

CASTLE A M & CO

FORM 10-Q (Quarterly Report)

Filed 11/03/11 for the Period Ending 09/30/11

Address	1420 KENSINGTON ROAD SUITE 220 OAK BROOK, IL 60523
Telephone	8474557111
CIK	0000018172
Symbol	CAS
SIC Code	5051 - Metals Service Centers and Offices
Industry	Misc. Fabricated Products
Sector	Basic Materials
Fiscal Year	12/31

Table of Contents

**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 Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2011

or,

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 1-5415

A. M. Castle & Co.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland

(State or Other Jurisdiction of
incorporation of organization)

36-0879160

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

1420 Kensington Road, Suite 220, Oak Brook, Illinois

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

60523

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone, including area code 847/455-7111

None

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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 the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (check one):

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer 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.

Class

Common Stock, \$0.01 Par Value

Outstanding at October 31, 2011

23,044,646 shares



A. M. CASTLE & CO.

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Part I. Financial Information	
Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited):	
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets	3
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations	4
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	5
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	6-18
Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	19-26
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk	26
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	26-27
Part II. Other Information	
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	28
Item 1A. Risk Factors	28
Item 6. Exhibits	28
Signatures	29
Exhibit Index	29
Exhibit 31.1	
Exhibit 31.2	
Exhibit 32.1	
EX-101 INSTANCE DOCUMENT	
EX-101 SCHEMA DOCUMENT	
EX-101 CALCULATION LINKBASE DOCUMENT	
EX-101 LABELS LINKBASE DOCUMENT	
EX-101 PRESENTATION LINKBASE DOCUMENT	

Part I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited)

Amounts in thousands, except par value and per share data

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	As of	
	September 30, 2011	December 31, 2010
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 25,901	\$ 36,716
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$3,145 and \$3,848	168,261	128,365
Inventories, principally on last-in, first-out basis (replacement cost higher by \$133,913 and \$122,340)	188,417	130,917
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	8,931	6,832
Income tax receivable	2,089	8,192
Total current assets	393,599	311,022
Investment in joint venture	34,563	27,879
Goodwill	50,077	50,110
Intangible assets	36,467	41,427
Prepaid pension cost	20,357	18,580
Other assets	3,526	3,619
Property, plant and equipment		
Land	5,193	5,195
Building	52,218	52,277
Machinery and equipment	165,966	182,178
Property, plant and equipment, at cost	223,377	239,650
Less — accumulated depreciation	(148,542)	(162,935)
Property, plant and equipment, net	74,835	76,715
Total assets	<u>\$ 613,424</u>	<u>\$ 529,352</u>
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 112,423	\$ 71,764
Accrued liabilities	28,530	31,320
Income taxes payable	3,637	2,357
Deferred income taxes	2,715	2,461
Current portion of long-term debt	7,871	8,012
Short-term debt	33,400	—
Total current liabilities	188,576	115,914
Long-term debt, less current portion	62,583	61,127
Deferred income taxes	24,344	26,754
Other non-current liabilities	3,778	3,390
Pension and post retirement benefit obligations	9,044	8,708
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value — 10,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010	—	—
Common stock, \$0.01 par value — 30,000 shares authorized; 23,159 shares issued and 23,035 outstanding at September 30, 2011 and 23,149 shares issued and 22,986 outstanding at December 31, 2010	232	231
Additional paid-in capital	183,293	180,519
Retained earnings	160,950	150,747
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(17,803)	(15,812)
Treasury stock, at cost — 124 shares at September 30, 2011 and 163 shares at December 31, 2010	(1,573)	(2,226)
Total stockholders' equity	325,099	313,459
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 613,424</u>	<u>\$ 529,352</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Net sales	\$ 294,860	\$ 244,938	\$ 850,216	\$ 708,066
Costs and expenses:				
Cost of materials (exclusive of depreciation and amortization)	221,690	181,911	631,588	529,469
Warehouse, processing and delivery expense	35,076	30,923	102,092	90,003
Sales, general, and administrative expense	30,060	27,276	92,045	80,026
Depreciation and amortization expense	4,861	4,993	14,919	15,494
Operating income (loss)	3,173	(165)	9,572	(6,926)
Interest expense, net	(1,221)	(1,379)	(3,327)	(3,924)
Income (loss) before income taxes and equity in earnings of joint venture	1,952	(1,544)	6,245	(10,850)
Income taxes (including income taxes on earnings of joint venture)	(1,266)	(43)	(5,000)	2,735
Income (loss) before equity in earnings of joint venture	686	(1,587)	1,245	(8,115)
Equity in earnings of joint venture	3,117	1,659	8,958	3,973
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,803	\$ 72	\$ 10,203	\$ (4,142)
Basic income (loss) per share	\$ 0.17	\$ —	\$ 0.45	\$ (0.18)
Diluted income (loss) per share	\$ 0.16	\$ —	\$ 0.44	\$ (0.18)
Dividends per common share	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$ 10,203	\$ (4,142)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash (used in) from operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	14,919	15,494
Amortization of deferred gain	(356)	(664)
Loss on sale of fixed assets	111	108
Unrealized losses on commodity hedges	1,571	—
Equity in earnings of joint venture	(8,958)	(3,973)
Dividends from joint venture	2,245	804
Deferred tax benefit	(2,294)	(7,963)
Share-based compensation expense	3,047	1,714
Excess tax benefits from share-based payment arrangements	(145)	(172)
Increase (decrease) from changes in:		
Accounts receivable	(41,366)	(34,021)
Inventories	(58,323)	8,806
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(2,458)	(2,603)
Other assets	—	2,428
Prepaid pension costs	(1,381)	(786)
Accounts payable	42,367	15,290
Accrued liabilities	(4,133)	6,432
Income taxes payable and receivable	7,771	8,475
Postretirement benefit obligations and other liabilities	(404)	376
Net cash (used in) from operating activities	(37,584)	5,603
Investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(8,236)	(5,061)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	217	—
Insurance proceeds	573	—
Net cash used in investing activities	(7,446)	(5,061)
Financing activities:		
Short-term borrowings (repayments), net	33,571	(2,220)
Net borrowings on long-term revolving lines of credit	1,618	1,746
Repayments of long-term debt	(300)	(607)
Excess tax benefits from share-based payment arrangements	145	172
Exercise of stock options	240	279
Net cash from (used in) financing activities	35,274	(630)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(1,059)	(48)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(10,815)	(136)
Cash and cash equivalents — beginning of year	36,716	28,311
Cash and cash equivalents — end of period	\$ 25,901	\$ 28,175

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

A. M. Castle & Co.
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited — Amounts in thousands except per share data)

(1) Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

The condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by A. M. Castle & Co. and subsidiaries (the “Company”), without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). The Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2010 is derived from the audited financial statements at that date. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) have been condensed or omitted pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC. In the opinion of management, the unaudited statements, included herein, contain all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of financial results for the interim periods. It is suggested that these condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in the Company’s latest Annual Report on Form 10-K. The 2011 interim results reported herein may not necessarily be indicative of the results of the Company’s operations for the full year.

