

---

---

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

**FORM 10-Q**

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2022

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: 001-37527*

**XCEL BRANDS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	76-0307819
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1333 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(347) 727-2474

(Issuer's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	XELB	NASDAQ Global 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, 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 a check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes   
No

As of November 8, 2022, there were 19,624,860 shares of common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, of the issuer outstanding.

---

---

**XCEL BRANDS, INC.**

INDEX

	<u>Page</u>
<b><u>PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u></b>	3
<b><u>Item 1. Financial Statements</u></b>	3
<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets</u>	3
<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations</u>	4
<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity</u>	5
<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u>	6
<u>Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	7
<b><u>Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u></b>	22
<b><u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u></b>	31
<b><u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u></b>	31
<b><u>PART II - OTHER INFORMATION</u></b>	33
<b><u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u></b>	33
<b><u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u></b>	33
<b><u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u></b>	33
<b><u>Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u></b>	33
<b><u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures</u></b>	33
<b><u>Item 5. Other Information</u></b>	33
<b><u>Item 6. Exhibits</u></b>	34
<u>Signatures</u>	34

**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Xcel Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets**  
**(in thousands, except share and per share data)**

	<u>September 30, 2022</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>
	(Unaudited)	(Note 1)
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,407	\$ 4,483
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$1,263 and \$1,090, respectively	6,720	7,640
Inventory	3,884	3,375
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,752	1,681
Total current assets	<u>20,763</u>	<u>17,179</u>
<b>Non-current Assets:</b>		
Property and equipment, net	1,948	2,549
Operating lease right-of-use assets	5,650	6,314
Trademarks and other intangibles, net	49,200	98,304
Equity method investment	19,520	—
Restricted cash	—	739
Deferred tax assets, net	—	141
Other assets	146	555
Total non-current assets	<u>76,464</u>	<u>108,602</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 97,227</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 125,781</u></b>
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities	\$ 3,959	\$ 6,169
Accrued income taxes payable	1,326	64
Accrued payroll	228	577
Current portion of operating lease obligations	1,331	1,207
Current portion of long-term debt	—	2,500
Current portion of contingent obligations	2,478	—
Total current liabilities	<u>9,322</u>	<u>10,517</u>
<b>Long-Term Liabilities:</b>		
Long-term portion of operating lease obligations	6,157	7,252
Long-term debt, net, less current portion	—	25,531
Long-term portion of contingent obligations	5,061	7,539
Deferred tax liabilities, net	223	—
Total long-term liabilities	<u>11,441</u>	<u>40,322</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>20,763</u></b>	<b><u>50,839</u></b>
<b>Commitments and Contingencies</b>		
<b>Stockholders' Equity:</b>		
Preferred stock, \$.001 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized, none issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$.001 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized, and 19,624,860 and 19,571,119 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively	20	20
Paid-in capital	103,541	103,039
Accumulated deficit	(26,818)	(28,779)
Total Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders' equity	<u>76,743</u>	<u>74,280</u>
Noncontrolling interest	(279)	662
<b>Total Stockholders' Equity</b>	<b><u>76,464</u></b>	<b><u>74,942</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>	<b><u>\$ 97,227</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 125,781</u></b>

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Xcel Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations**  
(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
<b>Revenues</b>				
Net licensing revenue	\$ 2,166	\$ 6,854	\$ 13,302	\$ 17,385
Net sales	2,335	4,407	8,413	12,449
Net revenue	4,501	11,261	21,715	29,834
Cost of goods sold	1,465	2,865	5,715	7,763
Gross profit	3,036	8,396	16,000	22,071
<b>Operating costs and expenses</b>				
Salaries, benefits and employment taxes	3,301	4,185	13,390	12,286
Other selling, general and administrative expenses	3,567	3,463	10,762	9,591
Stock-based compensation	51	163	568	754
Depreciation and amortization	1,815	1,891	5,447	4,949
Total operating costs and expenses	8,734	9,702	30,167	27,580
<b>Other (expense) income</b>				
Gain on sale of majority interest in Isaac Mizrahi brand	—	—	20,608	—
Loss from equity method investment	(277)	—	(277)	—
Total other (expense) income	(277)	—	20,331	—
Operating (loss) income	(5,975)	(1,306)	6,164	(5,509)
<b>Interest and finance (income) expense</b>				
Interest expense - term loan debt	—	565	1,187	1,363
Other interest and finance (income) charges, net	(6)	23	(6)	127
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	—	2,324	821
Total interest and finance (income) expense	(6)	588	3,505	2,311
<b>(Loss) income before income taxes</b>	(5,969)	(1,894)	2,659	(7,820)
Income tax (benefit) provision	(1,539)	(535)	1,639	(2,019)
<b>Net (loss) income</b>	<b>(4,430)</b>	<b>(1,359)</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>(5,801)</b>
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest	(388)	(223)	(941)	(560)
<b>Net (loss) income attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders</b>	<b>\$ (4,042)</b>	<b>\$ (1,136)</b>	<b>\$ 1,961</b>	<b>\$ (5,241)</b>
(Loss) earnings per common share attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders:				
Basic net (loss) income per share	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.27)
Diluted net (loss) income per share	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.27)
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:				
Basic weighted average common shares outstanding	19,624,860	19,541,774	19,624,604	19,418,469
Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding	19,624,860	19,541,774	19,752,339	19,418,469

