

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. o

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 o

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer o
(Do not check if a
smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company o

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

As of June 30, 2015, the aggregate market value of Dawson Geophysical Company common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, held by non-affiliates (based upon the closing transaction price on Nasdaq) was approximately \$94,238,000.

On March 11, 2016, there were 21,629,310 shares of Dawson Geophysical Company common stock, \$0.01 par value outstanding.

As used in this report, the terms "we," "our," "us," "Dawson" and the "Company" refer to Dawson Geophysical Company unless the context indicates otherwise.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Registrant's Proxy Statement for its 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

FORM 10-K

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015

DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Form 10-K that relate to forecasts, estimates or other expectations regarding future events, including without limitation, statements under "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Business" regarding technological advancements and our financial position, business strategy and plans and objectives of our management for future operations, may be deemed to be forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). When used in this Form 10-K, words such as "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend" and similar expressions, as they relate to us or our management, identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs of our management, as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to management. Actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including but not limited to the volatility of oil and natural gas prices, dependence upon energy industry spending, industry competition, delays, reductions or cancellations of service contracts, reduced utilization, crew productivity, the type of contracts we enter into, external factors affecting our crews such as weather interruptions and inability to obtain land access rights of way, high fixed costs of our operations and our high capital requirements, limited number of clients, credit risk related to our clients, the availability of capital resources, operational disruptions, the risk that the benefits from the business combination pursuant to the Merger (as defined below) may not be fully realized or may take longer to realize than expected, the ability to promptly and effectively integrate our combined business and the diversion of management time on transaction-related issues. See "Risk Factors" for more information on these and other factors. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are subject to these and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions relating to our operations, results of operations, growth strategies and liquidity. The cautionary statements made in this Form 10-K should be read as applying to all related forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this Form 10-K. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this paragraph. We assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements.

Part I

Item 1. BUSINESS

General

Dawson Geophysical Company, a Texas corporation (the "Company"), is a leading provider of North America onshore seismic data acquisition services with operations throughout the continental United States and Canada. We acquire and process 2-D, 3-D and multi-component seismic data for our clients, ranging from major oil and gas companies to independent oil and gas operators as well as providers of multi-client data libraries. Our principal business office is located at 508 West Wall, Suite 800, Midland, Texas 79701 (Telephone: 432-684-3000), and our internet address is www.dawson3d.com. We make available free of charge on our website our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, and current reports on Form 8-K as soon as reasonably practicable after filing or furnishing such information with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

On February 11, 2015, the Company, which was formerly known as TGC Industries, Inc. ("Legacy TGC"), consummated a strategic business combination with Dawson Operating Company, which was formerly known as Dawson Geophysical Company ("Legacy Dawson"), pursuant to which a wholly-owned

subsidiary of Legacy TGC merged with and into Legacy Dawson, with Legacy Dawson continuing after the merger as the surviving entity and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legacy TGC (the "Merger"). In connection with the Merger, Legacy Dawson changed its name to "Dawson Operating Company" and Legacy TGC changed its name to "Dawson Geophysical Company." Legacy TGC was formed in 1980. Legacy Dawson was formed in 1952.

Except as otherwise specifically noted herein, references herein to the "Company," "we," "us" or "our" refer to post-combination Dawson Geophysical Company and its consolidated subsidiaries, including Legacy Dawson.

We provide our seismic data acquisition services primarily to onshore oil and natural gas exploration and development companies for use in the onshore drilling and production of oil and natural gas in the continental United States and Canada as well as providers of multi-client data libraries. The main factors influencing demand for seismic data acquisition services in our industry are the level of drilling activity by oil and natural gas companies and the sizes of such companies' exploration and development budgets, which, in turn, depend largely on current and anticipated future crude oil and natural gas prices and depletion rates of the companies' oil and natural gas reserves.

As of December 31, 2015, we operated ten seismic crews, consisting of eight crews in the United States and two crews in Canada, and one seismic data processing center. During the three months ended December 31, 2015, we operated a maximum of ten crews in the United States and two in Canada. We are currently operating five crews in the United States with limited activity in Canada as the Canadian winter operating season comes to an end. We anticipate operating between four and six crews in the United States with limited activity in Canada into the second quarter of 2016. Visibility for active crew count beyond the second quarter is limited due to uncertainty in oil prices and demand levels. Demand for our services is likely to be at reduced levels in North America in response to the reduced expenditures by our clients related to the recent drop in crude oil prices. Our seismic crews supply seismic data primarily to companies engaged in the exploration and development of oil and natural gas on land and in land-to-water transition areas. Seismic acquisition services of our wholly-owned subsidiary, Eagle Canada, Inc. ("Eagle Canada"), are also used by the potash mining industry in Canada, and Eagle Canada has particular expertise through its heliportable capabilities. Our clients rely on seismic data to identify areas where subsurface conditions are favorable for the accumulation of existing hydrocarbons, to optimize the development and production of hydrocarbon reservoirs, to better delineate existing oil and natural gas fields, and to augment reservoir management techniques.

We acquire geophysical data using the latest in 3-D seismic survey techniques. We introduce acoustic energy into the ground by using vibration equipment or dynamite detonation, depending on the surface terrain, area of operation, and subsurface requirements. The reflected energy, or echoes, is received through geophones, converted into a digital signal at a multi-channel recording unit, and then transmitted to a central recording vehicle. Subsurface requirements dictate the number of channels necessary to perform our services. We generally use thousands of recording channels in our seismic surveys. Additional recording channels enhance the resolution of the seismic survey through increased imaging analysis and provide improved operational efficiencies for our clients. With our state-of-the-art seismic equipment, including computer technology and multiple channels, we acquire, on a cost effective basis, immense volumes of seismic data that, when processed and interpreted, produce precise images of the earth's subsurface. Our clients then use our seismic data to generate 3-D geologic models that help reduce drilling risks, finding and development costs and improve recovery rates from existing fields.

In addition to conventional 2-D and 3-D seismic surveys, we provide what the industry refers to as multi-component seismic data surveys. Multi-component surveys involve the recording of alternative seismic waves known as shear waves. Shear waves can be recorded as wave conversion of conventional energy sources (3-C converted waves) or from horizontal vibrator energy source units (shear wave vibrators). Multi-component data are utilized in further analysis of subsurface rock type, fabric and

reservoir characterization. We own equipment required for onshore multi-component surveys. The majority of the projects in Canada require multi-component recording equipment. We have operated one to two multi-component equipped crews in the United States routinely over the past few years. The use of multi-component seismic data could increase in North America over the next few years if industry conditions improve and potentially require capital expenditures for additional equipment.

In recent years, we have begun providing surface-recorded microseismic services utilizing equipment we currently own. Microseismic monitoring is used by clients who use hydraulic fracturing to extract hydrocarbon deposits to monitor their hydraulic fracturing operations.

We market and supplement our services in the continental United States from our headquarters in Midland, Texas and from additional offices in three other cities in Texas (Denison, Houston and Plano) as well as two additional states, Oklahoma (Oklahoma City) and Colorado (Denver). In addition, we market and supplement our services in Canada from our facilities in Calgary, Alberta.

The Industry

Technological advances in seismic equipment and computing allow the seismic industry to acquire and process, on a cost-effective basis, immense volumes of seismic data which produce precise images of the earth's subsurface. The latest accepted method of seismic data acquisition, processing, and the subsequent interpretation of the processed data is the 3-D seismic method. Geophysicists use computer workstations to interpret 3-D data volumes, identify subsurface anomalies, and generate a geologic model of subsurface features. In contrast with the 3-D method, the 2-D method involves the collection of seismic data in a linear fashion, thus generating a single plane of subsurface seismic data.

3-D seismic data are used in the exploration and development of new reserves and enable oil and natural gas companies to better delineate existing fields and to augment their reservoir management techniques. Benefits of incorporating high resolution 3-D seismic surveys into exploration and development programs include reducing drilling risk, decreasing oil and natural gas finding costs, and increasing the efficiencies of reservoir location, delineation, and management. In order to meet the requirements necessary to fully realize the benefits of 3-D seismic data, there is an increasing demand for improved data quality with greater subsurface resolution.

Currently, the North American seismic data acquisition industry is made up of a number of companies divided into two groups. The first group is made up of publicly-traded companies. This group includes us, SAExploration Holdings, Inc. ("SAE") and Tesla Exploration, Ltd. ("Tesla"). The second group is made up of Geokinetics, Inc. ("Geokinetics"), Global Geophysical Services, Inc. ("Global Geophysical"), Breckenridge Geophysical Inc. ("Breckenridge"), Paragon Geophysical Services, Inc. ("Paragon"), LoneStar Geophysical Surveys ("LoneStar"), and smaller companies which generally run one or two seismic crews and often specialize in specific regions or types of operations.

Equipment and Crews

In recent years, we have experienced continued increases in recording channel capacity on a per crew or project basis. This increase in channel count demand is driven by client needs and is necessary in order to produce higher resolution images, increase crew efficiencies and undertake larger scale projects. Due to the increase in demand for higher channel counts, we have continued our investments in additional channels. In response to project-based channel requirements, we routinely deploy a variable number of channels on a variable number of crews in an effort to maximize asset utilization and meet client needs. While the number of recording systems we own may exceed the number utilized in the field at any given time, we maintain the excess equipment to provide additional operational flexibility and to allow us to quickly deploy additional recording channels and energy source units as needed to respond to client demand and desire for improved data quality with greater subsurface images. We believe we will realize the

benefit of increased channel counts and flexibility of deployment through increased crew efficiencies, higher revenues and margins in improved conditions.

In addition, since 2011, we have purchased or leased a significant number of cable-less recording channels. We have utilized this equipment primarily as stand-alone recording systems, but on occasion we have utilized it in conjunction with our cable-based systems. As a result of the introduction of cable-less recording systems, we have realized increased crew efficiencies and increased revenue on projects using this equipment. We believe we will experience continued demand for cable-less recording systems in the future. While we have replaced cable-based recording equipment with cable-less equipment on certain crews, the cable-based recording equipment continues to be deployed on existing crews.

As of December 31, 2015, we owned equipment for 22 land-based seismic data acquisition crews, 217 vibrator energy source units, approximately 248,000 recording channels and 22 central recording systems. Of the 22 recording systems we owned at December 31, 2015, 12 were Geospace Technologies GSR cable-less recording systems, eight were ARAM ARIES cable-based recording systems, one was a Wireless Seismic RT System 2 system, and one was a cable-less INOVA Hawk system. Each crew consists of approximately 40 to 100 technicians with associated vehicles, geophones, a seismic recording system, energy sources, cables, and a variety of other equipment. Each ARAM crew has one central recording vehicle which captures seismic data. The GSR, GSX and INOVA Hawk crews utilize a recorder to manage the data acquisition while the individual system captures and holds the data until they are placed in the Data Transfer Module. The data is then transferred to various data storage media, which are delivered to a data processing center selected by the client.

Equipment Acquisition and Capital Expenditures

We monitor and evaluate advances in geophysical technology and commit capital funds to purchase the equipment we deem most effective to maintain our competitive position cost-effectively. Purchasing and updating seismic equipment and technology involves a commitment to capital spending. We also tie our capital expenditures closely to demand for our services. As a result of the continuing softening in demand for seismic services beginning in early 2014 and the Company's belief that its current equipment base is sufficient to meet current demand, the Company has adopted a maintenance capital expenditures program and has generally curtailed large equipment purchases.

Clients

Our services are marketed by supervisory and executive personnel who contact clients to determine geophysical needs and respond to client inquiries regarding the availability of crews or processing schedules. These contacts are based principally upon professional relationships developed over a number of years.

Our clients range from major oil and gas companies to small independent oil and gas operators and also providers of multi-client data libraries. The services we provide to our clients vary according to the size and needs of each client. During the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, sales to two clients represented more than 36% of our revenue. The remaining balance of our revenue was derived from varied clients and none represented 10% or more of our revenues. We anticipate that sales to these two clients will represent a smaller percentage of our overall revenues during 2016.

We do not acquire seismic data for our own account or for future sale, maintain multi-client seismic data libraries or participate in oil and gas ventures. The results of seismic surveys conducted for a client belong to that client. It is also our policy that none of our officers, directors or employees actively participate in oil and natural gas ventures. All of our clients' information is maintained in the strictest confidence.

Domestic and Foreign Operations

We derive our revenue from domestic and foreign sources. Total revenues for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015 were approximately \$234,685,000, of which \$222,154,000 were earned in the United States and \$12,531,000 were earned in Canada. Total revenue for the twelve months ended December 31, 2014 were approximately \$244,304,000, of which \$240,751,000 were earned in the United States and \$3,553,000 were earned in Canada.

Long lived assets as of December 31, 2015 were approximately \$345,619,000, with \$329,467,000 owned in the United States and \$16,152,000 owned in Canada. Long lived assets as of December 31, 2014 were approximately \$339,245,000, with \$337,945,000 owned in the United States and \$1,300,000 owned in Canada.

Contracts

Our contracts are obtained either through competitive bidding or as a result of client negotiations. Our services are conducted under general service agreements for seismic data acquisition services which define certain obligations for us and for our clients. A supplemental agreement setting forth the terms of a specific project, which may be canceled by either party on short notice, is entered into for every project. We currently operate under supplemental agreements that are either "turnkey" agreements providing for a fixed fee to be paid to us for each unit of data acquired or "term" agreements providing for a fixed hourly, daily, or monthly fee during the term of the project or projects.

Currently, as in recent years, most of our projects are operated under turnkey agreements. Turnkey agreements generally provide us more profit potential, but involve more risks because of the potential of crew downtime or operational delays. We attempt to negotiate on a project-by-project basis some level of weather downtime protection within the turnkey agreements. Under the term agreements, we forego an increased profit potential in exchange for a more consistent revenue stream with improved protection from crew downtime or operational delays.

Competition

The acquisition of seismic data for the oil and natural gas industry is a highly competitive business. Contracts for such services generally are awarded on the basis of price quotations, crew experience, and the availability of crews to perform in a timely manner, although factors other than price, such as crew safety, performance history, and technological and operational expertise, are often determinative. Our competition includes publicly traded competitors, such as Tesla and SAE. Our other major competitors include Geokinetics, Global Geophysical, Breckenridge, Paragon and LoneStar. In addition to these previously named companies, we also compete for projects from time to time with smaller seismic companies which operate in local markets with only one or two crews. Further, the barriers to entry in the seismic industry are not prohibitive, and it would not be difficult for seismic companies outside of the United States to enter the United States market and compete with us.

Employees

As of December 31, 2015, we employed over 1,125 full-time employees, of which approximately 150 consisted of management, sales, and administrative personnel with the remainder being crew and crew support personnel. Our employees are not represented by a labor union. We believe we have good relations with our employees.

See "Item 2. Properties" for a description of our material properties utilized in our business.

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock is subject to a number of risks, including those discussed below. You should carefully consider these discussions of risk and the other information included in this Form 10-K. These risk factors could affect our actual results and should be considered carefully when evaluating us. Although the risks described below are the risks that we believe are material, they are not the only risks relating to our business, our industry and our common stock. Additional risks and uncertainties, including those that are not yet identified or that we currently believe are immaterial, may also adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations. If any of the events described below occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

We derive substantially all of our revenues from companies in the oil and natural gas exploration and development industry, as well as providers of multi-client data libraries which serve common clients in the industry. The oil and natural gas industry is a historically cyclical industry which is currently experiencing a severe downturn, with levels of activity that are significantly affected by the levels and volatility of oil and natural gas prices.

Demand for our services depends upon the level of expenditures by oil and natural gas companies for exploration, production, development and field management activities, which depend primarily on oil and natural gas prices. The oil and natural gas industry is currently experiencing a severe downturn. Significant declines in oil and natural gas exploration activities and oil and natural gas prices have adversely affected the demand for our services and our results of operations in the past as well as currently and will continue to do so if the level of such exploration activities and the prices for oil and natural gas were to decline in the future or if the current downturn is extended or becomes more severe. In addition to the market prices of oil and natural gas, the willingness of our clients to explore, develop and produce depends largely upon prevailing industry conditions that are influenced by numerous factors over which our management has no control, including general economic conditions and the availability of credit. Any prolonged reduction in the overall level of exploration and development activities, whether resulting from changes in oil and natural gas prices or otherwise, could adversely impact us in many ways by negatively affecting:

- our revenues, cash flows, and profitability;
- our ability to maintain or increase our borrowing capacity;
- our ability to obtain additional capital to finance our business and the cost of that capital; and
- our ability to attract and retain skilled personnel whom we would need in the event of an upturn in the demand for our services.

Worldwide political, economic, and military events have contributed to oil and natural gas price volatility and are likely to continue to do so in the future. Depending on the market prices of oil and natural gas, oil and natural gas exploration and development companies may cancel or curtail their capital expenditure and drilling programs, thereby reducing demand for our services, or may become unable to pay, or have to delay payment of, amounts owed to us for our services. Oil and natural gas prices have been highly volatile historically and, we believe, will continue to be so in the future. Many factors beyond our control affect oil and natural gas prices, including:

- the cost of exploring for, producing, and delivering oil and natural gas;
- the discovery rate of new oil and natural gas reserves;
- the rate of decline of existing and new oil and natural gas reserves;
- available pipeline and other oil and natural gas transportation capacity;
- the ability of oil and natural gas companies to raise capital and debt financing;

- actions by OPEC (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries);
- political instability in the Middle East and other major oil and natural gas producing regions;
- economic conditions in the United States and elsewhere;
- domestic and foreign tax policy;
- domestic and foreign energy policy including increased emphasis on alternative sources of energy;
- weather conditions in the United States, Canada and elsewhere;
- the pace adopted by foreign governments for the exploration, development, and production of their national reserves;
- the price of foreign imports of oil and natural gas; and
- the overall supply and demand for oil and natural gas.

We and our clients may be adversely affected by an economic downturn.

An economic downturn could have a material adverse effect on our financial results and proposed plan of operations and could lead to further significant fluctuations in the demand for and pricing of oil and gas. Reduced demand and pricing pressures could adversely affect the financial condition and results of operations of our clients and their ability to purchase our services. We are not able to predict the timing, extent, and duration of the economic cycles in the markets in which we operate. The oil and natural gas industry is currently experiencing a severe downturn and prices for oil and natural gas have been in decline since the fourth quarter of 2014. If the current downturn continues for an extended period of time, or if it becomes more extreme, it may have material adverse effects on our planned operations, level of capital expenditures and financial condition.

A limited number of clients operating in a single industry account for a significant portion of our revenues, and the loss of one of these clients could adversely affect our results of operations.

We derive a significant amount of our revenues from a relatively small number of oil and gas exploration and development companies and providers of multi-client data libraries. During the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, our two largest clients accounted for approximately 36% of our revenues. If either of these clients, or any of our other significant clients, were to terminate their contracts or fail to contract for our services in the future because they are acquired, alter their exploration or development strategy, experience financial difficulties or for any other reason, our results of operations could be adversely affected.

Our clients could delay, reduce or cancel their service contracts with us on short notice, which may lead to lower than expected demand and revenues.

Our order book reflects client commitments at levels we believe are sufficient to maintain operations on our existing crews for the indicated periods. However, our clients can delay, reduce or cancel their service contracts with us on short notice. If the current downturn in the oil and natural gas industry continues for an extended period of time, or if it becomes more extreme, it may result in an increase in delays, reductions or cancellations by our clients. In addition, the timing of the origination and completion of projects and when projects are awarded and contracted for is also uncertain. As a result, our order book as of any particular date may not be indicative of actual demand and revenues for any succeeding fiscal period.

Our revenues, operating results and cash flows can be expected to fluctuate from period to period.

Our revenues, operating results, and profitability may fluctuate from period to period. These fluctuations are attributable to the level of new business in a particular period, the timing of the initiation, progress or cancellation of significant projects, higher revenues and expenses on our dynamite contracts, and costs we incur to train new crews we may add in the future to meet increased client demand. Fluctuations in our operating results may also be affected by other factors that are outside of our control such as permit delays, weather delays and crew productivity. Oil and natural gas prices have continued to be volatile, and have resulted in significant demand fluctuations for our services. The current downturn in the oil and natural gas industry and the related sustained declines in oil and natural gas commodity prices have resulted in declines in the demand for our services. There can be no assurance of future oil and gas price levels or stability. Our operations in Canada are also seasonal as a result of the thawing season and we have historically experienced limited Canadian activity for the second and third quarters of each year. The demand for our services will be adversely affected by a significant reduction in oil and natural gas prices and by climate change legislation or material changes to U.S. energy policy. Because our business has high fixed costs, the negative effect of one or more of these factors could trigger wide variations in our operating revenues, cash flows, EBITDA margin, and profitability from quarter-to-quarter, rendering quarter-to-quarter comparisons unreliable as an indicator of performance. Due to the factors discussed above, you should not expect sequential growth in our quarterly revenues and profitability.

We extend credit to our clients without requiring collateral and a default by a client could have a material adverse effect on our operating revenues.

We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our clients' financial conditions and, generally, require no collateral from our clients. It is possible that one or more of our clients will become financially distressed, especially in light of the current downturn in the oil and natural gas industry and low commodity prices, which could cause them to default on their obligations to us and could reduce the client's future need for seismic services provided by us. Our concentration of clients may also increase our overall exposure to these credit risks. A default in payment from one of our large clients could have a material adverse effect on our operating revenues for the period involved.

We incur losses.

We incurred net losses of \$26,279,000 and \$14,714,000 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Our ability to be profitable in the future will depend on many factors beyond our control, but primarily on the level of demand for land-based seismic data acquisition services by oil and natural gas exploration and development companies. Even if we do achieve profitability, we may not be able to sustain or increase profitability on a quarterly or annual basis.

We have indebtedness under credit facilities with commercial banks, and certain of our core assets and our accounts receivable are pledged as collateral for these obligations. Our ability to borrow may be limited if our accounts receivable decrease.

