

## AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

# EQUAL EXCHANGE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TABLE OF CONTENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

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#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To The Stockholders Equal Exchange, Inc. Canton, Massachusetts

#### Report on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Equal Exchange, Inc. (a Massachusetts Corporation) and OKE USA Fruit Company (a Subsidiary), which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of earnings and retained earnings and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Equal Exchange, Inc. and Subsidiary as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

LMHS, P.C.

LMHS, P.C. Norwell, Massachusetts

March 22, 2016

#### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

ASSETS:	2015	2014
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash	\$1,289,502	\$878,753
Accounts Receivable	4,603,589	4,049,055
Inventory	18,725,929	20,220,632
Prepaid Expenses and Other	1,433,519	1,102,341
Prepaid Corporate Income Taxes	140,342	73,205
Deferred Income Taxes	165,566	144,918
	26,358,447	26,468,904
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET	6,268,907	6,156,951
OTHER ASSETS:		
Intangible assets, net	38,576	42,904
Investments	389,132	521,907
Notes Receivable	300,000	400,000
	727,708	964,811
	\$33,355,062	\$33,590,666
LIABILITIES AND STO	OCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Notes Payable – Lines of Credit	¢1 707 274	<b>63</b> 046 336
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	\$1,787,374 1,436,615	\$2,946,336 156,556
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	3,031,175	3,904,919
Patronage Rebates Payable	181,008	500,286
	6,436,172	7,508,097
	0,430,172	7,500,057
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:		
Long-Term Debt, Net of Current Portion	3,021,180	3,846,795
Deferred Income Taxes		1,239,000
	4,140,180	5,085,795
MINORITY INTEREST IN CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARY	168,719	170,235
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: Preferred Stock, \$1 Par Value; 9,999,500 Shares Authorized; Issued and	Outstanding,	
604,216 Shares in 2015 and 539,446 Shares in 2014 Common stock, \$1 Par Value; 500 Shares Authorized; Issued and Outsta	16,615,995	14,834,776
132 Shares in 2015 and 123 Shares in 2014	411,673	376,748
Less: Common Stock Subscriptions Receivable	(84,318)	(73,449)
Retained Earnings	5,666,641	5,688,464
-	22,609,991	20,826,539
	\$33,355,062	\$33,590,666

#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS AND RETAINED EARNINGS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

	2015	2014
NET SALES	\$64,505,331	\$61,083,820
COST OF SALES	47,279,616	43,752,928
GROSS PROFIT	17,225,715	17,330,892
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Bad Debt Expense	20,782	23,800
General and Administrative Expenses	15,370,100	14,738,371
	15,390,882	14,762,171
EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS	1,834,833	2,568,721
OTHER INCOME AND (EXPENSES):		
Loss on Investment	(203,275)	
Interest Income	56,944	8,351
Interest Expense	(372,007)	(382,484)
•	(518,338)	(374,133)
EARNINGS BEFORE INCOME TAXES AND MINORITY INTEREST	1,316,495	2,194,588
INCOME TAXES (CREDIT):		
Current: Federal	480,000	400,000
State	318,461	265,000
	798,461	665,000
Deferred:	770,	000,000
Federal	(100,648)	255,000
State	(40,000)	81,000
	(140,648)	336,000
	657,813	1,001,000
EARNINGS BEFORE MINORITY INTERST	658,682	1,193,588
MINORITY INTERST IN EARNINGS OF CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARY	(3,084)	(8,514)
NET EARNINGS	655,598	1,185,074
RETAINED EARNINGS, BEGINNING	5,688,464	5,193,417
PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS PAID	(677,421)	(690,027)
RETAINED EARNINGS, ENDING	\$5,666,641	\$5,688,464

#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

	2015	2014
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	6/22 200	£1 105 074
Net Earnings Noncash Items Included in Net Earnings:	\$655,598	\$1,185,074
Deferred Income Taxes (Credit)	(140,648)	336,000
Depreciation and Amortization	1,119,494	965,639
(Increase) Decrease in:	, ,	,
Accounts Receivable	(554,534)	(494,447)
Inventory	1,494,703	(4,490,156)
Prepaid Expenses and Other	(331,178)	(208,073)
Prepaid Corporate Income Taxes Increase (Decrease) in:	(67,137)	(73,205)
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	(873,744)	574,824
Corporate Income Taxes Payable	(0/3,/44)	(421,459)
Patronage Rebates Payable	(319,278)	(181,439)
	983,276	(2,807,242)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITES:	/1 227 122	(1.130.334)
Additions to Property and Equipment Increase in Intangible Assets	(1,227,122)	(1,139,724)
Increase in Investments, Net	132,775	(39,229) (26,997)
(Increase) Decrease in Notes Receivable, Net	100,000	(396,770)
(marada) Decreased in 110103 1000114016, 1101	(994,347)	(1,602,720)
	( ',- ',')	(-,,,,
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
New Borrowings:		
Notes Payable - Lines of Credit	15,845,469	17,346,663
Long-Term Debt	610,000	2,230,000
Debt Reduction: Notes-Payable - Lines of Credit	(17.004.421)	(14 012 009)
Long-Term Debt	(17,004,431) (155,556)	(16,013,998) (2,049,500)
Increase (Decrease) in Minority Interest	(1,516)	3,949
Proceeds From Common Stock Subscriptions	56,201	42,233
Proceeds From Issuance of Preferred Stock	1,630,360	2,975,393
Proceeds From Dividend Reinvestment in Preferred Stock	438,422	454,118
Redemption of Preferred Stock	(287,563)	(116,631)
Redemption of Common Stock	(32,145)	(22,510)
Preferred Stock Dividends Paid	(677,421)	(690,027)
	421,820	4,159,690
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	410,749	(250,272)
CASH - BEGINNING	878,753	1,129,025
CASH - ENDING	\$1,289,502	\$878,753
	41,207,302	\$670,755
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
SUFFERIENTAL DISCLUSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION	2015	2014
Cash Paid During The Year For:	2013	
Interest	\$379,187	\$390,163
Income Taxes	\$865,598	\$1,159,664
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See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### A. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

