute or otherwise. Without limiting the obligations of the Company under Section 15, the Company will pay to the holder of each Note on demand such further amount as shall be sufficient to cover all costs and expenses of such holder incurred in any enforcement or collection under this Section 12, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees, expenses and disbursements.

#### Section 13. Registration; Exchange; Substitution of Notes.

#### **Section 13.1 Registration of Notes.**

The Company shall keep at its principal executive office a register for the registration and registration of transfers of Notes. The name and address of each holder of one or more Notes, each transfer thereof and the name and address of each transferee of one or more Notes shall be registered in such register. If any holder of one or more Notes is a nominee, then (a) the name and address of the beneficial owner of such Note or Notes shall also be registered in such register as an owner and holder thereof and (b) at any such beneficial owner's option, either such beneficial owner or its nominee may execute any amendment, waiver or consent pursuant to this Agreement. Prior to due presentment for registration of transfer, the Person(s) in whose name any Note(s) shall be registered shall be deemed and treated as the owner and holder thereof for all purposes hereof, and the Company shall not be affected by any notice or knowledge to the contrary. The Company shall give to any holder of a Note that is an Institutional Investor promptly upon request therefor, a complete and correct copy of the names and addresses of all registered holders of Notes.

# Section 13.2 Transfer and Exchange of Notes.

Upon surrender of any Note to the Company at the address and to the attention of the designated officer (all as specified in Section 18(c), for registration of transfer or exchange (and in the case of a surrender for registration of transfer, duly endorsed or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer duly executed by the registered holder of such Note or such holder's attorney duly authorized in writing and accompanied by the relevant name, address and other information for notices of each transferee of such Note or part thereof), within ten Business Days thereafter, the Company shall execute and deliver, at the Company's expense (except as provided below), one or more new Notes (as requested by the holder thereof) in exchange therefor, in an aggregate principal amount equal to the unpaid principal amount of the surrendered Note. Each such new Note shall be payable to such Person as such holder may request and shall be substantially in the form of the Note set forth in Exhibit 1. Each such new Note shall be dated and bear interest from the date to which interest shall have been paid on the surrendered Note or dated the date of the surrendered Note if no interest shall have been paid thereon. The Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any stamp tax or governmental charge imposed in respect of any such transfer of Notes. Notes shall not be transferred in denominations of less than \$100,000; provided that if necessary to enable the registration of transfer by a holder of its entire holding of Notes, one Note may be in a denomination of less than \$100,000. Any transferee, by its acceptance of a Note registered in its name (or the name of its nominee), shall be deemed to have made the representation set forth in Section 6.2.

# Section 13.3 Replacement of Notes.

Upon receipt by the Company at the address and to the attention of the designated officer (all as specified in Section 18(c)) of evidence reasonably satisfactory to it of the ownership of and the loss, theft, destruction or mutilation of any Note (which evidence shall be, in the case of an Institutional Investor,

notice from such Institutional Investor of such ownership and such loss, theft, destruction or mutilation), and

- (a) in the case of loss, theft or destruction, of indemnity reasonably satisfactory to it (provided that if the holder of such Note is, or is a nominee for, an original Purchaser or another holder of a Note with a minimum net worth of at least \$10,000,000 or a Qualified Institutional Buyer, such Person's own unsecured agreement of indemnity shall be deemed to be satisfactory), or
  - (b) in the case of mutilation, upon surrender and cancellation thereof,

within ten Business Days thereafter, the Company at its own expense shall execute and deliver, in lieu thereof, a new Note, dated and bearing interest from the date to which interest shall have been paid on such lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated Note or dated the date of such lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated Note if no interest shall have been paid thereon.

# Section 14. Payments on Notes.

#### **Section 14.1** Place of Payment.

Subject to Section 14.2, payments of principal, Yield-Maintenance Amount and/or Breakage Amount, if any, and interest becoming due and payable on the Notes shall be made in Des Moines, Iowa at the principal office of the Company in such jurisdiction. The Company may at any time, by notice to each holder of a Note, change the place of payment of the Notes so long as such place of payment shall be either the principal office of the Company in such jurisdiction or the principal office of a bank or trust company in such jurisdiction.

#### **Section 14.2** Home Office Payment.

So long as any Purchaser or its nominee shall be the holder of any Note, and notwithstanding anything contained in Section 14.1 or in such Note to the contrary, the Company will pay all sums becoming due on such Note for principal, Yield-Maintenance Amount and/or Breakage Amount, if any, interest and all other amounts becoming due hereunder by the method and at the address specified for such purpose below such Purchaser's name in Schedule A, or by such other method or at such other address as such Purchaser shall have from time to time specified to the Company in writing for such purpose, without the presentation or surrender of such Note or the making of any notation thereon, except that upon written request of the Company made concurrently with or reasonably promptly after payment or prepayment in full of any Note, such Purchaser shall surrender such Note for cancellation, reasonably promptly after any such request, to the Company at its principal executive office or at the place of payment most recently designated by the Company pursuant to Section 14.1. Prior to any sale or other disposition of any Note held by a Purchaser or its nominee, such Purchaser will, at its election, either endorse thereon the amount of principal paid thereon and the last date to which interest has been paid thereon or surrender such Note to the Company in exchange for a new Note or Notes pursuant to Section 13.2. The Company will afford the benefits of this Section 14.2 to any Institutional Investor that is the direct or indirect transferee of any Note purchased by a Purchaser under this Agreement and that has made the same agreement relating to such Note as the Purchasers have made in this Section 14.2.

## Section 15. Expenses, Etc.

#### **Section 15.1** Transaction Expenses.

Whether or not the transactions contemplated hereby are consummated, the Company will pay all costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees of a special counsel and, if reasonably required by the Required Holders, local or other counsel) incurred by the Purchasers and each other holder of a Note in connection with such transactions and in connection with any amendments, waivers or consents under or in respect of this Agreement, any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or the Notes (whether or not such amendment, waiver or consent becomes effective), including, without limitation: (a) the costs and expenses incurred in enforcing or defending (or determining whether or how to enforce or defend) any rights under this Agreement, any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or the Notes or in responding to any subpoena or other legal process or informal investigative demand issued in connection with this Agreement, any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or the Notes, or by reason of being a holder of any Note, (b) the costs and expenses, including financial advisors' fees, incurred in connection with the insolvency or bankruptcy of the Company or any Subsidiary or in connection with any work-out or restructuring of the transactions contemplated hereby and by the Notes and (c) the costs and expenses incurred in connection with the initial filing of this Agreement and all related documents and financial information with the SVO, provided that such costs and expenses shall not exceed \$1,500.00. The Company will pay, and will save each Purchaser and each other holder of a Note harmless from, all claims in respect of any fees, costs or expenses, if any, of brokers and finders (other than those, if any, retained by a Purchaser or other holder in connection with its purchase of the Notes).

#### Section 15.2 Survival.

The obligations of the Company under this Section 15 will survive the payment or transfer of any Note, the enforcement, amendment or waiver of any provision of this Agreement, any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or the Notes, and the termination of this Agreement.