(2) New Accounting Standards Updates

Standards Updates Adopted

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company adopted Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2010-29, “Disclosure of Supplementary Pro Forma Information for Business Combinations.” The ASU specifies that if a public entity presents comparative financial statements, the entity should disclose revenue and earnings of the combined entity as though the business combination that occurred during the current year had occurred as of the beginning of the comparable prior annual reporting period only. The amendments to this guidance also expand the supplemental pro forma disclosures to include a description of the nature and amount of material, nonrecurring pro forma adjustments directly attributable to the business combination included in the reported pro forma revenue and earnings. The adoption of the ASU will impact disclosures in future interim and annual financial statements issued if the Company enters into business combinations.

Standards Updates Issued, Not Yet Effective

During September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-08, “Intangibles — Goodwill and Other.” The objective of this ASU is to simplify how entities test goodwill for impairment. The amendments allow entities to 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 as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test per Topic 350, “Intangibles — Goodwill and Other.” The more-likely-than-not threshold is defined as having a likelihood of more than 50 percent. The amendments in this ASU are effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. Upon adoption, this ASU will impact the way the Company tests goodwill for impairment and the associated disclosures in future interim and annual financial statements issued will be updated to reflect any changes associated with this ASU.

During June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, "Presentation of Comprehensive Income." The amendments in this ASU will impact all entities that report items of other comprehensive income and are effective retrospectively for public entities for fiscal years and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011. The amendments in this ASU eliminate the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity. The amendments provide the entity with the option to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. Both options require an entity to present each component of net income along with total net income, each component of other comprehensive income along with total other comprehensive income and a total amount for comprehensive income. The adoption of this ASU will impact the presentation of comprehensive income in future interim and annual financial statements issued.

During May 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-04, "Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs." The ASU is effective prospectively for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The amendments in this ASU apply to all reporting entities that are required or permitted to measure or disclose the fair value of an asset, liability or an instrument classified in stockholders' equity in the financial statements. The amendments in this ASU result in common fair value measurement and disclosure requirement in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs. The amendments change the wording used to describe many of the requirements in U.S. GAAP for measuring and disclosing information about fair value measurements, however, the amendments are not intended to result in a change in the application of the requirement of Topic 820, "Fair Value Measurement." The adoption of this ASU may impact disclosures in future interim and annual financial statements issued.

(3) Earnings Per Share

Diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares of common stock plus common stock equivalents. Common stock equivalents consist of employee and director stock options, restricted stock awards, and other share-based payment awards, which have been included in the calculation of weighted average shares outstanding using the treasury stock method. The following table is a reconciliation of the basic and diluted earnings per share calculations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Numerator:				
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,803	\$ 72	\$ 10,203	\$ (4,142)
Denominator:				
Denominator for basic earnings (loss) per share:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	22,840	22,731	22,816	22,707
Effect of dilutive securities:				
Outstanding common stock equivalents	380	405	446	—
Denominator for diluted earnings per share	<u>23,220</u>	<u>23,136</u>	<u>23,262</u>	<u>22,707</u>
Basic earnings (loss) per share	<u>\$ 0.17</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 0.45</u>	<u>\$ (0.18)</u>
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	<u>\$ 0.16</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 0.44</u>	<u>\$ (0.18)</u>
Excluded outstanding shared-based awards having an anti-dilutive effect				
	<u>62</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>499</u>

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, the undistributed earnings (losses) attributed to participating securities, which represent certain non-vested shares granted by the Company, were approximately one percent of total net income (loss).

(4) Debt

Short-term and long-term debt consisted of the following:

	<u>September 30, 2011</u>	<u>December 31, 2010</u>
SHORT-TERM DEBT		
U.S. Revolver A (a)	\$ 31,900	\$ —
Canadian Revolver (a)	—	—
Foreign	1,500	—
Total short-term debt	<u>33,400</u>	<u>—</u>
LONG-TERM DEBT		
6.76% insurance company loan due in scheduled installments through 2015	42,835	42,835
U.S. Revolver B (a)	27,314	25,704
Other, primarily capital leases	305	600
Total long-term debt	<u>70,454</u>	<u>69,139</u>
Less current portion	<u>(7,871)</u>	<u>(8,012)</u>
Total long-term portion	62,583	61,127
TOTAL SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBT	<u>\$ 103,854</u>	<u>\$ 69,139</u>

(a) The Company's amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the "2008 Senior Credit Facility") provides a \$230,000 five-year secured revolver consisting of (i) a \$170,000 revolving "A" loan (the "U.S. Revolver A"), (ii) a \$50,000 multicurrency revolving "B" loan (the "U.S. Revolver B"), and (iii) a Canadian dollar \$9,784 revolving loan (corresponding to \$10,000 in U.S. dollars as of the amendment closing date; availability expressed in U.S. dollars changes based on movement in the exchange rate between the Canadian dollar and U.S. dollar). The maturity date of the 2008 Senior Credit Facility is January 2, 2013.

Effective April 27, 2011, the Company entered into a Second Amendment to the 2008 Senior Credit Facility, dated April 21, 2011. Effective on the same date, the Company and its material domestic subsidiaries entered into an Amendment No. 3 to Note Agreement, dated April 21, 2011, with The Prudential Insurance Company of America and Prudential Retirement Insurance and Annuity Company to amend certain terms in its existing note agreement pursuant to which the Company previously issued its long-term notes so as to be substantially the same as the amended senior credit facility.

The Second Amendment to the 2008 Senior Credit Facility provides: (i) for an amendment to the calculation of the covenant relating to the percentage of consolidated total assets of the Company and its material domestic subsidiaries that must be assets of the U.S. Borrower; and (ii) that for the purposes of determining compliance with the covenants contained in the amended senior credit facility, any election by the Company to measure an item of indebtedness using fair value (as permitted by Accounting Standards Codification 825 or any similar accounting standard) shall be disregarded.

The U.S. Revolver A and the Canadian revolver are classified as short-term based on the Company's ability and intent to repay amounts outstanding under these instruments within the next 12 months. The U.S. Revolver B is classified as long-term as the Company's cash projections indicate that amounts outstanding (which are denominated in British pounds) under this instrument are not expected to be repaid within the next 12 months. Available revolving credit capacity is primarily used to fund working capital needs. Taking into consideration the most recent borrowing base calculation as of September 30, 2011, which reflects trade receivables, inventory, letters of credit and other outstanding secured indebtedness, available credit capacity consisted of the following:

Debt type	Outstanding Borrowings as of September 30, 2011	Availability as of September 30, 2011	Weighted Average Interest Rate for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011
U.S. Revolver A	\$ 31,900	\$ 86,544	1.94%
U.S. Revolver B	27,314	22,686	1.55%
Canadian revolver	—	9,417	3.41%

The fair value of the Company's fixed rate debt as of September 30, 2011, including current maturities, was estimated to be \$42,032 compared to a carrying value of \$42,835. The fair value of the fixed rate debt was determined using a market approach, which estimates fair value based on companies with similar credit quality and size of debt issuances. As of September 30, 2011, the estimated fair value of the Company's debt outstanding under its revolving credit facilities is \$56,935, assuming the total amount of debt outstanding at the end of the period will be outstanding until the maturity of the Company's facility in January 2013. Although borrowings could be materially greater or less than the current amount of borrowings outstanding at the end of the period, it is not practical to estimate the amounts that may be outstanding during future periods since there is no predetermined borrowing or repayment schedule. The estimated fair value of the Company's debt outstanding under its revolving credit facility is lower than the carrying value of \$59,214 since the terms of this facility are more favorable than those that might be expected to be available in the current lending environment.