- 1. Principles of Consolidation The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Equal Exchange, Inc. and its majority-owned subsidiary OKE USA Fruit Company (the Company). All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in these consolidated financial statements.
- 2. Organization Equal Exchange, Inc. was organized under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a worker cooperative and commenced operations in 1986. All voting stock is owned by employees of Equal Exchange, Inc., each of whom is limited to one share. Equal Exchange, Inc. distributes a portion of its annual profits to the worker-owners as a patronage rebate. Worker-owners may decide to extend membership to an employee after one year of service. Equal Exchange, Inc. also offers non-voting preferred stock, which pays a variable, noncumulative, annual dividend, targeted at five percent of the value of the preferred stock.

OKE USA Fruit Company was incorporated under the laws of the state of Delaware on May 18, 2006.

3. Operations - Equal Exchange, Inc. is engaged in the manufacturing and distribution of coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate and related products nationally, with its main office located at 15 Campanelli Cir, Canton, Massachusetts. Equal Exchange, Inc. was formed to establish equitable trade relationships between small farmers around the world and U.S. consumers. Equal Exchange, Inc. buys green coffee beans directly from farmers' cooperatives and imports the coffee to the United States. Equal Exchange, Inc. pays a price that covers the cost of production, provides farmers a living wage, and includes a social premium to the cooperative, in accordance with internationally established fair trade practices. Tea, cocoa and chocolate are also purchased according to fair trade practices. Equal Exchange, Inc. performs coffee roasting and packaging production at its West Bridgewater, Massachusetts facility. In addition, Equal Exchange, Inc. contracts for coffee roasting, cocoa and chocolate manufacturing, and product packaging, and sells and distributes its products nationally through distributors, retail stores, restaurants and solidarity organizations. To better serve its customers, Equal Exchange, Inc. purchases and loans coffee grinders, brewers and retail display equipment to its customers.

OKE USA Fruit Company wholesales produce to customers in the United States while establishing a model for international trade that fosters farmer ownership, fair trade practices and environmental protection.

- 4. Method of Accounting The Company's policy is to prepare its consolidated financial statements on the accrual method of accounting whereby revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred. This method of accounting conforms to generally accepted accounting principles.
- 5. Concentration of Credit Risk Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of deposits in excess of federally insured limits, accounts receivable, and credit guarantees for certain vendors. These risks are managed by maintaining all deposits in high quality financial institutions, obtaining signed sales orders, and/or establishing credit limits with all customers, and obtaining signed contracts with vendors. Management believes that the Company is not exposed to any significant credit risk as a result of these credit concentrations.
- 6. Cash and Cash Equivalents For purposes of the consolidated statements of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid investments available for current use with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.
- 7. Inventory The Company's inventory is valued at the lower of cost (first in, first out) or market. Inventories are stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market.