We have indebtedness under credit facilities with commercial banks, and certain of our core assets as well as our accounts receivable are pledged as collateral for these borrowings. If we are unable to repay all secured borrowings when due, whether at maturity or if declared due and payable following a default, our lenders have the right to proceed against the assets pledged to secure the indebtedness and may sell these assets in order to repay those borrowings, which could materially harm our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our ability to borrow funds under our revolving line of credit is tied to the amount of our eligible accounts receivable. If our accounts receivable decrease materially for any reason,

including due to delays, reductions or cancellations by clients or decreased demand for our services, our ability to borrow to fund operations or other obligations may be limited.

Our financial results could be adversely affected by asset impairments.

We periodically review our portfolio of equipment and our intangible assets for impairment. In connection with the Merger, we recorded intangibles associated with the combination of Legacy TGC and Legacy Dawson that are an asset on our consolidated balance sheet. Future events, including our financial performance, sustained decreases in oil and natural gas prices, reduced demand for our services, our market valuation or the market valuation of comparable companies, loss of a significant client's business, failure to realize the benefits of the Merger, or strategic decisions, could cause us to conclude that impairment indicators exist and ultimately that the asset values associated with our equipment or our intangibles, if any, were to be impaired. If we were to impair our equipment or intangibles, these noncash asset impairments could negatively affect our financial results in a material manner in the period in which they are recorded, and the larger the amount of any impairment that may be taken, the greater the impact such impairment may have on our financial results.

Our profitability is determined, in part, by the utilization level and productivity of our crews and is affected by numerous external factors that are beyond our control.

Our revenue is determined, in part, by the contract price we receive for our services, the level of utilization of our data acquisition crews and the productivity of these crews. Crew utilization and productivity is partly a function of external factors, such as client cancellation or delay of projects, operating delays from inclement weather, obtaining land access rights and other factors, over which we have no control. If our crews encounter operational difficulties or delays on any data acquisition survey, our results of operations may vary, and in some cases, may be adversely affected.

In recent years, most of our projects have been performed on a turnkey basis for which we were paid a fixed price for a defined scope of work or unit of data acquired. The revenue, cost and gross profit realized under our turnkey contracts can vary from our estimates because of changes in job conditions, variations in labor and equipment productivity or because of the performance of our subcontractors. Turnkey contracts may also cause us to bear substantially all of the risks of business interruption caused by external factors over which we may have no control, such as weather, obtaining land access rights, crew downtime or operational delays. These variations, delays and risks inherent in turnkey contracts may result in reducing our profitability.

We face intense competition in our business that could result in downward pricing pressure and the loss of market share.

The seismic data acquisition services industry is a highly competitive business in the continental U.S. and Canada. Our competitors include companies with financial resources that are significantly greater than our own as well as companies of comparable and smaller size. Additionally, the seismic data acquisition business is extremely price competitive and has a history of periods in which seismic contractors bid jobs below cost and therefore adversely affect industry pricing. Many contracts are awarded on a bid basis, which may further increase competition based primarily on price. Further, the barriers to entry in the seismic industry are not prohibitive, and it would not be difficult for seismic companies outside of the U.S. to enter the U.S. market and compete with us.

Inclement weather may adversely affect our ability to complete projects and could therefore adversely affect our results of operations.

Our seismic data acquisition operations could be adversely affected by inclement weather conditions. Delays associated with weather conditions could adversely affect our results of operations. For example,

weather delays could affect our operations on a particular project or an entire region and could lengthen the time to complete data acquisition projects. In addition, even if we negotiate weather protection provisions in our contracts, we may not be fully compensated by our clients for the delay caused by the inclement weather.

Our operations are subject to delays related to obtaining land access rights of way from third parties which could affect our results of operations.

Our seismic data acquisition operations could be adversely affected by our inability to obtain timely right of way usage from both public and private land and/or mineral owners. We cannot begin surveys on property without obtaining permits from governmental entities as well as the permission of the private landowners who own the land being surveyed. In recent years, it has become more difficult, costly and time-consuming to obtain access rights of way as drilling activities have expanded into more populated areas. Additionally, while landowners generally are cooperative in granting access rights, some have become more resistant to seismic and drilling activities occurring on their property. In addition, governmental entities do not always grant permits within the time periods expected. Delays associated with obtaining such rights of way could negatively affect our results of operations.

Capital requirements for our operations are large. If we are unable to finance these requirements, we may not be able to maintain our competitive advantage.

Seismic data acquisition and data processing technologies historically have progressed steadily, and we expect this trend to continue. In order to remain competitive, we must continue to invest additional capital to maintain, upgrade and expand our seismic data acquisition capabilities. Our working capital requirements remain high, primarily due to the expansion of our infrastructure in response to client demand for cable-less recording systems and more recording channels, which has increased as the industry strives for improved data quality with greater subsurface resolution images. Our sources of working capital are limited. We have historically funded our working capital requirements primarily with cash generated from operations, cash reserves and from time to time borrowings from commercial banks. In recent years we have funded some of our capital expenditures through equipment term loans and capital leases. In the past, we have also funded our capital expenditures and other financing needs through public equity offerings. If we were to expand our operations at a rate exceeding operating cash flow, if current demand or pricing of geophysical services were to decrease substantially or if technical advances or competitive pressures required us to acquire new equipment faster than our cash flow could sustain, additional financing could be required. If we were not able to obtain such financing or renew our existing revolving line of credit when needed, our failure could have a negative impact on our ability to pursue expansion and maintain our competitive advantage.

Technological change in our business creates risks of technological obsolescence and requirements for future capital expenditures. If we are unable to keep up with these technological advances, we may not be able to compete effectively.

Seismic data acquisition technologies historically have steadily improved and progressed, and we expect this progression to continue. We are in a capital intensive industry, and in order to remain competitive, we must continue to invest additional capital to maintain, upgrade and expand our seismic data acquisition capabilities. However, we may have limitations on our ability to obtain the financing necessary to enable us to purchase state-of-the-art equipment, and certain of our competitors may be able to purchase newer equipment when we may not be able to do so, thus affecting our ability to compete.

We rely on a limited number of key suppliers for specific seismic services and equipment.

We depend on a limited number of third parties to supply us with specific seismic services and equipment. From time to time, increased demand for seismic data acquisition services has decreased the

available supply of new seismic equipment, resulting in extended delivery dates on orders of new equipment. Any delay in obtaining equipment could delay our deployment of additional crews and restrict the productivity of existing crews, adversely affecting our business and results of operations. In addition, any adverse change in the terms of our suppliers' arrangements could affect our results of operations.

Some of our suppliers may also be our competitors. If competitive pressures were to become such that our suppliers would no longer sell to us, we would not be able to easily replace the technology with equipment that communicates effectively with our existing technology, thereby impairing our ability to conduct our business.

We are dependent on our management team and key employees, and our inability to retain our current team or attract new employees could harm our business.

Our continued success depends upon attracting and retaining highly skilled professionals and other technical personnel. A number of our employees are highly skilled scientists and highly trained technicians. The loss, whether by death, departure or illness, of our senior executives or other key employees or our failure to continue to attract and retain skilled and technically knowledgeable personnel could adversely affect our ability to compete in the seismic services industry. We may experience significant competition for such personnel, particularly during periods of increased demand for seismic services. A limited number of our employees are under employment contracts, and we have no key man insurance.

We may fail to realize the anticipated benefits of the Merger, which could adversely affect the value of our common stock.

The success of the Merger will depend, in part, on our ability to manage effectively the businesses of Legacy TGC and Legacy Dawson and realize the anticipated benefits from the combination of Legacy TGC and Legacy Dawson. We believe that these anticipated benefits, which include the expansion of our geographic diversity, an increase in seismic crew utilization rates due to an expanded order book and the ability to enhance efficiencies because of logistical improvements and expanded support services capabilities, are achievable. However, it is possible that we will not be able to achieve these benefits fully, or at all, or will not be able to achieve them within the anticipated timeframe.

We are subject to Canadian foreign currency exchange rate risk.

We conduct business in Canada which subjects us to foreign currency exchange rate risk. Currently, we do not hold or issue foreign currency forward contracts, option contracts or other derivative financial instruments to mitigate the currency exchange rate risk. Our results of operations and our cash flows could be impacted by changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

Our common stock has experienced, and may continue to experience, price volatility and low trading volume.

Our stock price is subject to significant volatility. Overall market conditions, including a decline in oil and natural gas prices and other risks and uncertainties described in this "Risk Factors" section and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, could cause the market price of our common stock to fall. Our high and low sales price following the Merger through December 31, 2015 was \$7.31 and \$2.93, respectively.

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "DWSN." However, daily trading volumes for our common stock are, and may continue to be, relatively small compared to many other publicly traded securities. It may be difficult for shares to be sold in the public market at any given time at prevailing prices, and the price of our common stock may, therefore, be volatile.

Our common stock currently trades below \$5.00 per share, and as a result it may be considered a low-priced stock and may be subject to regulations that limit or restrict the potential market for the stock.

Our common stock may be considered a low-priced stock pursuant to rules promulgated under Section 15(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The rules apply to non-NASDAQ listed companies whose stock trades below a price of \$5.00 per share or that have tangible net worth of less than \$5,000,000. These rules require, among other things, that broker-dealers participating in transactions in low-priced securities with persons other than "established customers" complete certain documentation, make suitability inquiries of investors and provide investors with certain information concerning trading in the security, including a risk disclosure document and quote information under certain circumstances. Broker-dealers must also disclose these restrictions in writing and provide monthly account statements to the client, and obtain specific written consent of the client. Many brokers have decided not to trade low-priced stock because of the requirements of the rules and, as a result, the number of broker-dealers willing to act as market makers in such securities is limited. With these restrictions, the likely effect of a designation as a low-price stock would be to decrease the willingness of broker-dealers to make a market for our common stock, to decrease the liquidity of the stock and to increase the transaction costs of sales and purchase of such stocks compared to other securities. As of December 31, 2015, our common stock was quoted at a closing sales price of \$3.46 per share, and as of March 11, 2016, our common stock was quoted at a closing sales price of \$4.34 per share. We cannot guarantee that our common stock will trade at a price greater than \$5.00 per share in the future.

We do not expect to pay cash dividends on our common stock for the foreseeable future, and therefore only appreciation of the price of our common stock may provide a return to shareholders.

While there are currently no restrictions prohibiting us from paying dividends to our shareholders, our board of directors, after consideration of general economic and market conditions affecting the energy industry in general, and the oilfield services business in particular, determined that we would not pay a dividend in respect of our common stock for the foreseeable future. Payment of any dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our board and will depend on our financial condition, results of operations, capital and legal requirements, and other factors deemed relevant by the board.

Certain provisions of our amended and restated certificate of formation may make it difficult for a third party to acquire us in the future or may adversely impact your ability to obtain a premium in connection with a future change of control transaction.

Our amended restated certificate of formation, as amended, contains provisions that require the approval of holders of 80% of our issued and outstanding shares before we may merge or consolidate with or into another corporation or entity or sell all or substantially all of our assets to another corporation or entity. Additionally, if we increase the size of our board from the current eight directors to nine directors, we could by resolution of the board of directors stagger the directors' terms, and our directors could not be removed without approval of holders of 80% of our issued and outstanding shares. These provisions could discourage or impede a tender offer, proxy contest or other similar transaction involving control of us.

In addition, our board of directors has the right to issue preferred stock upon such terms and conditions as it deems to be in our best interest. The terms of such preferred stock may adversely impact the dividend and liquidation rights of our common shareholders without the approval of our common shareholders.

We may be subject to liability claims that are not covered by our insurance.

Our business is subject to the general risks inherent in land-based seismic data acquisition activities. Our activities are often conducted in remote areas under dangerous conditions, including the detonation of dynamite. These operations are subject to risks of injury to personnel and damage to equipment. Our

crews are mobile, and equipment and personnel are subject to vehicular accidents. These risks could cause us to experience equipment losses, injuries to our personnel, and interruptions in our business.

In addition, we could be subject to personal injury or real property damage claims in the normal operation of our business. Such claims may not be covered under the indemnification provisions contained in our general service agreements to the extent that the damage is due to our negligence or intentional misconduct.

Our general service agreements require us to have specific amounts of insurance. However, we do not carry insurance against certain risks that could cause losses, including business interruption resulting from equipment maintenance or weather delays. Further, there can be no assurance, however, that any insurance obtained by us will be adequate to cover all losses or liabilities or that this insurance will continue to be available or available on terms which are acceptable to us. Liabilities for which we are not insured, or which exceed the policy limits of our applicable insurance, could have a materially adverse effect on us.

We may be held liable for the actions of our subcontractors.

We often work as the general contractor on seismic data acquisition surveys and, consequently, engage a number of subcontractors to perform services and provide products. While we obtain contractual indemnification and insurance covering the acts of these subcontractors and require the subcontractors to obtain insurance for our benefit, we could be held liable for the actions of these subcontractors. In addition, subcontractors may cause injury to our personnel or damage to our property that is not fully covered by insurance.

The high fixed costs of our operations could result in operating losses.

Companies within our industry are typically subject to high fixed costs which consist primarily of depreciation (a non-cash item) and maintenance expenses associated with seismic data acquisition and equipment and crew costs. In addition, ongoing maintenance capital expenditures, as well as new equipment investment, can be significant. As a result, any extended periods of significant downtime or low productivity caused by reduced demand, weather interruptions, equipment failures, permit delays, or other causes could result in operating losses.

We operate under hazardous conditions that subject us to risk of damage to property or personnel injuries and may interrupt our business.

Our business is subject to the general risks inherent in land-based seismic data acquisition activities. Our activities are often conducted in remote areas under extreme weather and other dangerous conditions, including the use of dynamite as an energy source. These operations are subject to risks of injury to our personnel and third parties and damage to our equipment and improvements in the areas in which we operate. In addition, our crews often operate in areas where the risk of wildfires is present and may be increased by our activities. Our crews are mobile, and equipment and personnel are subject to vehicular accidents. We use diesel fuel which is classified by the U.S. Department of Transportation as a hazardous material. These risks could cause us to experience equipment losses, injuries to our personnel and interruptions in our business. Delays due to operational disruptions such as equipment losses, personnel injuries and business interruptions could adversely affect our profitability and results of operations.

Loss of our information and computer systems could adversely affect our business.

We are heavily dependent on our information systems and computer-based programs, including our seismic information, electronic data processing and accounting data. If any of such programs or systems were to fail or create erroneous information in our hardware or software network infrastructure, or if we were subject to cyberspace breaches or attacks, possible consequences include our loss of communication

links, loss of seismic data and inability to automatically process commercial transactions or engage in similar automated or computerized business activities. Any such consequence could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our business could be negatively impacted by security threats, including cyber-security threats and other disruptions.

We face various security threats, including cyber-security threats to gain unauthorized access to sensitive information or to render data or systems unusable, threats to the safety of our employees, threats to the security of our facilities and infrastructure and threats from terrorist acts. Cyber-security attacks in particular are evolving and include, but are not limited to, malicious software, attempts to gain unauthorized access to data and other electronic security breaches that could lead to disruptions in critical systems, unauthorized release of confidential or otherwise protected information and corruption of data. Although we utilize various procedures and controls to monitor and protect against these threats and to mitigate our exposure to such threats, there can be no assurance that these procedures and controls will be sufficient in preventing security threats from materializing. If any of these events were to materialize, they could lead to losses of sensitive information, critical infrastructure, personnel or capabilities essential to our operations and could have a material adverse effect on our reputation, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Our business is subject to government regulation that may adversely affect our future operations.

Our operations are subject to a variety of federal, state, and provincial and local laws and regulations, including laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment and archeological sites and those that may result from climate change legislation. Canadian operations have been historically cyclical due to governmental restrictions on seismic acquisition during certain periods. As a result, there is a risk that there will be a significant amount of unused equipment during those periods. We are required to expend financial and managerial resources to comply with such laws and related permit requirements in our operations, and we anticipate that we will continue to be required to do so in the future. Although such expenditures historically have not been material to us, the fact that such laws or regulations change frequently makes it impossible for us to predict the cost or impact of such laws and regulations on our future operations. The adoption of laws and regulations that have the effect of reducing or curtailing exploration and development activities by energy companies could also adversely affect our operations by reducing the demand for our services.

Current and future legislation or regulation relating to climate change or hydraulic fracturing could negatively affect the exploration and production of oil and gas and adversely affect demand for our services.

In response to concerns suggesting that emissions of certain gases, commonly referred to as "greenhouse gases" (GHG) (including carbon dioxide and methane) may be contributing to global climate change, legislative and regulatory measures to address the concerns are in various phases of discussion or implementation at the national and state levels. At least one-half of the states, either individually or through multi-state regional initiatives, have already taken legal measures intended to reduce GHG emissions, primarily through the planned development of GHG emission inventories and/or GHG cap and trade programs. Although various climate change legislative measures have been under consideration by the U.S. Congress, it is not possible at this time to predict whether or when Congress may act on climate change legislation. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") has promulgated a series of rulemakings and taken other actions that the EPA states will result in the regulation of GHG as "air pollutants" under the existing federal Clean Air Act. Furthermore, in 2010, EPA regulations became effective that require monitoring and reporting of GHG emissions on an annual basis, including extensive GHG monitoring and reporting requirements. While this new rule does not control GHG emission levels from any facilities, it will cause covered facilities to incur monitoring and reporting costs. Moreover,

lawsuits have been filed seeking to require individual companies to reduce GHG emissions from their operations. These and other lawsuits relating to GHG emissions may result in decisions by state and federal courts and agencies that could impact our operations.

This increasing governmental focus on global warming may result in new environmental laws or regulations that may negatively affect us, our suppliers and our clients. This could cause us to incur additional direct costs in complying with any new environmental regulations, as well as increased indirect costs resulting from our clients, suppliers or both incurring additional compliance costs that get passed on to us. Moreover, passage of climate change legislation or other federal or state legislative or regulatory initiatives that regulate or restrict emissions of GHG may curtail production and demand for fossil fuels such as oil and gas in areas where our clients operate and thus adversely affect future demand for our services. Reductions in our revenues or increases in our expenses as a result of climate control initiatives could have adverse effects on our business, financial position, results of operations and prospects.

Hydraulic fracturing is an important and commonly used process in the completion of oil and gas wells. Hydraulic fracturing involves the injection of water, sand and chemical additives under pressure into rock formations to stimulate gas production. Due to public concerns raised regarding potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on groundwater quality, legislative and regulatory efforts at the federal level and in some states have been initiated to require or make more stringent the permitting and compliance requirements for hydraulic fracturing operations. At the federal level, a bill was introduced in Congress in March 2011 entitled, the "Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act," or the "FRAC Act," that would amend the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, or the "SDWA," to repeal an exemption from regulation for hydraulic fracturing. If the FRAC Act or similar legislation in the next Congress were enacted, the definition of "underground injection" in the SDWA would be amended to encompass hydraulic fracturing activities. Such a provision could require hydraulic fracturing operations to meet permitting and financial assurance requirements, adhere to certain construction specifications, fulfill monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping obligations and meet plugging and abandonment requirements. The FRAC Act also proposes to require the reporting and public disclosure of chemicals used in the fracturing process, which could make it easier for third parties opposing the hydraulic fracturing process to initiate legal proceedings based on allegations that specific chemicals used in the fracturing process could adversely affect groundwater. In early 2010, the EPA indicated in a website posting that it intended to regulate hydraulic fracturing under the SDWA and require permitting for any well where hydraulic fracturing was conducted with the use of diesel as an additive. While industry groups have challenged the EPA's website posting as improper rulemaking, the Agency's position, if upheld, could require additional permitting. In addition, in March 2010 the EPA commenced a study of the potential adverse effects that hydraulic fracturing may have on water quality and public health, and a committee of the U.S. House of Representatives has commenced its own investigation into hydraulic fracturing practices. The EPA released a progress report in December 2012, but it did not include results of the research. In May 2014, the EPA indicated it would convene a stakeholder process to develop an approach to obtain information on chemical substances and mixtures used in hydraulic fracturing. The EPA issued a draft report in June 2015, concluding that, although hydraulic fracturing activities have the potential to impact drinking water resources through water withdrawals, spills, fracturing directly into such resources, underground migration of liquids and gases, and inadequate treatment and discharge of wastewater, EPA did not find evidence that these mechanisms have led to widespread, systemic impacts on drinking water resources. However, the draft report did identify important vulnerabilities to drinking water. The draft report has not yet been finalized. These legislative and regulatory initiatives imposing additional reporting obligations on, or otherwise limiting, the hydraulic fracturing process could make it more difficult or costly to complete natural gas wells. Shale gas cannot be economically produced without extensive fracturing. In the event such legislation is enacted, demand for our seismic acquisition services may be adversely affected.

We are subject to the requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. If we are unable to maintain compliance with Section 404, or if the costs related to maintaining compliance are significant, our profitability, stock price, and results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

If we are unable to maintain adequate internal controls in accordance with Section 404, as such standards are amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time, we may not be able to ensure that we have effective internal controls over financial reporting on an ongoing basis in accordance with Section 404. Failure to achieve and maintain effective internal controls could have a material adverse effect on our stock price. In addition, a material weakness in the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting could result in an increased chance of fraud and the loss of clients, reduce our ability to obtain financing, and/or require additional expenditures to comply with these requirements, each of which could negatively impact our business, profitability, and financial condition.

Item 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

Item 2. PROPERTIES

Our headquarters are located in a 34,570 square foot leased property in Midland, Texas. We have two other properties in Midland, including a 61,402 square foot property that we own and use as a field office, equipment and fabrication facility and maintenance and repair shop. We also own a 6,600 square foot property that we use as an inventory field office and storage facility.