As of September 30, 2011, the Company remained in compliance with the covenants of its financing agreements, which require it to maintain certain funded debt-to-capital and working capital-to-debt ratios and a minimum adjusted consolidated net worth as defined within the agreements.

(5) Fair Value Measurements

The three-tier value hierarchy the Company utilizes, which prioritizes the inputs used in the valuation methodologies, is:

Level 1 —Valuations based on quoted prices for identical assets and liabilities in active markets.

Level 2 —Valuations based on observable inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1, such as quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets and liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

Level 3 —Valuations based on unobservable inputs reflecting our own assumptions, consistent with reasonably available assumptions made by other market participants.

The fair value of cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable approximate their carrying values. The cash equivalents shown in the table below consist of money market funds that are valued based on quoted prices in active markets and as a result are classified as Level 1.

During the second quarter of 2011, the Company implemented a commodity hedging program to mitigate risks associated with certain commodity price fluctuations. As of September 30, 2011, the Company had entered into aluminum swap contracts that extend through 2015 with a notional value of \$12,685. The counterparty to these contracts is not considered a credit risk by the Company. The Company recorded losses of \$1,580 during the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2011. The outstanding swap contracts have been classified as Level 2 as the Company uses information which is representative of readily observable market data when valuing the swap contracts. Refer to *Note 13* for letters of credit outstanding for collateral associated with commodity hedges.

The assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis were as follows:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
<i>As of September 30, 2011:</i>				
Cash equivalents	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Derivative liabilities	—	1,571	—	1,571
<i>As of December 31, 2010:</i>				
Cash equivalents	\$ 6,350	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 6,350

(6) Segment Reporting

The Company distributes and performs processing on both metals and plastics. Although the distribution processes are similar, the customer markets, supplier bases and types of products are different. Additionally, the Company's Chief Executive Officer, the chief operating decision-maker, reviews and manages these two businesses separately. As such, these businesses are considered reportable segments and are reported accordingly.

In its Metals segment, the Company's marketing strategy focuses on distributing highly engineered specialty grades and alloys of metals as well as providing specialized processing services designed to meet very precise specifications. Core products include alloy, aluminum, stainless, nickel, titanium and carbon. Inventories of these products assume many forms such as plate, sheet, extrusions, round bar, hexagon bar, square and flat bar, tubing and coil. Depending on the size of the facility and the nature of the markets it serves, service centers are equipped as needed with bar saws, plate saws, oxygen and plasma arc flame cutting machinery, water-jet cutting, stress relieving and annealing furnaces, surface grinding equipment and sheet shearing equipment. This segment also performs various specialized fabrications for its customers through pre-qualified subcontractors that thermally process, turn, polish and straighten alloy and carbon bar.

The Company's Plastics segment consists exclusively of a wholly-owned subsidiary that operates as Total Plastics, Inc. ("TPI") headquartered in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and its wholly owned subsidiaries. The Plastics segment stocks and distributes a wide variety of plastics in forms that include plate, rod, tube, clear sheet, tape, gaskets and fittings. Processing activities within this segment include cut to length, cut to shape, bending and forming according to customer specifications. The Plastics segment's diverse customer base consists of companies in the retail (point-of-purchase), marine, office furniture and fixtures, safety products, life sciences applications, transportation and general manufacturing industries. TPI has locations throughout the upper northeast and midwest regions of the U.S. and one facility in Florida from which it services a wide variety of users of industrial plastics.

The accounting policies of all segments are the same as described in *Note 1*, “Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies” in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010. Management evaluates the performance of its business segments based on operating income.

Segment information for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 is as follows:

	<u>Net Sales</u>	<u>Operating Income (Loss)</u>	<u>Capital Expenditures</u>	<u>Depreciation & Amortization</u>
2011				
Metals segment	\$ 264,368	\$ 4,298	\$ 2,919	\$ 4,619
Plastics segment	30,492	1,039	498	242
Other	—	(2,164)	—	—
Consolidated	<u>\$ 294,860</u>	<u>\$ 3,173</u>	<u>\$ 3,417</u>	<u>\$ 4,861</u>
2010				
Metals segment	\$ 218,057	\$ 1,119	\$ 1,528	\$ 4,702
Plastics segment	26,881	1,097	279	291
Other	—	(2,381)	—	—
Consolidated	<u>\$ 244,938</u>	<u>\$ (165)</u>	<u>\$ 1,807</u>	<u>\$ 4,993</u>

“Other” — Operating income includes the costs of executive, legal and finance departments, which are shared by both the Metals and Plastics segments.

Segment information for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 is as follows:

	<u>Net Sales</u>	<u>Operating Income (Loss)</u>	<u>Capital Expenditures</u>	<u>Depreciation & Amortization</u>
2011				
Metals segment	\$ 761,213	\$ 12,979	\$ 6,862	\$ 14,041
Plastics segment	89,003	2,663	1,374	878
Other	—	(6,070)	—	—
Consolidated	<u>\$ 850,216</u>	<u>\$ 9,572</u>	<u>\$ 8,236</u>	<u>\$ 14,919</u>
2010				
Metals segment	\$ 631,020	\$ (4,239)	\$ 4,553	\$ 14,540
Plastics segment	77,046	2,700	508	954
Other	—	(5,387)	—	—
Consolidated	<u>\$ 708,066</u>	<u>\$ (6,926)</u>	<u>\$ 5,061</u>	<u>\$ 15,494</u>

“Other” — Operating loss includes the costs of executive, legal and finance departments, which are shared by both the Metals and Plastics segments.

Table of Contents

Below are reconciliations of segment data to the consolidated financial statements for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010:

	2011	2010
Operating income (loss)	\$ 3,173	\$ (165)
Interest expense, net	(1,221)	(1,379)
Income (loss) before income taxes and equity in earnings of joint venture	1,952	(1,544)
Equity in earnings of joint venture	3,117	1,659
Consolidated income before income taxes	<u>\$ 5,069</u>	<u>\$ 115</u>

Below are reconciliations of segment data to the consolidated financial statements for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010:

	2011	2010
Operating income (loss)	\$ 9,572	\$ (6,926)
Interest expense, net	(3,327)	(3,924)
Income (loss) before income taxes and equity in earnings of joint venture	6,245	(10,850)
Equity in earnings of joint venture	8,958	3,973
Consolidated income (loss) before income taxes	<u>\$ 15,203</u>	<u>\$ (6,877)</u>

Segment information for total assets is as follows:

	September 30, 2011	December 30, 2010
Metals segment	\$ 522,999	\$ 454,345
Plastics segment	55,862	47,128
Other	34,563	27,879
Consolidated	<u>\$ 613,424</u>	<u>\$ 529,352</u>

“Other” — Total assets consist of the Company’s investment in joint venture.