#### A. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

- 8. Property and Equipment Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred whereas major betterments are capitalized. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over three to thirty-nine years.
- 9. Intangible Assets Intangible assets subject to amortization include capitalized software and development costs and deferred financing costs, all of which are amortized using the straight-line method over seven to ten years.
- 10. Revenue Recognition Revenue on sales of coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate, produce and related products is recognized when orders are shipped.
- 11. Fair Value of Financial Instruments The Company's financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, notes receivable, accounts payable, accrued expenses, notes payable and long-term debt. The recorded values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, notes receivable, accounts payable, accrued expenses, and notes payable approximate their fair values based on their short-term nature. The recorded values of long-term debt approximates their fair values, as current interest rates approximate market rates.
- 12. Freight The Company includes freight in as a component of inventory and freight out as part of cost of sales.
- 13. General and Administrative Expenses These expenses are charged to operations as incurred and are not allocated to cost of sales.
- 14. Income Taxes The Company exists, for income tax purposes, as two separate entities: Equal Exchange, Inc. and OKE USA Fruit Company. Federal and state income taxes are provided based upon earnings and tax rates applicable to the Company using the method of accounting described above.
  - Deferred income taxes are provided for differences in timing in reporting income for consolidated financial statement and tax purposes arising principally from differences in the methods of accounting for allowances for bad debts, accrued absences and depreciation. Bad debts are reported for tax purposes on the direct write-off method and for consolidated financial statement purposes on the allowance method. Accrued absences are reported for tax purposes on the cash method and for consolidated financial statement purposes on the accrual method. Depreciation is reported for tax purposes over shorter periods of time and at a more accelerated rate than the method for consolidated financial statement purposes. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are classified as current or non-current in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets, based upon classification of the related asset or liability.
- 15. Uncertainty In Income and Other Taxes The Company adopted the new standards for Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes (income, sales, use and payroll), which requires the Company to report any uncertain tax positions and to adjust its consolidated financial statements for the impact thereof. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company determined that it had no tax positions that did not meet the "more likely than not" threshold of being sustained by the applicable tax authority. The Company files tax and information returns in the United States Federal, Massachusetts and other state jurisdictions. These returns are generally subject to examination by tax authorities for the last three years.
- 16. Sales Tax The Company excludes from its sales all sales taxes assessed to its customers. Sales taxes assessed on sales are recorded as accrued liabilities until remitted to state agencies.

#### A. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

- 17. Use of Estimates The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.
- 18. Patronage Rebates The By-Laws of Equal Exchange, Inc. require it to make a patronage rebate to each workerowner, based on its current year profit. Accordingly, the Company accounts for patronage rebates as an increase in operating expenses in the current year.

#### B. ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS:

The Company utilizes the allowance method to account for uncollectible accounts receivable balances. Under the allowance method, an estimate of uncollectible customer balances is made based on the Company's prior history and other factors such as the credit quality of the customer and economic conditions of the market. Based on these factors, at December 31, 2015 and 2014, there was an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$50,000.

#### C. INVENTORY:

Inventory consists of the following as of December 31:

	2015	2014
Unprocessed green coffee beans and bananas	\$11,179,555	\$11,295,403
Processed coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate, snacks and supplies	7,546,374	8,925,229
	\$18,725,929	\$20,220,632
D. NOTES RECEIVABLE: Notes Receivable consist of the following at December 31:		
	2015	2014
6.00% Promissory Note Receivable – La Siembra: Interest only payments to July, 2020. \$100,000 was repaid on May 29, 2015. This note is collateralized		
by certain intellectual property of the borrower.	\$300,000	\$400,000
E. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: Property and Equipment consists of the following as of December 31:		

	2015	2014
Land	\$502,688	\$502,688
Building and Improvements	4,215,951	3,956,000
Coffee Roasting and Packaging Equipment	4,801,160	4,765,517
Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment and Software	4,379,745	3,633,334
	13,899,544	12,857,539
Accumulated Depreciation	(7,630,637)	(6,700,588)
	\$6,268,907	\$6,156,951

#### F. INTANGIBLE ASSETS:

Intangible assets consist of the following as of December 31:

	2015	2014
Capitalized Software and Development Costs,		
Net of Accumulated Amortization of \$226,075 and \$225,670 in		
2015 and 2014, respectively.	\$5,231	\$5,636
Capitalized Closing Costs,		
Net of Accumulated Amortization of \$5,884 and \$1,961 in 2015 and		
2014, respectively.	33,345	37,268
	\$38,576	\$42,904

In accordance with FASB ASC 350-40-30-1, the Company capitalized the costs associated with establishing a cooperative supply chain referred to as P6. These costs include software development, product branding, website design and launch, brochure production, legal costs and marketing initiatives.

#### G. <u>INVESTMENTS:</u>

The Company holds investments in various other similar, fair-trade or socially conscious organizations. All investments are carried at the lower of cost or estimated market value. Investments consist of the following at December 31:

	2015	2014
Liberation Foods, Community Interest Company, UK	\$63,360	\$63,360
CERO Cooperative, Inc. – 200 Preferred Shares	5,000	5,000
Coop Capital Fund NE, Community Development Financial Institution		20,000
NCB, Federal Savings Bank – 220 Shares Class B	21,997	21,997
Real Pickles Co-op = Preferred Stock	5,000	5,000
Equal Exchange Trading, LTD	203,275	406,550
LaSiembra – 10,000 Shares Class A	80,500	
Dorchester Food Coop	10,000	
	\$389,132	\$521,907

During 2015, the investment in Equal Exchange Trading, LTD was revalued by management at fifty percent of its original cost and accordingly, a loss on investment is included in the accompanying statement of earnings of \$203,275.

#### H. NOTES PAYABLE - LINES OF CREDIT:

The Company has a \$4,000,000 unsecured rolling credit facility with Shared Interest, a socially responsible organization based in the United Kingdom. The purpose of this credit facility is to finance purchases from small farmer associations approved by Shared Interest. Under the terms of this credit facility, Shared Interest pays producers for coffee shipped to the Company. The Company is required to repay Shared Interest in full within five months following the settlement date. Advances bear interest at the borrowing rate of Shared Interest, plus one percent, 7% at December 31, 2015 and 2014. This credit facility may be terminated upon 180 days notice. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, the outstanding balance on this rolling credit facility amounted to \$1,450,989 and \$1,675,703, respectively.