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

[Table of Contents](#)

**Xcel Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity**  
(in thousands, except share data)

	Xcel Brands, Inc. Stockholders					
	Common Stock		Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Noncontrolling Interest	Total Equity
	Number of Shares	Amount				
Balance as of December 31, 2020	19,260,862	\$ 19	\$ 102,324	\$ (16,595)	\$ 507	\$ 86,255
Compensation expense related to stock options and restricted stock	—	—	169	—	—	169
Shares issued on exercise of stock options, net	1,667	—	—	—	—	—
Net loss	—	—	—	(2,547)	(81)	(2,628)
Balance as of March 31, 2021	19,262,529	19	102,493	(19,142)	426	83,796
Compensation expense related to stock options and restricted stock	—	—	52	—	—	52
Shares issued to executive related to stock grants for bonus payments	181,179	1	282	—	—	283
Shares issued to consultant in connection with stock grant	14,045	—	25	—	—	25
Shares issued to directors in connection with restricted stock grants	50,000	—	—	—	—	—
Shares issued on exercise of stock options, net	23,102	—	—	—	—	—
Net loss	—	—	—	(1,558)	(256)	(1,814)
Balance as of June 30, 2021	19,530,855	20	102,852	(20,700)	170	82,342
Compensation expense related to stock options and restricted stock	—	—	59	—	—	59
Shares issued to consultant in connection with stock grant	9,399	—	25	—	—	25
Shares issued on exercise of stock options	1,667	—	—	—	—	—
Additional investment in Longaberger Licensing, LLC by non-controlling interest holder	—	—	—	—	1,000	1,000
Net loss	—	—	—	(1,136)	(223)	(1,359)
Balance as of September 30, 2021	<u>19,541,921</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>\$ 102,936</u>	<u>\$ (21,836)</u>	<u>\$ 947</u>	<u>\$ 82,067</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2021	19,571,119	\$ 20	\$ 103,039	\$ (28,779)	\$ 662	\$ 74,942
Compensation expense related to stock options and restricted stock	—	—	30	—	—	30
Net loss	—	—	—	(3,487)	(252)	(3,739)
Balance as of March 31, 2022	19,571,119	20	103,069	(32,266)	410	71,233
Compensation expense related to stock options and restricted stock	—	—	402	—	—	402
Shares issued to executive related to stock grants for bonus payments	178,727	—	281	—	—	281
Shares repurchased from executive in exchange for withholding taxes	(53,882)	—	(85)	—	—	(85)
Shares issued to consultant in connection with stock grant	20,064	—	33	—	—	33
Shares issued to directors in connection with restricted stock grants	50,000	—	—	—	—	—
Shares issued to consultant in connection with sale transaction (see Note 2 and Note 8)	65,275	—	97	—	—	97
Shares issued to key employee in connection with stock grant	33,557	—	50	—	—	50
Shares repurchased from key employee in exchange for withholding taxes related to vesting of restricted shares	(240,000)	—	(357)	—	—	(357)
Net income (loss)	—	—	—	9,490	(301)	9,189
Balance as of June 30, 2022	<u>19,624,860</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>\$ 103,490</u>	<u>\$ (22,776)</u>	<u>\$ 109</u>	<u>\$ 80,843</u>
Compensation expense related to stock options and restricted stock	—	—	51	—	—	51
Net loss	—	—	—	(4,042)	(388)	(4,430)
Balance as of September 30, 2022	<u>19,624,860</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>\$ 103,541</u>	<u>\$ (26,818)</u>	<u>\$ (279)</u>	<u>\$ 76,464</u>

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Xcel Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**  
(in thousands)

