

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2019

or

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 000-20278

ENCORE WIRE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

75-2274963

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

1329 Millwood Road

McKinney Texas

(Address of principal executive offices)

75069

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (972) 562-9473

N/A

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

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	WIRE	The NASDAQ Global Select Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated filer
 Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
 Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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

Number of shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.01, outstanding as of October 29, 2019: 20,961,948

ENCORE WIRE CORPORATION
FORM 10-Q
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

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PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements.

Encore Wire Corporation
Balance Sheets
(In thousands, except share and per share data)

	September 30, 2019	December 31, 2018
	(Unaudited)	(See Note)
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 203,936	\$ 178,405
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$2,031 and \$2,030	244,869	235,353
Inventories, net	90,244	102,367
Income tax receivable	3,111	1,389
Prepaid expenses and other	2,550	1,723
Total current assets	544,710	519,237
Property, plant and equipment - at cost:		
Land and land improvements	52,354	51,169
Construction-in-progress	45,280	24,623
Buildings and improvements	152,322	151,758
Machinery and equipment	326,893	314,175
Furniture and fixtures	10,855	9,687
Total property, plant and equipment	587,704	551,412
Accumulated depreciation	(262,938)	(252,754)
Property, plant and equipment - net	324,766	298,658
Other assets	771	165
Total assets	<u>\$ 870,247</u>	<u>\$ 818,060</u>
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Trade accounts payable	\$ 39,907	\$ 36,706
Accrued liabilities	33,197	36,866
Total current liabilities	73,104	73,572
Deferred income taxes and other	28,464	24,032
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value:		
Authorized shares – 2,000,000; none issued	—	—
Common stock, \$.01 par value:		
Authorized shares – 40,000,000;		
Issued shares – 26,989,403 and 26,906,603	269	269
Additional paid-in capital	62,705	60,822
Treasury stock, at cost – 6,027,455 and 6,027,455 shares	(91,056)	(91,056)
Retained earnings	796,761	750,421
Total stockholders' equity	768,679	720,456
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 870,247</u>	<u>\$ 818,060</u>

Note: The balance sheet at December 31, 2018, as presented, is derived from the audited financial statements at that date.

See accompanying notes.

Encore Wire Corporation
Statements of Income
(In thousands, except per share data)

	Quarter Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)	
Net sales	\$ 321,169	\$ 340,732	\$ 972,742	\$ 968,956
Cost of goods sold	278,181	286,227	842,518	832,460
Gross profit	42,988	54,505	130,224	136,496
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	22,672	24,214	71,515	68,599
Operating income	20,316	30,291	58,709	67,897
Net interest and other income	1,033	596	3,193	1,332
Income before income taxes	21,349	30,887	61,902	69,229
Provision for income taxes	4,948	7,209	14,308	16,109
Net income	<u>\$ 16,401</u>	<u>\$ 23,678</u>	<u>\$ 47,594</u>	<u>\$ 53,120</u>
Earnings per common and common equivalent share – basic	<u>\$ 0.78</u>	<u>\$ 1.14</u>	<u>\$ 2.28</u>	<u>\$ 2.55</u>
Earnings per common and common equivalent share – diluted	<u>\$ 0.78</u>	<u>\$ 1.13</u>	<u>\$ 2.27</u>	<u>\$ 2.54</u>
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares outstanding – basic	20,912	20,853	20,896	20,839
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares outstanding – diluted	20,991	20,919	20,985	20,910
Cash dividends declared per share	<u>\$ 0.02</u>	<u>\$ 0.02</u>	<u>\$ 0.06</u>	<u>\$ 0.06</u>

See accompanying notes.