(7) Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The changes in carrying amounts of goodwill during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 were as follows:

	Metals Segment	Plastics Segment	Total
Balance as of January 1, 2011			
Goodwill	\$ 97,354	\$ 12,973	\$ 110,327
Accumulated impairment losses	(60,217)	—	(60,217)
Balance as of January 1, 2011	<u>37,137</u>	<u>12,973</u>	<u>50,110</u>
Currency valuation	(33)	—	(33)
Balance as of September 30, 2011			
Goodwill	97,321	12,973	110,294
Accumulated impairment losses	(60,217)	—	(60,217)
Balance as of September 30, 2011	<u>\$ 37,104</u>	<u>\$ 12,973</u>	<u>\$ 50,077</u>

The Company's annual test for goodwill impairment is completed as of January 1st each year. Based on the January 1, 2011 test, the Company determined that there was no impairment of goodwill. The Company's year-to-date operating results, among other factors, are considered in determining whether it is more likely than not that the fair value for any reporting unit has declined below its carrying value, which would require the Company to perform an interim goodwill impairment test. Another recession or economic declines in specific industries could change management's expectations of future financial results and/or key valuation assumptions used in determining the fair-value of its reporting units which could result in a test for the impairment of goodwill prior to the Company's annual testing date of January 1st.

The following summarizes the components of intangible assets:

	September 30, 2011		December 31, 2010	
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization
Customer relationships	\$ 69,588	\$ 33,121	\$ 69,452	\$ 28,025
Non-compete agreements	2,888	2,888	2,888	2,888
Trade name	378	378	378	378
Total	\$ 72,854	\$ 36,387	\$ 72,718	\$ 31,291

The weighted-average amortization period for the intangible assets is 10.8 years. Substantially all of the Company's intangible assets were acquired as part of the acquisitions of Transtar on September 5, 2006 and Metals U.K. on January 3, 2008, respectively. For the three-month periods ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, amortization expense was \$1,657 and \$1,769, respectively. For the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, amortization expense was \$4,979 and \$5,300, respectively.

The following is a summary of the estimated annual amortization expense for 2011 and each of the next 4 years:

2011	\$ 6,642
2012	6,145
2013	6,145
2014	6,145
2015	6,145

(8) Inventories

Approximately eighty percent of the Company's inventories are valued at the lower of LIFO cost or market. Final inventory determination under the LIFO costing method is made at the end of each fiscal year based on the actual inventory levels and costs at that time. Interim LIFO determinations, including those at September 30, 2011, are based on management's estimates of future inventory levels and costs. The Company values its LIFO increments using the cost of its latest purchases during the periods reported.

Current replacement cost of inventories exceeded book value by \$133,913 and \$122,340 at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively. Income taxes would become payable on any realization of this excess from reductions in the level of inventories.

(9) Share-based Compensation

The Company accounts for its share-based compensation arrangements by recognizing compensation expense for the fair value of the share awards granted ratably over their vesting period. All compensation expense related to share-based compensation arrangements is recorded in sales, general and administrative expense. The unrecognized compensation cost as of September 30, 2011 associated with all share-based payment arrangements is \$6,693 and the weighted average period over which it is to be expensed is 1.4 years.

2011 Long-Term Compensation Plan

On March 2, 2011, the Human Resources Committee (the “Committee”) of the Board of Directors of the Company approved equity awards under the Company’s 2011 Long-Term Compensation Plan (“2011 LTC Plan”) for executive officers and other select personnel. The 2011 LTC Plan awards included restricted stock units (“RSUs”) and performance share units (“PSUs”). All 2011 LTC Plan awards are subject to the terms of the Company’s 2008 Restricted Stock, Stock Option and Equity Compensation Plan, which was subsequently amended and renamed to the 2008 A.M. Castle & Co. Omnibus Incentive Plan as of April 28, 2011.

The 2011 LTC Plan consists of three components of share-based payment awards as follows:

Restricted Share Units — the Company granted 112 RSUs with a grant date fair value of \$17.13 per share unit, which was estimated using the market price of the Company’s stock on the date of grant. The RSUs cliff vest on December 31, 2013. Each RSU that becomes vested entitles the participant to receive one share of the Company’s common stock. The number of shares delivered may be reduced by the number of shares required to be withheld for federal and state withholding tax requirements (determined at the market price of Company shares at the time of payout).

Performance Share Units — the Company granted 225 PSUs, half of which contain a market-based performance condition and half of which contain a non-market-based performance condition.

PSUs containing a market-based performance condition - the potential award for PSUs containing a market-based performance condition is dependent on relative total shareholder return (“RTSR”), which is measured over a three-year performance period, beginning January 1st of the year of grant. RTSR is measured against a group of peer companies either in the metals industry or in the industrial products distribution industry (the “RTSR Peer Group”). The number of performance shares, if any, that vest based on the performance achieved during the three-year performance period, will vest at the end of the three-year performance period. Compensation expense for performance awards containing a market condition is recognized regardless of whether the market condition is achieved to the extent the requisite service period condition is met. Each performance share that becomes vested entitles the participant to receive one share of the Company’s common stock. The number of shares delivered may be reduced by the number of shares required to be withheld for federal and state withholding tax requirements (determined at the market price of Company shares at the time of payout).

The grant date fair value of \$23.89 per share for the PSUs containing the RTSR market based performance condition was estimated using a Monte Carlo simulation with the following assumptions:

	<u>2011</u>
Expected volatility	62.0%
Risk-free interest rate	1.10%
Expected life (in years)	2.84
Expected dividend yield	—

PSUs containing a non-market-based performance condition - the potential award for PSUs containing a non-market-based performance condition is determined based on the Company's actual performance versus Company-specific target goals for Return on Invested Capital ("ROIC") (as defined in the 2011 LTC Plan) for any one or more fiscal years during the three-year performance period beginning on January 1st of the year of grant. Partial performance awards can be earned for performance less than the target goal, but in excess of minimum goals and award distributions twice the target can be achieved if the maximum goals are met or exceeded. The number of performance shares, if any, that vest based on the performance achieved during the three-year performance period, will vest at the end of the three-year performance period. Compensation expense recognized is based on management's expectation of future performance compared to the pre-established performance goals. If the performance goals are not expected to be met, no compensation expense is recognized and any previously recognized compensation expense is reversed. The grant date fair value of \$17.13 per share for the PSUs containing a non-market-based performance condition was estimated using the market price of the Company's stock on the date of grant.