#### Section 16. Survival of Representations and Warranties; Entire Agreement.

All representations and warranties contained herein shall survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Notes, the purchase or transfer by any Purchaser of any Note or portion thereof or interest therein and the payment of any Note, and may be relied upon by any subsequent holder of a Note, regardless of any investigation made at any time by or on behalf of such Purchaser or any other holder of a Note. All statements contained in any certificate or other instrument delivered by or on behalf of the Company pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed representations and warranties of the Company under this Agreement. Subject to the preceding sentence, this Agreement and the Notes embody the entire agreement and understanding between each Purchaser and the Company and supersede all prior agreements and understandings relating to the subject matter hereof.

#### Section 17. Amendment and Waiver.

#### Section 17.1 Requirements.

This Agreement and the Notes may be amended, and the observance of any term hereof or of the Notes may be waived (either retroactively or prospectively), with (and only with) the written consent of the Company and the Required Holders, except that (a) no amendment or waiver of any of the provisions of Section 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 21 hereof, or any defined term (as it is used therein), will be effective as to any Purchaser unless consented to by such Purchaser in writing, and (b) no such amendment or waiver

may, without the written consent of each Purchaser and the holder of each Note at the time outstanding affected thereby, (i) subject to the provisions of Section 12 relating to acceleration or rescission, change the amount or time of any prepayment or payment of principal of, or reduce the rate or change the time of payment or method of computation of interest or of the Yield-Maintenance Amount and/or Breakage Amount on, the Notes, (ii) change the percentage of the principal amount of the Notes the holders of which are required to consent to any amendment or waiver or the principal amount of the Notes that the Purchasers are to purchase pursuant to Section 2 upon the satisfaction of the conditions to Closing that appear in Section 4, (iii) amend any of Sections 8, 11(a), 11(b), 12, 17 or 20, or (iv) release any Guarantor from its Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement (other than in compliance with Section 9.8(b)).

#### Section 17.2 Solicitation of Holders of Notes.

- (a) *Solicitation*. The Company will provide each Purchaser and each holder of the Notes (irrespective of the amount of Notes then owned by it) with sufficient information, sufficiently far in advance of the date a decision is required, to enable such Purchaser and holder to make an informed and considered decision with respect to any proposed amendment, waiver or consent in respect of any of the provisions hereof or of the Notes. The Company will deliver executed or true and correct copies of each amendment, waiver or consent effected pursuant to the provisions of this Section 17 to each Purchaser and each holder of outstanding Notes promptly following the date on which it is executed and delivered by, or receives the consent or approval of, the requisite Purchasers or holders of Notes.
- (b) *Payment*. The Company will not directly or indirectly pay or cause to be paid any remuneration, whether by way of supplemental or additional interest, fee or otherwise, or grant any security or provide other credit support, to any Purchaser or holder of Notes as consideration for or as an inducement to the entering into by such Purchaser or holder of Notes of any waiver or amendment of any of the terms and provisions of this Agreement, any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or any Note unless such remuneration is concurrently paid, or security is concurrently granted or other credit support concurrently provided, on the same terms, ratably to each Purchaser and each holder of Notes then outstanding even if such Purchaser or holder did not consent to such waiver or amendment.
- (c) Consent in Contemplation of Transfer. Any consent made pursuant to this Section 17.2 by the holder of any Note that has transferred or has agreed to transfer such Note to the Company, any Subsidiary or any Affiliate of the Company and has provided or has agreed to provide such written consent as a condition to such transfer shall be void and of no force or effect except solely as to such holder, and any amendments effected or waivers granted or to be effected or granted that would not have been or would not be so effected or granted but for such consent (and the consents of all other holders of Notes that were acquired under the same or similar conditions) shall be void and of no force or effect except solely as to such transferring holder.

# Section 17.3 Binding Effect, etc.

Any amendment or waiver consented to as provided in this Section 17 applies equally to all Purchasers and holders of Notes and is binding upon them and upon each future holder of any Note and upon the Company without regard to whether such Note has been marked to indicate such amendment or waiver. No such amendment or waiver will extend to or affect any obligation, covenant, agreement, Default or Event of Default not expressly amended or waived or impair any right consequent thereon. No course of dealing between the Company and any Purchaser or holder of any Note nor any delay in exercising any rights hereunder, under any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or under any Note shall

operate as a waiver of any rights of any Purchaser or holder of such Note. As used herein, the term "this **Agreement**" and references thereto shall mean this Agreement as it may from time to time be amended or supplemented.

## Section 17.4 Notes Held by Company, etc.

Solely for the purpose of determining whether the holders of the requisite percentage of the aggregate principal amount of Notes then outstanding approved or consented to any amendment, waiver or consent to be given under this Agreement, any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or the Notes, or have directed the taking of any action provided herein, in any Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement or in the Notes to be taken upon the direction of the holders of a specified percentage of the aggregate principal amount of Notes then outstanding, Notes directly or indirectly owned by the Company or any of its Affiliates shall be deemed not to be outstanding.

#### Section 18. Notices.

All notices and communications provided for hereunder shall be in writing and sent (a) by telecopy if the sender on the same day sends a confirming copy of such notice by a recognized overnight delivery service (charges prepaid), or (b) by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested (postage prepaid), or (c) by a recognized overnight delivery service (with charges prepaid). Any such notice must be sent:

- (a) if to any Purchaser or its nominee, to such Purchaser or nominee at the address specified for such communications in <u>Schedule A</u>, or at such other address as such Purchaser or nominee shall have specified to the Company in writing,
- (b) if to any other holder of any Note, to such holder at such address as such other holder shall have specified to the Company in writing, or
- (c) if to the Company, to the Company at its address set forth at the beginning hereof to the attention of the Chief Financial Officer with a copy to the General Counsel, or at such other address as the Company shall have specified to the holder of each Note in writing.

Notices under this Section 18 will be deemed given only when actually received.

## **Section 19. Reproduction of Documents.**

This Agreement and all documents relating thereto, including, without limitation, (a) consents, waivers and modifications that may hereafter be executed, (b) documents received by any Purchaser at the Closing (except the Notes themselves), and (c) financial statements, certificates and other information previously or hereafter furnished to any Purchaser, may be reproduced by such Purchaser by any photographic, photostatic, electronic, digital or other similar process and such Purchaser may destroy any original document so reproduced. The Company agrees and stipulates that, to the extent permitted by applicable law, any such reproduction shall be admissible in evidence as the original itself in any judicial or administrative proceeding (whether or not the original is in existence and whether or not such reproduction was made by such Purchaser in the regular course of business) and any enlargement, facsimile or further reproduction of such reproduction shall likewise be admissible in evidence. This Section 19 shall not prohibit the Company or any other holder of Notes from contesting any such reproduction to the same extent that it could contest the original, or from introducing evidence to demonstrate the inaccuracy of any such reproduction.