#### H. NOTES PAYABLE - LINES OF CREDIT: (Continued)

The Company has a \$1,000,000 secured line of credit with Eastern Bank. This line of credit bears interest at the bank's prime lending rate and is secured by certificates of deposit held by Eastern Bank that are owned by individuals and institutions affiliated with the Company. The Company can borrow up to ninety percent of the face value of the certificates of deposit. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, the outstanding balance on this line of credit amounted to \$335,000 and \$400,000, respectively.

During 2014, the Company secured a \$2,500,000 line of credit with NCB, Federal Savings Bank (FSB). This line of credit bears interest at the bank's prime rate plus fifty basis points and is secured by accounts receivable. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, the amount outstanding on this line of credit amounted to zero and \$370,633, respectively.

During 2014, the Company also secured a \$4,000,000 line of credit with Eastern Bank. This line of credit bears interest at the bank's prime lending rate and is secured by the Company's inventory. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, the amount outstanding on this line of credit amounted to \$1,385 and \$500,000, respectively.

#### I. LONG-TERM DEBT:

Long-Term Debt consist of the following at December 31:

	2015	2014
4.50% Note Payable - Calvert Social Investment Foundation:		
Due in semi-annual interest-only payments with a balloon		
payment due August, 2016.	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
4.25% Note Payable – MMA Community Development Investment:		
Due in semi-annual interest-only payments with a balloon		
payment due August, 2016.	350,000	350,000
3.75% Note Payable – Twin Pines Cooperative Foundation:		
Due in annual interest-only payments with a balloon payment		
due May, 2017.	100,000	100,000
3.00% Notes Payable – Various Individuals and Institutions:		
to Due in annual or semi-annual interest-only payments, with		
5.00% balloon payments due at varying maturity dates through		
September, 2018.	471,000	471,000
4.00% Note Payable – Cooperative Fund of NE:		
Due in annual interest only payments with a balloon payment		
due April, 2018.	500,000	
3.75% Note Payable – Twin Pines Cooperative Foundation:		
Due in annual interest-only payments with a balloon payment		
due May, 2019.	100,000	100,000
4.50% Mortgage Note Payable - RSF Social Enterprise:		
Due in monthly installments of \$11,254 including		
interest to June, 2024.	1,936,795	1,982,351
	4,457,795	4,003,351
Current Portion	(1,436,615)	(156,556)
	\$3,021,180	\$3,846,795
		<del>=====================================</del>

#### I. LONG-TERM DEBT: (Continued)

The following is a schedule by years of the aggregate maturities of indebtedness at December 31,:

2016	\$1,436,615
2017	407,722
2018	720,050
2019	152,514
2020 and Thereafter	1,740,894
	\$4,457,795

#### J. MINORITY INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARY:

An ownership interest of 10 percent in the subsidiary is held by unrelated parties. This interest, reflected on the consolidated balance sheets as a separate line item, is the summation of the net investments made by these unrelated parties plus their proportionate share of the inception-to-date earnings and loss, and is not necessarily reflective of its market value.

#### K. CAPITAL STRUCTURE:

#### 1. Preferred Stock

The Company has a single class of non-voting Class B preferred stock. These shares have a par value of \$1 and a face value of \$27.50, and are sold to individuals and organizations. The Company pays annual cash dividends, targeted at five percent of the face value of the preferred stock. The actual amount is declared annually by the Board of Directors based on Company performance. The dividend is non-cumulative. The preferred shares have a dissolution preference equal to their face value.

Stockholders owning preferred stock may, beginning two years after the original purchase date, sell their preferred stock back to the Company in accordance with the following schedule:

After year 2 - at 70% of face value After year 3 - at 80% of face value After year 4 - at 90% of face value After year 5 - at 100% of face value

In 2010, the Board of Directors authorized and approved a subscription agreement in which the corporation intended to raise up to \$5,000,000 through the sale of Class B Preferred Stock. In accordance with this subscription agreement, in 2015, the Company sold 51,136 shares of Class B Preferred Stock and raised \$1,406,273. Outside of this offering, the Company also recorded the following transactions to its Class B Shares in 2015: Issued 15,942 shares valued at \$438,422 in reinvested dividends; and, according to its bylaws, converted half of its Patronage Distribution to 8,149 shares valued at \$224,087. In addition, in accordance with this subscription agreement, in 2014, the Company sold 96,236 shares of Class B Preferred Stock and raised \$2,646,492. Outside of this offering, the Company also recorded the following transactions to its Class B Shares in 2014: Issued 11,960 shares valued at \$427,498 in reinvested dividends; and, according to its bylaws, converted half of its Patronage Distribution to 11,960 shares valued at \$328,960 and issued a total of 156 shares valued at \$4,290 to its three outside Board members.