The status of the PSUs that were granted under the 2011 LTC Plan as of September 30, 2011 is summarized below:

Share type	Grant Date Fair Value (per share)	Estimated Number of PSUs to be Issued	Maximum Number of PSUs that could Potentially be Issued
Market-based performance condition	\$ 23.89	56	215
Non-market-based performance condition	\$ 17.13	86	215

(10) Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Comprehensive income (loss) includes net income (loss) and all other non-owner changes to equity that are not reported in net income (loss). The Company's comprehensive income for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 is as follows:

	<u>September 30,</u>	
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Net income	\$ 3,803	\$ 72
Foreign currency translation (loss) gain	(4,269)	1,176
Pension cost amortization, net of tax	81	72
Total comprehensive (loss) income	<u>\$ (385)</u>	<u>\$ 1,320</u>

The Company's comprehensive income (loss) for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 is as follows:

	September 30,	
	2011	2010
Net income (loss)	\$ 10,203	\$ (4,142)
Foreign currency translation gain (loss)	(2,237)	(263)
Pension cost amortization, net of tax	246	214
Total comprehensive income (loss)	<u>\$ 8,212</u>	<u>\$ (4,191)</u>

The components of accumulated other comprehensive loss is as follows:

	September 30,	December 31,
	2011	2010
Foreign currency translation losses	\$ (5,987)	\$ (3,750)
Unrecognized pension and postretirement benefit costs, net of tax	(11,816)	(12,062)
Total accumulated other comprehensive loss	<u>\$ (17,803)</u>	<u>\$ (15,812)</u>

(11) Employee Benefit Plans

Components of the net periodic pension and postretirement benefit cost for the three months ended are as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2011	2010
Service cost	\$ 176	\$ 200
Interest cost	1,904	1,919
Expected return on assets	(2,514)	(2,335)
Amortization of prior service cost	81	65
Amortization of actuarial loss	57	55
Net periodic pension and postretirement benefit	<u>\$ (296)</u>	<u>\$ (96)</u>

Components of the net periodic pension and postretirement benefit cost for the nine months ended are as follows:

	For the Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2011	2010
Service cost	\$ 528	\$ 600
Interest cost	5,712	5,757
Expected return on assets	(7,542)	(7,005)
Amortization of prior service cost	243	195
Amortization of actuarial loss	171	165
Net periodic pension and postretirement benefit	<u>\$ (888)</u>	<u>\$ (288)</u>

As of September 30, 2011, the Company had not made any cash contributions to its pension plans for this fiscal year and does not anticipate making any significant cash contributions to its pension plans in 2011.

Effective July 1, 2011, the Company's 401(k) matching contribution was increased to 100% of each dollar on eligible employee contributions up to the first 6% of the employee's pre-tax compensation and the Company's fixed contribution of 4% of eligible earnings for all employees was eliminated.

(12) Joint Venture

Kreher Steel Co., LLC is a 50% owned joint venture of the Company. It is a metals distributor of bulk quantities of alloy, special bar quality and stainless steel bars, headquartered in Melrose Park, Illinois.

The following information summarizes financial data for this joint venture:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Net sales	\$ 71,776	\$ 50,233
Cost of materials	57,743	41,605
Income before taxes	7,382	3,901
Net income	6,234	3,318

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Net sales	\$ 202,455	\$ 135,840
Cost of materials	163,453	112,891
Income before taxes	20,892	9,249
Net income	17,916	7,946

(13) Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At September 30, 2011, the Company had \$6,710 of irrevocable letters of credit outstanding which primarily consisted of \$3,000 for collateral associated with commodity hedges and \$2,560 for compliance with the insurance reserve requirements of its workers' compensation insurance carriers.

The Company is a defendant in several lawsuits arising from the operation of its business. These lawsuits are incidental and occur in the normal course of the Company's business affairs. It is the opinion of management, based on current knowledge, that no uninsured liability will result from the outcome of this litigation that would have a material adverse effect on the consolidated results of operations, financial condition or cash flows of the Company.

During September 2011, the Company reached a final settlement with the United States Department of Commerce, U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security ("BIS") in connection with alleged export compliance violations on shipments that occurred from 2005 to 2008. The settlement agreement provided for the payment of a civil penalty of \$775, of which the Company had previously recorded \$750 during the second quarter of 2011. The settlement agreement also requires the Company to complete a self-audit of its export controls compliance program over a one year period and submit the results to the BIS.

(14) Income Taxes

The Company or its subsidiaries files income tax returns in the U.S., 29 states and 7 foreign jurisdictions. The tax years 2008 through 2010 remain open to examination by the major taxing jurisdictions to which the Company or its subsidiaries is subject.

Audits of the Company's 2008 and 2009 U.S. federal income tax returns commenced during the second quarter of 2011. To date, no material issues have been raised. During the third quarter of 2011, the Company recognized \$451 of tax benefits due to the expiration of the statute of limitations for uncertain tax positions taken in prior years. Due to the potential for resolution of the examination or expiration of statutes of limitations, it is reasonably possible that the Company's gross unrecognized tax benefits may change within the next 12 months by a range of zero to \$582.

The Company received its 2009 federal income tax refund of \$6,344 during January 2011.

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

Amounts in millions except per share data

Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Information provided and statements contained in this report that are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("Securities Act"), Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act"), and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements only speak as of the date of this report and the Company assumes no obligation to update the information included in this report. Such forward-looking statements include information concerning our possible or assumed future results of operations, including descriptions of our business strategy. These statements often include words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "predict," "plan," or similar expressions. These statements are not guarantees of performance or results, and they involve risks, uncertainties, and assumptions. Although we believe that these forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, there are many factors that could affect our actual financial results or results of operations and could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements, including those risk factors identified in Item 1A "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010. All future written and oral forward-looking statements by us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to above. Except for our ongoing obligations to disclose material information as required by the federal securities laws, we do not have any obligations or intention to release publicly any revisions to any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances in the future or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto in ITEM 1 "Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)".

Executive Overview

Economic Trends and Current Business Conditions

A. M. Castle & Co. and subsidiaries (the "Company") experienced higher demand from its customer base in the third quarter of 2011 in both the Metals and Plastics segments, reflecting the continued recovery in the global industrial economy and strength in many of the Company's targeted end markets.

Metals segment sales increased 21.3% from the third quarter of 2010. Average tons sold per day increased 20.3%, compared to the prior year quarter, which was primarily driven by alloy bar, carbon and alloy plate, SBQ bar and stainless volume increases. Key end-use markets that experienced increased demand in the third quarter include oil and gas, mining and heavy equipment and general industrial markets.

The Company's Plastics segment reported a sales increase of 13.4% compared to the third quarter of 2010, due to increased pricing and higher sales volume across virtually all key end-use markets, with particular strength experienced in the automotive sector.

Table of Contents

Management believes that the PMI provided by the Institute for Supply Management (website is www.ism.ws) is appropriate as an external indicator for tracking the demand outlook and possible trends in the Company's general manufacturing markets. The table below shows PMI trends from the first quarter of 2009 through the third quarter of 2011. Generally speaking, according to the ISM, an index above 50.0 indicates growth in the manufacturing sector of the U.S. economy, while readings under 50.0 indicate contraction.

YEAR	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
2009	35.9	42.6	51.5	54.6
2010	58.2	58.8	55.4	56.8
2011	61.1	56.4	51.0	

Material pricing and demand in both the Metals and Plastics segments of the Company's business have historically proven to be difficult to predict with any degree of accuracy. A favorable PMI trend suggests that demand for some of the Company's products and services, in particular those that are sold to the general manufacturing customer base in the U.S., could potentially be at a higher level in the near-term. The Company believes that its revenue trends typically correlate to the changes in PMI on a six to twelve month lag basis.