#### Section 20. Confidential Information.

For the purposes of this Section 20, "Confidential Information" means information delivered to any Purchaser by or on behalf of the Company or any Subsidiary in connection with the transactions contemplated by or otherwise pursuant to this Agreement that is proprietary in nature and that was clearly marked or labeled or otherwise adequately identified when received by such Purchaser as being confidential information of the Company or such Subsidiary, provided that such term does not include information that (a) was publicly known or otherwise known to such Purchaser prior to the time of such disclosure, (b) subsequently becomes publicly known through no act or omission by such Purchaser or any Person acting on such Purchaser's behalf, (c) otherwise becomes known to such Purchaser other than through disclosure by the Company or any Subsidiary or (d) constitutes financial statements delivered to such Purchaser under Section 7.1 that are otherwise publicly available. Each Purchaser will maintain the confidentiality of such Confidential Information in accordance with procedures adopted by such Purchaser in good faith to protect confidential information of third parties delivered to such Purchaser; provided that such Purchaser may deliver or disclose Confidential Information to (i) its directors, trustees, officers, employees, agents, attorneys and affiliates (to the extent such disclosure reasonably relates to the administration of the investment represented by its Notes), (ii) its auditors, financial advisors and other professional advisors who agree to hold confidential the Confidential Information substantially in accordance with the terms of this Section 20, (iii) any other holder of any Note, (iv) any Institutional Investor to which it sells or offers to sell such Note or any part thereof or any participation therein (if such Person has agreed in writing prior to its receipt of such Confidential Information to be bound by the provisions of this Section 20), (v) any Person from which it offers to purchase any security of the Company (if such Person has agreed in writing prior to its receipt of such Confidential Information to be bound by the provisions of this Section 20), (vi) any federal or state regulatory authority having jurisdiction over such Purchaser, (vii) the NAIC or the SVO or, in each case, any similar organization, or any nationally recognized rating agency that requires access to information about such Purchaser's investment portfolio, or (viii) any other Person to which such delivery or disclosure may be necessary or appropriate (w) to effect compliance with any law, rule, regulation or order applicable to such Purchaser, (x) in response to any subpoena or other legal process, (v) in connection with any litigation to which such Purchaser is a party or (z) if an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, to the extent such Purchaser may reasonably determine such delivery and disclosure to be necessary or appropriate in the enforcement or for the protection of the rights and remedies under such Purchaser's Notes and this Agreement. Each holder of a Note, by its acceptance of a Note, will be deemed to have agreed to be bound by and to be entitled to the benefits of this Section 20 as though it were a party to this Agreement. On reasonable request by the Company in connection with the delivery to any holder of a Note of information required to be delivered to such holder under this Agreement or requested by such holder (other than a holder that is a party to this Agreement or its nominee), such holder will enter into an agreement with the Company embodying the provisions of this Section 20.

In the event that as a condition to receiving access to information relating to the Company or its Subsidiaries in connection with the transactions contemplated by or otherwise pursuant to this Agreement, any Purchaser or holder of a Note is required to agree to a confidentiality undertaking (whether through IntraLinks, another secure website, a secure virtual workspace or otherwise) which is different from this Section 20, this Section 20 shall not be amended thereby and, as between such Purchaser or such holder and the Company, this Section 20 shall supersede any such other confidentiality undertaking.

#### **Section 21. Substitution of Purchaser.**

Each Purchaser shall have the right to substitute any one of its affiliates as the purchaser of the Notes that it has agreed to purchase hereunder, by written notice to the Company, which notice shall be

signed by both such Purchaser and such affiliate, shall contain such affiliate's agreement to be bound by this Agreement and shall contain a confirmation by such affiliate of the accuracy with respect to it of the representations set forth in Section 6. Upon receipt of such notice, any reference to such Purchaser in this Agreement (other than in this Section 21), shall be deemed to refer to such affiliate in lieu of such original Purchaser. In the event that such affiliate is so substituted as a Purchaser hereunder and such affiliate thereafter transfers to such original Purchaser all of the Notes then held by such affiliate, upon receipt by the Company of notice of such transfer, any reference to such affiliate as a "Purchaser" in this Agreement (other than in this Section 21), shall no longer be deemed to refer to such affiliate, but shall refer to such original Purchaser, and such original Purchaser shall again have all the rights of an original holder of the Notes under this Agreement.

#### Section 22. Miscellaneous.

#### Section 22.1 Successors and Assigns.

All covenants and other agreements contained in this Agreement by or on behalf of any of the parties hereto bind and inure to the benefit of their respective successors and assigns (including, without limitation, any subsequent holder of a Note) whether so expressed or not.

# Section 22.2 Payments Due on Non-Business Days.

Anything in this Agreement or the Notes to the contrary notwithstanding (but without limiting the requirement in Section 8.5 that the notice of any optional prepayment specify a Business Day as the date fixed for such prepayment), any payment of principal of or Yield-Maintenance Amount, Breakage Amount or interest on any Note that is due on a date other than a Business Day shall be made on the next succeeding Business Day including the additional days elapsed in the computation of the interest payable on such next succeeding Business Day.

#### **Section 22.3** Accounting Terms.

(a) All accounting terms used herein which are not expressly defined in this Agreement have the meanings respectively given to them in accordance with GAAP. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, (i) all computations made pursuant to this Agreement shall be made in accordance with GAAP, and (ii) all financial statements shall be prepared in accordance with GAAP. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Company notifies the holders of Notes that, in the Company's reasonable opinion, or if the Required Holders notify the Company that, in the Required Holders' reasonable opinion, as a result of changes in GAAP from time to time ("Subsequent Changes"), any of the covenants contained in Sections 10.2, 10.3, 10.4 or 10.5, or any of the defined terms used therein, no longer apply as intended such that such covenants are materially more or less restrictive to the Company than are such covenants immediately prior to giving effect to such Subsequent Changes, the Company and the holders of Notes shall negotiate in good faith to reset or amend such covenants or defined terms so as to negate such Subsequent Changes, or to establish alternative covenants or defined terms. Until the Company and the Required Holders so agree to reset, amend or establish alternative covenants or defined terms, the covenants contained in Sections 10.2, 10.3, 10.4 and 10.5, together with the relevant defined terms, shall continue to apply and compliance therewith shall be determined assuming that the Subsequent Changes shall not have occurred ("Static GAAP"). During any period that compliance with any covenants shall be determined pursuant to Static GAAP, the Company shall include relevant reconciliations in reasonable detail between GAAP and Static GAAP with respect to the applicable covenant compliance calculations contained in each certificate of a Senior Financial Officer delivered pursuant to Section 7.2 during such period.

(b) For purposes of determining compliance with the financial covenants contained in this Agreement, any election by the Company or its Subsidiaries to measure an item of its Debt using fair value (as may be permitted by Accounting Standard Codification Topic No. 825-10-25 - *Fair Value Option* or any similar accounting standard) shall be disregarded and such determination shall be made as if such election had not been made.

#### Section 22.4 Severability.

Any provision of this Agreement that is prohibited or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall, as to such jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition or unenforceability without invalidating the remaining provisions hereof, and any such prohibition or unenforceability in any jurisdiction shall (to the full extent permitted by law) not invalidate or render unenforceable such provision in any other jurisdiction.

#### Section 22.5 Construction, etc.

Each covenant contained herein shall be construed (absent express provision to the contrary) as being independent of each other covenant contained herein, so that compliance with any one covenant shall not (absent such an express contrary provision) be deemed to excuse compliance with any other covenant. Where any provision herein refers to action to be taken by any Person, or which such Person is prohibited from taking, such provision shall be applicable whether such action is taken directly or indirectly by such Person.