	<b>For the Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,020	\$ (5,801)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization expense	5,447	4,949
Amortization of deferred finance costs included in interest expense	156	211
Stock-based compensation	568	754
Provision for doubtful accounts	173	132
Undistributed proportional share of net income of equity method investee	277	—
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	2,324	821
Deferred income tax provision (benefit)	363	(2,019)
Gain on sale of majority interest in Isaac Mizrahi brand	(20,608)	—
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	747	(2,192)
Inventory	(509)	(2,214)
Prepaid expenses and other current and non-current assets	235	(620)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses, accrued payroll, accrued income taxes payable, and other current liabilities	(796)	572
Lease-related assets and liabilities	(202)	(122)
Other liabilities	(224)	—
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(11,029)</b>	<b>(5,529)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Net proceeds from sale of majority interest in Isaac Mizrahi brand	45,408	—
Cash consideration for acquisition of Lori Goldstein assets	—	(3,661)
Purchase of other intangible assets	—	(39)
Purchase of property and equipment	(241)	(1,049)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>45,167</b>	<b>(4,749)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	—	5
Shares repurchased including vested restricted stock in exchange for withholding taxes	(442)	—
Cash contribution from non-controlling interest	—	1,000
Proceeds from revolving loan debt	—	2,498
Proceeds from long-term debt	—	25,000
Payment of deferred finance costs	—	(1,204)
Payment of long-term debt	(29,000)	(18,000)
Payment of prepayment, breakage and other fees associated with early extinguishment of long-term debt	(1,511)	(367)
<b>Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities</b>	<b>(30,953)</b>	<b>8,932</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash</b>	<b>3,185</b>	<b>(1,346)</b>
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at beginning of period	5,222	6,066
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at end of period	<u>\$ 8,407</u>	<u>\$ 4,720</u>
<b>Reconciliation to amounts on condensed consolidated balance sheets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,407	\$ 3,981
Restricted cash	—	739
Total cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash	<u>\$ 8,407</u>	<u>\$ 4,720</u>
<b>Supplemental disclosure of non-cash activities:</b>		
Operating lease right-of-use assets	\$ —	\$ (722)
Operating lease obligations	\$ —	\$ (722)
Contingent obligation related to acquisition of Lori Goldstein assets at fair value	\$ —	\$ 6,639
Liability for equity-based bonuses and other equity-based payments	\$ (283)	\$ 140
<b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:</b>		
Cash paid during the period for interest	\$ 1,032	\$ 1,346
Cash paid during the period for income taxes	\$ —	\$ 18

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

**1. Nature of Operations, Background, and Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2021 (which has been derived from audited financial statements) and the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP") for interim financial information and pursuant to the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 8 of Regulation S-X promulgated by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Certain information or footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been condensed or omitted, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC for interim financial reporting. Accordingly, they do not include all the information and footnotes necessary for a comprehensive presentation of financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements were prepared following the same policies and procedures used in the preparation of the audited consolidated financial statements and reflect all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the results of operations, financial position, and cash flows of Xcel Brands, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Company" or "Xcel"). The results of operations for the interim periods presented herein are not necessarily indicative of the results for the entire fiscal year or for any future interim periods. These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, as filed with the SEC on April 15, 2022.

The Company is a media and consumer products company engaged in the design, production, marketing, live streaming, wholesale distribution, and direct-to-consumer sales of branded apparel, footwear, accessories, fine jewelry, home goods and other consumer products, and the acquisition of dynamic consumer lifestyle brands.

Currently, the Company's brand portfolio consists of the LOGO by Lori Goldstein brand (the "Lori Goldstein Brand"), the Halston brands (the "Halston Brand"), the Judith Ripka brands (the "Ripka Brand"), the C Wonder brands (the "C Wonder Brand"), the Longaberger brand (the "Longaberger Brand"), the Isaac Mizrahi brands (the "Isaac Mizrahi Brand"), and other proprietary brands.

- The Lori Goldstein Brand, Halston Brand, Ripka Brand, and C Wonder Brand are wholly owned by the Company.
- The Company manages the Longaberger Brand through its 50% ownership interest in Longaberger Licensing, LLC; the Company consolidates Longaberger Licensing, LLC and recognizes noncontrolling interest for the remaining ownership interest held by a third party.
- The Company wholly owned and managed the Isaac Mizrahi Brand through May 31, 2022. On May 31, 2022, the Company sold to a third party a majority interest in a newly-created subsidiary that was formed to hold the Isaac Mizrahi Brand trademarks, but retained a noncontrolling interest in the brand through a 30% ownership interest in IM Topco, LLC and continues to participate in the operations of the business; the Company accounts for its interest in IM Topco, LLC using the equity method of accounting. See Note 2 for additional details.