We also have additional offices in three other cities in Texas: Denison, Houston and Plano. Our Denison warehouse facility consists of one 5,000-square foot building, three 10,000-square foot adjacent buildings, and an outdoor storage area of approximately 60,500 square feet. Our Houston sales office is in a 10,041-square foot facility. Our office in Plano, Texas consists of 10,137 square feet of office space.

We also lease a 3,443-square foot facility in Denver, Colorado, as a sales office. We lease a 7,480 and 1,094-square foot facility in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as sales offices.

We lease 3,030 square feet of office space located in Calgary, Alberta. In addition, Eagle Canada leases a 7,423-square foot facility, also located in Calgary, Alberta, that is used as a shop and warehouse. We also lease a storage and parking area near the Eagle Canada shop and warehouse.

We believe that our existing facilities are being appropriately utilized in line with past experience and are well maintained, suitable for their intended use and adequate to meet our current and future operating requirements.

Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, we are a party to various legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Although we cannot predict the outcomes of any such legal proceedings, our management believes that the resolution of pending legal actions will not have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

For a discussion of certain contingencies affecting the Company, please refer to Note 16, "Commitments and Contingencies" to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, which is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

Part II**Item 5. MARKET FOR OUR COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS**

Our common stock trades on the Nasdaq Stock Market® under the symbol "DWSN." The table below represents the high and low sales prices per share for the period shown for Legacy TGC prior to the Merger and for the combined Company after the Merger.

<u>Three Months Ended</u>	<u>High(1)</u>	<u>Low(1)</u>
March 31, 2014	\$ 7.45	\$ 5.66
June 30, 2014	\$ 6.12	\$ 4.24
September 30, 2014	\$ 5.76	\$ 3.69
December 31, 2014	\$ 3.92	\$ 1.93
March 31, 2015	\$ 7.31	\$ 1.90
June 30, 2015	\$ 6.11	\$ 4.22
September 30, 2015	\$ 5.38	\$ 3.34
December 31, 2015	\$ 4.63	\$ 2.93

- (1) The high and low stock price provided for periods prior to February 11, 2015 was calculated by dividing the historical Legacy TGC high or low price by three to account for the 1-for-3 reverse stock split undertaken by Legacy TGC in connection with the Merger. The high and low stock price provided for periods after February 11, 2015 reflect the stock price of the combined Company following the Merger as reported on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the symbol "DWSN".

The table below represents the high and low sales prices per share for the period shown for Legacy Dawson prior to the Merger.

<u>Three Months Ended</u>	<u>High(2)</u>	<u>Low(2)</u>
March 31, 2014	\$ 19.83	\$ 15.66
June 30, 2014	\$ 17.55	\$ 14.47
September 30, 2014	\$ 16.59	\$ 10.32
December 31, 2014	\$ 10.66	\$ 5.91
February 11, 2015	\$ 7.13	\$ 5.86

- (2) The high and low stock price provided for periods prior to February 11, 2015 was calculated by dividing the historical Legacy Dawson high or low price by the merger conversion factor of 1.76.

As of March 11, 2016, the market price for our common stock was \$4.34 per share, and we had 103 common stockholders of record, as reported by our transfer agent.

Legacy Dawson paid quarterly dividends in 2014, with its last quarterly dividend paid on December 8, 2014. Legacy Dawson did not pay any dividends to shareholders in 2015. Legacy TGC last paid cash dividends in 2012 and last paid stock dividends in 2013. Legacy TGC did not pay any dividends to shareholders in 2014 or 2015. While there are currently no restrictions prohibiting us from paying dividends to our shareholders, our board of directors, after consideration of general economic and market conditions affecting the energy industry in general, and the oilfield services business in particular, determined that we would not pay a dividend in respect of our common stock for the foreseeable future. Payment of any dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our board and will depend on our financial condition, results of operations, capital and legal requirements, and other factors deemed relevant by the board.

The following table summarizes certain information regarding securities authorized for issuance under our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2015. See information regarding material

features of the plan in Note 8, "Stock-Based Compensation," to the Consolidated Financial Statements incorporated by reference herein.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

<u>Plan Category</u>	<u>Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise or Vesting of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights</u> (a)	<u>Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights</u>	<u>Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under the Equity Compensation Plan (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a))</u>
Legacy Dawson			
Equity compensation plan approved by security holders	287,921(1) \$	10.74(2)	456,708
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	—	—
Legacy TGC			
Equity compensation plan approved by security holders	269,756(3) \$	14.34(2)	406,360
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	—	—
Total	<u>557,677</u>	<u>\$ 12.48</u>	<u>863,068</u>

- (1) Number of securities to be issued upon the exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights include 158,674 options that have vested but have not yet been exercised and 129,247 restricted stock units that have not yet vested.
- (2) Excludes outstanding and unvested restricted stock unit awards, for which there is no exercise price.
- (3) Number of securities to be issued upon the exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights include 269,756 options that have vested but have not yet been exercised.

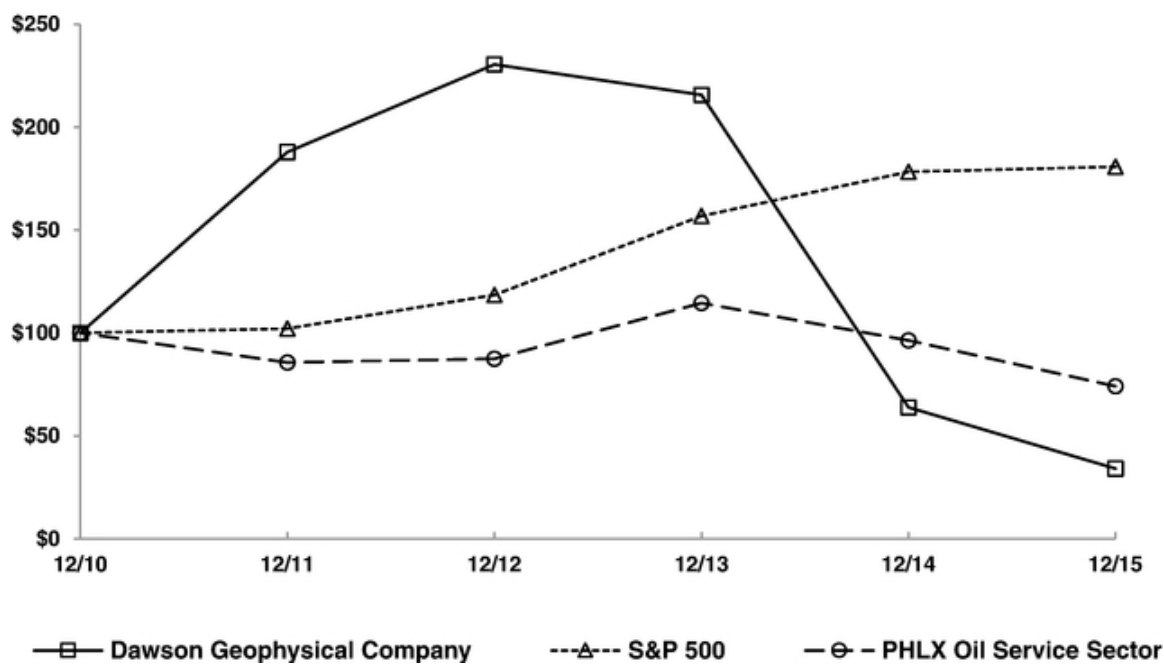
PERFORMANCE GRAPH

The graph below matches Dawson Geophysical Company's cumulative 5-Year total shareholder return on common stock with the cumulative total returns of the S&P 500 index and the PHLX Oil Service Sector index. The graph tracks the performance of a \$100 investment in our common stock and in each index (with the reinvestment of all dividends) from 12/31/2010 to 12/31/2015.

The stock prices used in the computation of the graph below reflect those of Legacy TGC from December 31, 2010 to December 31, 2014 multiplied by three to account for the 1-for-3 reverse stock split undertaken by Legacy TGC in connection with the Merger. The stock price at December 31, 2015 reflects that of the combined Company following the Merger, as reported on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the symbol "DWSN".

COMPARISON OF 5 YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN*

Among Dawson Geophysical Company, the S&P 500 Index
and the PHLX Oil Service Sector Index



* \$100 invested on 12/31/10 in stock or index, including reinvestment of dividends.
Fiscal year ended December 31.

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	12/10	12/11	12/12	12/13	12/14	12/15
Dawson Geophysical Company	100.00	187.89	230.45	215.67	63.82	34.07
S&P 500	100.00	102.11	118.45	156.82	178.29	180.75
PHLX Oil Service Sector	100.00	85.62	87.44	114.50	96.36	74.08

The stock price performance included in this graph is not necessarily indicative of future stock price performance.

Item 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected financial data should be read in conjunction with Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and the Company's consolidated financial statements and related notes included in Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

	Year Ended	Three Months	Year Ended September 30,				
	December 31,	Ended	2014		2013	2012	2011
	2015	December 31,	2014	2013	2012	2011	
			(In thousands, except per share amounts)				
Operating revenues	\$ 234,685	\$ 50,802	\$ 261,683	\$ 305,299	\$ 319,274	\$ 333,279	
Net (loss) income(1)	\$ (26,279)	\$ (4,991)	\$ (12,620)	\$ 10,480	\$ 11,113	\$ (3,246)	
Basic (loss) income per share							
attributable to common stock(2)(3)	\$ (1.27)	\$ (0.36)	\$ (0.90)	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.81	\$ (0.24)	
Cash dividends declared per share of common stock(4)(5)	\$ —	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.14	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	
Weighted average equivalent common shares outstanding	20,688	14,020	14,009	13,868	13,801	13,745	
Total assets	\$ 247,787	\$ 244,022	\$ 256,662	\$ 289,027	\$ 279,175	\$ 264,824	
Revolving line of credit	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	
Current maturities of notes payable and obligations under capital leases	\$ 8,585	\$ 6,018	\$ 6,752	\$ 9,258	\$ 9,131	\$ 5,290	
Notes payable and obligations under capital leases less current maturities	\$ 2,106	\$ 4,209	\$ 4,933	\$ 3,697	\$ 11,179	\$ 10,281	
Stockholders' equity	\$ 209,718	\$ 194,218	\$ 199,530	\$ 213,060	\$ 200,949	\$ 188,163	

- (1) Net loss for the year ended September 30, 2011 includes \$3,866,000 of transaction costs associated with a previously proposed transaction with TGC. Net loss for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the year ended September 30, 2014 include transaction costs associated with the Merger of \$3,314,000, \$1,492,000 and \$950,000, respectively.
- (2) The September 30, 2012 earnings per share calculation has been adjusted for the two-class method to reflect restricted shares that were not reflected as participating in the prior period. Basic earnings per share as previously reported for the year ended September 30, 2012 was \$0.81. The impact on all prior period financial statements is deemed immaterial.
- (3) Earnings per share for the three months ended December 31, 2014 and for the years ended September 30, 2014, 2013, 2012, and 2011 have been adjusted for the effect of the merger by dividing the previously reported earnings per share by the merger conversion factor of 1.76.
- (4) Calculated based on dividends declared in period regardless of period paid.
- (5) Weighted average shares for the three months ended December 31, 2014 and for the years ended September 30, 2014, 2013, 2012, and 2011 have been adjusted for the effect of the merger by multiplying the previously reported weighted average shares by the merger conversion factor of 1.76.

Item 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and related notes thereto included elsewhere in this Form 10-K. Portions of this document that are not statements of historical or current fact are forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainties, such as statements of our plans, business strategy, objectives, expectations and intentions. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Please see "Business," "Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors" elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

On February 11, 2015, Legacy TGC completed the merger with Legacy Dawson pursuant to which a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legacy TGC merged with and into Legacy Dawson, with Legacy Dawson continuing after the merger as the surviving entity and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legacy TGC. The common stock of the merged company is listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ") under the symbol "DWSN." Under the merger agreement, at the effective time of the Merger, each issued and outstanding share of Legacy Dawson's common stock, par value \$0.33 1/3 per share, including shares underlying Legacy Dawson's outstanding equity awards, were converted into the right to receive 1.760 shares of common stock of Legacy TGC, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Legacy TGC Common Stock"), after giving effect to a 1-for-3 reverse stock split of Legacy TGC Common Stock which occurred immediately prior to the Merger.

The Merger is accounted for as a reverse acquisition under which Legacy Dawson is considered the accounting acquirer of Legacy TGC. As such, the financial statements of Legacy Dawson are treated as the historical financial statements of the merged company. Except as otherwise specifically provided, this discussion and analysis relates to the business and operations of Legacy Dawson and its consolidated subsidiaries for the periods prior to the closing of the Merger and on a consolidated basis with Legacy TGC and its subsidiaries after the closing of the Merger.

You should read this discussion in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this Form 10-K. Unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this Item 7 to the "Company," "we," "us" or "our" refer to (i) Legacy Dawson and its consolidated subsidiaries, for periods through February 11, 2015 and (ii) the merged company for periods on or after February 12, 2015.

Overview

We are a leading provider of North America onshore seismic data acquisition services with operations throughout the continental United States and Canada. Substantially all of our revenues are derived from the seismic data acquisition services we provide to our clients, mainly oil and natural gas companies of all sizes. Our clients consist of major oil and gas companies, independent oil and gas companies, and providers of multi-client data libraries. Demand for our services depends upon the level of spending by these companies for exploration, production, development and field management activities, which depends, in a large part, on oil and natural gas prices. Significant fluctuations in domestic oil and natural gas exploration activities and commodity prices, as we have recently experienced, have and will continue to affect demand for our services and our results of operations and such fluctuations continue to be the single most important factor affecting our business and results of operations.

The Company operated approximately ten crews in the United States with limited activity in Canada during the fourth quarter of 2015. Demand for our services in 2015 was at reduced levels from recent years and is anticipated to remain at reduced levels into 2016. During 2015, we operated a maximum of fourteen crews in the United States. Quarterly and annual results were negatively impacted during the year as result of weakening demand, inclement weather (particularly in the second quarter), delays in securing land access agreements, lower crew utilization rates, reduced pricing for our services and project delays on behalf of our clients. Due to further declining and uncertain oil prices during and at the end of 2015, our crew count in the first quarter of 2016 reduced to four to six crews in the United States and limited activity

in Canada. Until there is a recovery in oil or natural gas prices, our visibility into 2016 relative to the number of active crews is uncertain. The majority of our crews are currently working in oil producing basins. While our revenues are mainly affected by the level of client demand for our services, our revenues are also affected by the pricing for our services that we negotiate with our clients and the productivity and utilization level of our data acquisition crews. Factors impacting productivity and utilization levels include client demand, commodity prices, whether we enter into turnkey or term contracts with our clients, the number and size of crews and the number of recording channels per crew, as well as crew downtime related to inclement weather, delays in acquiring land access permits, agricultural or hunting activity, holiday schedules, short winter days and crew repositioning or equipment failure. To the extent we experience these factors, our operating results may be affected from quarter to quarter. Consequently, our efforts to negotiate more favorable contract terms in our supplemental service agreements, to mitigate permit access delays and to improve overall crew productivity may contribute to growth in our revenues.

We have experienced several client-directed delays over the last several months on certain projects primarily related to final funding approval, partnership agreements and land access agreements. We were impacted by severe weather conditions and flooding in many areas of operation, a weaker than anticipated Canadian season and reduced utilization rates of deployed data acquisition crews in the lower 48 United States. Severe weather conditions that began in April 2015 and that were subsequently followed by Tropical Storm Bill later in the second quarter negatively affected our operations in Texas and the mid-continent region where many of our crews were deployed. These multiple weather delays during the second quarter greatly impacted utilization on seven of the active crews and delayed deployment of three additional crews on new projects. Reduced demand and client delays continued in these areas during the fourth quarter of 2015 which negatively impacted crew utilization. This negative utilization was offset by increased crew utilization as a result of improved weather conditions and operational discipline in the other areas we worked.

Most of our client contracts are turnkey contracts. The percentage of revenues derived from turnkey contracts represented approximately three-quarters of our revenues in 2015 and for the past few years. While turnkey contracts allow us to capitalize on improved crew productivity, we also bear more risks related to weather and crew downtime. We expect the percentage of turnkey contracts to remain high as we continue to expand our operations in the mid-continent, western and southwestern regions of the United States in which turnkey contracts are more common.

Over time, we have experienced continued increases in recording channel capacity on a per crew or project basis. This increase in channel count demand is driven by client needs and is necessary in order to produce higher resolution images, increase crew efficiencies and undertake larger scale projects. In response to project-based channel requirements, we routinely deploy a variable number of channels on a variable number of crews in an effort to maximize asset utilization and meet client needs.

Reimbursable third-party charges related to our use of helicopter support services, permit support services, specialized survey technologies and dynamite energy sources in areas with limited access are another important factor affecting our results. Revenues associated with third-party charges continued to decline as a percentage of revenue during 2014 and 2015. We expect that as we continue to perform our operations in the more open terrain of the mid-continent, western and southwestern regions of the United States, the level of these third-party charges will continue to be below our historical ranges of 25% to 35% of our total revenue.

While the markets for oil and natural gas have been very volatile and are likely to continue to be so in the future, and we can make no assurances as to future levels of domestic exploration or commodity prices, we believe opportunities exist for us to enhance our market position by responding to our clients' continuing desire for higher resolution subsurface images. If economic conditions continue to weaken such that our clients continue to reduce their capital expenditures or if the sustained drop in oil and natural gas

prices worsens, it could continue to result in diminished demand for our seismic services, could cause downward pressure on the prices we charge and would affect our results of operations and cash flows.

Items Affecting Comparability of Our Financial Results

As discussed above, the Merger has been accounted for as a reverse acquisition under which Legacy Dawson was considered the accounting acquirer of Legacy TGC. As such, the historical financial statements of Legacy Dawson are treated as the historical financial statements of the merged company. Further, the merged company adopted a calendar fiscal year ending December 31. Accordingly, the financial results of the merged company for the year ended December 31, 2015 presented in this Form 10-K are compared to the results for Legacy Dawson for the quarter ended December 31, 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013. In order to aid in the review and comparison of our financial results, we have prepared and presented unaudited financial results as of the year ended December 31, 2014 even though Legacy Dawson's 2014 fiscal year ended on September 30, 2014. We would not have otherwise prepared or presented our financial results from this period in this fashion. The financial results for the year ended December 31, 2015 presented in this Form 10-K reflect the operations of Legacy Dawson for the period January 1 through February 11, 2015 and the operations of the merged company for the period February 12 through December 31, 2015. Due to the foregoing, our financial results for the three months ended December 31, 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013 are not comparable to our financial results for the year ended December 31, 2015 as a result of the combination of the assets and liabilities and results of operations of two previously separate companies and the change in fiscal year end.

Results of Operations

The table below shows our revenues and expenses for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013:

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 AND THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 AND 2013

	Year Ended December 31,		Year Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014 (unaudited)	2014	2013
Operating revenues	\$ 234,685,000	\$ 244,304,000	\$ 261,683,000	\$ 305,299,000
Operating costs:				
Operating expenses	205,566,000	207,185,000	223,336,000	234,660,000
General and administrative	22,729,000	17,012,000	16,083,000	13,364,000
Depreciation and amortization	47,072,000	40,028,000	40,168,000	37,095,000
	275,367,000	264,225,000	279,587,000	285,119,000
(Loss) income from operations	(40,682,000)	(19,921,000)	(17,904,000)	20,180,000
Other income (expense)	648,000	252,000	4,000	(610,000)
(Loss) income before income tax	(40,034,000)	(19,669,000)	(17,900,000)	19,570,000
Income tax benefit (expense)	13,755,000	4,955,000	5,280,000	(9,090,000)
Net (loss) income	\$ (26,279,000)	\$ (14,714,000)	\$ (12,620,000)	\$ 10,480,000

Year Ended December 31, 2015 versus Year Ended December 31, 2014

Operating Revenues. Our operating revenues for the year ended December 31, 2015 were \$234,685,000 as compared to \$244,304,000 for the same period of 2014. The decrease was primarily due to the reduction in utilization rates in 2015 as demand for our services has decreased as a result of decreasing

and uncertain commodity prices and reduced client expenditures. Severe weather conditions in several areas of operation throughout 2015 also led to short-term project delays. Reimbursed third-party charges as a percentage of revenues were below our historical ranges of 25% to 35% during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Operating Costs. Operating expenses for the year ended December 31, 2015 decreased to \$205,566,000 as compared to \$207,185,000 for the same period of 2014. The decrease in operating expenses did not correlate to the decrease in operating revenues due to the process of internal reorganization and consolidation after the Merger. Although the dollar amount of operating costs decreased between the two periods, operating costs as a percentage of revenue increased between periods due to reduced revenue.

Selling, general and administrative expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses were 9.7% of revenues in the year ended December 31, 2015 compared to 7.0% of revenues in the same period of 2014. General and administrative expenses increased to \$22,729,000 during the year ended December 31, 2015 from \$17,012,000 during the same period of 2014. The primary factors for the increase in general and administrative expenses are related to salary costs that have increased from the same period in 2014 as a result of increased employee costs to support our combined company and additional accounting costs associated with the expanded Canadian operations acquired in the Merger. Accounting and consulting costs are increased from the same period in fiscal 2014 relating to the Merger and new accounting software conversion implementation.

Depreciation expense. Depreciation for the year ended December 31, 2015 totaled \$47,072,000 compared to \$40,028,000 for the same period of 2014. The increase in depreciation expense is related to the additional assets acquired in the Merger. Our depreciation expense is expected to remain flat during 2016, primarily due to limited capital expenditures to maintain our existing asset base.

Our total operating costs for the year ended December 31, 2015 were \$275,367,000, representing a 4.2% increase from the corresponding period of 2014. This change was primarily due to the following: salary costs of the combined Company resulting from the Merger; an increase in depreciation related to the additional assets acquired in the Merger; and comparability of the periods reported which were the combined Company for most of 2015 and Legacy Dawson for 2014.