Results of Operations: Third Quarter 2011 Comparisons to Third Quarter 2010

Consolidated results by business segment are summarized in the following table for the quarter ended September 30, 2011 and 2010.

	2011	2010	Fav/(Unfav)	
			\$ Change	% Change
Net Sales				
Metals	\$ 264.4	\$ 218.0	\$ 46.4	21.3%
Plastics	30.5	26.9	3.6	13.4%
Total Net Sales	\$ 294.9	\$ 244.9	\$ 50.0	20.4%
Cost of Materials				
Metals	\$ 200.2	\$ 163.6	\$ (36.6)	(22.4)%
% of Metals Sales	75.7 %	75.0 %		
Plastics	21.5	18.3	(3.2)	(17.5)%
% of Plastics Sales	70.5 %	68.0 %		
Total Cost of Materials	\$ 221.7	\$ 181.9	\$ (39.8)	(21.9)%
% of Total Sales	75.2 %	74.3 %		
Operating Costs and Expenses				
Metals	\$ 59.9	\$ 53.3	\$ (6.6)	(12.4)%
Plastics	7.9	7.5	(0.4)	(5.3)%
Other	2.2	2.4	0.2	8.3%
Total Operating Costs & Expenses	\$ 70.0	\$ 63.2	\$ (6.8)	(10.8)%
% of Total Sales	23.7 %	25.8 %		
Operating Income (Loss)				
Metals	\$ 4.3	\$ 1.1	\$ 3.2	NM ⁽¹⁾
% of Metals Sales	1.6 %	0.5 %		
Plastics	1.1	1.1	—	—
% of Plastics Sales	3.6 %	4.1 %		
Other	(2.2)	(2.4)	0.2	8.3%
Total Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 3.2	\$ (0.2)	\$ 3.4	NM ⁽¹⁾
% of Total Sales	1.1 %	(0.1)%		

"Other" includes the costs of executive, legal and finance departments which are shared by both segments of the Company.

⁽¹⁾ Not meaningful.

Net Sales:

Consolidated net sales were \$294.9 million, an increase of \$50.0 million, or 20.4%, compared to the third quarter of 2010. Higher net sales in the third quarter of 2011 were primarily the result of higher shipping volumes in the metals and plastics markets. Metals segment sales during the third quarter of 2011 of \$264.4 million were \$46.4 million, or 21.3%, higher than the same period last year. Average tons sold per day increased 20.3% compared to the prior year quarter. The increase in sales volume was driven primarily by alloy bar, carbon and alloy plate, SBQ bar and stainless products. Key end-use markets that experienced increased demand in the third quarter include oil and gas, mining and heavy equipment and general industrial markets.

Plastics segment sales during the third quarter of 2011 of \$30.5 million were \$3.6 million, or 13.4% higher than the third quarter of 2010 due to increased pricing and higher sales volume across virtually all key end-use markets, with particular strength experienced in the automotive sector.

Cost of Materials:

Cost of materials (exclusive of depreciation and amortization) during the third quarter of 2011 was \$221.7 million, an increase of \$39.8 million, or 21.9%, compared to the third quarter of 2010. Material costs for the Metals segment for the third quarter of 2011 was \$200.2 million or 75.7% as a percent of net sales compared to \$163.6 million or 75.0% as a percent of net sales for the third quarter of 2010. Third quarter 2011 results include a \$1.6 million charge associated with the mark-to-market adjustment for commodity hedges. The Company did not have any commodity hedges in place in 2010. The Metals segment recorded LIFO expense of \$3.8 million in third quarter of 2011 and \$2.0 million in the third quarter of 2010. Material costs for the Plastics segment were 70.5% as a percent of net sales for the third quarter of 2011 as compared to 68.0% for the same period last year.

Operating Expenses and Operating Income (Loss):

On a consolidated basis, operating costs and expenses increased \$6.8 million, or 10.8%, compared to the third quarter of 2010. Operating costs and expenses were \$70.0 million, or 23.7% of net sales, compared to \$63.2 million, or 25.8% of net sales during the third quarter of 2010. The increase in operating expenses for the third quarter of 2011 compared to the third quarter of 2010 primarily relates to the following:

- Warehouse, processing and delivery costs increased by \$4.1 million of which \$2.6 million is the result of increases in charges associated with higher sales volume, such as warehouse, packing and shipping supplies, repairs and maintenance, utilities, outside services, overtime wages and temporary help, and \$1.5 million is due to increased compensation and benefits expenses as a result of headcount, merit and healthcare cost increases;
- Sales, general and administrative costs increased by \$2.8 million primarily due to increased compensation and benefits expenses of \$2.1 million as a result of headcount, merit and healthcare cost increases;
- Depreciation and amortization expense was \$0.1 million lower primarily due to lower capital expenditure trends the past two years.

Consolidated operating income for the third quarter of 2011 was \$3.2 million compared to operating loss of \$0.2 million for the same period last year. The Company's third quarter 2011 operating income as a percent of net sales increased to 1.1% from (0.1)% in the third quarter of 2010.

Other Income and Expense, Income Taxes and Net Income:

Interest expense was \$1.2 million in the third quarter of 2011, a decrease of \$0.2 million versus the same period in 2010 as a result of lower weighted average interest rates in the current quarter compared to the third quarter of 2010.

The Company recorded income tax expense of \$1.3 million for the quarter ended September 30, 2011 compared to less than \$0.1 million tax expense for the same period last year. Included in the \$1.3 million was \$0.5 million of tax benefits due to the expiration of the statutes of limitation for uncertain tax positions taken in prior years. The Company's effective tax rate is expressed as 'Income tax expense or benefit' (which includes tax expense on the Company's share of joint venture earnings) as a percentage of 'Income (loss) before income taxes and equity in earnings of joint venture.' The effective tax rate for the quarters ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 were 64.9% and (2.8)%, respectively. The increase in the effective tax rate for the third quarter of 2011 compared to the third quarter of 2010 was primarily the result higher joint venture earnings.

Equity in earnings of the Company's joint venture was \$3.1 million in the third quarter of 2011, compared to \$1.7 million for the same period last year. The increase is a result of higher demand in virtually all end-use markets, most notably the automotive and energy sectors, and higher pricing for Kreher's products compared to the same period last year.

Consolidated net income for the third quarter of 2011 was \$3.8 million, or \$0.16 per diluted share, versus \$0.1 million, or \$0.00 per diluted share, for the same period in 2010.

Results of Operations: Nine Months 2011 Comparisons to Nine Months 2010

Consolidated results by business segment are summarized in the following table for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010.