The Company designs, produces, markets, and distributes products, licenses its brands to third parties, and generates licensing revenues through contractual arrangements with manufacturers and retailers. The Company and its licensees distribute through an omni-channel retail sales strategy, which includes distribution through interactive television, digital live-stream shopping, brick-and-mortar retail, wholesale, and e-commerce channels to be everywhere its customers shop.

The Company's wholesale and direct-to-consumer operations are presented as "Net sales" and "Cost of goods sold" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations, separately from the Company's net licensing revenue.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

**Liquidity**

The Company had a net (loss) income of approximately \$(4.0) million and \$1.9 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2022, respectively, and had an accumulated deficit of approximately \$26.8 million as of September 30, 2022. The Company had working capital (current assets less current liabilities, excluding the current portion of lease obligations and any contingent obligations payable in common stock) of approximately \$13.7 million as of September 30, 2022. The Company's cash and cash equivalents were approximately \$8.4 million as of September 30, 2022. In conjunction with the sale of the majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi Brand (as described in Note 2) on May 31, 2022, the Company used a portion of the proceeds to extinguish all of its term loan debt, which had a balance of approximately \$28.4 million. Management expects that existing cash and operating cash flows will be adequate to meet the Company's operating and capital expenditure needs for at least the twelve months subsequent to the filing date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

**2. Acquisitions and Divestitures**

***Sale of Majority Interest in Isaac Mizrahi Brand***

On May 27, 2022, Xcel (along with IM Topco, LLC ("IM Topco") and IM Brands, LLC ("IMB"), both wholly owned subsidiaries of the Company) and IM WHP, LLC ("WHP"), a subsidiary of WHP Global, a private equity-backed brand management and licensing company, entered into a membership purchase agreement. Pursuant to this agreement, on May 31, 2022, (i) the Company contributed assets owned by IMB, including the Isaac Mizrahi Brand trademarks and other intellectual property rights relating thereto into IM Topco, and (ii) the Company sold 70% of the membership interests of IM Topco to WHP.

The purchase price paid by WHP to the Company at the closing of the transaction in exchange for the 70% membership interest in IM Topco consisted of \$46.2 million in cash. Pursuant to the purchase agreement, the Company will also be entitled to receive an "earn-out" payment in the amount of \$2.0 million if, during the period from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, (i) IM Topco receives Net Royalty Revenue (as defined in the purchase agreement) in an amount equal to or greater than \$17.5 million and (ii) IM Topco generates EBITDA (as defined in the purchase agreement) in an amount equal to or greater than \$11.8 million. Additionally, in the event that IM Topco receives less than \$13.347 million in aggregate royalties for any four consecutive calendar quarters over a three-year period ending on the third anniversary of the closing, WHP will be entitled to receive from the Company up to \$16 million, less all amounts of net cash flow distributed to WHP for such period, as an adjustment to the purchase price, payable in either cash or equity interests in IM Topco held by the Company.

In connection with the aforementioned purchase agreement, on May 31, 2022, the Company and WHP entered into an Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of IM Topco (the "Business Venture Agreement") governing the operation of IM Topco as a partnership between the Company and WHP following the closing. Pursuant to the Business Venture Agreement, IM Topco is managed by a single Manager appointed by the vote of a majority-in-interest of IM Topco's members, and WHP serves as the sole Manager of IM Topco. The Business Venture Agreement contains customary provisions for the governance of a partnership, including with respect to decision making, access to information, restrictions on transfer of interests, and covenants. Pursuant to the Business Venture Agreement, IM Topco's Net Cash Flow (as defined in the agreement) shall be distributed to the members during each fiscal year no less than once per fiscal quarter, as follows:

- (i) first, 100% to WHP, until WHP has received an aggregate amount during such fiscal year equal to \$8,852,000;



XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

- (ii) second, 100% to Xcel, until Xcel has received an aggregate amount during such fiscal year equal to \$1,316,200; and
- (iii) thereafter, in proportion to the members' respective percentage interests.

The amounts described in (i) and (ii) above are subject to adjustment in certain circumstances as set forth in the Business Venture Agreement.