Encore Wire Corporation
Statements of Stockholders' Equity
(In thousands, except per share data)

2019 (Unaudited)	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Treasury Stock		Retained Earnings	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount		Shares	Amount		
Balance at December 31, 2018	26,907	\$ 269	\$ 60,822	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 750,421	\$ 720,456
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	13,411	13,411
Exercise of stock options	15	—	431	—	—	—	431
Stock-based compensation	—	—	760	—	—	—	760
Dividend declared—\$0.02 per share	—	—	—	—	—	(418)	(418)
Balance at March 31, 2019	26,922	\$ 269	\$ 62,013	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 763,414	\$ 734,640
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	17,782	17,782
Exercise of stock options	6	—	137	—	—	—	137
Stock-based compensation	5	—	502	—	—	—	502
Dividend declared—\$0.02 per share	—	—	—	—	—	(418)	(418)
Balance at June 30, 2019	26,933	\$ 269	\$ 62,652	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 780,778	\$ 752,643
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	16,401	16,401
Stock-based compensation, net	6	—	53	—	—	—	53
Dividend declared—\$0.02 per share	—	—	—	—	—	(418)	(418)
Balance at September 30, 2019	26,939	\$ 269	\$ 62,705	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 796,761	\$ 768,679

2018 (Unaudited)	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Treasury Stock		Retained Earnings	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount		Shares	Amount		
Balance at December 31, 2017	26,859	\$ 269	\$ 58,192	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 673,940	\$ 641,345
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	11,353	11,353
Exercise of stock options	13	—	306	—	—	—	306
Stock-based compensation	—	—	649	—	—	—	649
Dividend declared—\$0.02 per share	—	—	—	—	—	(417)	(417)
Balance at March 31, 2018	26,872	\$ 269	\$ 59,147	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 684,876	\$ 653,236
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	18,089	18,089
Stock-based compensation	5	—	421	—	—	—	421
Dividend declared—\$0.02 per share	—	—	—	—	—	(417)	(417)
Balance at June 30, 2018	26,877	\$ 269	\$ 59,568	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 702,548	\$ 671,329
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	23,678	23,678
Exercise of stock options	6	—	125	—	—	—	125
Stock-based compensation	—	—	187	—	—	—	187
Dividend declared—\$0.02 per share	—	—	—	—	—	(418)	(418)
Balance at September 30, 2018	26,883	\$ 269	\$ 59,880	6,027	\$ (91,056)	\$ 725,808	\$ 694,901

See accompanying notes.

Encore Wire Corporation
Statements of Cash Flow
(In thousands)

Nine Months Ended September 30,

2019 2018

(Unaudited)

	2019	2018
Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 47,594	\$ 53,120
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	13,254	12,321
Deferred income taxes	3,044	1,516
Stock-based compensation attributable to equity awards	1,315	1,257
Other	801	(145)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(9,516)	(41,706)
Inventories	12,123	(3,641)
Other assets	(878)	120
Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,431	9,647
Current income taxes receivable / payable	(1,722)	642
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>67,446</u>	<u>33,131</u>
Investing Activities:		
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(41,251)	(21,242)
Proceeds from sale of assets	22	66
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(41,229)</u>	<u>(21,176)</u>
Financing Activities:		
Borrowings from revolver	—	67,300
Repayments to revolver	—	(67,300)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net	568	431
Dividends paid	(1,254)	(1,251)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(686)</u>	<u>(820)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	25,531	11,135
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	178,405	123,362
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 203,936</u>	<u>\$ 134,497</u>

See accompanying notes.

ENCORE WIRE CORPORATION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)
September 30, 2019

NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The unaudited financial statements of Encore Wire Corporation (the “Company”) have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) for interim information and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete annual financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation, have been included. Results of operations for interim periods presented do not necessarily indicate the results that may be expected for the entire year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Revenue Recognition

The majority of our revenue is derived by fulfilling customer orders for the purchase of our products, which include electrical building wire and cable. We recognize revenue at the point in time that control of the ordered products is transferred to the customer, which is typically upon shipment to the customer from our manufacturing facilities and based on agreed upon shipping terms on the related purchase order. Amounts billed and due from our customers are classified as accounts receivables on the balance sheet and require payment on a short-term basis through standard payment terms.

Revenue is measured as the amount of consideration we expect to receive in exchange for fulfilling product orders. The amount of consideration we expect to receive and revenue we recognize includes estimates for trade payment discounts and customer rebates which are estimated using historical experience and other relevant factors and is recorded within the same period that the revenue is recognized. We review and update these estimates regularly and the impact of any adjustments are recognized in the period the adjustments are identified. The adjustments resulting from updated estimates of trade payment discounts and customer rebates were not material.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) is the sole source of authoritative U.S. GAAP other than Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) issued rules and regulations that apply only to SEC registrants. The FASB issues an Accounting Standard Update (“ASU”) to communicate changes to the codification. The Company considers the applicability and impact of all ASUs. The following are those ASUs that are relevant to the Company.