	2011	2010	Fav/(Unfav)	
			\$ Change	% Change
Net Sales				
Metals	\$ 761.2	\$ 631.0	\$ 130.2	20.6%
Plastics	89.0	77.1	11.9	15.4%
Total Net Sales	\$ 850.2	\$ 708.1	\$ 142.1	20.1%
Cost of Materials				
Metals	\$ 569.6	\$ 477.0	\$ (92.6)	(19.4)%
% of Metals Sales	74.8 %	75.6 %		
Plastics	62.0	52.5	(9.5)	(18.1)%
% of Plastics Sales	69.7 %	68.1 %		
Total Cost of Materials	\$ 631.6	\$ 529.5	\$ (102.1)	(19.3)%
% of Total Net Sales	74.3 %	74.8 %		
Operating Costs and Expenses				
Metals	\$ 178.6	\$ 158.2	\$ (20.4)	(12.9)%
Plastics	24.3	21.9	(2.4)	(11.0)%
Other	6.1	5.4	(0.7)	(13.0)%
Total Operating Costs & Expenses	\$ 209.0	\$ 185.5	\$ (23.5)	(12.7)%
% of Total Net Sales	24.6 %	26.2 %		
Operating Income (Loss)				
Metals	\$ 13.0	\$ (4.2)	\$ 17.2	NM ⁽¹⁾
% of Metals Sales	1.7 %	(0.7)%		
Plastics	2.7	2.7	—	—
% of Plastics Sales	3.0 %	3.5 %		
Other	(6.1)	(5.4)	(0.7)	(13.0)%
Total Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 9.6	\$ (6.9)	\$ 16.5	NM ⁽¹⁾
% of Total Net Sales	1.1 %	(1.0)%		

"Other" includes the costs of executive, legal and finance departments which are shared by both segments of the Company.

⁽¹⁾ Not meaningful.

Net Sales:

Consolidated net sales were \$850.2 million, an increase of \$142.1 million, or 20.1%, compared to the same period last year. Higher net sales were primarily the result of higher shipping volumes and increased pricing in the metals and plastics markets. Metals segment sales during the first nine months of 2011 of \$761.2 million were \$130.2 million, or 20.6%, higher than the same period last year. Average tons sold per day increased 18.7% compared to the prior year period. The increase in sales volume was driven primarily by alloy bar, carbon and alloy plate and SBQ bar products. Key end-use markets that experienced increased demand in the first nine months of 2011 include oil and gas, mining and heavy equipment and general industrial markets.

Plastics segment sales during the first nine months of 2011 of \$89.0 million were \$11.9 million, or 15.4% higher than the same period last year due to increased pricing and higher sales volume across virtually all key end-use markets, with particular strength experienced in the automotive sector.

Cost of Materials:

Cost of materials (exclusive of depreciation and amortization) during the first nine months of 2011 were \$631.6 million, an increase of \$102.1 million, or 19.3%, compared to the same period last year. Material costs for the Metals segment for the first nine months of 2011 were \$569.6 million or 74.8% as a percent of net sales compared to \$477.0 million or 75.6% as a percent of net sales for the first nine months of 2010. Material costs for 2011 include a \$1.6 million charge associated with the mark-to-market adjustment for commodity hedges. The Company did not have any commodity hedges in place in 2010. Material costs as a percentage of net sales were lower in the first nine months of 2011 than 2010 as the demand environment continued to improve throughout the first nine months of 2011. The improved demand environment provided for a better pricing environment compared to the first nine months of 2010. As market prices for many products increased during the first nine months of 2011, the Company was able to leverage its inventory position, which also contributed to the reduction in material costs as a percentage of net sales compared to the prior year period. The Metals segment recorded LIFO expense of \$10.7 million in 2011 compared to \$7.0 million during the prior year period. Material costs for the Plastics segment were 69.7% and 68.1% as a percent of net sales for the first nine months of 2011 and 2010, respectively. Management believes that consolidated material costs as a percentage of net sales will be comparable to first nine months of 2011 levels for the balance of 2011.

Operating Expenses and Operating Income (Loss):

On a consolidated basis, operating costs and expenses increased \$23.5 million, or 12.7%, compared to the same period last year. Operating costs and expenses were \$209.0 million, or 24.6% as a percent of net sales, compared to \$185.5 million, or 26.2% as a percent of net sales last year.

The increase in operating expenses for the first nine months of 2011 compared to 2010 primarily relates to the following:

- Warehouse, processing and delivery costs increased by \$12.1 million of which \$7.9 million is the result of increases in charges associated with higher sales volume, such as warehouse, packing and shipping supplies, repairs and maintenance, utilities, outside services, overtime wages and temporary help, and \$4.2 million is due to increased compensation and benefits expenses as a result of headcount, merit, 401(k) and healthcare cost increases;

- Sales, general and administrative costs increased by \$12.0 million primarily due to higher compensation and benefits expenses of \$7.3 million as a result of headcount, merit, 401(k) and healthcare cost increases and \$0.8 million due to a civil penalty associated with alleged export compliance violations on shipments that occurred from 2005 to 2008; and
- Depreciation and amortization expense was \$0.6 million lower primarily due to lower capital expenditure trends the past two years.

Consolidated operating income for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 was \$9.6 million compared to operating loss of \$6.9 million for the same period last year.

Other Income and Expense, Income Taxes and Net Income (Loss):

Interest expense was \$3.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, a decrease of \$0.6 million versus the same period in 2010 as a result of as a result of lower weighted average interest rates in the first nine months of 2011 compared to the first nine months of 2010.

The Company recorded income tax expense of \$5.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to a \$2.7 million tax benefit for the same period last year. The Company's effective tax rate is expressed as 'Income tax expense or benefit' (which includes tax expense on the Company's share of joint venture earnings) as a percentage of 'Income (loss) before income taxes and equity in earnings of joint venture.' The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 were 80.1% and 25.2%, respectively. The increase in the effective tax rate for the first nine months of 2011 compared to the first nine months of 2010 was primarily the result of higher earnings of the Company's joint venture.

Equity in earnings of the Company's joint venture was \$9.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to \$4.0 million for the same period last year. The increase is a result of higher demand in virtually all end-use markets, most notably the automotive and energy sectors, and higher pricing for Kreher's products compared to the same period last year.

Consolidated net income for the first nine months of 2011 was \$10.2 million, or \$0.44 per diluted share, versus a net loss of \$4.1 million, or \$0.18 per diluted share, for the same period in 2010.

Accounting Policies:

There have been no changes in critical accounting policies from those described in the Company's Annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's principal sources of liquidity are earnings from operations, management of working capital and available borrowing capacity on the Company's revolving credit facilities to fund working capital needs and growth initiatives.

In the first nine months of 2011, net cash flow used in operations was \$37.6 million compared to net cash flow from operations of \$5.6 million for the same period last year. During the third quarter of 2011, the Company continued to increase working capital levels to support higher sales levels during the quarter and higher sales levels expected for the remainder of the year and in 2012.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011, net sales exceeded cash receipts from customers, resulting in a \$41.4 million cash flow impact due to an increase in accounts receivable for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to a \$34.0 million cash flow impact due to an increase in accounts receivable for the nine months ended September 30, 2010. Net sales increased 20.1% from the first nine months of 2010. Average receivable days outstanding was 49.2 days for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011, inventory purchases exceeded sales of inventory, resulting in a \$58.3 million cash flow impact due to an increase in inventory for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to a \$8.8 million cash flow impact due to a decrease in inventory for the nine months ended September 30, 2010. Inventory levels were increased to support anticipated sales growth, however the inventory turnover rate improved from prior year levels. Average days sales in inventory was 123.3 days for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 versus 144.8 days for the first nine months of 2010.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011, purchases exceeded cash paid for inventories and other goods and services, resulting in a \$38.2 million cash flow impact due to a net increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities compared to a \$21.7 million cash flow impact due to a net increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities for the same period last year.