Income Taxes. Income tax benefit was \$13,755,000 for the year ended December 31, 2015 as compared to income tax benefit of \$4,955,000 for the same period of 2014. The effective tax benefit rates for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 were approximately 34.4% and 25.2%, respectively. Our effective tax benefit rates increased as compared to the corresponding prior year primarily due to the increase in pre-tax losses that were partially offset by the effect of permanent tax differences. Our effective tax rates differ from the statutory federal rate of 35% for certain items such as state and local taxes, valuation allowances, non-deductible expenses, discrete items and expenses related to share-based compensation that were not expected to result in a tax deduction.

As discussed in "Overview," recent declines in oil and natural gas prices have impacted spending by our clients for exploration, production, development and field management activities, which has negatively affected demand for our services and caused the market price of our common stock to fall. In light of the existing market volatility, we continue to closely monitor our assets, including our equipment base, to assess possible impairment. There are numerous uncertainties factored into the estimates of the life cycle of a seismic recording system, including the future cash flows estimated to be generated by a particular system. Estimated cash flows can be affected by, among other things, the decline in oil and natural gas prices and reduced client demand. Although we do not currently anticipate an impairment of our assets, if oil and natural gas prices remain at current levels for an extended period of time or decline further, or if projected cash flows decline, we may be exposed to impairment charges in future periods, which could negatively affect our results of operations in a material manner in the period in which they are recorded. If

we record significant impairment charges in the future, we may also need to recognize valuation allowances on our net operating loss carry forwards and, accordingly, a tax benefit may not be recognized on such charges.

Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2014 versus Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2013

Operating Revenues. Our operating revenues decreased 14% to \$261,683,000 in fiscal 2014 from \$305,299,000 in year ended September 30, 2013. The revenue decrease in fiscal 2014 was primarily the result of a reduction in crew utilization. Third-party charges, for which we are reimbursed by clients, decreased slightly in fiscal 2014 compared to year ended September 30, 2013.

Operating Costs. Our operating expenses decreased 4.8% to \$223,336,000 in fiscal 2014 from \$234,660,000 in year ended September 30, 2013 primarily due to the slight decrease in reimbursed third-party charges. The decrease can be attributed to a reduction in survey related charges.

Selling, general and administrative expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses increased to \$16,083,000 during the year ended September 30, 2014 from \$13,364,000 during the same period of 2013 and represented 6.1% of revenues in fiscal 2014 as compared to 4.4% of revenues in year ended September 30, 2013. The primary factor for the increase in general and administrative expenses was transaction costs of \$950,000 associated with the Merger. The remaining increase in general and administrative expenses primarily resulted from increased administrative costs to support our operations.

Depreciation expense. We recognized \$40,168,000 of depreciation expense in fiscal 2014 as compared to \$37,095,000 in year ended September 30, 2013. Depreciation expense increased 8.3% from year ended September 30, 2013 to 2014 reflecting increased capital expenditures during year ended September 30, 2013 and 2014.

Our total operating costs for fiscal 2014 were \$279,587,000, a decrease of 1.9% from year ended September 30, 2013 primarily due to the following factors: reduced operating costs, reduced selling general and administrative expenses and reduced depreciation.

Income Taxes. Income tax benefit was \$5,280,000 for fiscal 2014 and expense was \$9,090,000 for year ended September 30, 2013. The effective tax rates for the income tax provision for fiscal 2014 and 2013 were 29.5% and 46.4%, respectively. Our effective tax rates differ from the statutory federal rate of 35% for certain items such as state and local taxes, non-deductible expenses, discrete items, expenses related to share-based compensation that were not expected to result in a tax deduction and changes in reserves for uncertain tax positions.

Use of EBITDA (Non-GAAP measure)

We define EBITDA as net income (loss) plus interest expense, interest income, income taxes, depreciation and amortization expense. Our management uses EBITDA as a supplemental financial measure to assess:

- the financial performance of our assets without regard to financing methods, capital structures, taxes or historical cost basis;
- our liquidity and operating performance over time in relation to other companies that own similar assets and that we believe calculate EBITDA in a similar manner; and
- the ability of our assets to generate cash sufficient for us to pay potential interest costs.

We also understand that such data are used by investors to assess our performance. However, the term EBITDA is not defined under generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), and EBITDA is not a measure of operating income, operating performance or liquidity presented in accordance with GAAP. When assessing our operating performance or liquidity, investors and others should not consider this data

in isolation or as a substitute for net loss, cash flow from operating activities or other cash flow data calculated in accordance with GAAP. In addition, our EBITDA may not be comparable to EBITDA or similarly titled measures utilized by other companies since such other companies may not calculate EBITDA in the same manner as us. Further, the results presented by EBITDA cannot be achieved without incurring the costs that the measure excludes: interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

The reconciliation of our EBITDA to our net (loss) income and net cash provided by operating activities, which are the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures, are provided in the tables below:

	Year Ended December 31,		Year Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014	2014	2013
	(in thousands)			
Net (loss) income	\$ (26,279)	\$ (14,714)	\$ (12,620)	\$ 10,480
Depreciation and amortization	47,072	40,028	40,168	37,095
Interest expense (income), net	450	417	462	597
Income tax (benefit) expense	(13,755)	(4,955)	(5,280)	9,090
EBITDA	<u>\$ 7,488</u>	<u>\$ 20,776</u>	<u>\$ 22,730</u>	<u>\$ 57,262</u>

	Year Ended December 31,		Year Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014	2014	2013
	(in thousands)			
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 20,612	\$ 30,472	\$ 10,446	\$ 70,579
Changes in working capital and other items	(11,968)	(8,424)	13,509	(11,457)
Noncash adjustments to net (loss) income	(1,156)	(1,272)	(1,225)	(1,860)
EBITDA	<u>\$ 7,488</u>	<u>\$ 20,776</u>	<u>\$ 22,730</u>	<u>\$ 57,262</u>

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Introduction. Our principal sources of cash are amounts earned from the seismic data acquisition services we provide to our clients. Our principal uses of cash are the amounts used to provide these services, including expenses related to our operations and acquiring new equipment. Accordingly, our cash position depends (as do our revenues) on the level of demand for our services. Historically, cash generated from our operations along with cash reserves and borrowings from commercial banks have been sufficient to fund our working capital requirements and, to some extent, our capital expenditures.

Cash Flows. The table below shows our sources and uses of cash for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013:

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 AND THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>		<u>Year Ended September 30,</u>	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
	(unaudited)			
Net cash provided by (used in):				
Operating activities	\$ 20,612,000	\$ 30,472,000	\$ 10,446,000	\$ 70,579,000
Investing activities	15,787,000	(13,438,000)	(36,095,000)	(67,504,000)
Financing activities	(13,606,000)	(13,870,000)	(3,658,000)	(8,043,000)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(428,000)	(380,000)	(345,000)	—
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 22,365,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,784,000</u>	<u>\$ (29,652,000)</u>	<u>\$ (4,968,000)</u>

Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$20,612,000 and \$30,472,000 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. This decrease primarily reflects our decline in revenues during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Net cash provided by investing activities was \$15,787,000 for the year ended December 31, 2015. Net cash used in investing activities was \$13,438,000 for the year ended December 31, 2014. The net cash provided by investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2015 represents cash of \$12,382,000 acquired in the Merger, \$7,750,000 of short-term investment maturities that were not reinvested and \$1,501,000 in proceeds from disposal of assets. These increases in cash provided by investing activities were offset by cash capital expenditures of \$6,846,000. During the year ended December 31, 2014, cash of \$14,001,000 was used to purchase property and equipment and an additional \$2,750,000 of excess cash was invested in short-term investments. These decreases in cash used in investing activities were offset by \$3,313,000 in proceeds from disposals of assets.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$13,606,000 for the year ended December 31, 2015 and included principal payments of \$16,348,000 on our notes, proceeds of \$5,144,000 on our New Term Loan (as defined below), payments of \$1,535,000 under our capital leases, and outflows of \$867,000 associated with taxes related to stock vesting. Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2014 was \$13,870,000 and was primarily comprised of principal payments of \$10,293,000 on term notes, payments of \$1,014,000 under our capital leases, and cash dividends paid of \$2,581,000.

Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2014 versus Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2013

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$10,446,000 for fiscal 2014 and \$70,579,000 for year ended September 30, 2013. Net cash provided by operating activities in fiscal 2014 was primarily impacted by declines in revenues between periods.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$36,095,000 in fiscal 2014 and \$67,504,000 in year ended September 30, 2013. Net capital expenditures in fiscal 2014 and 2013 were \$35,281,000 and \$48,485,000, respectively. During fiscal 2014 and 2013, \$3,500,000 and \$19,500,000, respectively, were invested in short-term investments.

Net cash used in financing activities in fiscal 2014 of \$3,658,000 primarily includes net \$1,755,000 in principal payments and debt proceeds along with \$1,935,000 of dividends paid. Net cash used in financing

activities in year ended September 30, 2013 of \$8,043,000 primarily includes net \$8,651,000 in principal payments and debt proceeds.

Capital Expenditures. During 2015, we made capital expenditures of \$6,920,000. We limited our capital expenditures to necessary maintenance capital requirements. The Board of Directors has approved an initial 2016 budget of \$10,000,000 for capital expenditures, which is again limited primarily to necessary maintenance capital requirements and incremental recording channel replacement or increase. In recent years we have funded some of our capital expenditures through cash reserves, equipment term loans and capital leases. In the past, we have also funded our capital expenditures and other financing needs through public equity offerings.

We continually strive to supply our clients with technologically advanced 3-D data acquisition recording services and data processing capabilities. We maintain equipment in and out of service in anticipation of increased future demand for our services.

Capital Resources. Historically, we have primarily relied on cash generated from operations, cash reserves and borrowings from commercial banks to fund our working capital requirements and, to some extent, our capital expenditures. Recently, we have funded some of our capital expenditures through equipment term loans and capital leases. From time to time in the past, we have also funded our capital expenditures and other financing needs through public equity offerings.

Indebtedness. Legacy Dawson and Legacy TGC each had a credit agreement in effect prior to the Merger (the "Legacy Dawson Credit Agreement" and the "Legacy TGC Credit Agreement," respectively), which continued as our obligations following the Merger. On June 30, 2015, we entered into an amendment to the Legacy TGC Credit Agreement with our lender, Sovereign Bank, (as amended, and as further amended pursuant to the LOC Amendment (as defined below), the "Existing Credit Agreement") for the purpose of renewing, extending and increasing our line of credit under such agreement. In connection with this amendment to the Legacy TGC Credit Agreement, we entered into a new term loan evidenced by a promissory note dated June 30, 2015 in the aggregate principal amount of \$5,144,000 (the "New Term Loan") and used the proceeds of the New Term Loan to repay in full and terminate the Legacy Dawson Credit Agreement and its master advance term note agreement in connection therewith (collectively, the "Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities").

Existing Credit Agreement

Our Existing Credit Agreement with Sovereign Bank includes a term loan feature and a revolving loan feature, and also allows for the issuance of letters of credit or and other promissory notes. We can borrow up to a maximum of \$20.0 million pursuant to the Existing Credit Agreement, subject to the terms and limitations discussed below.

As of December 31, 2015, we had one outstanding note payable under the term loan feature of the Existing Credit Agreement with a principal amount of \$3,429,000. We had two outstanding notes payable under the Existing Credit Agreement that are not under the term loan feature (and therefore do not count towards the maximum amounts that we may borrow) which were incurred to purchase (and are secured by) equipment, representing a remaining aggregate principal amount of \$5,225,000 as of December 31, 2015. In addition, the Existing Credit Agreement permits us to borrow, repay and re-borrow, from time to time until June 30, 2017, up to the lesser of \$20.0 million or 80% of our eligible accounts receivable less the then-outstanding principal balance of the New Term Loan (the "Existing Line of Credit"). We did not utilize the Existing Line of Credit during 2015, and we have the full Existing Line of Credit available for borrowing. Because our ability to borrow funds under our revolving line of credit is tied to the amount of our eligible accounts receivable, if our accounts receivable decrease materially for any reason, including delays, reductions or cancellations by clients or decreased demand for our services, our ability to borrow to fund operations or other obligations may be limited.

On November 25, 2015, we entered into an amendment (the "LOC Amendment") to the Existing Credit Agreement to provide for the issuance of a letter of credit in the principal amount of \$1,767,000 in favor of AIG Assurance Company in order to support payment of certain insurance premiums of the Company. The principal amount of this letter of credit counts as funds borrowed under our Existing Line of Credit. The foregoing description does not purport to set forth the complete terms of the LOC Amendment and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the LOC Amendment attached hereto as Exhibit 10.11, which is incorporated by reference herein.

Our obligations under the Existing Line of Credit are secured by a security interest in our accounts receivable, and the term notes are secured by certain of our core equipment. Interest on amounts outstanding under the Existing Credit Agreement accrues at the lesser of 4.5% or the prime rate (as quoted in the *Wall Street Journal*), subject to an interest rate floor of 2.5%. The Existing Credit Agreement contains customary covenants for credit facilities of this type, including limitations on disposition of assets, mergers and other fundamental changes. We are also obligated to meet certain financial covenants, including (i) a ratio of (x) total liabilities *minus* subordinated debt to (y) tangible net worth *plus* subordinated debt not to exceed 1.00:1.00, (ii) a ratio of current assets to current liabilities of at least 1.50:1.00 and (iii) required tangible net worth of not less than \$150,000,000. We were in compliance with all covenants under the Existing Credit Agreement, including specified ratios, as of December 31, 2015.

Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities

Prior to its repayment and termination, the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities provided for a revolving line of credit and term loans to be made pursuant to notes. We did not utilize the line of credit available under the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities prior to the termination of the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities. Prior to termination of the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities, we had three outstanding notes payable under the term loan feature of the Legacy Dawson Credit Agreement. All amounts owed under the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities were repaid on June 30, 2015 using proceeds of the New Term Loan and totaled \$5,144,000.

Other Indebtedness

We had one outstanding note, in the remaining principal amount of \$838,000 at December 31, 2015 payable to a finance company for insurance.

In addition, we lease vehicles and certain specialized seismic equipment under leases classified as capital leases. Our balance sheet as of December 31, 2015 includes capital lease obligations of \$1,199,000.

Contractual Obligations. We believe that our capital resources, including our short-term investments, funds available under our revolving credit agreement, and cash flow from operations, will be adequate to meet our current operational needs. We believe that we will be able to finance our 2016 capital expenditures through cash flow from operations, borrowings from commercial lenders, and the funds available under our revolving credit agreement. However, our ability to satisfy working capital requirements, meet debt repayment obligations, and fund future capital requirements will depend principally upon our future operating performance, which is subject to the risks inherent in our business, and will also depend on the extent to which the current economic climate adversely affects the ability of our customers, and/or potential customers, to promptly pay amounts owing to us under their service contracts with us.

The following table summarizes payments due in specific periods related to our contractual obligations with initial terms exceeding one year as of December 31, 2015.

<u>Contractual Obligations</u>	<u>Payments Due by Period (in 000's)</u>				
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Within 1 Year</u>	<u>2 - 3 Years</u>	<u>4 - 5 Years</u>	<u>After 5 Years</u>
Operating lease obligations (office space)	\$ 11,271	\$ 1,704	\$ 2,660	\$ 1,899	\$ 5,008
Capital lease obligations	1,199	781	418	—	—
Debt obligations	9,492	7,804	1,688	—	—
Total	<u>\$ 21,962</u>	<u>\$ 10,289</u>	<u>\$ 4,766</u>	<u>\$ 1,899</u>	<u>\$ 5,008</u>

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of December 31, 2015, we had no off-balance sheet arrangements.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of our financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires that certain assumptions and estimates be made that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of our financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Because of the use of assumptions and estimates inherent in the reporting process, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts. We prepare our allowance for doubtful accounts receivable based on our review of past-due accounts, our past experience of historical write-offs and our current client base. While the collectability of outstanding client invoices is continually assessed, the inherent volatility of the energy industry's business cycle can cause swift and unpredictable changes in the financial stability of our clients.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets. We review long-lived assets for impairment when triggering events occur suggesting deterioration in the assets' recoverability or fair value. Recognition of an impairment charge is required if future expected undiscounted net cash flows are insufficient to recover the carrying value of the assets and the fair value of the assets is below the carrying value of the assets. Our forecast of future cash flows used to perform impairment analysis includes estimates of future revenues and expenses based on our anticipated future results while considering anticipated future oil and gas prices, which is fundamental in assessing demand for our services. If the carrying amounts of the assets exceed the estimated expected undiscounted future cash flows, we measure the amount of possible impairment by comparing the carrying amount of the asset to its fair value. If there were to be a fifteen percent or more decline in projected cash flows the Company would be required to do further impairment analysis to determine if fair value is less than the carrying amount of the assets at that time. No impairment charges were recognized for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013.

Leases. We lease certain equipment and vehicles under lease agreements. We evaluate each lease to determine its appropriate classification as an operating or capital lease for financial reporting purposes. Any lease that does not meet the criteria for a capital lease is accounted for as an operating lease. The assets and liabilities under capital leases are recorded at the lower of the present value of the minimum lease payments or the fair market value of the related assets. Assets under capital leases are amortized using the straight-line method over the initial lease term. Amortization of assets under capital leases is included in depreciation expense.

Revenue Recognition. Our services are provided under cancelable service contracts. These contracts are either "turnkey" or "term" agreements. Under both types of agreements, we recognize revenues when

revenue is realizable and services are performed. Services are defined as the commencement of data acquisition or processing operations. Revenues are considered realizable when earned according to the terms of the service contracts. Under turnkey agreements, revenue is recognized on a per unit of data acquired rate, as services are performed. Under term agreements, revenue is recognized on a per unit of time worked rate, as services are performed. In the case of a cancelled service contract, we recognize revenue and bill our client for services performed up to the date of cancellation.

We also receive reimbursements for certain out-of-pocket expenses under the terms of our service contracts. We record amounts billed to clients in revenue at the gross amount including out-of-pocket expenses that are reimbursed by the client.

In some instances, we bill clients in advance of the services performed. In those cases, we recognize the liability as deferred revenue. As services are performed, those deferred revenue amounts are recognized as revenue.

In some instances, the contract contains certain permitting, surveying and drilling costs that are incorporated into the per unit of data acquired rate. In these circumstances, these set-up costs that occur prior to initiating revenue recognition are capitalized and amortized as data is acquired.

Income Taxes. We account for our income taxes with the recognition of amounts of taxes payable or refundable for the current year and by using an asset and liability approach in recognizing the amount of deferred tax liabilities and assets for the future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in our financial statements or tax returns. We determine deferred taxes by identifying the types and amounts of existing temporary differences, measuring the total deferred tax asset or liability using the applicable tax rate in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect of a change in tax rates of deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the year of an enacted rate change. The deferred tax asset is reduced by a valuation allowance if, based on available evidence, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Our methodology for recording income taxes requires judgment regarding assumptions and the use of estimates, including determining our annual effective tax rate and the valuation of deferred tax assets, which can create a variance between actual results and estimates and could have a material impact on our provision or benefit for income taxes. Our effective tax rates differ from the statutory federal rate of 35% for certain items such as state and local taxes, non-deductible expenses, discrete items and expenses related to share-based compensation that were not expected to result in a tax deduction.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842) which will require organizations that lease assets to recognize on the balance sheet the assets and liabilities for the rights and obligations created by those leases. This ASU is effective for the annual period ending after December 15, 2016, and for annual interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted. We are currently evaluating the new guidance to determine the impact it will have on our consolidated financial statements.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-17 to simplify income tax accounting. The update requires that all deferred tax assets and liabilities be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet instead of separating deferred taxes into current and noncurrent amounts. This update is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within those fiscal years, and may be adopted earlier on a voluntary basis. We elected to early adopt this guidance during the fourth quarter of 2015 and have applied a full retrospective approach to all periods presented. Current deferred income tax assets of \$5,977,000 as of September 30, 2014 have been reclassified and presented as a reduction to deferred income tax liabilities, net, in the consolidated balance sheet.

In September 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-16 that eliminates the requirement that an acquirer in a business combination account for measurement-period adjustments retrospectively. Instead, an acquirer will recognize a measurement-period adjustment during the period in which it determines the amount of the adjustment, including the effect on earnings of any amounts it would have recorded in previous periods if the accounting had been completed at the acquisition date. The guidance is effective for public entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. We adopted ASU 2015-16 during the quarter ended September 30, 2015. The adoption of ASU 2015-16 did not materially affect our consolidated results of operations, cash flows, financial position or financial statement disclosures.

In August 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-15, "Presentation of Financial Statements — Going Concern" (Subtopic 205-40). This ASU provides guidance on management's responsibility to evaluate whether there is substantial doubt about an entity's ability to continue as a going concern and in certain circumstances to provide related footnote disclosures. This ASU is effective for the annual period ending after December 15, 2016, and for annual and interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted. We do not expect the adoption of this guidance to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09 that introduces a new five-step revenue recognition model in which an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. This ASU also requires disclosures sufficient to enable users to understand the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers, including qualitative and quantitative disclosures about contracts with customers, significant judgments and changes in judgments, and assets recognized from the costs to obtain or fulfill a contract. This standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period. Early adoption is permitted, but only for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. The standard permits the use of either the retrospective or cumulative effect transition method of adoption. We are currently evaluating the new guidance to determine the impact it will have on our consolidated financial statements and the method of adoption.