The Company has a minimal number of leases, all of which are classified as operating. As a result of the adoption of ASU No. 2016-02, “Leases (Topic 842),” on January 1, 2019, the Company recorded \$0.7 million of right of use assets which are included in other non-current assets, \$0.2 million of current lease liabilities which are included in accounts payable and \$0.5 million of long-term lease liabilities included in other non-current liabilities. We will evaluate any future lease commitments in conformance with ASU No. 2016-02.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13, “Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326),” which makes significant changes to the accounting for credit losses on financial assets and disclosures about them. This ASU requires immediate recognition of management’s estimates of current expected credit losses. Under the prior model, losses were recognized only as they were incurred, which FASB has noted delayed recognition of expected losses that might not yet have met the threshold of being probable. The guidance affects all entities in all industries and applies to a wide variety of financial assets, including trade receivables. The new standard will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2020. Early adoption is permitted. ASU 2016-13 permits only a modified retrospective approach without restatement. The Company is still evaluating but does not expect the new standard to impact our financial statements materially.

NOTE 2 – INVENTORIES

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost, determined by the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method, or market.

Inventories consist of the following:

In Thousands	September 30, 2019	December 31, 2018
Raw materials	\$ 21,460	\$ 28,455
Work-in-process	33,157	30,529
Finished goods	77,086	88,708
Total Inventory at FIFO cost	131,703	147,692
Adjust to LIFO cost	(41,459)	(45,325)
Inventory, net	\$ 90,244	\$ 102,367

LIFO pools are established at the end of each fiscal year. During the first three quarters of every year, LIFO calculations are based on the inventory levels and costs at that time. Accordingly, interim LIFO balances will fluctuate depending on those inventory levels and costs.

In the third quarter of 2019, LIFO adjustments were recorded, decreasing cost of sales by \$4.4 million, versus LIFO adjustments decreasing cost of sales by \$9.1 million in the third quarter of 2018. In the first nine months of 2019, LIFO adjustments were recorded, decreasing cost of sales by \$3.9 million, versus LIFO adjustments decreasing cost of sales by \$5.4 million in the first nine months of 2018.

NOTE 3 – ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Accrued liabilities consist of the following:

In Thousands	September 30, 2019	December 31, 2018
Sales rebates payable	\$ 16,486	\$ 18,565
Property taxes payable	3,168	3,962
Accrued salaries	7,717	8,790
Other accrued liabilities	5,826	5,549
Total accrued liabilities	\$ 33,197	\$ 36,866

NOTE 4 – INCOME TAXES

Income taxes were accrued at an effective rate of 23.2% in the third quarter of 2019 versus 23.3% in the third quarter of 2018, consistent with the Company's estimated liabilities. For the nine months ended September 30, the Company's tax rate was approximately 23.1% in 2019 and 23.3% in 2018. In all periods, the differences between the provisions for income taxes and the income taxes computed using the federal income tax statutory rate are due primarily to the incremental taxes accrued for state and local taxes.

NOTE 5 – EARNINGS PER SHARE

Earnings per common and common equivalent share are computed using the weighted average number of shares of common stock and common stock equivalents outstanding during each period. If dilutive, the effect of stock options, treated as common stock equivalents, is calculated using the treasury stock method.

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The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share:

In Thousands	Quarter Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Numerator:				
Net income	\$ 16,401	\$ 23,678	\$ 47,594	\$ 53,120
Denominator:				
Denominator for basic earnings per share – weighted average shares	20,912	20,853	20,896	20,839
Effect of dilutive securities:				
Employee stock awards	79	66	89	71
Denominator for diluted earnings per share – weighted average shares	20,991	20,919	20,985	20,910

The weighted average of employee stock options excluded from the determination of diluted earnings per common and common equivalent share for the third quarter was 121,413 in 2019 and 166,500 in 2018. The weighted average of employee stock options excluded from the determination of diluted earnings per common and common equivalent share for the nine months ended September 30 was 118,804 in 2019 and 159,537 in 2018. Such options were anti-dilutive for their respective periods.