For the avoidance of doubt, all Schedules and Exhibits attached to this Agreement shall be deemed to be a part hereof.

#### Section 22.6 Counterparts.

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original but all of which together shall constitute one instrument. Each counterpart may consist of a number of copies hereof, each signed by less than all, but together signed by all, of the parties hereto. Delivery of an executed signature page by facsimile or e-mail transmission shall be effective as delivery of a manually signed counterpart of this Agreement.

#### Section 22.7 Governing Law.

This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and the rights of the parties shall be governed by, the law of the State of New York, excluding choice-of-law principles of the law of such State that would permit the application of the laws of a jurisdiction other than such State.

## Section 22.8 Jurisdiction and Process; Waiver of Jury Trial.

(a) The Company irrevocably submits to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of any New York State or federal court sitting in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, over any suit, action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Notes. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the Company irrevocably waives and agrees not to assert, by way of motion, as a defense or otherwise, any claim that it is not subject to the jurisdiction of any such court, any objection that it may now or hereafter have to the laying of the venue of any such suit,

action or proceeding brought in any such court and any claim that any such suit, action or proceeding brought in any such court has been brought in an inconvenient forum.

- (b) The Company consents to process being served by or on behalf of any holder of Notes in any suit, action or proceeding of the nature referred to in Section 22.8(a) by mailing a copy thereof by registered or certified mail (or any substantially similar form of mail), postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to it at its address specified in Section 18 or at such other address of which such holder shall then have been notified pursuant to said Section. The Company agrees that such service upon receipt (i) shall be deemed in every respect effective service of process upon it in any such suit, action or proceeding and (ii) shall, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, be taken and held to be valid personal service upon and personal delivery to it. Notices hereunder shall be conclusively presumed received as evidenced by a delivery receipt furnished by the United States Postal Service or any reputable commercial delivery service.
- (c) Nothing in this Section 22.8 shall affect the right of any holder of a Note to serve process in any manner permitted by law, or limit any right that the holders of any of the Notes may have to bring proceedings against the Company in the courts of any appropriate jurisdiction or to enforce in any lawful manner a judgment obtained in one jurisdiction in any other jurisdiction.
- (d) THE PARTIES HERETO HEREBY WAIVE TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY ACTION BROUGHT ON OR WITH RESPECT TO THIS AGREEMENT, THE NOTES OR ANY OTHER DOCUMENT EXECUTED IN CONNECTION HEREWITH OR THEREWITH.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank. Next page is a signature page.]

If you are in agreement with the foregoing, please sign the form of agreement on a counterpart of this Agreement and return it to the Company, whereupon this Agreement shall become a binding agreement between you and the Company.

Very truly yours,

# MEREDITH CORPORATION

By: <u>/s/ Steven M. Cappaert</u> Name: Steven M. Cappaert Title: Corporate Controller This Agreement is hereby accepted and agreed to as of the date thereof.

#### MASSACHUSESTTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

By: Babson Capital Management LLC as Investment Adviser

By: /s/ John B. Wheeler Name: John B. Wheeler Title: Managing Director

#### C.M. LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

By: Babson Capital Management LLC as Investment Adviser

By: /s/ John B. Wheeler Name: John B. Wheeler Title: Managing Director

#### MASSMUTUAL ASIA LIMITED

By: Babson Capital Management LLC as Investment Adviser

By: /s/ John B. Wheeler Name: John B. Wheeler Title: Managing Director

#### METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

# METLIFE REINSURANCE COMPANY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TRUST ACCOUNT B

by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, its Investment Manager

By: /s/ John A. Wills
Name: John A. Wills
Title: Managing Director

#### SYMETRA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

by White Mountains Advisors, LLC, as Investment Manager by MetLife Investment management, LLC, Its Sub-Investment Manager

By: /s/ C. Scott Inglis
Name: C. Scott Inglis
Title: Managing Director

# **SCHEDULE B Defined Terms**

As used herein, the following terms have the respective meanings set forth below or set forth in the Section hereof following such term:

- "Accountants' Certificate" is defined in Section 7.1(b).
- "Acquisition" is defined in Schedule 5.14.
- "Acquisition Agreement" means the Asset Purchase Agreement, dated as of August 20, 2014, among the Company, Mercury New Holdco, Inc. and Media General, Inc., pursuant to which the Company has agreed to purchase the FCC licenses and other assets of the Station.
- "Affiliate" means, at any time, and with respect to any Person, any other Person that at such time directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries Controls, or is Controlled by, or is under common Control with, such first Person, and, with respect to the Company, shall include any Person beneficially owning or holding, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of voting or equity interests of the Company or any Subsidiary or any Person of which the Company and its Subsidiaries beneficially own or hold, in the aggregate, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of voting or equity interests. As used in this definition, "Control" means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting Securities, by contract or otherwise. Unless the context otherwise clearly requires, any reference to an "Affiliate" is a reference to an Affiliate of the Company.
  - "Agreement" is defined in Section 17.3.
  - "Anti-Corruption Laws" is defined in Section 5.16(d)(1).
  - "Anti-Money Laundering Laws" is defined in Section 5.16(c).
  - "Blocked Person" is defined in Section 5.16(a).
- "Breakage Amount" means, in connection with each LIBOR-Based Note, the amount, if any, due pursuant to the terms of Section 8.10(b).
- "Business Day" means (a) for the purposes of any determination of the Interest Period with respect to any LIBOR-Based Note, any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banks are not open for dealings in dollar deposits in the London interbank market, and (b) for the purposes of any other provision of this Agreement, any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which commercial banks in Des Moines, Iowa or New York, New York are required or authorized to be closed.
- "Capital Lease" means, at any time, a lease with respect to which the lessee is required concurrently to recognize the acquisition of an asset and the incurrence of a liability in accordance with GAAP.
  - "Change in Control" is defined in Section 8.3(h).
- "Change in Law" means the occurrence after the date of Closing or, with respect to any subsequent holder of Notes, such later date on which such holder becomes a party to this Agreement, of any of the following: (a) the adoption or taking effect of any law, rule, regulation or treaty, (b) any change

in any law, rule, regulation or treaty or in the administration, interpretation or application thereof by any Governmental Authority or (c) compliance by any holder of Notes with any request, guideline, requirement or directive (whether or not having the force of law) of any Governmental Authority made or issued after the date of Closing; *provided* that, notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, (x) the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and all requests, rules, guidelines, requirements or directives thereunder or issued in connection therewith or in the implementation thereof, and (y) all requests, rules, guidelines, requirements or directives promulgated by the Bank for International Settlements, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (or any successor or similar authority) or the United States or foreign regulatory authorities, in each case pursuant to Basel III, shall in each case be deemed to be a "Change in Law", regardless of the date enacted, adopted, issued or implemented.

"CISADA" means the United States Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010.

"Closing" is defined in Section 3.

"Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder from time to time.

"Company" is defined in the first paragraph of this Agreement.

"Confidential Information" is defined in Section 20.

"Consolidated EBITDA" for any period means the sum of (a) Consolidated Net Income during such period plus (to the extent deducted in determining Consolidated Net Income), (b) all provisions for any federal, state or other income taxes made by the Company and its Subsidiaries during such period, (c) all provisions for depreciation and amortization (other than amortization of debt discount) made by the Company and its Subsidiaries during such period, and (d) Consolidated Interest Expense during such period.