Item 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We are exposed to certain market risks arising from the use of financial instruments in the ordinary course of business. These risks arise primarily as a result of potential changes to operating concentration of credit risk and changes in interest rates. We have not entered into any hedge arrangements, commodity swap agreements, commodity futures, options or other derivative financial instruments. We conduct business in Canada which subjects our results of operations and cash flow to foreign currency exchange rate risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk. Our principal market risks include fluctuations in commodity prices, which affect demand for and pricing of our services, and the risk related to the concentration of our clients in the oil and natural gas industry. Since all of our clients are involved in the oil and natural gas industry, there may be a positive or negative effect on our exposure to credit risk because our clients may be similarly affected by changes in economic and industry conditions. As an example, changes to existing regulations or the adoption of new regulations may unfavorably impact us, our suppliers or our clients. In the normal course of business, we provide credit terms to our clients. Accordingly, we perform ongoing credit evaluations of our clients and maintain allowances for possible losses. Our historical experience supports our allowance for doubtful accounts of \$250,000 at December 31, 2015. This does not necessarily indicate that it would be adequate to cover a payment default by one large or several small clients.

We generally provide services to certain key clients that account for a significant percentage of our accounts receivable at any given time. Our key clients vary over time. We extend credit to various

companies in the oil and natural gas industry, including our key clients, for the acquisition of seismic data, which results in a concentration of credit risk. This concentration of credit risk may be affected by changes in the economic or other conditions of our key clients and may accordingly impact our overall credit risk. If any of these significant clients were to terminate their contracts or fail to contract for our services in the future because they are acquired, alter their exploration or development strategy, or for any other reason, our results of operations could be affected. Because of the nature of our contracts and clients' projects, our largest clients can change from year to year, and the largest clients in any year may not be indicative of the largest clients in any subsequent year. During the twelve months ended December 31, 2015, our two largest clients accounted for 36% of revenue. The remaining balance of our revenue derived from varied clients and none represented more than 10% of revenue.

Interest Rate Risk. We are exposed to the impact of interest rate changes on the outstanding indebtedness under our Existing Credit Agreement. We generally have cash in the bank which exceeds federally insured limits. Historically, we have not experienced any losses in such accounts; however, volatility in financial markets may impact our credit risk on cash and short-term investments. At December 31, 2015, cash and cash equivalents totaled \$37,009,000.

For further information, see "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and "Item 1A. Risk Factors."

Item 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The information required by this item appears on pages F-1 through F-27 hereof and are incorporated herein by reference.

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

None.

Item 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Management's Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive, financial and accounting officers, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, our President and Chief Executive Officer, our Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer and our Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Accounting Officer concluded that, as of December 31, 2015, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective, in all material respects, with regard to the recording, processing, summarizing and reporting, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, for information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act. Our disclosure controls and procedures include controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer, our Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer and our Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Accounting Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. We completed the Merger on February 11, 2015. We have extended our oversight and monitoring processes that support our internal control over financial reporting to include Legacy TGC's operations. Except for this extension, there have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934) during the quarter ended December 31, 2015 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control over financial reporting is designed 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. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. Under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer, Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, and our Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Accounting Officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015 using the criteria set forth in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework). Based on this evaluation, we have concluded that, as of December 31, 2015, our internal control over financial reporting was effective. Our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015 has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm who also audited our financial statements. Their attestation report appears on page F-2.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) during the quarter ended December 31, 2015 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

Item 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

Part III

Item 10. *DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE*

The information required by Item 10 of Form 10-K is hereby incorporated by reference from the earlier filed of: (i) an amendment to this annual report on Form 10-K or (ii) the Company's definitive proxy statement which will be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the Company's year-end for the year covered by this report.

Item 11. *EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION*

The information required by Item 11 of Form 10-K is hereby incorporated by reference from the earlier filed of: (i) an amendment to this annual report on Form 10-K or (ii) the Company's definitive proxy statement which will be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the Company's year-end for the year covered by this report.

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

The information required with respect to our equity compensation plans is set forth in Item 5 of this Form 10-K. Other information required by Item 12 of Form 10-K is hereby incorporated by reference from the earlier filed of: (i) an amendment to this annual report on Form 10-K or (ii) the Company's definitive proxy statement which will be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the Company's year-end for the year covered by this report.

Item 13. *CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE*

The information required by Item 13 of Form 10-K is hereby incorporated by reference from the earlier filed of: (i) an amendment to this annual report on Form 10-K or (ii) the Company's definitive proxy statement which will be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the Company's year-end for the year covered by this report.

Item 14. *PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES*

The information required by Item 14 of Form 10-K is hereby incorporated by reference from the earlier filed of: (i) an amendment to this annual report on Form 10-K or (ii) the Company's definitive proxy statement, which will be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the Company's year-end for the year covered by this report.

Part IV

Item 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) The following documents are filed as part of this report:

(1) *Financial Statements.*

The following consolidated financial statements of the Company appear on pages F-1 through F-27 and are incorporated by reference into Part II, Item 8:

Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firms
Consolidated Balance Sheets
Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive (Loss) Income
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

(2) *Financial Statement Schedules.*

All schedules are omitted because they are either not applicable or the required information is shown in the financial statements or notes thereto.

(3) *Exhibits.*

The information required by this item 15(a)(3) is set forth in the Index to Exhibits accompanying this Annual Report on Form 10-K and is hereby incorporated by reference.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<hr/> <i>/s/</i> MARK A. VANDER PLOEG		
Mark A. Vander Ploeg	Director	03-15-16
<hr/> <i>/s/</i> JAMES K. BRATA		
James K. Brata	Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer)	03-15-16
<hr/> <i>/s/</i> CHRISTINA W. HAGAN		
Christina W. Hagan	Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Accounting Officer (principal accounting officer)	03-15-16

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<u>Consolidated Financial Statements of Dawson Geophysical Company</u>	<u>Page</u>
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Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014	F-4
Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive (Loss) Income for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013	F-6
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and for the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013	F-7
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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of
Dawson Geophysical Company

We have audited Dawson Geophysical Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). Dawson Geophysical Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed 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. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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

In our opinion, Dawson Geophysical Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Dawson Geophysical Company as of December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive (loss) income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and each of the two years in the period ended September 30, 2014 and our report dated March 15, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Dallas, Texas
March 15, 2016

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of
Dawson Geophysical Company

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Dawson Geophysical Company as of December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive (loss) income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and each of the two years in the period ended September 30, 2014. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Dawson Geophysical Company at December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and each of the two years in the period ended September 30, 2014, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Dawson Geophysical Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework), and our report dated March 15, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Dallas, Texas
March 15, 2016

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	December 31, 2015	September 30, 2014
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 37,009,000	\$ 22,753,000
Short-term investments	21,000,000	27,000,000
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$250,000 at December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014	35,700,000	39,995,000
Prepaid expenses and other assets	6,150,000	2,420,000
Total current assets	<u>99,859,000</u>	<u>92,168,000</u>
Property, plant and equipment	345,619,000	337,922,000
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(198,052,000)</u>	<u>(173,428,000)</u>
Net property, plant and equipment	147,567,000	164,494,000
Intangibles	361,000	—
Total assets	<u>\$ 247,787,000</u>	<u>\$ 256,662,000</u>
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 8,401,000	\$ 10,720,000
Accrued liabilities:		
Payroll costs and other taxes	1,074,000	1,998,000
Other	4,604,000	4,097,000
Deferred revenue	6,146,000	801,000
Current maturities of notes payable and obligations under capital leases	8,585,000	6,752,000
Total current liabilities	<u>28,810,000</u>	<u>24,368,000</u>
Long-term liabilities:		
Notes payable and obligations under capital leases less current maturities	2,106,000	4,933,000
Deferred tax liability, net	5,319,000	27,831,000
Other accrued liabilities	<u>1,834,000</u>	<u>—</u>
Total long-term liabilities	9,259,000	32,764,000
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock-par value \$1.00 per share; 4,000,000 shares authorized, none outstanding	—	—
Common stock-par value \$0.01 per share; 35,000,000 shares authorized, 21,629,310 and 14,194,810 shares issued, and 21,580,865 and 14,194,810 shares outstanding at December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014, respectively	216,000	142,000
Additional paid-in capital	142,269,000	98,632,000
Retained earnings	69,057,000	100,973,000
Treasury stock, at cost; 48,445 shares at December 31, 2015 and none at September 30, 2014	—	—
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax	<u>(1,824,000)</u>	<u>(217,000)</u>
Total stockholders' equity	<u>209,718,000</u>	<u>199,530,000</u>
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 247,787,000</u>	<u>\$ 256,662,000</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) INCOME

	Year Ended	Three Months	Year Ended September 30,	
	December 31, 2015	Ended December 31, 2014	2014	2013
Operating revenues	\$ 234,685,000	\$ 50,802,000	\$ 261,683,000	\$ 305,299,000
Operating costs:				
Operating expenses	205,566,000	42,957,000	223,336,000	234,660,000
General and administrative	22,729,000	5,093,000	16,083,000	13,364,000
Depreciation and amortization	47,072,000	9,736,000	40,168,000	37,095,000
	<u>275,367,000</u>	<u>57,786,000</u>	<u>279,587,000</u>	<u>285,119,000</u>
(Loss) income from operations	(40,682,000)	(6,984,000)	(17,904,000)	20,180,000
Other income (expense):				
Interest income	159,000	20,000	73,000	63,000
Interest expense	(609,000)	(93,000)	(535,000)	(660,000)
Other income (expense)	1,098,000	154,000	466,000	(13,000)
(Loss) income before income tax	<u>(40,034,000)</u>	<u>(6,903,000)</u>	<u>(17,900,000)</u>	<u>19,570,000</u>
Income tax benefit (expense):				
Current	(291,000)	(39,000)	(787,000)	(817,000)
Deferred	14,046,000	1,951,000	6,067,000	(8,273,000)
	<u>13,755,000</u>	<u>1,912,000</u>	<u>5,280,000</u>	<u>(9,090,000)</u>
Net (loss) income	<u>\$ (26,279,000)</u>	<u>\$ (4,991,000)</u>	<u>\$ (12,620,000)</u>	<u>\$ 10,480,000</u>
Other comprehensive loss:				
Net unrealized loss on foreign exchange rate translation, net of tax	\$ (1,480,000)	\$ (127,000)	\$ (217,000)	\$ —
Comprehensive (loss) income	<u>\$ (27,759,000)</u>	<u>\$ (5,118,000)</u>	<u>\$ (12,837,000)</u>	<u>\$ 10,480,000</u>
Basic (loss) income per share attributable to common stock	<u>\$ (1.27)</u>	<u>\$ (0.36)</u>	<u>\$ (0.90)</u>	<u>\$ 0.75</u>
Diluted (loss) income per share attributable to common stock	<u>\$ (1.27)</u>	<u>\$ (0.36)</u>	<u>\$ (0.90)</u>	<u>\$ 0.74</u>
Cash dividend declared per share of common stock	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 0.05</u>	<u>\$ 0.14</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Weighted average equivalent common shares outstanding	<u>20,688,185</u>	<u>14,019,813</u>	<u>14,008,635</u>	<u>13,868,120</u>
Weighted average equivalent common shares outstanding — assuming dilution	<u>20,688,185</u>	<u>14,019,813</u>	<u>14,008,635</u>	<u>13,939,841</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
	Number Of Shares	Amount				
Balance September 30, 2012	14,135,209	\$ 141,000	\$ 95,760,000	\$ 105,048,000	\$ —	\$ 200,949,000
Net income				10,480,000		10,480,000
Stock-based compensation expense			1,394,000			1,394,000
Issuance of common stock as compensation	25,492	—	403,000			403,000
Forfeiture of restricted stock awards	(1,584)	—	—			—
Shares exchanged for taxes on stock-based compensation	(35,481)	—	(774,000)			(774,000)
Exercise of stock options	56,584	1,000	607,000			608,000
Balance September 30, 2013	14,180,220	142,000	97,390,000	115,528,000	—	213,060,000
Net loss				(12,620,000)		(12,620,000)
Unrealized loss on foreign exchange rate translation					(345,000)	
Income tax benefit					128,000	
Other comprehensive loss					(217,000)	
Stock-based compensation expense			1,054,000			1,054,000
Issuance of common stock as compensation	9,706	—	171,000			171,000
Issuance of common stock under stock compensation plans including tax effect	2,640	—	(1,000)			(1,000)
Shares exchanged for taxes on stock-based compensation	(836)	—	(14,000)			(14,000)
Exercise of stock options	3,080	—	32,000			32,000
Dividends paid				(1,935,000)		(1,935,000)
Balance September 30, 2014	14,194,810	142,000	98,632,000	100,973,000	(217,000)	199,530,000
Net loss				(4,991,000)		(4,991,000)
Unrealized loss on foreign exchange rate translation					(203,000)	
Income tax benefit					76,000	
Other comprehensive loss					(127,000)	
Stock-based compensation expense			287,000			287,000
Issuance of common stock as compensation	21,730	—	165,000			165,000
Dividends paid				(646,000)		(646,000)
Balance December 31, 2014	14,216,540	142,000	99,084,000	95,336,000	(344,000)	194,218,000
Net loss				(26,279,000)		(26,279,000)
Unrealized loss on foreign exchange rate translation					(2,106,000)	
Income tax benefit					626,000	
Other comprehensive loss					(1,480,000)	
Shares exchanged for taxes on stock-based compensation	(41,855)	—	(333,000)			(333,000)
Stock consideration issued in merger	7,381,476	74,000	42,828,000			42,902,000
Issuance of common stock under stock compensation plans including tax effect	14,212	—	85,000			85,000
Tax deficit recorded to hypothetical apic pool			(551,000)			(551,000)
Stock-based compensation expense			890,000			890,000
Issuance of common stock as compensation	58,937	—	266,000			266,000
Balance December 31, 2015	<u>21,629,310</u>	<u>\$ 216,000</u>	<u>\$ 142,269,000</u>	<u>\$ 69,057,000</u>	<u>\$ (1,824,000)</u>	<u>\$ 209,718,000</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Three Months Ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended September 30,	
			2014	2013
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
Net (loss) income	\$(26,279,000)	\$ (4,991,000)	\$(12,620,000)	\$ 10,480,000
Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:				
Depreciation and amortization	47,072,000	9,736,000	40,168,000	37,095,000
Noncash compensation	1,156,000	452,000	1,225,000	1,797,000
Deferred income tax (benefit) expense	(14,046,000)	(1,951,000)	(6,067,000)	8,273,000
Change in other long-term liabilities	1,834,000	—	—	—
Loss (gain) on disposal of assets	408,000	—	(108,000)	657,000
Other	(81,000)	(614,000)	51,000	(712,000)
Change in current assets and liabilities:				
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	15,883,000	2,862,000	(2,507,000)	16,168,000
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses and other assets	1,752,000	(3,283,000)	(1,683,000)	25,000
Decrease in accounts payable	(3,128,000)	(4,923,000)	(3,467,000)	(2,952,000)
(Decrease) increase in accrued liabilities	(4,579,000)	78,000	(1,909,000)	(223,000)
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	620,000	951,000	(2,637,000)	(29,000)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>20,612,000</u>	<u>(1,683,000)</u>	<u>10,446,000</u>	<u>70,579,000</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:				
Cash acquired from merger	12,382,000	—	—	—
Capital expenditures, net of noncash capital expenditures summarized below	(6,846,000)	(2,555,000)	(35,281,000)	(48,485,000)
Proceeds from maturity of short-term investments	34,500,000	7,750,000	29,250,000	10,750,000
Acquisition of short-term investments	(26,750,000)	(9,500,000)	(32,750,000)	(30,250,000)
Proceeds from disposal of assets	1,501,000	631,000	2,686,000	481,000
Partial proceeds on flood insurance claim	1,000,000	—	—	—
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>15,787,000</u>	<u>(3,674,000)</u>	<u>(36,095,000)</u>	<u>(67,504,000)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:				
Proceeds from promissory note	5,144,000	—	—	—
Proceeds from notes payable	—	—	10,000,000	983,000
Principal payments on notes payable	(16,348,000)	(1,783,000)	(10,823,000)	(8,898,000)
Principal payments on capital lease obligations	(1,535,000)	(288,000)	(932,000)	(736,000)
Excess tax benefit from share-based payment arrangement	(551,000)	—	—	—
Tax withholdings related to stock based compensation awards	(316,000)	—	—	—
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	—	—	32,000	608,000
Dividends paid	—	(646,000)	(1,935,000)	—
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(13,606,000)</u>	<u>(2,717,000)</u>	<u>(3,658,000)</u>	<u>(8,043,000)</u>
Effect of exchange rate changes in cash and cash equivalents	(428,000)	(35,000)	(345,000)	—
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	22,365,000	(8,109,000)	(29,652,000)	(4,968,000)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD				
	<u>14,644,000</u>	<u>22,753,000</u>	<u>52,405,000</u>	<u>57,373,000</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD				
	<u>\$ 37,009,000</u>	<u>\$ 14,644,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,753,000</u>	<u>\$ 52,405,000</u>
SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION:				
Cash paid for interest	\$ 620,000	\$ 93,000	\$ 537,000	\$ 688,000
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 752,000	\$ —	\$ 735,000	\$ 1,665,000
Cash received for income taxes	\$ 692,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 42,000
NONCASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES:				
(Decrease) increase in accrued purchases of property and equipment	\$ (52,000)	\$ 52,000	\$ (1,693,000)	\$ 288,000
Capital lease obligations incurred	\$ 126,000	\$ 651,000	\$ 485,000	\$ 1,296,000
Stock consideration to consummate the merger	\$ 42,902,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Financed insurance premiums	\$ 1,046,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

On February 11, 2015, the Company, which was formerly known as TGC Industries, Inc. ("Legacy TGC"), consummated a strategic business combination (the "Merger") with Dawson Operating Company LLC, which was formerly known as Dawson Geophysical Company ("Legacy Dawson"). Unless the context requires otherwise, all references in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-K to the "Company," "we," "us" or "our" refer to (i) Legacy Dawson and its consolidated subsidiaries, for periods through February 11, 2015 and (ii) the merged company for periods on or after February 12, 2015.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Organization and Nature of Operations

The Company is a leading provider of onshore seismic data acquisition and processing services. Founded in 1952, the Company acquires and processes 2-D, 3-D and multi-component seismic data for its clients, ranging from major oil and gas companies to independent oil and gas operators as well as providers of multi-client data libraries. The Company operates in the lower 48 states of the United States and in Canada.

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Dawson Operating LLC, Eagle Canada, Inc., Dawson Seismic Services Holdings, Inc., Eagle Canada Seismic Services ULC, Tidelands Geophysical Co., Inc. and Exploration Surveys, Inc. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the financial statements, the Company considers demand deposits, certificates of deposit, overnight investments, money market funds and all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Management prepares its allowance for doubtful accounts receivable based on its review of past-due accounts, its past experience of historical write-offs and its current client base. While the collectability of outstanding client invoices is continually assessed, the inherent volatility of the energy industry's business cycle can cause swift and unpredictable changes in the financial stability of the Company's clients.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment is capitalized at historical cost and depreciated over the useful life of the asset. Management's estimation of this useful life is based on circumstances that exist in the seismic industry and information available at the time of the purchase of the asset. As circumstances change and new information becomes available, these estimates could change.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. When assets are retired or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the balance sheet, and any resulting gain or loss is reflected in the results of operations for the period.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

Long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment when triggering events occur suggesting deterioration in the assets' recoverability or fair value. Recognition of an impairment charge is required if future expected undiscounted net cash flows are insufficient to recover the carrying value of the assets and the

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

fair value of the assets is below the carrying value of the assets. Management's forecast of future cash flows used to perform impairment analysis includes estimates of future revenues and expenses based on the Company's anticipated future results while considering anticipated future oil and natural gas prices which is fundamental in assessing demand for the Company's services. If the carrying amounts of the assets exceed the estimated expected undiscounted future cash flows, the Company measures the amount of possible impairment by comparing the carrying amount of the assets to the fair value. If there were to be a fifteen percent or more decline in projected cash flows the Company would be required to do further impairment analysis to determine if fair value is less than the carrying amount of the assets at that time. No impairment charges were recognized for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013.

Leases

The Company leases certain equipment and vehicles under lease agreements. The Company evaluates each lease to determine its appropriate classification as an operating or capital lease for financial reporting purposes. Any lease that does not meet the criteria for a capital lease is accounted for as an operating lease. The assets and liabilities under capital leases are recorded at the lower of the present value of the minimum lease payments or the fair market value of the related assets. Assets under capital leases are amortized using the straight-line method over the initial lease term. Amortization of assets under capital leases is included in depreciation expense.

Intangibles

Trademarks/tradenames resulting from a business combination are not subject to amortization. The Company tests for impairment on an annual basis during the fourth quarter and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. No impairment charges were recognized for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Revenue Recognition

Services are provided under cancelable service contracts. These contracts are either "turnkey" or "term" agreements. Under both types of agreements, the Company recognizes revenues when revenue is realizable and services have been performed. Services are defined as the commencement of data acquisition or processing operations. Revenues are considered realizable when earned according to the terms of the service contracts. Under turnkey agreements, revenue is recognized on a per unit of data acquired rate as services are performed. Under term agreements, revenue is recognized on a per unit of time worked rate as services are performed. In the case of a cancelled service contract, revenue is recognized and the client is billed for services performed up to the date of cancellation.

The Company receives reimbursements for certain out-of-pocket expenses under the terms of the service contracts. Amounts billed to clients are recorded in revenue at the gross amount including out-of-pocket expenses that are reimbursed by the client.

In some instances, clients are billed in advance of services performed. In those cases, the Company recognizes the liability as deferred revenue. As services are performed, those deferred revenue amounts are recognized as revenue.

In some instances, the contract contains certain permitting, surveying and drilling costs that are incorporated into the per unit of data acquired rate. In these circumstances, these set-up costs that occur prior to initiating revenue recognition are capitalized and amortized as data is acquired.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)*****Stock-Based Compensation***

The Company measures all stock-based compensation awards, which include stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units and common stock awards, using the fair value method and recognizes compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, in its financial statements. The Company records compensation expense as operating or general and administrative expense as appropriate in the consolidated statements of operations on a straight-line basis over the vesting period of the related stock options, restricted stock awards or restricted stock unit awards.