#### K. CAPITAL STRUCTURE: (Continued)

All stock subscription agreements referred to above were executed in accordance with the rules and regulations under Section 3(b) of Regulation D, Rule 505 of the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933.

The Company has the option of making the redemptions described above by converting the preferred shares to five year, five percent promissory notes.

If at any time the debt-to-equity ratio of the Company (defined as the Company's total liabilities divided by the Company's total stockholders' equity) exceeds 2:1, the Board of Directors may postpone or refuse a request for redemption. In addition, if at any time the Board of Directors determines that a requested redemption would impair the ability of the Company to operate effectively, the Board of Directors may limit, postpone or refuse the requested redemption.

The face value of preferred stock, eligible for redemption under the terms described above, are as follows for the year ending December 31,:

2017 2,266,49	10
2,200,49	7ð
2018 337,99	)4
2019 320,12	22
2020 and Thereafter 460,57	13
\$16,615,99	95

#### 2. Common Stock

The Company has a single class of voting Class A common stock, referred to as membership shares. Class A common shares have a \$1 par value and are sold at a price equal to \$2,000 per share, plus inflation since 1990. In 2015 and 2014, the price per share was \$3,530 and \$3,500, respectively. After one year's service, and absent denial of membership by 20% of the existing members, employees of the Company may purchase one membership share. No individual may own more than one membership share. No dividends are paid on these shares, but the employees who hold them are eligible for patronage rebates.

#### 3. Common Stock Subscriptions Receivable

Members usually choose to pay for their membership share through payroll deductions over several years. The Company issues the membership share immediately and credits the common stock account for the full issue price of the share; unpaid amounts due from the member are recorded as Common Stock Subscriptions Receivable, which are separately reflected as a reduction to Stockholders' Equity.

#### K. <u>CAPITAL STRUCTURE:</u> (Continued)

#### 4. Preferred Stock Transactions

	# of Shares	Par Value	Premium Over Par Value	Total Paid In on Preferred Stock
Balance, December 31, 2013	418,562	\$418,562	\$11,103,334	\$11,521,896
Shares issued for cash Dividends Reinvested	108,196 16,513	108,196 16,513	2,867,197 437,605	2,975,393 454,118
Shares Redeemed and Other Adjustments	(3,825)	(3,825)	(112,806)	(116,631)
Balance, December 31, 2014	539,446	\$539,446	\$14,295,330	\$14,834,776
Shares issued for cash Dividends Reinvested	59,285 15,942	59,285 15,942	1,571,075 422,480	1,630,360 438,422
Shares Redeemed and Other Adjustments	(10,457)	(10,457)	(277,106)	(287,563)
Balance December 31, 2015	604,216	\$604,216	\$16,011,779	\$16,615,995

The Board of Directors has authorized and the articles have been amended to increase the number of both common and preferred shares to 500 and 9,999,500, respectively.

#### 5. Common Stock Transactions

3. Common Stock Transactions	# of Shares	Par Value	Premium Over Par Value	Total Paid In on Common Stock
Balance, December 31, 2013	110	\$110	\$329,448	\$329,558
Shares issued for subscriptions receivable Shares redeemed for cash	20 (7)	20 (7)	69,680 (22,503)	69,700 (22,510)
Balance, December 31, 2014	123	\$123	\$376,625	\$376,748
Shares issued for subscriptions receivable Shares redeemed for cash	19 (10)		67,051 (32,135)	67,070 (32,145)
Balance, December 31, 2015	132	\$132	\$411,541	\$411,673

#### L. INCOME TAXES:

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with FASB ASC 740, whereby deferred taxes are provided for temporary differences arising from assets and liabilities whose bases are different for financial reporting and income tax purposes. Deferred taxes relate primarily to differences in calculating depreciation on fixed assets and the timing of deductibility of certain other operating expenses.

#### M. PATRONAGE REBATES:

The By-Laws of Equal Exchange, Inc. require it to make an annual patronage rebate to each worker-owner. The patronage rebate is calculated at forty percent of the net profit or loss, after state income taxes and preferred stock dividend payments, but before charitable donations and federal income taxes. The rebate is then adjusted to reflect the ratio of hours worked by worker-owners to hours worked by all employees. Each year, the Board of Directors determines the allocation of the patronage rebate between payments in cash versus deferral held in the worker-owners' capital accounts, subject to a requirement that at least twenty percent be paid in cash. Profits not paid as dividends on preferred stock or as patronage rebates are retained to capitalize the business, and are not allocated to any individual worker-owners. For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, patronage rebate expense amounted to \$158,425 and \$488,333, respectively.

#### N. ADVERTISING AND BUSINESS PROMOTION:

The Company follows the policy of charging the costs of advertising and business promotion to expense as incurred. For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, advertising costs amounted to \$1,275,155 and \$1,296,609, respectively.

#### O. CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS:

The Company makes charitable contributions to unrelated tax exempt organizations that promote Fair Trade Industry activities. For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, charitable contributions amounted to \$173,114 and \$198,000, respectively.