NOTE 6 – DEBT

The Company is party to a Credit Agreement (the “Credit Agreement”) with two banks, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and letter of credit issuer, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as syndication agent. The Credit Agreement, as amended, extends through October 1, 2021 and provides for maximum borrowings of \$150.0 million. At our request, and subject to certain conditions, the commitments under the Credit Agreement may be increased by a maximum of up to \$100.0 million as long as existing or new lenders agree to provide such additional commitments. Borrowings under the line of credit bear interest, at the Company’s option, at either (1) LIBOR plus a margin that varies from 0.875% to 1.75% depending upon the Leverage Ratio (as defined in the Credit Agreement), or (2) the base rate (which is the highest of the federal funds rate plus 0.5%, the prime rate, or LIBOR plus 1.0%) plus 0% to 0.25% (depending upon the Leverage Ratio). A commitment fee ranging from 0.15% to 0.30% (depending upon the Leverage Ratio) is payable on the unused line of credit. At September 30, 2019, there were no borrowings outstanding under the Credit Agreement, and letters of credit outstanding in the amount of \$1.5 million left \$148.5 million of credit available under the Credit Agreement. Obligations under the Credit Agreement are the only contractual borrowing obligations or commercial borrowing commitments of the Company.

Obligations under the Credit Agreement are unsecured and contain customary covenants and events of default. The Company was in compliance with the covenants as of September 30, 2019.

NOTE 7 – STOCKHOLDERS’ EQUITY

On November 10, 2006, the Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program authorizing the Company to repurchase up to an authorized number of shares of its common stock on the open market or through privately negotiated transactions at prices determined by the President of the Company during the term of the program. The Company’s Board of Directors has authorized several increases and annual extensions of this stock repurchase program, and, as of September 30, 2019, 1,132,946 shares remained authorized for repurchase through March 31, 2020. The Company did not repurchase any shares of its stock in the nine months ended September 30, 2019 or 2018.

NOTE 8 - CONTINGENCIES

There are no material pending proceedings to which the Company is a party or to which any of its property is subject. However, the Company is from time to time involved in litigation, certain other claims and arbitration matters arising in the ordinary course of its business. The Company accrues for a liability when it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Significant judgment is required in both the determination of the probability of a loss and the determination as to whether a loss is reasonably estimable. Any such accruals are reviewed at least quarterly and adjusted to reflect the effects of negotiations, settlements, rulings, advice of legal counsel and technical experts and other information and events pertaining to a particular matter. To the extent there is a reasonable possibility (within the meaning of ASC 450 “Contingencies”) that probable losses could exceed amounts already accrued, if any, and the additional loss or range of loss is able to be estimated, management discloses the additional loss or range of loss.

For matters where the Company has evaluated that a loss is not probable, but is reasonably possible, the Company will disclose an estimate of the possible loss or range of loss or make a statement that such an estimate cannot be made. In some instances, for reasonably possible losses, the Company cannot estimate the possible loss or range of loss. The nature and progression of litigation can make it difficult to predict the impact a particular lawsuit will have on the Company. There are many reasons that the Company cannot make these assessments, including, among others, one or more of the following: the early stages of a proceeding; damages sought that are unspecified, unsupported, unexplained or uncertain; discovery is incomplete; the complexity of the facts that are in dispute; the difficulty of assessing novel claims; the parties not having engaged in any meaningful settlement discussions; the possibility that other parties may share in any ultimate liability; and/or the often slow pace of litigation.

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

Encore believes it is a low-cost manufacturer of electrical building wire and cable. The Company is a significant supplier of building wire for interior electrical wiring in commercial and industrial buildings, homes, apartments, and manufactured housing.