Foreign Currency Translation

The U.S. Dollar is the reporting currency for all periods presented. The functional currency of the Company's foreign subsidiaries is generally the local currency. All assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. Dollars at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. Income and expenses are translated at the average exchange rate during the period. Equity transactions are translated using historical exchange rates. Adjustments resulting from translation are recorded as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income in the consolidated balance sheets. Foreign currency transaction gains (losses) are included in the consolidated statements of operations as other income (expense).

Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes by recognizing amounts of taxes payable or refundable for the current year and by using an asset and liability approach in recognizing the amount of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company's financial statements or tax returns. Management determines deferred taxes by identifying the types and amounts of existing temporary differences, measuring the total deferred tax asset or liability using the applicable tax rate in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect of a change in tax rates of deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the year of an enacted rate change. The deferred tax asset is reduced by a valuation allowance if, based on available evidence, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. Management's methodology for recording income taxes requires judgment regarding assumptions and the use of estimates, including determining the annual effective tax rate and the valuation of deferred tax assets, which can create variances between actual results and estimates and could have a material impact on the Company's provision or benefit for income taxes. The Company's effective tax rates differ from the statutory federal rate of 35% for certain items such as state and local taxes, valuations allowances, non-deductible expenses, discrete items and expenses related to share-based compensation that are not expected to result in a tax deduction.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

Preparation of the accompanying financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Because of the use of assumptions and estimates inherent in the reporting process, actual results could differ from those estimates.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to the three months ended December 31, 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013 consolidated financial statements to conform to the 2015 presentation. Current deferred income tax assets have been reclassified and presented as a reduction to deferred income tax liabilities, net in the Consolidated Balance Sheet for the year ended September 30, 2014.

2. Short-Term Investments

The Company had short-term investments at December 31, 2015 and September 2014 consisting of certificates of deposit with original maturities greater than three months, but less than a year. Certificates of deposits with any given banking institution do not exceed the FDIC insurance limit at December 31, 2015 or September 30, 2014.

3. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

At December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014, the Company's financial instruments included cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments in certificates of deposit, trade and other receivables, other current assets, accounts payable, other current liabilities and term notes (defined below). Due to the short-term maturities of cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, other current assets, accounts payables and other current liabilities, the carrying amounts approximate fair value at the respective balance sheet dates. The carrying value of the term notes approximate their fair value based on a comparison with the prevailing market interest rate. Due to the short-term maturities of the Company's investments in certificates of deposit, the carrying amounts approximate fair value at the respective balance sheet dates. The fair values of the Company's term notes and investments in certificates of deposit are level 2 measurements in the fair value hierarchy.

4. Merger

On February 11, 2015, the Company completed the Merger. Immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, Legacy TGC effected a reverse stock split with respect to its common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, on a one-for-three ratio (the "Reverse Stock Split") to reduce the total number of shares of Legacy TGC Common Stock outstanding. After giving effect to the Reverse Stock Split, at the effective time of the Merger, without any action on the part of any shareholder, each issued and outstanding share of Legacy Dawson's common stock, par value \$0.33-1/3 per share (the "Legacy Dawson Common Stock"), including shares underlying Legacy Dawson's outstanding equity awards (but excluding any shares of Legacy Dawson Common Stock owned by Legacy TGC, Merger Sub or Legacy Dawson or any wholly-owned subsidiary of Legacy Dawson), were converted into the right to receive 1.760 shares of Legacy TGC Common Stock (the "Exchange Ratio").

The Merger was accounted for as a reverse acquisition under the acquisition method of accounting in accordance with ASC No. 805, "Business Combinations." The Company accounted for the transaction by using Legacy Dawson's historical information and accounting policies and adding the assets and liabilities of Legacy TGC at their respective fair values. Consequently, Legacy Dawson's assets and liabilities retained their carrying values and Legacy TGC's assets acquired and liabilities assumed by Legacy Dawson as the accounting acquirer in the Merger were recorded at their fair values measured as of February 11, 2015, the effective date of the Merger.

In the fourth quarter of 2015, management finalized its valuation of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in connection with the Merger. As a result, the fair value of acquired property, plant and

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

equipment was ultimately concluded to be \$5,055,000 higher than preliminarily estimated, the fair value of current liabilities assumed was higher by \$943,000, the fair value of current assets was lower by \$625,000, and the fair value of intangible assets was lower by \$2,953,000. Further, the net deferred tax asset as a result of these adjustments was \$534,000 lower. In the fourth quarter of 2015, we recorded a \$628,000 increase to depreciation expense and a \$697,000 reduction to amortization expense as compared to what we would have recorded had the final valuations of assets acquired and liabilities assumed been recorded as of the acquisition date in February 2015. The following table summarizes the fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the Merger date:

	Estimated Fair Value (in 000's)
Stock consideration	\$ 42,902
Interest bearing debt assumed	12,048
Debt-free current liabilities	13,590
Total purchase price consideration including liabilities assumed	\$ 68,540
Value of current assets	
Current assets excluding cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,531
Cash and cash equivalents	12,382
Total current assets	\$ 27,913
Identified tangible assets	
Fair value of property, plant and equipment	\$ 33,867
Identified intangible assets	
Trademarks/trade names	\$ 400
Net deferred tax asset	\$ 6,360
Total indicated value of assets	\$ 68,540

The value of the stock consideration was determined based on the closing price of Legacy TGC on the February 11, 2015 closing date and the 7,381,476 shares outstanding. As a result of the consideration transferred being less than the book value of net assets acquired, the Company was required to analyze the purchase price allocation and the potential reasonableness of reflecting a bargain purchase. Upon completing this analysis, the Company determined that the Merger was not an acquisition of a distressed business or a bargain purchase and accordingly reflected a substantial reduction in the property, plant and equipment to its fair value which was reflected by the value of the consideration transferred. Furthermore, in allocating the remainder of the purchase price to the indicated fair value of the property, plant and equipment, there was not any excess purchase price to be allocated to goodwill. Measurements used to determine fair value were deemed to be level 3 fair value measurements.

Trade receivables and payables, as well as other current and non-current assets and liabilities, are recorded at their expected settlement amounts as they approximate the fair value of those items at the time of the Merger, based on management's judgments and estimates.

Property, plant and equipment were valued using a combination of the income approach, the market approach and the cost approach which was based on current replacement and/or reproduction cost of the

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

asset as new, less depreciation attributable to physical, functional, and economic factors. Useful lives of the property, plant and equipment were estimated to be between eighteen months and twelve years.

Trademarks were valued using the relief from royalty method. Relief from royalty method under the income approach estimates the cost savings that accrue to the Company which would otherwise have to pay royalties or license fees on revenues earned through the use of the asset. Trademarks are considered to have an indefinite life and as a result are not amortizable.

Existing long term debt assumed in the Merger was recorded at fair valued based on a current market rate.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities as of the acquisition date represent the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed and their tax bases. At the acquisition date, the Company accrued approximately \$865,000 for unrecognized tax benefits and contingencies related to certain tax matters.

The Company incurred approximately \$3,314,000 in merger-related costs on a pretax basis during the year ended December 31, 2015. This amount is reflected in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

The Company has integrated the operations of Legacy TGC. Additionally, the Company operates in one segment and has a single company-wide management team that administers all service contracts as a whole rather than by discrete operating segments. The Company tracks only basic operational data by area and does not track results by legacy origin. Therefore, it is impracticable to disclose the amount of revenues and earnings or losses attributable to Legacy TGC during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Pro Forma Information

The following unaudited pro forma condensed financial information for the three and twelve months ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 gives effect to the Merger as if it had occurred on January 1, 2014. The unaudited pro forma condensed financial information has been included for comparative purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the results that might have occurred had the transactions taken place on the dates indicated and is not intended to be a projection of future results. The unaudited pro forma financial information reflects certain adjustments related to the acquisition, such as (1) to record certain incremental expenses resulting from purchase accounting adjustments, such as reduced depreciation expense in connection with the fair value adjustments to property, plant and equipment; and (2) to record the related tax effects. Shares used in the calculations of earnings per share in the table below were 21,537,480 for the year ended December 31, 2015, 21,400,593 for the three months ended December 31, 2014, and 21,367,677 for the year ended September 30, 2014.

	<u>Year Ended December 31, 2015</u>	<u>Three Months Ended December 31, 2014</u>	<u>Year Ended September 30, 2014</u>
Pro forma total revenues	\$ 248,295,000	\$ 76,897,000	\$ 373,544,000
Pro forma net loss	\$ (30,256,000)	\$ (7,722,000)	\$ (13,383,000)
Pro forma net loss per share			
Basic	\$ (1.40)	\$ (0.36)	\$ (0.63)
Diluted	\$ (1.40)	\$ (0.36)	\$ (0.63)

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

5. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment, together with the related estimated useful lives, were as follows:

	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>September 30,</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>Useful Lives</u>
Land, building and other	\$ 16,357,000	\$ 15,472,000	3 to 40 years
Recording equipment	212,541,000	206,517,000	5 to 10 years
Line clearing equipment	1,071,000	1,084,000	5 years
Vibrator energy sources	80,454,000	78,119,000	5 to 15 years
Vehicles	35,196,000	36,730,000	1.5 to 10 years
	<u>345,619,000</u>	<u>337,922,000</u>	
Less accumulated depreciation	(198,052,000)	(173,428,000)	
Net property, plant and equipment	<u>\$ 147,567,000</u>	<u>\$ 164,494,000</u>	

6. Supplemental Consolidated Balance Sheet Information

Other current liabilities consist of the following at December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014:

	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>September 30,</u> <u>2014</u>
Accrued self-insurance reserves	\$ 1,830,000	\$ 1,524,000
Income and franchise taxes payable	21,000	96,000
Other accrued expenses and current liabilities	2,753,000	2,477,000
Total other current liabilities	<u>\$ 4,604,000</u>	<u>\$ 4,097,000</u>

7. Debt

Legacy Dawson and Legacy TGC each had a credit agreement in effect prior to the Merger (the "Legacy Dawson Credit Agreement" and the "Legacy TGC Credit Agreement," respectively), which continued our obligations following the Merger. On June 30, 2015, we entered into an amendment to the Legacy TGC Credit Agreement with our lender, Sovereign Bank, (as so amended, and as further amended pursuant to the LOC Amendment (as defined below), the "Existing Credit Agreement") for the purpose of renewing, extending and increasing our line of credit under such agreement. In connection with this amendment to the Legacy TGC Credit Agreement, we entered into a new term loan evidenced by a promissory note dated June 30, 2015 in the aggregate principal amount of \$5,144,000 (the "New Term Loan") and used the proceeds of the New Term Loan to repay in full and terminate the Legacy Dawson Credit Agreement and its master advance term note agreement in connection therewith (collectively, the "Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities").

Existing Credit Agreement

Our Existing Credit Agreement with Sovereign Bank includes a term loan feature and a revolving loan feature, and also allows for the issuance of letters of credit or and other promissory notes. We can borrow up to a maximum of \$20.0 million pursuant to the Existing Credit Agreement, subject to the terms and limitations discussed below.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

As of December 31, 2015, we had one outstanding note payable under the term loan feature of the Existing Credit Agreement with a principal amount of \$3,429,000. We had two outstanding notes payable under the Existing Credit Agreement that are not under the term loan feature (and therefore do not count towards the maximum amounts that we may borrow) which were incurred to purchase (and are secured by) equipment, representing a remaining aggregate principal amount of \$5,225,000 as of December 31, 2015. In addition, the Existing Credit Agreement permits us to borrow, repay and re-borrow, from time to time until June 30, 2017, up to the lesser of \$20.0 million or 80% of our eligible accounts receivable less the then-outstanding principal balance of the New Term Loan (the "Existing Line of Credit"). We did not utilize the Existing Line of Credit during 2015, and we have the full Existing Line of Credit available for borrowing. Because our ability to borrow funds under our revolving line of credit is tied to the amount of our eligible accounts receivable, if our accounts receivable decrease materially for any reason, including delays, reductions or cancellations by clients or decreased demand for our services, our ability to borrow to fund operations or other obligations may be limited.

On November 25, 2015, we entered into an amendment (the "LOC Amendment") to the Existing Credit Agreement to provide for the issuance of a letter of credit in the principal amount of \$1,767,000 in favor of AIG Assurance Company in order to support payment of certain insurance premiums of the Company. The principal amount of this letter of credit counts as funds borrowed under our Existing Line of Credit.

Our obligations under the Existing Line of Credit are secured by a security interest in our accounts receivable, and the term notes are secured by certain of our core equipment. Interest on amounts outstanding under the Existing Credit Agreement accrues at the lesser of 4.5% or the prime rate (as quoted in the *Wall Street Journal*), subject to an interest rate floor of 2.5%. The Existing Credit Agreement contains customary covenants for credit facilities of this type, including limitations on disposition of assets, mergers and other fundamental changes. We are also obligated to meet certain financial covenants, including (i) a ratio of (x) total liabilities *minus* subordinated debt to (y) tangible net worth *plus* subordinated debt not to exceed 1.00:1.00, (ii) a ratio of current assets to current liabilities of at least 1.50:1.00 and (iii) required tangible net worth of not less than \$150,000,000. We were in compliance with all covenants under the Existing Credit Agreement, including specified ratios, as of December 31, 2015.

Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities

Prior to its repayment and termination, the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities provided for a revolving line of credit and term loans to be made pursuant to notes. We did not utilize the line of credit available under the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities prior to the termination of the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities. Prior to termination of the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities, we had three outstanding notes payable under the term loan feature of the Legacy Dawson Credit Agreement. All amounts owed under the Legacy Dawson Credit Facilities were repaid on June 30, 2015 using proceeds of the New Term Loan and totaled \$5,144,000.

Other Indebtedness

We had one outstanding note, in the remaining principal amount of \$838,000 at December 31, 2015 payable to a finance company for insurance.

In addition, the Company leases vehicles and certain specialized seismic equipment under leases classified as capital leases. The Company's balance sheets as of December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014 includes capital lease obligations of \$1,199,000 and \$1,321,000, respectively.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The following tables set forth the aggregate principal amount outstanding under our outstanding notes payable and the interest rates and monthly payments as of December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014. Information as of September 30, 2014 does not include indebtedness of Legacy TGC as of such date, due to the accounting treatment of the Merger as a reverse acquisition as described in Note 4.

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Year Ended September 30, 2014
Notes payable to commercial banks		
Aggregate principal amount outstanding	\$8,654,000	\$10,364,000
Interest rates	3.5% - 4.5%	3.2% - 3.8%

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Year Ended September 30, 2014
Notes payable to finance company for insurance		
Aggregate principal amount outstanding	\$ 838,000	—
Interest rates	2.35%	—

The aggregate maturities of the notes payable at December 31, 2015 are as follows:

January 2016 - December 2016	\$ 7,804,000
January 2017 - December 2017	1,688,000
	<u>\$ 9,492,000</u>

The Company leases vehicles and certain specialized seismic equipment under leases classified as capital leases.

The aggregate maturities of obligations under capital leases at December 31, 2015 are as follows:

January 2016 - December 2016	\$ 781,000
January 2017 - December 2017	418,000
	<u>\$ 1,199,000</u>

Interest rates on these leases ranged from 3.16% to 6.88%.

8. Stock-Based Compensation

At December 31, 2015, the Company had two stock-based compensation plans: (i) the Amended and Restated Dawson Geophysical Company 2006 Stock and Performance Incentive Plan (the "Legacy Dawson Plan"), which originated from Legacy Dawson and (ii) the Amended and Restated Dawson Geophysical Company 2006 Stock Awards Plan (formerly known as the TGC Industries, Inc. 2006 Stock Awards Plan) (the "Legacy TGC Plan"), which originated from Legacy TGC. As a result of the Merger, the Company administers both the Legacy Dawson Plan and the Legacy TGC Plan. The awards outstanding and available under these plans and their associated accounting treatment are discussed below.

In 2006, Legacy Dawson adopted the Legacy Dawson Plan. The Legacy Dawson Plan, which was amended and restated in connection with the Merger, provides for the issuance of up to 827,647 shares of authorized Company common stock (which represents the adjusted number of shares subject to

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

outstanding awards and available for issuance under new awards immediately following the Merger, and the unadjusted number of shares originally reserved under the Legacy Dawson Plan was 750,000). At the date of the Merger, 466,136 shares were available for issuance (immediately following such Merger) pursuant to new grants under the Legacy Dawson Plan to officers, directors, employees and consultants of the Company (who were not otherwise officers, directors, employees or consultants of Legacy TGC immediately prior to the Merger). The Legacy Dawson Plan provides for the issuance of stock options, common stock grants, restricted stock grants, restricted stock units and other forms of awards. Stock option grant prices awarded under the Legacy Dawson Plan may not be less than the fair market value of the common stock subject to such option on the grant date, and the term of stock options shall extend no more than ten years after the grant date. The Legacy Dawson Plan terminates November 28, 2016.

In 2006, the Company adopted the Legacy TGC Plan. The Legacy TGC Plan, which was amended and restated in connection with the Merger, provides for the issuance of up to 1,000,000 shares of authorized Company common stock. At the date of the Merger, 412,254 shares were available for issuance pursuant to new grants under the Legacy TGC Plan to officers, directors and employees of the Company. The Legacy TGC Plan provides for the issuance of stock options, common stock grants and restricted stock grants. Stock option grant prices awarded under the Legacy TGC Plan may not be less than the fair market value of the common stock subject to such option on the grant date, and the term of stock options shall extend no more than ten years after the grant date. The Legacy TGC Plan terminates March 29, 2016. At the time of the Merger, Legacy TGC had no restricted stock grants outstanding.

Impact of Stock-based Compensation:

The following table summarizes stock-based compensation expense, which is included in operating or general and administrative expense as appropriate in the consolidated statements of operations, for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014 and years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Three Months Ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014	2014	2013
Stock Options	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 62,000
Restricted Stock Awards	363,000	213,000	821,000	1,307,000
Restricted Stock Units	526,000	74,000	233,000	25,000
Common Stock Awards	267,000	165,000	171,000	403,000
Total Compensation Expense	\$ 1,156,000	\$ 452,000	\$ 1,225,000	\$ 1,797,000

Stock Options:

Legacy Dawson estimated the fair value of each stock option on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Legacy TGC estimated the fair value of each stock option on the date of grant using the Binomial Lattice Model. No stock options have been awarded during the three months ended December 31, 2014 and the year ended December 31, 2015. Actual value realized with stock options, if any, is dependent on the future performance of the Company's common stock and overall stock market conditions.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

A summary of the Company's employee stock options as of December 31, 2015 as well as activity during the three months ended December 31, 2014, the year ended September 30, 2014 and the year ended December 31, 2015 is presented below.

	Number of Optioned Shares(1)	Weighted Average Exercise Price(1)	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term in Years
Balance as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2014	160,434	\$ 10.74	
Forfeited	(1,760)	\$ 10.74	
Outstanding and vested Legacy TGC options	279,756	\$ 14.25	
Options cancelled	(10,000)	\$ 11.79	
Balance as of December 31, 2015	<u>428,430</u>	<u>\$ 13.01</u>	<u>2.93</u>
Exercisable as of December 31, 2015	<u>428,430</u>	<u>\$ 13.01</u>	<u>2.93</u>

(1) Balance of optioned shares and weighted average exercise price converted for the Merger that occurred February 11, 2015.

Stock options issued under the Legacy TGC and Legacy Dawson plans are incentive stock options. No tax deduction is recorded when options are awarded. If an exercise and sale of vested options results in a disqualifying disposition, a tax deduction for the Company occurs.

Outstanding options at December 31, 2015 expire from November 2016 to July 2019. There was no unrecognized compensation costs related to stock option awards as of December 31, 2015.

There were no options granted or vested and there were no excess tax benefits from disqualifying dispositions during the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013. No options were exercised during the year ended December 31, 2015 or the three months ended December 31, 2014 or the year ended September 30, 2013. The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the year ended September 30, 2014 was \$13,000, respectively.

No cash was received from option exercises under all share-based payment arrangements during the year ended December 31, 2015 and the three months ended December 31, 2014. Cash received from option exercises under all share-based payment arrangements during the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013 was \$32,000 and \$608,000, respectively.

Restricted Stock Awards:

There were no restricted stock grants in year ended December 31, 2015, three months ended December 31, 2014, or years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013.

At September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2014, 182,160 restricted share awards with a weighted average grant date fair value (based on the market price of the Company's stock on the date of grant) of \$13.38 per share were outstanding. As of December 31, 2015, all restricted stock has vested and no awards were outstanding.

Restricted Stock Units:

The Company granted 10,000, 94,898, 38,555 and 3,520 restricted stock units in the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

and 2013, respectively, with a weighted average grant date fair value of \$5.76, \$6.79, \$18.02 and \$15.42, respectively. The fair value of restricted stock units equals the market price of the Company's stock on the grant date.

A summary of the Company's nonvested restricted stock unit awards as of December 31, 2015 as well as activity during the three months ended December 31, 2014 and the year ended December 31, 2015 is presented below.

	Number of Restricted Share Units(1)	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value(1)
Balance as of September 30, 2014	38,555	\$ 18.02
Grants	94,898	6.79
Balance as of December 31, 2014	133,453	\$ 10.03
Grants	10,000	5.76
Vested	(14,206)	17.78
Balance as of December 31, 2015	<u>129,247</u>	<u>\$ 8.85</u>

- (1) Balance of restricted share units and weighted average grant date fair value price converted for merger that occurred February 11, 2015.

As of December 31, 2015, there was approximately \$587,000 of unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested restricted stock units. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.78 years.