#### P. OPERATING LEASES:

The Company leases distribution and retail space in Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oregon, Colorado, Washington and Ohio for terms in excess of one year. Rent expense for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 amounted to \$778,028 and \$427,814, respectively.

The following is a schedule by years of the future minimum lease payments as of December 31,:

2016	\$977,474
2017	875,193
2018	1,240,938
2019	167,476
	\$3,261,081

#### Q. GUARANTEE OF PRODUCER INDEBTEDNESS:

Shared Interest has committed up to \$1,000,000 for advances directly to producers with contracts to sell coffee to the Company. These advances are limited to sixty percent of the contract price, with a maximum amount per producer of \$135,000, and are available to producers up to ten months before coffee is delivered to the Company. The Company guarantees 25% of the producer advances made by Shared Interest. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, producer advances guaranteed by the Company amounted to \$708,093 and \$647,347, respectively. During the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company did not incur any losses related to guaranteed producer advances.

#### R. RETIREMENT PLAN:

The Company sponsors a Safe Harbor 401(k) Retirement Plan for its eligible employees. To become eligible for the Plan, an employee must have completed one full year of continuous employment. For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company contributed 3% of each eligible employee's annual compensation. For the years ended 2015 and 2014, the Company's contribution to this plan totaled \$172,485 and \$170,451, respectively. These amounts are included in Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits.

#### S. MAJOR CUSTOMER:

For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company had one major customer, to which sales accounted for approximately 20% of the Company's revenue. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, accounts receivable from this customer represented approximately 20% and 23%, respectively, of the total accounts receivable balance.

#### T. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:

Management has evaluated events occurring after the consolidated balance sheet date through March 22, 2016, the date in which the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued. No material events have been identified which would require disclosure under FASB ASC 855-10-50-1.

#### **U. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT:**

The January 1, 2014 beginning Retained Earnings has been restated to record a reduction in the Deferred Tax Asset of the subsidiary in the amount of \$51,698.



### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

To The Stockholders Equal Exchange, Inc. Canton, Massachusetts

We have audited the financial statements of Equal Exchange, Inc. and Subsidiary as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and have issued our report thereon dated March 22, 2016, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole.

The supplementary information is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

LMHS, P.C.

LMHS, P.C. Norwell, Massachusetts

March 22, 2016



### CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEETS DECEMBER 31, 2015

	EXC	EQUAL CHANGE, INC		OKE USA TCOMPANY		SOLIDATING ENTRIES		NSOLIDATED LANCE SHEET
		ASSETS						
CURRENT ASSETS:								
Cash	\$	849,287	\$	440,215	\$	-	\$	1,289,502
Accounts Receivable		4,213,623		389,966				4,603,589
Inventory		18,509,299		216,630		(8.58.050)		18,725,929
Notes Receivable, Current Portion Prepaid Expenses and Other		250,000		33.003		(250,000)		1.422.610
Prepaid Corporate Income Taxes		1,399,522 135,342		33,997 5,000				1,433,519 140,342
Deferred Income Taxes		104,866		60,700				165,566
		25,461,939	-	1,146,508		(250,000)		26,358,447
DE OBSTATILLAND SOLUBLANDAND								
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: Land		6A3 600						£03 £00
Building and Improvements		502,688 4,215,951						502,688 4,215,951
Coffee Roasting and Packaging Equipment		4,801,160						4,801,160
Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment and Software		4,379,745						4,379,745
100		13,899,544						13,899,544
Accumulated Depreciation		(7,630,637)						(7,630,637)
		6,268,907						6,268,907
OTHER ASSETS								
Intangible Assets, Net		38,576						38,576
Investments		905,682				(516,550)		389,132
Notes Receivable, Net of Current Portion		300,000						300,000
		1,244,258				(516,550)		727,708
	2	32,975,104	\$	1,146,508	_\$	(766,550)	\$	33,355,062
LIABI	LITTES AN	ID STOCKHOLDE	RS' EOU	ITY				
CURRENT LIABILITIES:								
Notes Payable - Lines of Credit	\$	1,787,374	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,787,374
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt		1,436,615		250,000		(250,000)		1,436,615
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses		2,768,238		246,913		16,024		3,031,175
Patronage Rebates Payable		181,008						181,008
		6,173,235		496,913		(233,976)		6,436,172
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:								
Long-Term Debt, Net of Current Portion		3,021,180						3,021,180
Deferred Income Taxes		1,119,000						1,119,000
		4,140,180						4,140,180
MINORITY INTEREST IN CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARY						168,719		168,719
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:								
Class A Shares				580,639		(580,639)		
Class B Shares				190,000		(190,000)		
Class C Shares				27,000		(27,000)		
Preferred Stock						100		14 414 004
		16,615,995						16,615,995
Common Stock		16,615,995 411,673						411,673
Less Subscriptions Receivable		411,673 (84,318)						55 955
		411,673 (84,318) 5,718,339		(148,044)		96,346		411,673 (84,318) 5,666,641
Less Subscriptions Receivable		411,673 (84,318)	<u> </u>	(148,044) 649,595 1,146,508	<u></u>	96,346 (701,293) (766,550)	<u> </u>	411,673 (84,318)

#### CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

	EQUAL EXCHANGE, INC	OKE USA FRUIT COMPANY		
NET SALES	59,067,832	5,437,499	s -	\$ 64,505,331
COST OF SALES:				
Purchases	38,256,952	3,636,586		41,893,538
Freight	3,109,746	1,390,609		4,500,355
Utilities	220,105	.,,		220,105
Warehouse Occupancy Costs	193,606			193,606
Depreciation	472,012			472,012
	42,252,421	5,027,195		47,279,616
GROSS PROFIT	16,815,411	410,304		17,225,715
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Salaries and Wages	7,027,476	196,490		7,223,966
Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits	1,866,540	41,411		1,907,951
Advertising and Business Promotion	1,265,275	9,880		1,275,155
Bad Debt Expense	20,782			20,782
Certification Fees	100,035	5,206		105,241
Charitable Contributions	173,011	103		173,114
Computer Expense and Service	128,317			128,317
Consulting Expense Contracted Services	198,985	24,096		223,081
Contracted Services Credit Card Service Fees	106,299	7.016		106,299
General and Administrative	323,067	7,016		330,083
Insurance	237,883 182,964	18,537 7,936		256,420
Office Expense	238,785	7,250		190,900
Patronage Rebates	158,425	7,450		246,035 158,425
Payroll Processing Fees	46,457	1,673		48,130
Postage	26,739	1,443		28,182
Professional Fees	68,162	1,715		68,162
Real Estate Toxes	134,584			134,584
Rent	769,778	8,250		778,028
Repairs and Maintenance	544,037	-,		544,037
Selling Expenses	437,736			437,736
Telephone	136,986	2,855		139,841
Utilities	218,931			218,931
Amortization	4,328			4,328
Depreciation	643,154			643,154
	15,058,736	332,146		15,390,882
EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS	1,756,675	78,158		1,834,833
OTHER INCOME AND (EXPENSES)				
Loss on Investment	(203,275)			(203,275)
Interest Income	56,437	507		56,944
Equity in Earnings of Subsidiary	27,768		(27,768)	
Interest Expense	(362,007)	(10,000)		(372,007)
	(481,077)	(9,493)	(27,768)	(518,338)
EARNINGS BEFORE INCOME TAXES AND				
MINORITY INTEREST	1,275,598	68,665	(27,768)	1,316,495
INCOME TAXES:				
Current	780,000	18,461		798,461
Deferred	(160,000)	19,352		(140,648)
	620,000	37,813		657,813
EARNINGS BEFORE MINORITY INTEREST	655,598	30,852	(27,768)	658,682
MINORITY INTEREST			(3,084)	(3,084)
NETEARNINGS	\$ 655,598	\$ 30,852	\$ (30,852)	\$ 655,598

### CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEETS DECEMBER 31, 2014

	EX	EQUAL CHANGE, INC		KE USA FCOMPANY		SOLIDATING ENTRIES		NSOLIDATED ANCE SHEET
CURRENT ASSETS:		<u>ASSETS</u>						
Cash	\$	416,726	S	462,027	\$	-	\$	878,753
Accounts Receivable		3,794,172		254,883				4,049,055
Inventory Notes Receivable, Current Portion		20,037,855		182,777		(250.000)		20,220,632
Prepaid Expenses and Other		250,000 1,096,571		5,770		(250,000)		1,102,341
Prepaid Corporate Income Taxes		73,205		3,170				73,205
Deferred Income Taxes		64,866		80,052				144,918
		25,733,395		985,509		(250,000)		26,468,904
DROBERTS! AND FOLIRAGESE								
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: Land		502,688						502 600
Building and Improvements		3,956,000						502,688 3,956,000
Coffee Roasting and Packaging Equipment		4,765,517						4,765,517
Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment and Software		3,633,334						3,633,334
		12,857,539						12,857,539
Accumulated Depreciation		(6,700,588)						(6,700,588)
		6,156,951						6,156,951
OTHER ASSETS:								
Intangible Assets, Net		42,904						42,904
Investments		1,013,689				(491,782)		521,907
Notes Receivable, Net of Current Portion		400,000				,		400,000
		1,456,593				(491,782)		964,811
	_\$	33,346,939	_\$	985,509	\$	(741,782)	\$	33,590,666
1.1	ABILITIES AN	ND STOCKHOLDE	RS' FOUI	ΤΥ				
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	147141111111111111111111111111111111111	NO TOCKHOLDE	140 15001	<u></u>				
Notes Payable - Lines of Credit	\$	2,946,336	\$	-	\$	-	\$	2,946,336
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt		156,556		250,000		(250,000)		156,556
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses		3,779,729		109,166		16,024		3,904,919
Corporate Income Taxes Payable Patronage Rebates Payable		500,286						500,286
Fait Oringe Repaires Fayable		7,382,907	-	359,166		(233,976)	_	7,508,097
		7,202,707		227,100		(233,710)		1,000,001
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES								
Long-Term Debt, Net of Current Portion		3,846,795						3,846,795
Deferred Income Taxes		1,239,000	•					1,239,000
		5,085,795						5,085,795
MINORITY INTEREST IN CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARY						170,235		170,235
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:								
Class A Shares				580,639		(580,639)		
Class B Shares				190,000		(190,000)		
Class C Shares				27,000		(27,000)		
Preferred Stock		14,834,776		,		(,)		14,834,776
Common Stock		376,748						376,748
Less: Subscriptions Receivable		(73,449)						(73,449)
Retained Earnings		5,740,162		(171,296)		119,598		5,688,464
		20,878,237		626,343		(678,041)		20,826,539
	_\$	33,346,939	\$	985,509	_\$	(741,782)	\$	33,590,666

### CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF EARNINGS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	EQUAL EXCHANGE, INC	OKE USA FRUIT COMPANY	CONSOLIDATING ENTRIES	CONSOLIDATED EARNINGS
NET SALES	\$ 56,245,594	\$ 4,838,226	s -	\$ 61,083,820
COST OF SALES:				
Purchases	35,735,979	3,124,298		38,860,277
Freight	2,940,791	1,222,174		4,162,965
Utilities	212,985			212,985
Warehouse Occupancy Costs	91,242	14,947		106,189
Depreciation	410,512			410,512
	39,391,509	4,361,419		43,752,928
GROSS PROFIT	16,854,085	476,807		17,330,892
OPERATING EXPENSES:				
Salaries and Wages	6,558,854	194,458		6,753,312
Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits	1,914,889	39,722		1,954,611
Advertising and Business Promotion	1,283,233	13,376		1,296,609
Bad Debt Expense	23,800			23,800
Certification Fees	115,130			115,130
Charitable Contributions	198,000			198,000
Computer Expense and Service	300,672			300,672
Consulting Expense	144,538			144,538
Contracted Services	71,547			71,547
Credit Card Service Fees General and Administrative	294,817	50,541		294,817
Insurance	220,939 212,635	50,341 6,381		271,480
Office Expense	160,700	6,076		219,016 166,776
Patronage Rebates	488,333	0,070		488,333
Payroll Processing Fees	46,629			46,629
Postage	32,490			32,490
Professional Fees	101,402	3,350		104,752
Real Estate Taxes	132,067			132,067
Rent	418,064	9,750		427,814
Repairs and Maintenance	407,497			407,497
Selling Expenses	508,924			508,924
Telephone	110,524	3,098		113,622
Utilities	134,608			134,608
Amortization	2,366			2,366
Depreciation	552,761			552,761
	14,435,419	326,752		14,762,171
EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS	2,418,666	150,055		2,568,721
OTHER INCOME AND (EXPENSE):				
Interest Income	8,351			8,351
Equity in Earnings of Subsidiary	76,630		(76,630)	
Interest Expense	(372,444)	(10,040)		(382,484)
	(287,463)	(10,040)	(76,630)	(374,133)
EARNINGS BEFORE INCOME TAXES AND MINORITY INTEREST	2,131,203	140,015	(76,630)	2,194,588
MINORITI INTEREST	2,131,203	140,013	(70,030)	2,174,200
INCOME TAXES:				
Current	655,995	9,005		665,000
Deferred	290,134	45,866		336,000
	946,129	54,871		1,001,000
EARNINGS BEFORE MINORITY INTEREST	1,185,074	85,144	(76,630)	1,193,588
MINORITY INTEREST			(8,514)	(8,514)
NET EARNINGS	\$ 1,185,074	\$ 85,144	\$ (85,144)	\$ 1,185,074

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

ASSETS:	2015	2014
CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULES OF COST OF SALES:		
Purchases	\$41,893,538	\$38,860,277
Freight	4,500,355	4,162,965
Utilities	220,105	212,985
Warehouse Occupancy Costs	193,606	106,189
Depreciation	472,012	410,512
	\$47,279,616	\$43,752,928
CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULES OF GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:		
Salaries and Wages	\$7,223,966	\$6,753,312
Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits	1,907,951	1,954,611
Advertising and Business Promotion	1,275,155	1,296,609
Certification Fees	105,241	115,130
Charitable Contributions	173,114	198,000
Computer Expense and Service	128,317	300,672
Consulting Expense	223,081	144,538
Contracted Services	106,299	71,547
Credit Card Service Fees	330,083	294,817
General and Administrative	256,420	271,480
Insurance	190,900	219,016
Office Expense	246,035	166,776
Patronage Rebates	158,425	488,333
Payroll Processing Fees	48,130	46,629
Postage	28,182	32,490
Professional Fees	68,162	104,752
Real Estate Taxes	134,584	132,067
Rent	778,028	427,814
Repairs and Maintenance	544,037	407,497
Selling Expenses	437,736	508,924
Telephone	139,841	113,622
Utilities	218,931	134,608
Amortization	4.328	2.366
Depreciation	643,154	552,761
	\$15,370,100	\$14,738,371