Available revolving credit capacity is primarily used to fund working capital needs. Taking into consideration the most recent borrowing base calculation as of September 30, 2011, which reflects trade receivables, inventory, letters of credit and other outstanding secured indebtedness, available credit capacity consisted of the following:

Debt type	Outstanding Borrowings as of September 30, 2011	Availability as of September 30, 2011	Weighted Average Interest Rate for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011
U.S. Revolver A	\$ 31.9	\$ 86.5	1.94%
U.S. Revolver B	27.3	22.7	1.55%
Canadian revolver	—	9.4	3.41%

As of September 30, 2011, the Company had \$31.9 million of short-term debt outstanding under its revolving credit facilities. The Company has classified the U.S. Revolver A and Canadian revolver as short-term based on its ability and intent to repay amounts outstanding under these instruments within the next 12 months.

Management believes the Company will be able to generate sufficient cash from operations and planned working capital improvements to fund its ongoing capital expenditure programs and meet its debt obligations. In addition, the Company has available borrowing capacity, as discussed above.

Capital expenditures for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 were \$8.2 million, an increase of \$3.1 million compared to the same period last year. Management believes that annual capital expenditures will approximate \$12.0 million in 2011, which is \$2.0 million less than previously expected.

Table of Contents

The Company's principal payments on long-term debt, including the current portion of long-term debt, required during the next five years and thereafter are summarized below :

2011	\$	7.9
2012		8.1
2013 (a)		35.9
2014		9.0
2015		9.6
2016 and beyond		—
Total debt	\$	<u>70.5</u>

(a) Includes U.S. Revolver B balance, which is classified as long-term as the Company's cash projections indicate that amounts outstanding (which are denominated in British pounds) under this instrument are not expected to be repaid within the next 12 months. The maturity date of the credit facility is January 2, 2013.

As of September 30, 2011 the Company remained in compliance with the covenants of its credit agreements, which require it to maintain certain funded debt-to-capital and working capital-to-debt ratios, and a minimum adjusted consolidated net worth, as defined in the Company's credit agreements and outlined in the table below:

Covenant Description	Requirement per Credit Agreement	Actual at September 30, 2011
Funded debt-to-capital ratio	less than 0.55	0.20
Working capital-to-debt ratio	greater than 1.0	3.34
Minimum adjusted consolidated net worth	\$265.7	\$ 336.9

At September 30, 2011, the Company had \$6.7 million of irrevocable letters of credit outstanding which primarily consisted of \$3.0 million for collateral associated with commodity hedges and \$2.6 million for compliance with the insurance reserve requirements of its workers' compensation insurance carriers.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

The Company is exposed to interest rate, commodity price and foreign exchange rate risks that arise in the normal course of business. During the second quarter of 2011, the Company implemented a commodity hedging program to mitigate risks associated with certain commodity price fluctuations.

Refer to Item 7a in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed for the year ended December 31, 2010 for further discussion of such risks.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

A review and evaluation was performed by the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) as of the end of the period covered by this report.

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as such term is defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 rule 240.13a-15(f). The Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer to provide reasonable assurance regarding the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

In its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company reported that, based upon their review and evaluation, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2010.

As part of its evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report, and in accordance with the framework published by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, referred to as the *Internal Control — Integrated Framework*, the Company's management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of the end of the period covered by this report.

(b) Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no significant changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting during the three months ended September 30, 2011 that were identified in connection with the evaluation referred to in paragraph (a) above that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Part II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

During September 2011, the Company reached a final settlement with the United States Department of Commerce, U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security (“BIS”) in connection with alleged export compliance violations on shipments that occurred from 2005 to 2008. The settlement agreement provided for the payment of a civil penalty of \$775 and also requires the Company to complete a self-audit of its export controls compliance program over a one year period and submit the results to the BIS.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

The Company has updated its risk factors to include the following with the implementation of a commodity hedging program in the second quarter of 2011.

Commodity hedging transactions may expose us to loss or limit our potential gains.

We have entered into certain fixed price sales contracts with customers which expose us to risks associated with fluctuations in commodity prices. As part of our risk management program, we may use financial instruments from time-to-time to mitigate all or portions of these risks, including commodity futures, forwards or other derivative instruments. While intended to reduce the effects of the commodity price fluctuations, these transactions may limit our potential gains or expose us to losses. Also, should our counterparties to such transactions fail to honor their obligations due to financial distress we would be exposed to potential losses or the inability to recover anticipated gains from these transactions.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
31.1	CEO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	CEO and CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document ⁽¹⁾
101.SCH	XRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document ⁽¹⁾
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Calculation Linkbase Document ⁽¹⁾
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document ⁽¹⁾
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ Furnished with this report. In accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the information in these exhibits shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to liability under that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

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.

A. M. Castle & Co.
(Registrant)

Date: November 3, 2011

By: /s/ Patrick R. Anderson
Patrick R. Anderson
Vice President — Controller and
Chief Accounting Officer
(Mr. Anderson has been authorized to
sign on behalf of the Registrant.)

Exhibit Index

The following exhibits are filed herewith or incorporated herein by reference:

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
31.1	CEO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002	E-1
31.2	CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002	E-2
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**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Michael H. Goldberg, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of A. M. Castle & Co.;
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 Company as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The Company's other certifying officer(s) 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 15-d-15(f)] for the Company 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 Company, 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 Company'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 changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Company's most recent fiscal quarter (the Company's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The Company's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the Company's auditors and the audit committee of the Company'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 Company'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 Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 3, 2011

/s/ Michael H. Goldberg

Michael H. Goldberg
President and Chief Executive Officer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Scott F. Stephens certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of A. M. Castle & Co.;
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 Company as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The Company's other certifying officer(s) 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 15-d-15(f)] for the Company 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 Company, 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 Company'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 changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Company's most recent fiscal quarter (the Company's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The Company's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the Company's auditors and the audit committee of the Company'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 Company'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 Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 3, 2011

/s/ Scott F. Stephens

Scott F. Stephens

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

**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 of A. M. Castle & Co. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2011 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), Michael H. Goldberg, President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) and Scott F. Stephens, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) of the Company, do each hereby certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to the best of his knowledge:

- (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 result of operations of the Company.

/s/ Michael H. Goldberg

Michael H. Goldberg
President and Chief Executive Officer
November 3, 2011

/s/ Scott F. Stephens

Scott F. Stephens
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
November 3, 2011

This certification accompanies the Report pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section. This certification shall also not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates it by reference.