Common Stock Awards:

The Company granted common shares with immediate vesting to outside directors and employees in year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014 and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013 as follows:

	Number of Shares Granted	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Year Ended December 31, 2015	58,937	\$ 4.53
Three Months Ended December 31, 2014	21,730	\$ 7.59
Year Ended September 30, 2014	9,706	\$ 17.61
Year Ended September 30, 2013	25,491	\$ 15.81

9. Dividends

The Company has not paid dividends during calendar year 2015. During calendar year 2014, four quarterly dividends of \$0.05 per share were paid to shareholders of record representing an aggregate dividend of approximately \$645,000 on each payment date on the number of issued and outstanding Common Stock as of the applicable declaration date, or approximately \$2,580,000.

While there are currently no restrictions prohibiting the Company from paying dividends, the Board of Directors, after consideration of general economic and market conditions affecting the energy industry in general, and the oilfield services business in particular, determined that the Company would not pay a dividend in respect of the foreseeable future. Payment of any dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our board and will depend on our financial condition, results of operations, capital and legal requirements, and other factors deemed relevant by the board.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

10. Employee Benefit Plans

The Company provides a 401(k) plan as part of its employee benefits package in order to retain quality personnel. Legacy Dawson elected to match 100% of the employee contributions up to a maximum of 6% of the participant's gross salary under the Legacy Dawson 401(k) plan for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013. Legacy Dawson's 401(k) plan was retained in connection with the merger. Legacy TGC's 401(k) plan, which was terminated in connection with the Merger, is consistent with Legacy Dawson's 401(k) plan except Legacy TGC matched 50% of the employee's contribution up to a maximum of 6% of the participant's gross salary. The Company's matching contributions under Legacy Dawson's 401(k) plan for calendar year 2015, three months ended December 31, 2014, and fiscal 2014 and 2013 were approximately \$1,849,000, \$462,000, \$1,895,000 and \$1,747,000, respectively. Legacy TGC's employees rolled on to the Legacy Dawson 401(k) plan during 2015. In addition, the Company's matching contributions to the Legacy TGC 401(k) plan (prior to such plan's termination) during 2015 were \$98,000.

11. Advertising Costs

Advertising costs are charged to expense as incurred. Advertising costs totaled \$466,000 during the year ended December 31, 2015, \$62,000 during the three months ended December 31, 2014, \$223,000 and \$319,000 during the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

12. Income Taxes

The Company's components of (loss) income before income taxes are as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Three Months Ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended September 30,	
			2014	2013
(Loss) income before income taxes				
Domestic	\$ (36,230,000)	\$ (6,249,000)	\$ (11,671,000)	\$ 23,019,000
Foreign	(3,804,000)	(654,000)	(6,229,000)	(3,449,000)
Total	<u>\$ (40,034,000)</u>	<u>\$ (6,903,000)</u>	<u>\$ (17,900,000)</u>	<u>\$ 19,570,000</u>

The Company recorded income tax benefit of \$13,755,000 and \$1,912,000 for the year ended December 31, 2015 and the three months ended December 31, 2014, respectively. In year ended September 30, 2014, the Company recorded income tax benefit of \$5,280,000 as compared to expense of \$9,090,000 in year ended September 30, 2013.

Income tax benefit (expense) is comprised of the following:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Three Months Ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended September 30,	
			2014	2013
Current federal benefit (expense)	\$ 280,000	—	\$ 74,000	\$ (124,000)
Current state expense	(571,000)	\$ (39,000)	(633,000)	(693,000)
Current foreign expense	—	—	(228,000)	—
Deferred foreign benefit (expense)	687,000	—	—	—
Deferred federal benefit (expense)	12,499,000	1,783,000	5,489,000	(6,251,000)
Deferred state benefit (expense)	860,000	168,000	578,000	(2,022,000)
Total	<u>\$ 13,755,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,912,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,280,000</u>	<u>\$ (9,090,000)</u>

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

The income tax provision differs from the amount computed by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to (losses) income before income taxes as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Three Months Ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended September 30,	
			2014	2013
Tax benefit (expense) computed at statutory rate of 35%	\$ 14,012,000	\$ 2,416,000	\$ 6,265,000	\$ (6,850,000)
Change in valuation allowance	(502,000)	(170,000)	(1,506,000)	(1,265,000)
State income tax benefit (expense), net of federal tax	423,000	83,000	(32,000)	(1,486,000)
Foreign losses	954,000	170,000	1,506,000	987,000
Transaction costs	(445,000)	(522,000)	(332,000)	—
Other	(687,000)	(65,000)	(621,000)	(476,000)
Income tax benefit (expense)	<u>\$ 13,755,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,912,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,280,000</u>	<u>\$ (9,090,000)</u>

The principal components of the Company's net deferred tax liability are as follows:

	December 31, 2015	September 30, 2014
Deferred tax assets:		
Federal tax net operating loss (NOL) carryforward	\$ 23,002,000	\$ 11,205,000
Foreign tax NOL carryforward	3,694,000	2,441,000
Deferred revenue	1,193,000	297,000
Restricted stock	214,000	756,000
Workers' compensation	144,000	148,000
State tax NOL carryforward	850,000	792,000
Self-insurance	260,000	286,000
Canadian start-up costs	296,000	337,000
AMT credit carry forward	315,000	312,000
Foreign tax credit	1,874,000	228,000
Other comprehensive income	1,055,000	128,000
Unrecognized tax benefits	562,000	—
Other	(91,000)	209,000
Total gross deferred tax assets	33,368,000	17,139,000
Less valuation allowance	(3,707,000)	(2,771,000)
Total net deferred tax assets	29,661,000	14,368,000
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Property and equipment	(34,980,000)	(42,199,000)
Total net deferred tax liability	<u>\$ (5,319,000)</u>	<u>\$ (27,831,000)</u>

At December 31, 2015, the Company had a gross NOL for U.S. federal income tax purposes of approximately \$65,719,000. This NOL will begin to expire in 2029. The Company will carry forward the net federal NOL of approximately \$23,002,000. The Company also had net state NOLs that will affect state taxes of approximately \$850,000 at December 31, 2015. State NOLs began to expire in 2015. Carryback provisions are not allowed by all states, accordingly the state NOLs give rise to a deferred tax asset. Several of these carry forwards are primarily available in states where the Company believes the assets cannot be

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

deemed to be more likely than not realizable. Based on management's belief that the net operating loss carry forwards are not realizable, a \$526,000 valuation allowance, net of federal benefit was maintained to offset these deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2015. The Company also has Canadian deferred tax assets that will begin to expire in 2032. The Company has recorded a partial valuation allowance of \$3,181,000 against the Canadian deferred tax assets because management believes it is currently not more likely than not to be realizable.

In conjunction with the Merger at February 11, 2015, the Company established an accrual for unrecognized tax benefits of \$715,000. At December 31, 2015, the Company increased this accrual for unrecognized tax benefits to \$1,684,000. There were no unrecognized tax benefits at the three months ended December 31, 2014 or the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013. The tax years generally subject to future examination by tax authorities are for years ended December 31, 2012 and after. While it is expected that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits will change in the next twelve months, the Company does not expect any change to have a significant impact on its results of operations. The Company's policy is to recognize interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense. There was no interest and penalties recognized in the year ended December 31, 2015, three months ended December 31, 2014 or in the years ended September 30, 2014 or 2013.

13. Net (Loss) Income per Share Attributable to Common Stock

Net (loss) income per share attributable to common stock is calculated using the two-class method. The two-class method is an allocation method of calculating (loss) earnings per share when a company's capital structure includes participating securities that have rights to undistributed earnings. The Company's employees and officers that hold unvested restricted stock are entitled to dividends when the Company pays dividends. The Company's basic net (loss) income per share attributable to common stock is computed by reducing the Company's net (loss) income by the net income allocable to unvested restricted stockholders that have a right to participate in earnings. The Company's employees and officers that hold unvested restricted stock do not participate in losses because they are not contractually obligated to do so. The undistributed earnings are allocated based on the relative percentage of the weighted average unvested restricted stock awards. The basic net (loss) income per share attributable to common stock is computed by dividing the net (loss) income attributable to common stock by the weighted average shares outstanding. The weighted average shares outstanding for the year ended December 31, 2015 was calculated by totaling (i) the product of (x) the weighted shares of Legacy Dawson Common Stock outstanding at the beginning of the year multiplied by (y) the Exchange Ratio, plus (ii) the number of shares associated with awards of Legacy Dawson restricted stock and restricted stock units that vested in conjunction with the Merger, weighted as of February 11, 2015, plus (iii) the number of shares of Legacy TGC Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to the Merger, weighted to reflect that such shares were outstanding from February 11, 2015 until December 31, 2015. The weighted average number of shares outstanding for the three months ended December 31, 2014 and for the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013 were calculated as if the Merger had occurred at the beginning of the respective period, and the components of the weighted average shares calculation were multiplied by the Exchange Ratio. The Company's dilutive net (loss) income per share attributable to common stock is computed by adjusting basic net (loss) income per share attributable to common stock by diluted income allocable to unvested

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

restricted stock, if any, divided by weighted average diluted shares outstanding. A reconciliation of the basic and diluted (loss) income per share attributable to common stock is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Three Months Ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended September 30, 2014	
			2014	2013
	(in thousands, except share and per share data)			
Net (loss) income	\$ (26,279)	\$ (4,991)	\$ (12,620)	\$ 10,480
Income allocable to unvested restricted stock	—	(9)	(26)	(136)
Basic (loss) income attributable to common stock	<u>\$ (26,279)</u>	<u>\$ (5,000)</u>	<u>\$ (12,646)</u>	<u>\$ 10,344</u>
Reallocation of participating earnings	—	—	—	1
Diluted (loss) income attributable to common stock	<u>\$ (26,279)</u>	<u>\$ (5,000)</u>	<u>\$ (12,646)</u>	<u>\$ 10,345</u>
Weighted average common shares outstanding:				
Basic	20,688,185	14,019,813	14,008,635	13,868,120
Dilutive common stock options and restricted stock units	—	—	—	71,721
Diluted	<u>20,688,185</u>	<u>14,019,813</u>	<u>14,008,635</u>	<u>13,939,841</u>
Basic (loss) income attributable to a share of common stock	<u>\$ (1.27)</u>	<u>\$ (0.36)</u>	<u>\$ (0.90)</u>	<u>\$ 0.75</u>
Diluted (loss) income attributable to a share of common stock	<u>\$ (1.27)</u>	<u>\$ (0.36)</u>	<u>\$ (0.90)</u>	<u>\$ 0.74</u>

The Company had a net loss in the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the year ended September 30, 2014. As a result, all stock options and restricted stock units were anti-dilutive and excluded from weighted average shares used in determining the diluted loss attributable to a share of common stock for the respective periods. The following weighted average numbers of stock options and restricted stock units have been excluded from the calculation of diluted loss per share attributable to common stock, as their effect would be anti-dilutive for the year ended December 31, 2015, the three months ended December 31, 2014, and the year ended September 30, 2014:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015	Three Months ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended September 30, 2014
Stock options	159,561	160,434	162,107
Restricted stock units	126,596	66,405	33,373
Total	<u>286,157</u>	<u>226,839</u>	<u>195,480</u>

There were no weighted average number of stock options or restricted stock units that were anti-dilutive for the year ended September 30, 2013.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

The following weighted average shares of unvested restricted stock were included in common stock outstanding as such shares have a nonforfeitable right to participate in any dividends that might be declared and have the right to vote:

	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31,</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>Three Months Ended</u> <u>December 31,</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>September 30,</u> <u>2014</u> <u>2013</u>	
	Restricted Stock	46,695	182,160	182,160

14. Major Clients

The Company operates in only one business segment, contract seismic data acquisition and processing services. Sales to these clients, as a percentage of operating revenues that exceeded 10%, were as follows:

	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31, 2015</u>	<u>Three Months Ended</u> <u>December 31, 2014</u>	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>September 30, 2014</u>	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>September 30, 2013</u>
A	21%	14%	16%	19%
B	15%	10%	13%	17%
C	—	—	12%	—

The Company does not believe that the loss of any client listed above would have a material adverse effect on the Company.

15. Areas of Operation

The U.S. and Canada are the only countries of operation for the Company.

Revenues for the year ended December 31, 2015 were \$234,685,000 with \$222,154,000 earned in the United States and \$12,531,000 earned in Canada. Revenues for the three months ended December 31, 2014 were \$50,802,000, all earned in the United States. Revenues for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2014 were \$261,683,000 with \$256,110,000 earned in the United States and \$5,573,000 earned in Canada. Revenues for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2013 were \$305,299,000 with \$303,869,000 earned in the United States and \$1,430,000 earned in Canada.

Net long-lived assets as of December 31, 2015 were approximately \$147,567,000, with \$136,758,000 located in the United States and \$10,809,000 located in Canada. Net long-lived assets as of September 30, 2014 were approximately \$164,494,000, with \$163,880,000 located in the United States and \$614,000 located in Canada.

16. Commitments and Contingencies

From time to time, the Company is a party to various legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Although the Company cannot predict the outcomes of any such legal proceedings, management believes that the resolution of pending legal actions will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or liquidity as the Company believes it is adequately indemnified and insured.

The Company experiences contractual disputes with its clients from time to time regarding the payment of invoices or other matters. While the Company seeks to minimize these disputes and maintain good relations with its clients, the Company has in the past, and may in the future, experience disputes that could affect its revenues and results of operations in any period.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Company has non-cancelable operating leases for office and shop space in Midland, Plano, Denison, Houston, Denver, Oklahoma City and Calgary, Alberta.

The following table summarizes payments due in specific periods related to the Company's contractual obligations with initial terms exceeding one year as of December 31, 2015.

	Payments Due by Period (in 000's)				
	Total	Within 1 Year	2 - 3 Years	4 - 5 Years	After 5 Years
Operating lease obligations (office space)	\$ 11,271	\$ 1,704	\$ 2,660	\$ 1,899	\$ 5,008

Some of the Company's operating leases contain predetermined fixed increases of the minimum rental rate during the initial lease term. For these leases, the Company recognizes the related expense on a straight-line basis and records deferred rent as the difference between the amount charged to expense and the rent paid. Rental expense under the Company's operating leases with initial terms exceeding one year was \$1,691,000 for the year ended December 31, 2015, \$242,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2014, and \$965,000 and \$900,000 for the years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

As of December 31, 2015, the Company had unused letters of credit of approximately \$1,767,000. The Company's letters of credit of \$1,767,000 are associated with the Company's existing insurance coverage.

Also as of December 31, 2015, the Company had unused letters of credit of approximately \$233,000. The Company's letters of credit are associated with the Company's self-insured retention on workers' compensation claims. Effective in fiscal 2012, the Company was no longer self-insured for workers' compensation claims after October 1, 2011. The unused letters of credit of \$233,000 are associated with workers' compensation claims outstanding prior to October 1, 2011.

17. Rights Agreement

Legacy Dawson executed a Rights Agreement, dated as of July 23, 2009, between Legacy Dawson and Mellon Investors Services, LLC, as rights agent (the "Rights Agreement"). The Rights Agreement set forth and governed the rights that were dividdened to the holders of record of the common stock of Legacy Dawson at the close of business on July 23, 2009 (the "Rights"). The Rights, if triggered, would have entitled the registered holder to purchase from Legacy Dawson certain fractional shares of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, of Legacy Dawson.

On October 8, 2014, Legacy Dawson entered into an amendment to the rights agreement (the "Rights Amendment") with the rights agent in order to include provisions such that (a) the Merger would not trigger any action under the Rights Agreement and no distribution of rights would occur by virtue of the Merger or the consummation of the other transactions contemplated thereby and (b) the rights would expire at the effective time of the Merger. Pursuant to the Rights Amendment, the Rights Agreement expired pursuant to its terms upon the closing of the Merger on February 11, 2015.

18. Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842) which will require organizations that lease assets to recognize on the balance sheet the assets and liabilities for the rights and obligations created by those leases. This ASU is effective for the annual period ending after December 15, 2016, and for annual and interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the new guidance to determine the impact it will have on its consolidated financial statements.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-17 to simplify income tax accounting. The update requires that all deferred tax assets and liabilities be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet instead of separating deferred taxes into current and noncurrent amounts. This update is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within those fiscal years, and may be adopted earlier on a voluntary basis. The Company elected to early adopt this guidance during the fourth quarter of 2015 and have applied a full retrospective approach to all periods presented. Current deferred income tax assets of \$5,977,000 as of September 30, 2014 have been reclassified and presented as a reduction to deferred income tax liabilities, net, in the Consolidated Balance Sheet.

In September 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-16, "Business Combinations — Simplifying the Accounting for Measurement-Period Adjustments". ASU 2015-16 eliminates the requirement that an acquirer in a business combination account for measurement-period adjustments retrospectively. Instead, an acquirer will recognize a measurement-period adjustment during the period in which it determines the amount of the adjustment, including the effect on earnings of any amounts it would have recorded in previous periods if the accounting had been completed at the acquisition date. The guidance is effective for public entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company adopted ASU 2015-16 during the quarter ended September 30, 2015. The adoption of ASU 2015-16 did not materially affect the Company's consolidated results of operations, cash flows, financial position or financial statement disclosures.

In August 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-15, "Presentation of Financial Statements — Going Concern" (Subtopic 205-40). This ASU provides guidance on management's responsibility to evaluate whether there is substantial doubt about an entity's ability to continue as a going concern and in certain circumstances to provide related footnote disclosures. This ASU is effective for the annual period ending after December 15, 2016, and for annual and interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect the adoption of this guidance will have any material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09 that introduces a new five-step revenue recognition model in which an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. This ASU also requires disclosures sufficient to enable users to understand the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers, including qualitative and quantitative disclosures about contracts with customers, significant judgments and changes in judgments, and assets recognized from the costs to obtain or fulfill a contract. This standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period. Early adoption is permitted, but only for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Entities have the option of using either a full retrospective or modified approach to adopt ASU 2014-09. The Company is currently evaluating the new guidance to determine the impact it will have on its consolidated financial statements and the method of adoption.

19. Concentrations of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially expose the Company to concentrations of credit risk at any given time may consist of cash and cash equivalents, money market funds and overnight investment accounts, short-term investments in certificates of deposit, trade and other receivables and other current assets. At December 31, 2015 and September 30, 2014, the Company had deposits with domestic and international banks in excess of federally insured limits. Management believes the credit risk associated with these deposits is minimal. Money market funds seek to preserve the value of the investment, but it is possible to lose money investing in these funds.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

The Company's sales are to clients whose activities relate to oil and natural gas exploration and production. The Company generally extends unsecured credit to these clients; therefore, collection of receivables may be affected by the economy surrounding the oil and natural gas industry or other economic conditions. The Company closely monitors extensions of credit and may negotiate payment terms that mitigate risk.

20. Quarterly Consolidated Financial Data (Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended				
	December 31	March 31	June 30	September 30	December 31
Year Ended December 31, 2015:					
Operating revenues		\$ 73,722,000	\$ 43,335,000	\$ 62,498,000	\$ 55,130,000
Loss from operations		\$ (9,814,000)	\$ (18,065,000)	\$ (4,662,000)	\$ (8,141,000)
Net loss		\$ (6,592,000)	\$ (11,877,000)	\$ (2,870,000)	\$ (4,940,000)
Basic and diluted loss per share attributable to common stock		\$ (0.37)	\$ (0.55)	\$ (0.13)	\$ (0.23)
Diluted loss per share attributable to common stock		\$ (0.37)	\$ (0.55)	\$ (0.13)	\$ (0.23)
Three Months Ended December 31, 2014:					
Operating revenues					\$ 50,802,000
Loss from operations					\$ (6,984,000)
Net loss					\$ (4,991,000)
Basic and diluted loss per share attributable to common stock					\$ (0.36)
Diluted loss per share attributable to common stock					\$ (0.36)
Year Ended September 30, 2014:					
Operating revenues	\$ 68,181,000	\$ 76,766,000	\$ 54,166,000	\$ 62,570,000	
(Loss) income from operations	\$ (4,967,000)	\$ 2,822,000	\$ (9,228,000)	\$ (6,531,000)	
Net (loss) income	\$ (2,897,000)	\$ 1,652,000	\$ (7,493,000)	\$ (3,882,000)	
Basic (loss) income per share attributable to common stock	\$ (0.20)	\$ 0.12	\$ (0.54)	\$ (0.28)	
Diluted (loss) income per share attributable to common stock	\$ (0.20)	\$ 0.12	\$ (0.54)	\$ (0.28)	

Basic and diluted (loss) income per share attributable to common stock are computed independently for each of the quarters presented. Therefore, the sum of quarterly basic and diluted information may not equal the annual basic and diluted (loss) income per share attributable to common stock. In addition, all income (loss) per share calculations have been adjusted to reflect the 1.76 merger conversion factor.

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated October 8, 2014, by and among Dawson Operating Company (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company), the Registrant and Riptide Acquisition Corp., filed as Exhibit 2.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Formation, as amended February 11, 2015, filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on March 16, 2015, and incorporated herein by reference.
3.2	Bylaws, as amended February 11, 2015 filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on March 16, 2015, and incorporated herein by reference.
4.1	Form of Specimen Stock Certificate, filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 11, 2015, and incorporated herein by reference.
10.1	Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated September 16, 2009, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on September 22, 2009 (File No. 001-32472), and incorporated herein by reference.
10.2	Amended and Restated Promissory Note, by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated September 16, 2009, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on September 22, 2009 (File No. 001-32472), and incorporated herein by reference.
10.3	Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement and Amended and Restated Promissory Note by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated September 16, 2010, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2010, and incorporated herein by reference.
10.4	Third Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement and Amendment to Amended and Restated Promissory Note, by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated September 16, 2011, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on September 22, 2011, and incorporated herein by reference.
10.5	Fourth Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated January 26, 2012, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2012, and incorporated herein by reference.
10.6	Fifth Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated September 16, 2012, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2012, and incorporated herein by reference.
10.7	Sixth Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated as of October 11, 2012, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2013, and incorporated herein by reference.
10.8	Seventh Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement and Amendment to Amended and Restated Promissory Note, by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated as of September 16, 2013, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2013, and incorporated herein by reference.