"Consolidated Interest Expense" means all Interest Expense of the Company and its Subsidiaries for any period after eliminating intercompany items. For purposes of any determination of Consolidated Interest Expense pursuant to this Agreement, the Company shall include, on a pro forma basis, "interest expense" (calculated in a manner consistent with the computation of Interest Expense herein) of any business entity acquired by the Company or any Subsidiary during the four fiscal guarters immediately preceding any determination of Consolidated Interest Expense and, concurrently with such determination, the Company shall furnish to the holders of the Notes audited financial statements or other financial information with respect to such business entity demonstrating to the reasonable satisfaction of the Required Holders the basis for such computations; provided, that the Company may elect not to compute Consolidated Interest Expense on a pro forma basis for any period with respect to one or more business entities so acquired so long as (a) the Company has elected not to include the net income of such business entities on a pro forma basis for such period in the computation of Consolidated Net Income for such period and (b) such election by the Company with respect to the computation of Consolidated Interest Expense for such period does not cause the Consolidated Interest Expense of the Company for such period to be less than 90% of what the Company's Consolidated Interest Expense would have been if such election had not been made.

"Consolidated Net Income" for any period means the gross revenues of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such period less all expenses and other proper charges (including taxes on income),

determined on a consolidated basis after eliminating earnings or losses attributable to outstanding Minority Interests, but excluding in any event:

- (a) any gains or losses on the sale or other disposition of investments or fixed or capital assets, and any taxes on such excluded gains and any tax deductions or credits on account of any such excluded losses;
  - (b) the proceeds of any life insurance policy;
- (c) net earnings and losses of any Subsidiary accrued prior to the date it became a Subsidiary;
- (d) net earnings and losses of any business entity (other than a Subsidiary), substantially all the assets of which have been acquired in any manner by the Company or any Subsidiary, realized by such business entity prior to the date of such acquisition;
- (e) net earnings and losses of any business entity (other than a Subsidiary) with which the Company or a Subsidiary shall have consolidated or which shall have merged into or with the Company or a Subsidiary prior to the date of such consolidation or merger;
- (f) net earnings of any business entity (other than a Subsidiary) in which the Company or any Subsidiary has an ownership interest unless such net earnings shall have actually been received by the Company or such Subsidiary in the form of cash distributions;
- (g) any portion of the net earnings of any Subsidiary which for any reason is unavailable for payment of dividends to the Company or any other Subsidiary;
- (h) (i) earnings resulting from any reappraisal, revaluation or write-up of assets or losses resulting from writedowns of goodwill or other intangibles under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, or any successor statement or principle, (ii) losses resulting from any exit or disposal activities under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 146 or any successor statement or principle or (iii) non-cash expenses resulting from equity-based compensation;
- (i) any deferred or other credit representing any excess of the equity in any Subsidiary at the date of acquisition thereof over the amount invested in such Subsidiary;
- (j) any gain arising from the acquisition of any Securities of the Company or any Subsidiary;
- (k) any reversal of any contingency reserve, except to the extent that provision for such contingency reserve shall have been made from income arising during such period; and
  - (1) any other extraordinary or nonrecurring gain or loss.

For purposes of any determination of Consolidated Net Income pursuant to this Agreement and notwithstanding clause (d) of this definition, the Company may include, on a *pro forma* basis, "net income" (calculated in a manner consistent with the computation of Consolidated Net Income herein) earned by any business entity acquired (or whose assets have been acquired) by the Company or any Subsidiary during the four fiscal quarters immediately preceding any determination of Consolidated Net Income, provided that there shall be a reasonable basis for the computation of such "net income" and,

concurrently with such determination, the Company shall have furnished to the holders of the Notes audited financial statements or other financial information with respect to such business entity (or such acquired assets) demonstrating to the reasonable satisfaction of the Required Holders the basis for such computations.

"Consolidated Total Assets" means, as of the date of any determination thereof, total assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

"Consolidated Total Debt" means, as of the date of any determination thereof, all Debt of the Company and its Subsidiaries, determined on a consolidated basis eliminating intercompany items.

"Control Event" is defined in Section 8.3(h).

"Controlled Entity" means any of the Subsidiaries of the Company and any of their or the Company's respective Controlled Affiliates. As used in this definition, "Control" means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise, and "Controlled" has a meaning correlative thereto.

"Debt" with respect to any Person means, at any time, without duplication,

- (a) its liabilities for borrowed money and its redemption obligations in respect of mandatorily redeemable Preferred Stock;
- (b) its liabilities for the deferred purchase price of property acquired by such Person (excluding accounts payable arising in the ordinary course of business and estimated contingent payments (related to acquisitions) prior to the date on which the amount of the same shall have been determined and shall have become due but including all liabilities created or arising under any conditional sale or other title retention agreement with respect to any such property);
- (c) all liabilities appearing on its balance sheet in accordance with GAAP in respect of Capital Leases;
- (d) all liabilities for borrowed money secured by any Lien with respect to any property owned by such Person (whether or not it has assumed or otherwise become liable for such liabilities);
- (e) all its liabilities in respect of letters of credit or instruments serving a similar function issued or accepted for its account by banks and other financial institutions (whether or not representing obligations for borrowed money);
  - (f) Swaps of such Person;
- (g) any Guaranty of such Person with respect to liabilities of a type described in any of clauses (a) through (f) or (h) hereof; and
  - (h) Receivables Facility Attributed Indebtedness.

Debt of any Person shall include all obligations of such Person of the character described in clauses (a) through (h) to the extent such Person remains legally liable in respect thereof notwithstanding that any such obligation is deemed to be extinguished under GAAP.

- "Default" means an event or condition the occurrence or existence of which would, with the lapse of time or the giving of notice or both, become an Event of Default.
- "Default Rate" means, with respect to any Note, the lesser of (a) the maximum rate of interest allowed by applicable law and (b) the rate of interest that is the greater of (i) 2.00% per annum above the applicable LIBO Rate and (ii) 2.00% per annum over the rate of interest publicly announced by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. in New York, New York as its "base" or "prime" rate.
  - "Disclosure Documents" is defined in Section 5.3.
  - "Dollars", "U.S.\$" or "\$" means lawful money of the United States of America.
  - "Electronic Delivery" is defined in Section 7.1(a).
- **"Environmental Laws"** means any and all federal, state, local, and foreign statutes, laws, regulations, ordinances, rules, judgments, orders, decrees, permits, concessions, grants, franchises, licenses, agreements or governmental restrictions relating to pollution and the protection of the environment or the release of any materials into the environment, including but not limited to those related to Hazardous Materials.
- **"ERISA"** means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder from time to time in effect.
- **"ERISA Affiliate"** means any trade or business (whether or not incorporated) that is treated as a single employer together with the Company under section 414 of the Code.
  - "Event of Default" is defined in Section 11.
- **"Exchange Act"** means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder from time to time in effect.
- "FCC" means Federal Communications Commission of the United States, or any successor thereto.
- **"Finsub"** means any bankruptcy-remote corporation or other Person that is a Wholly-Owned Subsidiary organized solely for the purposes of engaging in a Permitted Receivables Transaction.
  - "Form 10-K" is defined in Section 7.1(b).
  - "Form 10-Q" is defined in Section 7.1(a).
- "GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles as in effect from time to time in the United States of America.