The Company’s operating results in any given period are driven by several key factors, including the volume of product produced and shipped, the cost of copper and other raw materials, the competitive pricing environment in the wire industry and the resulting influence on gross margin and the efficiency with which the Company’s plants operate during the period, among others. Price competition for electrical wire and cable is intense, and the Company sells its products in accordance with prevailing market prices. Copper, a commodity product, is the principal raw material used by the Company in manufacturing its products. Copper accounted for approximately 73.0%, 69.7%, and 65.2% of the Company’s cost of goods sold during fiscal 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The price of copper fluctuates depending on general economic conditions and in relation to supply and demand and other factors, which causes monthly variations in the cost of the Company’s purchased copper. Additionally, the SEC allows shares of certain physically backed copper exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) to be listed and publicly traded. Such funds and other copper ETFs like them hold copper cathode as collateral against their shares. The acquisition of copper cathode by copper ETFs may materially decrease or interrupt the availability of copper for immediate delivery in the United States, which could materially increase the Company’s cost of copper. In addition to rising copper prices and potential supply shortages, we believe that ETFs and similar copper-backed derivative products could lead to increased price volatility for copper. The Company cannot predict copper prices or the effect of fluctuations in the cost of copper on the Company’s future operating results. Wire prices can, and frequently do, change on a daily basis. This competitive pricing market for wire does not always mirror changes in copper prices, making margins highly volatile. With the volatility of both raw material prices and wire prices in the Company’s end market, hedging raw materials can be risky. Historically, the Company has not engaged in hedging strategies for raw material purchases. The tables below highlight the range of closing prices of copper on a per pound basis on the Comex exchange for the periods shown.

COMEX COPPER CLOSING PRICE 2019

	July 2019	August 2019	September 2019	Quarter Ended September 30, 2019	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2019
High	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.66	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.98
Low	2.62	2.53	2.51	2.51	2.51
Average	2.69	2.57	2.60	2.62	2.74

COMEX COPPER CLOSING PRICE 2018

	July 2018	August 2018	September 2018	Quarter Ended September 30, 2018	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018
High	\$ 2.93	\$ 2.76	\$ 2.84	\$ 2.93	\$ 3.29
Low	2.69	2.56	2.58	2.56	2.56
Average	2.79	2.69	2.69	2.73	2.98

The following discussion and analysis relate to factors that have affected the operating results of the Company for the quarters and nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018. Reference should also be made to the audited financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Results of Operations

Quarter Ended September 30, 2019 Compared to Quarter Ended September 30, 2018

Net sales were \$321.2 million in the third quarter of 2019 compared to \$340.7 million in the third quarter of 2018. The drop in net sales dollars is primarily the result of a 5.9% decrease in the average selling price of copper wire, offset slightly by a 0.2% increase in copper wire unit volume shipped. Unit volume is measured in pounds of copper contained in the wire shipped during the period. The 0.2% increase in unit volume shipped was primarily due to continued strong construction industry demand. Fluctuations in sales prices are primarily a result of changing copper and other raw material prices and product price competition. The average cost per pound of raw copper purchased decreased 4.2% in the third quarter of 2019 compared to the third quarter of 2018 and was a driver of the decreased average sales price of copper wire.

Cost of goods sold was \$278.2 million, or 86.6% of net sales, in the third quarter of 2019, compared to \$286.2 million, or 84.0% of net sales, in the third quarter of 2018. Gross profit decreased to \$43.0 million, or 13.4% of net sales, in the third quarter of 2019 from \$54.5 million, or 16.0% of net sales, in the third quarter of 2018.

The decrease in gross profit margin percentage was primarily the result of a 9.0% decrease in the copper spread in the third quarter of 2019 versus the third quarter of 2018. The spread decreased as a result of the average sales price per pound of copper sold decreasing 5.9% while the per pound cost of raw copper purchased decreased 4.2%. The percentage change on sales is on a higher nominal dollar amount than on purchases and, therefore, spreads change on a nominal dollar basis. The margin changes were due primarily to the competitive pricing environment in the industry. It should be noted that the spreads in the third quarter of 2018 were the highest in over a decade. In aluminum wire, which represented 7.7% of our net sales in the third quarter of 2019, we continue to enforce our rights under the U.S. trade remedy laws. On October 18, 2019, the U.S. Commerce Department signed its final antidumping (“AD”) and countervailing duty (“CVD”) determinations, resulting in combined AD/CVD duty rates ranging from 81.27 to 218.42 percent for aluminum wire and cable imported from China. The final step in these investigations is a vote from the U.S. International Trade Commission, which is not expected until approximately November 20, 2019.

Total raw materials cost, including the LIFO adjustment, increased to 74.3% of net sales in the third quarter of 2019, from 73.2% of net sales in the third quarter of 2018. Overhead costs increased to 12.3% of net sales in the third quarter of 2019, from 10.8% of net sales in the third quarter of 2018. Overheads contain some fixed and semi-fixed components which do not fluctuate as much as sales dollars fluctuate.