<u>EXHIBIT NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
10.9	Eighth Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement and Amendment to Amended and Restated Promissory Note, by and between the Registrant and Sovereign Bank, dated September 16, 2014, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on September 19, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
10.10	Ninth Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement (filed on July 2, 2015 as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-32472) and incorporated herein by reference).
*10.11	Tenth Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement.
+10.12	The Executive Nonqualified "Excess" Plan Adoption Agreement, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on January 8, 2013, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.13	The Executive Nonqualified Excess Plan Document, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 8, 2013, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.14	Form of Indemnification Agreement entered with directors and executive officers, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.15	Employment Agreement, dated October 8, 2014, by and between the Registrant and Stephen C. Jumper, filed as Exhibit 10.5 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.16	Employment Agreement, dated October 8, 2014, by and between the Registrant and Wayne A. Whitener, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.17	Employment Agreement, dated October 8, 2014, by and between the Registrant and C. Ray Tobias, filed as Exhibit 10.6 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.18	Employment Agreement, dated October 8, 2014, by and between the Registrant and Daniel G. Winn, filed as Exhibit 10.4 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.19	Employment Agreement, dated October 8, 2014, by and between the Registrant and James K. Brata, filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.20	Employment Agreement, dated October 8, 2014, by and between the Registrant and Christina W. Hagan, filed as Exhibit 10.7 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.21	Employment Agreement, dated October 8, 2014, by and between the Registrant and James W. Thomas, filed as Exhibit 10.8 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 9, 2014, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.22	Letter Agreement, dated February 15, 2016, by and between James K. Brata and the Company, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 19, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.23	Letter Agreement, dated February 15, 2016, by and between Christina W. Hagan and the Company, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 19, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference.

<u>EXHIBIT NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
+10.24	Letter Agreement, dated February 15, 2016, by and between Stephen C. Jumper and the Company, filed on February 19, 2016 as Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-32472) and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.25	Letter Agreement, dated February 15, 2016, by and between James W. Thomas and the Company, filed as Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 19, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.26	Letter Agreement, dated February 15, 2016, by and between C. Ray Tobias and the Company, filed as Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 19, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.27	Letter Agreement, dated February 15, 2016, by and between Wayne A. Whitener and the Company, filed as Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 19, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.28	Letter Agreement, dated February 15, 2016, by and between Daniel G. Winn and the Company, filed as Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 19, 2016, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.29	Amended and Restated Dawson Geophysical Company 2006 Stock and Performance Incentive Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on February 11, 2015, and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.30	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for the Legacy Dawson Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.3 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed on February 11, 2008 (File No. 001-34404), and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.31	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for the Legacy Dawson Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.5 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on December 11, 2013 (File No. 001-34404), and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.32	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement for the Legacy Dawson Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.5 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on December 11, 2013 (File No. 001-34404) , and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.33	Form of Stock Option Agreement for the Legacy Dawson Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.4 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed on February 11, 2008 (File No. 001-34404), and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.34	Form of Stock Option Agreement for the Legacy Dawson Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.9 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on December 11, 2013 (File No. 001-34404), and incorporated herein by reference.
+10.35	Dawson Geophysical 2014 Annual Incentive Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 25, 2013 (File No. 001-34404), and incorporated herein by reference.
10.36	Form of Master Geophysical Data Acquisition Agreement, filed as Exhibit 10.10 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on December 5, 2012 (File No. 001-34404), and incorporated herein by reference.

<u>EXHIBIT NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
10.37	Form of Supplemental Agreement to Master Geophysical Data Acquisition Agreement, filed as Exhibit 10.11 to Dawson Operating Company's (f/k/a Dawson Geophysical Company) Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on December 5, 2012 (File No. 001-34404), and incorporated herein by reference.
10.38	Amended and Restated 2006 Stock Awards Plan of the Company (formerly known as the TGC Industries, Inc. 2006 Stock Awards Plan, i.e., the Legacy TGC Plan) (filed on June 5, 2015 as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-32472) and incorporated herein by reference).
*21.1	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
*23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accountants to incorporation of report by reference.
*31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
*31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
*31.3	Certification of Chief Accounting Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
*32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
*32.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
*32.3	Certification of Chief Accounting Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS*	XBRL Instance Document.
101.SCH*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
101.CAL*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
101.DEF*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.
101.LAB*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase Document.
101.PRE*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.
*	Filed herewith.
+	Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

SOVEREIGN BANK – LOAN NO. 17003864 (REVOLVING CREDIT FACILITY)

**TENTH AMENDMENT TO
AMENDED AND RESTATED LOAN AND SECURITY AGREEMENT**

THIS TENTH AMENDMENT TO AMENDED AND RESTATED LOAN AND SECURITY AGREEMENT (this "Amendment") dated as of **JUNE 30, 2015** (the "Effective Date"), is by and between **SOVEREIGN BANK**, a Texas state bank (together with its successors and assigns, "Lender"), and **DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**, a Texas corporation ("Debtor"), formerly known as **TGC INDUSTRIES, INC.**

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Debtor and Lender entered into that certain **AMENDED AND RESTATED LOAN AND SECURITY AGREEMENT** dated as of **SEPTEMBER 16, 2009** (as amended, modified, and restated from time to time, the "Agreement"), pursuant to which Lender agreed to make certain credit facilities available to Debtor on the terms and conditions set forth therein.

WHEREAS, the parties desire to amend the Agreement pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. **Defined Terms.** Capitalized terms used in this Amendment, to the extent not otherwise defined herein, shall have the same meanings as in the Agreement, as amended hereby. Section 1 of the Agreement is further amended as follows:

(a) The defined term "Letter of Credit" is hereby added to the Agreement in the correct alphabetical order as follows (with other defined terms being re-lettered, as applicable):

"Letter of Credit" means that certain letter of credit with an issue date of **November 23, 2015**, issued by Lender, at the request of Debtor, as applicant, for the benefit of **AIG ASSURANCE COMPANY** and the other beneficiaries named therein, for drawings up to **ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN AND NO/100 DOLLARS (1,767,115.00)**.

(b) The following sentence is hereby added at the end of the definition of "Indebtedness":

"The Indebtedness includes all obligations of Debtor to Lender under the Letter of Credit."

2. **Addition of Section 2(f).** A new Section 2(f) is hereby added to the Agreement as follows:

(f) **Letter of Credit.**

(i) Debtor hereby requests Lender to issue the Letter of Credit. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement and the other Loan Documents, Lender hereby agrees to issue the Letter of Credit on **November 23, 2015**. Each advance by Lender pursuant to a drawing under the Letter of Credit is due and payable on the date that is **THIRTY (30)** days after such drawing date, and will be charged by Lender as (and will be deemed to be) a Loan under the Revolving Credit Facility by Lender as of the day and time such payment is made by Lender and in the amount of such payment. Effective on the date of issuance of the Letter of Credit, a reserve against the Borrowing Base shall be established in an amount equal to the Letter of Credit and all other commitments and obligations made or incurred by Lender with respect thereto. Debtor shall pay Lender an Issuance Fee of \$17,671.15 upon issuance of the Letter of Credit.

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(ii) Debtor authorizes Lender to accept, honor, or pay (as applicable) against any draft or other document which on its face appears otherwise in order and is signed, issued, or presented by any party or under the name of any party (a) purporting to act with authority (actual or apparent) on behalf of the beneficiary in whose name the Letter of Credit requires that any draft or document must be drawn, issued, or presented; (b) purporting to claim through such beneficiary; or (c) posing as such beneficiary. Debtor agrees to reimburse Lender any and all amounts which Lender pays under the Letter of Credit notwithstanding any legal or factual insufficiency or infirmity in such party's conduct or in any of the documents referenced in items (a), (b) or (c) above. Debtor shall indemnify and hold Lender harmless from and against any and all losses, claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses which Lender may suffer or incur in connection with the Letter of Credit and any documents, drafts or acceptances relating thereto, including any losses, claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses due to (A) any action taken by any issuer or correspondent with respect to the Letter of Credit, or (B) if applicable, any fluctuation in the exchange rates for foreign currency: provided, however, that such indemnity shall not, as to the Lender, be available to the extent that such losses, claims, damages, liabilities, costs or expenses resulted from the Lender's gross negligence or willful misconduct, **IT BEING EXPRESSLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED THAT SUCH INDEMNITY SHALL EXTEND TO AND COVER LENDER'S NEGLIGENCE.** Debtor assumes all risks with respect to the acts or omissions of the drawer under or beneficiary of the Letter of Credit and for such purposes the drawer or beneficiary shall be deemed Debtor's agent. Debtor assumes all risks for, and agrees to pay, all foreign, Federal, State and local taxes, duties and levies relating to any goods subject to the Letter of Credit or any documents, drafts or acceptances thereunder. Debtor hereby releases and holds Lender harmless from and against any acts, waivers, errors, delays or omissions, whether caused by Debtor, by any issuer or correspondent or otherwise with respect to or relating to the Letter of Credit. The provisions of this Section shall survive the payment of obligations of Debtor hereunder and the termination of this Agreement.

(iii) Nothing contained herein shall be deemed or construed to grant Debtor any right or authority to pledge the credit of Lender in any manner. Lender shall have no liability of any kind with respect to the Letter of Credit provided by an issuer other than Lender unless Lender has duly executed and delivered to such issuer the application or a guarantee or indemnification in writing with respect to the Letter of Credit. Debtor shall be bound by any interpretation made by Lender, or any other issuer or correspondent under or in connection with the Letter of Credit or any documents, drafts or acceptances thereunder, notwithstanding that such interpretation may be inconsistent with any instructions of

Debtor. Lender shall have the sole and exclusive right and authority to, and Debtor shall not: (A) at any time an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, (I) approve or resolve any questions on non-compliance of documents or (2) give any instructions as to acceptance or rejection of any documents or goods, and (B) at all times, grant any extensions of the maturity of, time of payment for, or time of presentation of, any drafts, acceptances, or documents, drafts or acceptances thereunder or any letters of credit included in the Collateral. Lender may take any such actions either in its own name or in Debtor's name.

(iv) If as a result of any regulatory change there shall be imposed, modified, or deemed applicable any tax, reserve, special deposit, or similar requirement against or with respect to or measured by reference the Letter of Credit and the result shall be to increase the cost to the Lender of issuing or maintaining the Letter of Credit or reduce any amount receivable by the Lender hereunder in respect of the Letter of Credit (which increase in cost, or reduction in amount receivable, shall be the result of the Lender's reasonable allocation of the aggregate of such increases or reductions resulting from such event), then, upon demand by the Lender, Debtor agrees to pay the Lender, from time to time as specified by the Lender, such additional amounts as shall be sufficient to compensate the Lender for such increased costs or reductions in amount. A statement as to such increased costs or reductions in amount incurred by the Lender, submitted by the Lender to the Debtor, shall be conclusive as to the amount thereof, provided that the determination thereof is made on a reasonable basis.

(v) Neither Lender nor any of Lender's correspondents shall be responsible for, and Debtor's obligation to reimburse Lender shall not be affected by any change of circumstances or conditions or action of any person related to the Letter of Credit or this Agreement including without limitation: (a) the validity, accuracy, sufficiency or genuineness of drafts, documents, certificates, statements or endorsements thereon, even if such drafts, documents, certificates, statements or endorsements thereon

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prove, in fact, to be in any respect invalid, insufficient, fraudulent or forged; (b) any breach of any agreement between Debtor and the Beneficiary of the Letter of Credit or any other party, even if Lender has received notice of same; (c) any failure of any draft to bear any reference or adequate reference to the Letter of Credit; (d) any act or omission by Lender in connection with the Letter of Credit or related drafts and documents if done in good faith; (e) any omissions, interruptions, errors, mis-deliveries or delays in the transmission or delivery of any documents, message or communication by mail, cable, telegram or other media in connection with the Letter of Credit; (f) any act, error, default, omission or failure in business of the Beneficiary, any correspondent or any other party, or any other act or omission beyond Lender's control; (g) any acceptance or payment of overdrafts or irregular drafts or extensions of time limits or other changes or variations in, the Letter of Credit if assented to, orally or in writing, by Debtor; Debtor shall be conclusively deemed to have waived any right to object to such variation unless within three days of receipt of such irregular drafts or documents or notice of such variation, Debtor files written notice with Lender; (h) any delay by any party in giving, or failing to give notice of any default under any agreement involving Lender; (i) failure by Lender to perfect any interest in or exercise any right with respect to the collateral securing this Agreement or any other security, endorsement, or guarantee it may have for payment of Debtor's obligations; and, (j) any amendments to which Debtor has assented.

(vi) Lender shall not be responsible to Debtor for, and Lender's right to reimbursement, indemnification, and other payments hereunder shall not be impaired by any act or omission for which an issuer of a letter of credit is relieved of responsibility under the 2007 Revision of the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits of the international Chamber of Commerce, ICC Publication No. 600 or other applicable law. In addition, Debtor acknowledges that it has reviewed and agreed to the proposed language of the Letter of Credit and that Lender shall not be responsible for the inclusion or absence of any terms or conditions in that document. Lender shall not be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages, unless there is clear and convincing evidence that such damages resulted from Lender's bad faith.

(vii) The governing law provisions of this Agreement shall apply to this Section, except to the extent such laws are inconsistent with the 2007 Revision of the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits of the International Chamber of Commerce, ICC Publication No. 600.

(viii) If any Event of Default shall occur and be continuing or the Revolving Credit Maturity Date shall have occurred, Debtor shall, if requested by the Lender, immediately deposit with and pledge to the Lender cash or cash equivalent investments in an amount equal to the outstanding face amount of the Letter of Credit as security for the obligations thereunder.

3. **Conditions Precedent.** The obligations of Lender under this Amendment shall be subject to the condition precedent that Debtor shall have executed and delivered to Lender this Amendment and such other documents and instruments incidental and appropriate to the transaction provided for herein as Lender or its counsel may reasonably request.

4. **Payment Expenses.** Debtor agrees to pay all reasonable attorneys' fees of Lender in connection with the drafting and execution of this Amendment.

5. **Ratifications.** Except as expressly modified and superseded by this Amendment, the Agreement and the other Loan Documents are ratified and confirmed and continue in full force and effect. The Loan Documents, as modified by this Amendment, continue to be legal, valid, binding and enforceable in accordance with their respective terms. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Debtor hereby ratifies and confirms that all liens heretofore granted to Lender were intended to, do and continue to secure the full payment and performance of the indebtedness arising under the Loan Documents. Debtor agrees to perform such acts and duly authorize, execute, acknowledge, deliver, file and record such additional assignments, security agreements, modifications or agreements to any of the foregoing, and such other agreements, documents and instruments as Lender may reasonably request in order to perfect and protect those liens and preserve and protect the rights of Lender in respect of all present and future collateral. The terms, conditions and provisions of the Loan Documents (as the same may have been amended, modified or restated from time to time) are incorporated herein by reference, the same as if stated verbatim herein.

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6. **Representations, Warranties and Confirmations.** Debtor hereby represents and warrants to Lender that (a) this Amendment and any other Loan Documents to be delivered under this Amendment (if any) have been duly executed and delivered by Debtor, are valid and binding upon Debtor and are enforceable against Debtor in accordance with their terms, except as limited by any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or similar laws of general

application relating to the enforcement of creditors' rights and except to the extent specific remedies may generally be limited by equitable principles, (b) no action of, or filing with, any governmental authority is required to authorize, or is otherwise required in connection with, the execution, delivery and performance by Debtor of this Amendment or any other Loan Document to be delivered under this Amendment, and (c) the execution, delivery and performance by Debtor of this Amendment and any other Loan Documents to be delivered under this Amendment do not require the consent of any other person and do not constitute a violation of any laws, agreements or understandings to which Debtor is a party or by which Debtor is bound.

7. **Release.** Debtor hereby acknowledges and agrees that it knows of no defenses, counterclaims, offsets, cross-complaints, claims or demands of any kind or nature whatsoever to or against Lender or the terms and provisions of or the obligations of Debtor under the Loan Documents and the other agreements, instruments and documents evidencing, securing, governing, guaranteeing or pertaining thereto, and that Debtor has no right to seek affirmative relief or damages of any kind or nature from Lender with respect thereto. To the extent Debtor knows of any such defenses, counterclaims, offsets, cross-complaints, claims, demands or rights, Debtor hereby waives, and hereby knowingly and voluntarily releases and forever discharges Lender and its predecessors, officers, directors, agents, attorneys, employees, successors and assigns, from all possible claims, demands, actions, causes of action, defenses, counterclaims, offsets, cross-complaints, damages, costs, expenses and liabilities whatsoever with respect thereto, such waiver and release being with full knowledge and understanding of the circumstances and effects of such waiver and release and after having consulted legal counsel with respect thereto.

8. **Multiple Counterparts.** This Amendment may be executed in a number of identical separate counterparts, each of which for all purposes is to be deemed an original, but all of which shall constitute, collectively, one agreement. Signature pages to this Amendment may be detached from multiple separate counterparts and attached to the same document and a telecopy or other facsimile of any such executed signature page shall be valid as an original.

9. **Reference to Loan Documents.** Each of the Loan Documents, including the Agreement and any and all other agreements, documents, or instruments now or hereafter executed and delivered pursuant to the terms hereof containing a reference to any Loan Document shall mean and refer to such Loan Document as amended hereby.

10. **Severability.** Any provision of this Amendment held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable shall not impair or invalidate the remainder of this Amendment and the effect thereof shall be confined to the provision so held to be invalid or unenforceable.

11. **Headings.** The headings, captions, and arrangements used in this Amendment are for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Amendment.

NOTICE OF FINAL AGREEMENT

THE AGREEMENT AND THE OTHER LOAN DOCUMENTS, AS THE SAME MAY BE AMENDED BY THIS AMENDMENT, REPRESENT THE FINAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN AND AMONG THE PARTIES AND MAY NOT BE CONTRADICTED BY EVIDENCE OF PRIOR, CONTEMPORANEOUS OR SUBSEQUENT ORAL AGREEMENTS OF THE PARTIES. THERE ARE NO UNWRITTEN ORAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN AND AMONG THE PARTIES.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Amendment to be duly executed as of the date first written above.

LENDER:

SOVEREIGN BANK

By: /s/ Stephanie Baird Velasquez

Name: Stephanie Baird Velasquez

Title: Area President

ADDRESS:

6060 Sherry Lane
Dallas, TX 75225

With copies of notices to:

GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP
1601 Elm Street, Suite 3000
Dallas, TX 75201-4761
Attention: Steven S. Camp

DEBTOR:

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

By: /s/ Wayne Whitener

Name: Wayne Whitener

Title: Executive Vice Chairman

ADDRESS:

101 E. Park Blvd., Suite 955
Plano, TX 75074

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SUBSIDIARIES OF THE REGISTRANT

Dawson Operating LLC, a Texas limited liability company

Eagle Canada, Inc., a Delaware corporation

Dawson Seismic Services Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation

Eagle Canada Seismic Services ULC, a Canadian corporation

Tidelands Geophysical Co., Inc., a Texas corporation

Exploration Surveys, Inc., a Texas corporation

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 21.1](#)

[SUBSIDIARIES OF THE REGISTRANT](#)

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the following Registration Statements:

- (1) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-199922) pertaining to the Post-Effective Amendment to the Registration Statement on Form S-4 related to the Amended and Restated Dawson Geophysical Company 2006 Stock and Performance Incentive Plan (the "Legacy Dawson Plan"),
- (2) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-142221) pertaining to the TGC Industries, Inc. 2006 Stock Awards Plan (the "Legacy TGC Plan"),
- (3) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-201923) pertaining to the Legacy TGC Plan, and
- (4) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-204643) pertaining to the Legacy Dawson Plan

of our reports dated March 15, 2016, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Dawson Geophysical Company and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Dawson Geophysical Company incorporated by reference in this Annual Report (Form 10-K) of Dawson Geophysical Company for the year ended December 31, 2015.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Dallas, Texas
March 15, 2016

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 23.1](#)

[CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM](#)

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Stephen C. Jumper, certify that:

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

Dated: March 15, 2016

/s/ STEPHEN C. JUMPER

Stephen C. Jumper
*Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and
Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)*

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 31.1](#)

[CERTIFICATIONS](#)

CERTIFICATIONS

I, James K. Brata, certify that:

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

Dated: March 15, 2016

/s/ JAMES K. BRATA

James K. Brata
Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

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[Exhibit 31.2](#)

[CERTIFICATIONS](#)

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Christina W. Hagan, certify that:

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

Dated: March 15, 2016

/s/ CHRISTINA W. HAGAN

Christina W. Hagan
Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Accounting Officer
(Principal Accounting Officer)

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[Exhibit 31.3](#)

[CERTIFICATIONS](#)

**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 annual report of Dawson Geophysical Company (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), I, Stephen C. Jumper, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 78o(d)); and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: March 15, 2016

/s/ STEPHEN C. JUMPER

Stephen C. Jumper
*Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and
Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)*

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[Exhibit 32.1](#)

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

**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 annual report of Dawson Geophysical Company (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), I, James K. Brata, Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 78o(d)); and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: March 15, 2016

/s/ JAMES K. BRATA

James K. Brata
Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 32.2](#)

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

**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 annual report of Dawson Geophysical Company (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), I, Christina W. Hagan, Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Accounting Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 78o(d)); and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: March 15, 2016

/s/ CHRISTINA W. HAGAN

Christina W. Hagan
*Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Accounting
Officer
(Principal Accounting Officer)*

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[Exhibit 32.3](#)

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