# "Governmental Authority" means

(a) the government of

or

(1) the United States of America or any state or other political subdivision thereof,

- (2) any other jurisdiction in which the Company or any Subsidiary conducts all or any part of its business, or which asserts jurisdiction over any properties of the Company or any Subsidiary, or
- (b) any entity exercising executive, legislative, judicial, regulatory or administrative functions of, or pertaining to, any such government, including without limitation the Federal Communications Commission of the United States.
- "Governmental Official" means any governmental official or employee, employee of any government-owned or government-controlled entity, political party, any official of a political party, candidate for political office, official of any public international organization or anyone else acting in an official capacity.
  - "Guarantor" means each Subsidiary required to guaranty the Notes pursuant to Section 9.8.
- "Guaranty" means, with respect to any Person, any obligation (except the endorsement in the ordinary course of business of negotiable instruments for deposit or collection) of such Person guaranteeing or in effect guaranteeing any Debt, dividend or other obligation of any other Person in any manner, whether directly or indirectly, including (without limitation) obligations incurred through an agreement, contingent or otherwise, by such Person:
  - (a) to purchase such indebtedness or obligation or any property constituting security therefor;
  - (b) to advance or supply funds (i) for the purchase or payment of such indebtedness or obligation, or (ii) to maintain any working capital or other balance sheet condition or any income statement condition of any other Person or otherwise to advance or make available funds for the purchase or payment of such indebtedness or obligation;
  - (c) to lease properties or to purchase properties or services primarily for the purpose of assuring the owner of such indebtedness or obligation of the ability of any other Person to make payment of the indebtedness or obligation; or
  - (d) otherwise to assure the owner of such indebtedness or obligation against loss in respect thereof.

In any computation of the indebtedness or other liabilities of the obligor under any Guaranty, the indebtedness or other obligations that are the subject of such Guaranty shall be assumed to be direct obligations of such obligor.

"Hazardous Material" means any and all pollutants, toxic or hazardous wastes or any other substances that might pose a hazard to health and safety, the removal of which may be required or the generation, manufacture, refining, production, processing, treatment, storage, handling, transportation, transfer, use, disposal, release, discharge, spillage, seepage, or filtration of which is or shall be restricted, prohibited or penalized by any applicable law including, but not limited to, asbestos, urea formaldehyde foam insulation, polychlorinated biphenyls, petroleum, petroleum products, lead based paint, radon gas or similar restricted, prohibited or penalized substances.

**"holder"** means, with respect to any Note, the Person in whose name such Note is registered in the register maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 13.1; *provided*, *however*, that if such Person is a nominee, then for the purposes of Sections 7, 12, 17.2 and 18 and any related definitions in this

<u>Schedule B</u>, "holder" shall mean the beneficial owner of such Note whose name and address appears in such register.

"INHAM Exemption" is defined in Section 6.2(e).

"Institutional Investor" means (a) any Purchaser of a Note, (b) any holder of a Note holding (together with one or more of its affiliates) more than 5% of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding, (c) any bank, trust company, savings and loan association or other financial institution, any pension plan, any investment company, any insurance company, any broker or dealer, or any other similar financial institution or entity, regardless of legal form, and (d) any Related Fund of any holder of any Note.

"Intercreditor Agreement" is defined in Section 9.9.

"Interest Expense" of the Company and its Subsidiaries for any period means all interest (including the interest component included in Rentals on Capital Leases) and all amortization of debt discount and expense on any particular Debt (including, without limitation, payment-in-kind, zero coupon and other like Securities) for which such calculations are being made.

"Interest Payment Dates" means the dates set forth in the Notes upon which interest is to be paid in each year, commencing with the first of such dates until the principal sum in respect of which interest is being paid shall have become due and payable (whether at maturity, upon notice of prepayment or otherwise).

"Interest Period" means, with respect to any Note, the period commencing on the date of Closing and continuing up to, but not including the first Interest Payment Date and thereafter, commencing on each Interest Payment Date and continuing, in each case, up to, but not including, the next Interest Payment Date, provided, however, that

- (a) in no event may any Interest Period end after the Maturity Date of the Notes;
- (b) any changes in the rate of interest applicable to a Note bearing interest by reference to the Prime Rate resulting from changes in the Prime Rate shall take place immediately regardless of whether such change shall occur during such Interest Period; and
- (c) if any Interest Period would otherwise end on a day which is not a Business Day, such Interest Period shall be extended to the next succeeding Business Day.

"Interest Rate Margin" means, at any time, (a) with respect to the calculation of interest on any LIBOR-Based Note, 1.50% per annum and (b) with respect to the calculation of interest on any Prime Rate Note, 0.50% per annum.

"LIBOR-Based Note" means an extension of credit hereunder evidenced by a Note which bears interest at the LIBO Rate.

"LIBO Rate" means, for any applicable Interest Period, the sum of (a) the Interest Rate Margin and (b) the rate per annum equal to the London interbank offered rate administered by the ICE Benchmark Administration Limited (or any other Person that takes over the administration of such rate for Dollars) for a period equal in length to such Interest Period as displayed on pages LIBOR01 or LIBOR02 of the Reuters screen or, in the event such rate does not appear on a Reuters page or screen, on any successor or substitute page on such screen that displays such rate, or on the appropriate page of such other information

service that publishes such rate as shall be quoted by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, two (2) Business Days prior to the commencement of such Interest Period. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the LIBO Rate shall be less than zero, such rate shall be deemed zero for purposes of this Agreement.

**"Lien"** means, with respect to any Person, any mortgage, lien, pledge, charge, security interest or other encumbrance, or any interest or title of any vendor, lessor, lender or other secured party to or of such Person under any conditional sale or other title retention agreement or Capital Lease, upon or with respect to any property or asset of such Person (including in the case of stock, stockholder agreements, voting trust agreements and all similar arrangements).

"Major Credit Facility" means (a) the Credit Agreement, dated as of March 27, 2014, among the Company, each lender from time to time party thereto, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent, (b) the Note Purchase Agreement, dated as of February 29, 2012, among the Company and each purchaser of notes party thereto, (c) the Note Purchase Agreement, dated as of February 19, 2014, among the Company and each purchaser of notes party thereto, and (d) any one or more bank credit agreements or bond/note facilities (other than any Receivables Program Documents or Receivables Purchase Agreements) with an amount borrowed by, or providing credit availability to, any one or more of the Company and its Subsidiaries in an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$75,000,000, in each case under clauses (a) through (d), inclusive, as such agreement or facility may be amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified and together with increases, refinancings and replacements thereof.

**"Margin Stock"** means "margin stock" as defined in Regulation T, U or X of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, as in effect from time to time, together with all official rulings and interpretations issued thereunder.

"Material" means material in relation to the business, operations, affairs, financial condition, assets, properties, or prospects of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole.

"Material Adverse Effect" means a material adverse effect on (a) the business, operations, affairs, financial condition, assets, properties or prospects of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole, or (b) the ability of the Company to perform its obligations under this Agreement and the Notes, or (c) the validity or enforceability of this Agreement or the Notes.