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost, using the last-in, first out (“LIFO”) method, or market. The Company maintains two inventory pools for LIFO purposes. As permitted by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the Company maintains its inventory costs and cost of goods sold on a first-in, first-out (“FIFO”) basis and makes a monthly adjustment to adjust total inventory and cost of goods sold from FIFO to LIFO. The Company applies the lower of cost or market (“LCM”) test by comparing the LIFO cost of its raw materials, work-in-process and finished goods inventories to estimated market values, which are based primarily upon the most recent quoted market price of copper and other material prices as of the end of each reporting period. The Company performs a lower of cost or market calculation quarterly. As of September 30, 2019, no LCM

adjustment was required. However, decreases in copper and other material prices could necessitate establishing an LCM reserve in future periods. Additionally, future reductions in the quantity of inventory on hand could cause copper or other raw materials that are carried in inventory at costs different from the cost of copper and other raw materials in the period in which the reduction occurs to be included in costs of goods sold for that period at the different price.

Due primarily to decreases in copper costs and price and volume movements of other materials, a LIFO adjustment was recorded, decreasing cost of sales by \$4.4 million during the third quarter of 2019. During the third quarter of 2018, a LIFO adjustment was recorded, decreasing cost of sales by \$9.1 million.

Selling expenses, consisting of commissions and freight, for the third quarter of 2019 were \$16.5 million, or 5.1% of net sales, compared to \$17.5 million, or 5.1% of net sales, in the third quarter of 2018. Commissions paid to independent manufacturers' representatives are paid as a relatively stable percentage of sales dollars and, therefore, exhibited little change in percentage terms. Freight costs decreased to 2.6% of net sales in the third quarter of 2019 from 2.7% of net sales in the third quarter of 2018. General and administrative ("G&A") expenses for the third quarter of 2019 were \$6.1 million, or 1.9% of net sales, compared to \$6.7 million, or 2.0% of net sales, in the third quarter of 2018. The G&A decrease was driven primarily by decreased stock compensation expense, driven primarily by a drop in our stock price driving the mark to market accounting on stock appreciation rights. The net stock compensation expense decreased \$1.0 million in the third quarter of 2019 versus the third quarter of 2018. The Company did not record any bad debt expense during the third quarters of 2019 or 2018.

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2019 Compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018

Net sales for the first nine months of 2019 were \$972.7 million compared to net sales of \$969.0 million for the first nine months of 2018. This 0.4% increase in net sales is the result of a 6.0% increase in copper wire unit volume shipped, offset by a 5.8% decrease in the average selling price of copper wire. Unit volume is measured in pounds of copper contained in the wire shipped during the period. Fluctuations in sales prices are primarily a result of changing copper and other raw material prices and product price competition. The average cost per pound of raw copper purchased decreased 7.3% in the first nine months of 2019 compared to the first nine months of 2018 and was a driver of the decreased average sales price of copper wire.

Cost of goods sold increased to \$842.5 million in the first nine months of 2019, compared to \$832.5 million in the first nine months of 2018. Gross profit decreased to \$130.2 million, or 13.4% of net sales, in the first nine months of 2019 from \$136.5 million, or 14.1% of net sales, in the first nine months of 2018.

The gross profit margin percentage decreased primarily as a result of the decrease in the spread between the average price paid for a pound of raw copper and the average sale price for a pound of copper in the first nine months of 2019 versus the first nine months of 2018 due primarily to competitive industry pricing. Fluctuations in sales prices are primarily a result of changing copper raw material prices and product price competition. The copper spread decreased 2.8% in the first nine months of 2019 versus the first nine months of 2018. The spread decreased as a result of the 5.8% decrease in the average sales price per copper pound sold while the per pound cost of raw copper decreased 7.3%. In nominal dollars, the sales price decreased more than the cost of copper.