"Material Subsidiary" means, at any time, any Subsidiary if: (a) the portion of Consolidated Net Income which was contributed by such Subsidiary during the immediately preceding fiscal year of the Company exceeds 10% of Consolidated Net Income or (b) the portion of consolidated operating profit, as determined in accordance with GAAP, which was contributed by such Subsidiary during the immediately preceding fiscal year of the Company exceeds 10% of such consolidated operating profit or (c) the assets of such Subsidiary as at the end of the immediately preceding fiscal year of the Company exceeds 10% of Consolidated Total Assets.

"Maturity Date" is defined in the first paragraph of each Note.

"Maximum Permitted Total Debt" is defined in Section 10.3(a).

"Meredith Family" means (a) the lineal descendants by blood or adoption of E.T. Meredith ("descendants") and the spouses and surviving spouses of such descendants; (b) any estate, trust, guardianship, custodianship or other fiduciary arrangement for the primary benefit of any one or more

individuals described in (a) above; and (c) any corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other business organization so long as (i) one or more individuals or entities described in clauses (a) and (b) above possess, directly or indirectly, the power to direct or cause the direction of, the management and policies of such corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other business organization and (ii) substantially all of the ownership, beneficial or other equity interests in such corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other business organization are owned, directly or indirectly, by one or more individuals or entities described in clauses (a) and (b) above.

"Minority Interests" means any shares of stock of any class of a Subsidiary (other than directors' qualifying shares as required by law) that are not owned by the Company and/or one or more of its Subsidiaries. Minority Interests shall be valued by valuing Minority Interests constituting Preferred Stock at the voluntary or involuntary liquidating value of such Preferred Stock, whichever is greater, and by valuing Minority Interests constituting common stock at the book value of capital and surplus applicable thereto adjusted, if necessary, to reflect any changes from the book value of such common stock required by the foregoing method of valuing Minority Interests in Preferred Stock.

"Multiemployer Plan" means any Plan that is a "multiemployer plan" (as such term is defined in section 4001(a)(3) of ERISA).

"NAIC" means the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or any successor thereto.

"NAIC Annual Statement" is defined in Section 6.2(a).

"Net Proceeds" means, with respect to the disposition of any asset of the Company or a Subsidiary, the aggregate amount of the consideration (valued at the fair market value of such consideration at the time of such disposition) received in respect of such disposition, net of all reasonable fees and out-of-pocket expenses paid by the Company and its Subsidiaries to third parties (other than Affiliates) in connection with such disposition.

**"Non-U.S. Plan"** means any plan, fund or other similar program that (a) is established or maintained outside the United States of America by the Company or any Subsidiary primarily for the benefit of employees of the Company or one or more Subsidiaries residing outside the United States of America, which plan, fund or other similar program provides, or results in, retirement income, a deferral of income in contemplation of retirement or payments to be made upon termination of employment, and (b) is not subject to ERISA or the Code.

"Notes" is defined in Section 1.

"OFAC" is defined in Section 5.16(a).

"OFAC Listed Person" is defined in Section 5.16(a).

**"OFAC Sanctions Program"** means any economic or trade sanction that OFAC is responsible for administering and enforcing. A list of OFAC Sanctions Programs may be found at http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Pages/Programs.aspx.

"Officer's Certificate" means a certificate of a Senior Financial Officer or of any other officer of the Company whose responsibilities extend to the subject matter of such certificate.

**"PBGC"** means the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation referred to and defined in ERISA or any successor thereto.

- "Permitted Receivables Transaction" means each of (a) the sale or other transfer, or transfer of interest, by the Company or a Subsidiary of Receivables Assets to a Subsidiary (including, without limitation, Finsub) or the Company in exchange for consideration equal to the fair market value of the related Receivables, (b) the entry by the Company or one or more Subsidiaries into one or more Receivables Purchase Agreements, and (c) the entry by the Company and any such Subsidiaries into such ancillary agreements, guarantees, documents or instruments as are necessary or advisable in connection with Receivables Program Documents.
- **"Person"** means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association, trust, unincorporated organization, business entity or Governmental Authority.
- "Plan" means an "employee benefit plan" (as defined in section 3(3) of ERISA) subject to Title I of ERISA that is or, within the preceding five years, has been established or maintained, or to which contributions are or, within the preceding five years, have been made or required to be made, by the Company or any ERISA Affiliate or with respect to which the Company or any ERISA Affiliate may have any liability.
- "Preferred Stock" means any class of capital stock (or other equity interests) of a Person that is preferred over any other class of capital stock (or other similar equity interests) of such Person as to the payment of dividends or the payment of any amount upon liquidation or dissolution of such Person.
- "**Prime Rate**" means, at any time, a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Interest Rate Margin at such time plus the rate of interest publicly announced at such time by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (or its successor) in New York City as its "base" or "prime" rate.
- "**Prime Rate Note**" means an extension of credit hereunder evidenced by a Note which bears interest at the Prime Rate.
- **"Priority Debt"** means, without duplication, the sum of (i) all Debt of the Company secured by Liens permitted by Sections 10.4(h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m) and (o) plus (ii) all Debt of Subsidiaries (excluding Debt held by the Company or a Wholly-Owned Subsidiary), plus (iii) all Receivables Facility Attributed Indebtedness of the Company and its Subsidiaries.
- **"property"** or **"properties"** means, unless otherwise specifically limited, real or personal property of any kind, tangible or intangible, choate or inchoate.
  - "Proposed Prepayment Date" is defined in Section 8.3(c).
  - "PTE" means a Prohibited Transaction Exemption issued by the Department of Labor.
  - "Purchaser" is defined in the first paragraph of this Agreement.
  - "QPAM Exemption" is defined in Section 6.2(d).
- "Qualified Institutional Buyer" means any Person who is a "qualified institutional buyer" within the meaning of such term as set forth in Rule 144A(a)(1) under the Securities Act.
- "Ratable Portion" means, in respect of any holder of any Note and any disposition of assets by the Company or a Subsidiary, an amount equal to the product of:

- (a) the Net Proceeds being offered to be applied to the payment of Senior Debt pursuant to Section 10.5(b), multiplied by
- (b) a fraction, the numerator of which is the outstanding principal amount of such Note, and the denominator of which is the aggregate outstanding principal amount of all Senior Debt being prepaid or offered to be prepaid pursuant to Section 10.5(b) at the time of such disposition.
- "Receivable" means all indebtedness and other obligations owed by a Person to the Company or any Subsidiary or in which the Company or any Subsidiary has a security interest or other interest, including, without limitation, any indebtedness, obligation or interest constituting an account, chattel paper, instrument or general intangible, arising in connection with the sale or lease of goods or the rendering of services by the Company or such Subsidiary, including the obligation to pay finance charges with respect thereto.
  - "Receivables Assets" means all the assets described in Section 10.4(g).
- "Receivables Facility Attributed Indebtedness" means, on any date of determination, the amount of obligations outstanding as of such date under a Receivables Purchase Agreement that would be characterized as principal if such facility were structured as a secured lending transaction rather than as a purchase.
- "Receivables Program Documents" means (a) the Receivables Sale Agreement, dated April 9, 2002, by and among Meredith Funding Corporation, the Company and the other originators party thereto from time to time, as amended, (b) the Amended and Restated Receivables Purchase Agreement, dated April 25, 2011, by and among Meredith Funding Corporation, the Company, as servicer, Chariot Funding LLC (successor to Falcon Asset Securitization Company LLC), the financial institutions from time to time party thereto and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as agent, as amended, and (c) all receivable sale agreements, receivable purchase agreements or other written agreements that may from time to time be entered into by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, including Finsub, in connection with any receivables program, as such agreements may be amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time in accordance with the provisions thereof.
- "Receivables Purchase Agreement" means a receivables purchase agreement or other receivables financing agreement with one or more Receivables Purchasers, pursuant to which some or all of such Receivables Purchasers will purchase undivided interests in, or otherwise finance, Receivables Assets.
- "Receivables Purchaser" means any purchaser or investor which purchases undivided interests in or otherwise finances Receivables Assets, and includes any agent of any such purchaser or investor.
- "Related Fund" means, with respect to any holder of any Note, any fund or entity that (a) invests in Securities or bank loans, and (b) is advised or managed by such holder, the same investment advisor as such holder or by an affiliate of such holder or such investment advisor.
- "Related Security" means with respect to any Receivable (a) the inventory and goods, the sale, financing or lease of which gave rise to such Receivable and all insurance contracts with respect thereto, (b) all security interests or Liens and the property subject thereto purporting to secure payment of such Receivable, together with all financing statements and security agreements describing any collateral securing such Receivable, (c) all guaranties, letters of credit, insurance and other agreements or arrangements supporting or securing the payment of such Receivable, (d) all invoices, agreements,

contracts, records, books and other information relating to such Receivable or the Person obligated to pay such Receivable, (e) any rights of the Company or any Subsidiary under any agreement, document or guaranty executed or delivered in connection with a Permitted Receivables Transaction, and (f) all proceeds of the foregoing.

"Rentals" means and includes as of the date of any determination thereof all fixed payments (including as such all payments which the lessee is obligated to make to the lessor on termination of the lease or surrender of the property) payable by the Company or a Subsidiary, as lessee or sublessee under a lease of real or personal property, but shall be exclusive of any amounts required to be paid by the Company or a Subsidiary (whether or not designated as rents or additional rents) on account of maintenance, repairs, insurance, taxes and similar charges. Fixed rents under any so-called "percentage leases" shall be computed solely on the basis of the minimum rents, if any, required to be paid by the lessee regardless of sales volume or gross revenues.

"Required Holders" means, at any time, (a) prior to the Closing, the Purchasers, and (b) on or after the Closing, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the Notes at the time outstanding (exclusive of Notes then owned by the Company or any of its Affiliates).

"Responsible Officer" means any Senior Financial Officer and any other officer of the Company with responsibility for the administration of the relevant portion of this Agreement.

"Sale of Assets Notice" is defined in Section 8.8(a).

"Sale of Assets Prepayment Date" is defined in Section 8.8(a).

"SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States, or any successor thereto.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder from time to time in effect.

"Securities" or "Security" has the meaning specified in Section 2(1) of the Securities Act.

"Senior Debt" means any Debt of the Company that is not in any manner subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or to any other Debt of the Company.

**"Senior Financial Officer"** means the chief financial officer, principal accounting officer, treasurer or controller of the Company.

"Source" is defined in Section 6.2.

"Station" means the television broadcast station WALA, Mobile, Alabama (Facility ID No. 4143).

"Subsidiary" means, as to any Person, any Person in which such first Person or one or more of its Subsidiaries or such first Person and one or more of its Subsidiaries owns sufficient equity or voting interests to enable it or them (as a group) ordinarily, in the absence of contingencies, to elect a majority of the directors (or Persons performing similar functions) of such second Person, and any partnership or joint venture if more than a 50% interest in the profits or capital thereof is owned by such first Person or one or more of its Subsidiaries or such first Person and one or more of its Subsidiaries (unless such partnership or joint venture can and does ordinarily take major business actions without the prior approval of such first

Person or one or more of its Subsidiaries). Unless the context otherwise clearly requires, any reference to a "Subsidiary" is a reference to a Subsidiary of the Company.

"Subsidiary Guaranty Agreement" is defined in Section 9.8(a).

"surviving corporation" is defined in Section 10.5(a)(2).

"SVO" means the Securities Valuation Office of the NAIC or any successor to such Office.

"Swaps" means, with respect to any Person, payment obligations with respect to interest rate swaps, currency swaps and similar obligations obligating such Person to make payments, whether periodically or upon the happening of a contingency. For the purposes of this Agreement, the amount of the obligation under any Swap shall be the amount determined in respect thereof as of the end of the then most recently ended fiscal quarter of such Person, based on the assumption that such Swap had terminated at the end of such fiscal quarter, and in making such determination, if any agreement relating to such Swap provides for the netting of amounts payable by and to such Person thereunder or if any such agreement provides for the simultaneous payment of amounts by and to such Person, then in each such case, the amount of such obligation shall be the net amount so determined.

**"USA PATRIOT Act"** means United States Public Law 107-56, Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA PATRIOT ACT) Act of 2001, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder from time to time in effect.

"Voting Stock" means Securities of any class or classes, the holders of which are ordinarily, in the absence of contingencies, entitled to elect a majority of the corporate directors (or Persons performing similar functions).

**"Wholly-Owned Subsidiary"** means, at any time, any Subsidiary one hundred percent of all of the equity interests (except directors' qualifying shares) and voting interests of which are owned by any one or more of the Company and the Company's other Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries at such time.

"Yield-Maintenance Amount" means, in the case of any prepayment of Notes pursuant to Section 8.2, a percentage of the principal amount thereof subject to such prepayment equal to (a) in the case of a prepayment on or prior to the first anniversary of the date of Closing, 2%, (b) in the case of a prepayment after the first anniversary of the date of Closing and on or prior to the second anniversary of the date of Closing, 1%, and (c) in the case of a prepayment after the second anniversary of the date of Closing, 0%.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Stephen M. Lacy, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Meredith Corporation;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements and other financial information included in this report fairly present, in all material respects, the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: January 28, 2015

/s/ Stephen M. Lacy

Stephen M. Lacy, Chairman of the Board, President, Chief Executive Officer, and Director (Principal Executive Officer)

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 302 has been provided to Meredith and will be retained by Meredith and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Joseph Ceryanec, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Meredith Corporation;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements and other financial information included in this report fairly present, in all material respects, the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: January 28, 2015

/s/ Joseph Ceryanec

Joseph Ceryanec Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 302 has been provided to Meredith and will be retained by Meredith and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

#### Exhibit 32

# CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Meredith Corporation (the Company) for the period ended December 31, 2014, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the Report), we the undersigned certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- 1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- 2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Stephen M. Lacy

Stephen M. Lacy

Chairman of the Board, President, Chief Executive Officer, and Director (Principal Executive Officer)

Dated: January 28, 2015

/s/ Joseph Ceryanec

Joseph Ceryanec Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Dated: January 28, 2015

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to Meredith and will be retained by Meredith and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.