Due primarily to decreases in copper costs and a decrease in copper inventory quantities on hand, and price and volume movements of other materials in the first nine months of 2019, LIFO adjustments were recorded, decreasing cost of sales by \$3.9 million. During the same period in 2018, LIFO adjustments were recorded, decreasing cost of sales by \$5.4 million. Based on current copper prices, there is no LCM adjustment necessary. Future reductions in the price of copper could require the Company to record an LCM adjustment against the related inventory balance, which would result in a negative impact on net income.

Selling expenses for the first nine months of 2019 decreased to \$50.3 million, or 5.2% of net sales, compared to \$50.4 million, or 5.2% of net sales, in the same period of 2018. Commissions paid to independent manufacturers' representatives are paid as a relatively stable percentage of sales dollars, and therefore, exhibited little change in percentage terms, increasing \$0.5 million in concert with the increased sales dollars. Freight costs for the first nine months of 2019 remained at 2.7% of net sales, consistent with the first nine months of 2018. General and administrative expenses were \$21.2 million, or 2.2% of net sales, in the first nine months of 2019 compared to \$18.2 million, or 1.9% of net sales, in the first nine months of 2018. The G&A increase was driven primarily by increased stock compensation expense, driven primarily by our strong stock price performance driving the mark to market accounting on stock appreciation rights. The net stock compensation expense increased \$1.8 million in the first nine months of 2019 versus the first nine months of 2018. The Company did not record any bad debt expense during the first nine months of 2019 and 2018.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company maintains a substantial inventory of finished products to satisfy customers' delivery requirements promptly. As is customary in the building wire industry, the Company provides payment terms to most of its customers that exceed terms that it receives from its suppliers. Copper suppliers generally give very short payment terms (less than 15 days) while the Company and the building wire industry give customers much longer terms. In general, the Company's standard payment terms result in the collection of a significant majority of net sales within approximately 75 days of the date of invoice. As a result of this timing difference, building wire companies must have sufficient cash and access to capital resources to finance their working capital needs, thereby creating a barrier to entry for companies who do not have sufficient liquidity and capital resources. The two largest components of working capital, receivables and inventory, and to a lesser extent, capital expenditures, are the primary drivers of the Company's liquidity needs. Generally, these needs will cause the Company's cash balance to rise and fall inversely to the receivables and inventory balances. The Company's receivables and inventories will rise and fall in concert with several factors, most notably the price of copper and other raw materials and the level of unit sales. Capital expenditures have historically been necessary to expand and update the production capacity of the Company's manufacturing operations. The Company has historically satisfied its liquidity and capital expenditure needs with cash generated from operations and borrowings under its various debt arrangements. The Company historically uses its revolving credit facility to manage day to day operating cash needs as required by daily fluctuations in working capital and has the facility in place should such a need arise in the future.

For more information on the Company's revolving credit facility, see Note 6 to the Company's financial statements included in Item 1 to this report, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Cash provided by operating activities was \$67.4 million in the first nine months of 2019 compared to \$33.1 million in the first nine months of 2018. The following changes in components of cash flow from operations were notable. The Company had net income of \$47.6 million in the first nine months of 2019 compared to net income of \$53.1 million in the first nine months of 2018. Accounts receivable increased \$9.5 million in the first nine months of 2019 compared to \$41.7 million in the first nine months of 2018, resulting in a positive change in cash flow of \$32.2 million in the first nine months of 2019 versus the first nine months of 2018. Accounts receivable generally fluctuate in proportion to dollar sales and, to a lesser extent, are affected by the timing of when sales occur during a given quarter. With an average of 60 to 75 days of sales outstanding, quarters in which sales are more back-end loaded will have higher accounts receivable balances outstanding at quarter-end. Inventory value decreased \$12.1 million in the first nine months of 2019 compared to increasing \$3.6 million in the first nine months 2018 producing a positive swing in cash flow of \$15.7 million in 2019 versus 2018. Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities provided cash of \$1.4 million in the first nine months of 2019 versus providing \$9.6 million in the first nine months of 2018, resulting in a negative change in cash flow of \$8.2 million. In the first nine months of 2019, changes in current and deferred taxes provided cash of \$1.3 million versus \$2.2 million of cash provided in the first nine months of 2018. These changes in cash flow were the primary drivers of the \$34.3 million increase in cash provided by operations in the first nine months of 2019 compared to the first nine months of 2018.

Cash used in investing activities increased to \$41.2 million in the first nine months of 2019 from \$21.2 million in the first nine months of 2018 due to higher capital expenditures on plant and equipment. Cash used in financing activities in the first nine months of 2019 consisted of \$1.3 million of cash dividends paid, offset by \$0.6 million of proceeds from exercised stock options. These changes in cash flow used \$0.7 million cash in financing activities for the first nine months of 2019 versus \$0.8 million used in the first nine months of 2018. As of September 30, 2019, the balance on the Company's revolving line of credit remained at zero. The Company's cash balance was \$203.9 million at September 30, 2019 versus \$134.5 million at September 30, 2018, as a result of the changes in cash flow discussed above.

During the remainder of 2019, the Company expects its capital expenditures will consist primarily of expenditures related to the purchases of manufacturing equipment throughout its facilities to update equipment and address production bottlenecks. The total capital expenditures for all of 2019 associated with these projects are currently estimated to be between \$40 million and \$45 million. We continue to refine our plans for significant capital expenditures, but these plans remain delayed by issues arising in connection with a proposed new highway project which may bisect our property. The Company also expects its future working capital requirements to fluctuate as a result of changes in unit sales volumes and the price of copper and other raw materials. The Company believes that the current cash balance, cash flow from operations, and the financing available from its revolving credit facility will satisfy anticipated working capital and capital expenditure requirements during 2019.

Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This quarterly report on Form 10-Q contains various “forward-looking statements” (within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) and information that is based on management’s belief as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to management. The words “believes”, “estimates”, “anticipates”, “plans”, “seeks”, “expects”, “intends” and similar expressions identify some of the forward-looking statements. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, it can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to have been correct. Such statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those expected. Among the key factors that may have a direct bearing on the Company’s operating results are fluctuations in the economy and in the level of activity in the building and construction industry, demand for the Company’s products, the impact of price competition and fluctuations in the price of copper and other raw materials. For more information regarding “forward-looking statements,” see “Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements” in Part II, Item 7 of the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

There have been no material changes from the information provided in Item 7A, “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk,” of the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures.

The Company maintains controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by it in the reports it files with or submits to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms and to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in such reports is accumulated and communicated to the Company’s management, including the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officers, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Based on an evaluation of the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this report conducted by the Company’s management, with the participation of the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officers, the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officers concluded that the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports it files with or submits to the SEC is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms and to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in such reports is accumulated and communicated to the Company’s management, including the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officers, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

There have been no changes in the Company’s internal control over financial reporting or in other factors that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company’s internal control over financial reporting during the period covered by this report.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

For information on the Company’s legal proceedings, see Note 8 to the Company’s financial statements included in Item 1 to this report and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

There have been no material changes to the Company’s risk factors as disclosed in Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018.

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

Note 7 to the Company’s financial statements included in Item 1 to this report is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Item 6. Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	Certificate of Incorporation of Encore Wire Corporation and all amendments thereto (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2009, and incorporated herein by reference).
3.2	Third Amended and Restated Bylaws of Encore Wire Corporation, as amended through February 27, 2012 (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1	Form of certificate for Common Stock (filed as Exhibit 1 to the Company’s registration statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC on June 4, 1992, and incorporated herein by reference).
31.1	Certification by Daniel L. Jones, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, dated October 30, 2019 Certification by Daniel L. Jones, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, dated October 30, 2019 and submitted pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) and pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. submitted pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) and pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification by Frank J. Bilban, Vice President – Finance, Treasurer, Secretary and Chief Financial Officer of the Certification by Frank J. Bilban, Vice President – Finance, Treasurer, Secretary and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, dated October 30, 2019 and submitted pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) and pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002., dated October 30, 2019 and submitted pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) and pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification by Daniel L. Jones, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, dated October 30, 2019 as required by 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2	Certification by Frank J. Bilban, Vice President – Finance, Treasurer, Secretary and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, dated October 30, 2019 as required by 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

SIGNATURES

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

ENCORE WIRE CORPORATION

(Registrant)

Dated: October 30, 2019

/s/ DANIEL L. JONES

Daniel L. Jones
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

Dated: October 30, 2019

/s/ FRANK J. BILBAN

Frank J. Bilban
Vice President-Finance, Treasurer,
Secretary and Chief Financial Officer