The Company also entered into a number of other related agreements on May 31, 2022 in connection with the transaction, as described below:

- The Company entered into a services agreement with IM Topco, pursuant to which the Company will provide certain design and support services (including assistance with the operations of the interactive television business and related talent support) to IM Topco in exchange for payments of \$0.3 million per fiscal year.
- The Company entered into a license agreement with IM Topco, pursuant to which IM Topco granted the Company a license to use certain Isaac Mizrahi trademarks on and in connection with the design, manufacture, distribution, sale, and promotion of women's sportswear products in the United States and Canada during the term of the agreement, in exchange for the payment of royalties in connection therewith. The initial term of this agreement ends December 31, 2026, and provides guaranteed royalties of \$0.4 million per year to IM Topco.
- The Company's licensing agreement with Qurate Retail Group related to the Isaac Mizrahi Brand (see Note 4) was assigned to IM Topco as of May 31, 2022.
- The Company's employment agreement with Mr. Mizrahi and the Company's services agreement with Laugh Club (see Note 10) were transferred to IM Topco. In addition, all 522,500 unvested shares of restricted stock of the Company held by Mr. Mizrahi (for which all stock-based compensation expense had been previously recognized in prior periods) were immediately vested, with 240,000 of such shares being surrendered for cancellation in satisfaction of withholding tax obligations. In addition, the Company issued 33,557 additional shares of common stock of the Company (valued at \$50,000) to Mr. Mizrahi, which vested immediately, and made a \$100,000 cash payment to Mr. Mizrahi.

Management assessed and evaluated the ownership structure and other terms of the May 27, 2022 membership purchase agreement and Business Venture Agreement, as well as considered the Company's continuing involvement with the Isaac Mizrahi Brand through the aforementioned services agreement and licensing agreement, and concluded that (i) IM Topco is not a Variable Interest Entity under Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 810, and (ii) the Company has significant influence over, but does not control, IM Topco. As such, on May 31, 2022, the Company de-recognized the carrying amount of the Isaac Mizrahi Brand trademarks of \$44.5 million and recognized the fair value of its retained interest in IM Topco of approximately \$19.8 million as an equity method investment on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet. The fair value of the Company's retained interest was determined by applying the Company's ownership percentage to the implied enterprise value of IM Topco, which was calculated based on the price paid by WHP for the 70% controlling interest, as the May 31, 2022 sale transaction was considered an arms-length transaction between knowledgeable market participants and the most relevant and reasonable indication of value to utilize. The inputs and assumptions for this nonrecurring fair value measurement are classified as Level 3 within the fair value hierarchy defined in ASC Topic 820.

The Company incurred approximately \$0.9 million of expenses directly related to this transaction, including legal fees and agent fees, of which \$0.1 million of the agent fees were paid through the issuance of 65,275 shares of the Company's common stock, which were recognized as a reduction to the gain from the transaction. The Company recognized a net pre-

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

tax gain from the transaction of \$20.6 million, which is classified as other income in the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2022.

In addition to the amounts described above, the Company's Board of Directors awarded cash bonuses totaling approximately \$1.0 million to certain members of the Company's senior management, consisting of bonuses of \$770,000 to Robert D'Loren, \$115,000 to Jim Haran, and \$130,000 to Seth Burroughs. These bonuses are included in Salaries, benefits and employment taxes in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2022.

The Company accounts for its interest in the ongoing operations of IM Topco as other income under the equity method of accounting. The Company recognized an equity method loss of \$0.28 million related to its investment for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2022, based on the aforementioned distribution provisions set forth in the Business Venture Agreement.

Summarized financial information for IM Topco is as follows:

<b>(\$ in thousands)</b>	<b>For the three months ended September 30, 2022</b>	<b>For the nine months ended September 30, 2022 <sup>(1)</sup></b>
Revenues	\$ 4,185	\$ 5,479
Gross profit	4,185	5,479
Income from continuing operations	928	1,118
Net income	928	1,118

(1) Represents financial information for the period commencing May 31, 2022 (the date of the sale of a majority interest in IM Topco) through September 30, 2022.

#### ***Acquisition of LOGO by Lori Goldstein Brand***

On April 1, 2021, the Company acquired certain assets of Lori Goldstein, Ltd. (the "Seller"), including the "LOGO by Lori Goldstein" trademark and other intellectual property rights relating thereto. Pursuant to the asset purchase agreement related to this transaction, the Company delivered \$1.6 million in cash consideration to the Seller at closing, and was obligated to subsequently deliver an additional \$2.0 million in cash to the Seller, which was paid in July 2021.

In addition to the consideration described above, the Seller is eligible to earn additional consideration of up to \$12.5 million (the "Lori Goldstein Earn-Out"), which would be payable, in cash, within 45 days after the end of each applicable calendar year during the six calendar year period commencing 2021 in an amount equal to 75% percent of the Royalty Contribution (as defined in the related asset purchase agreement) for such calendar year. The Company recorded a contingent obligation of \$6.6 million related to the Lori Goldstein Earn-Out, based on the difference between the fair value of the acquired assets of the LOGO by Lori Goldstein brand and the total consideration paid, in accordance with the guidance in ASC Subtopic 805-50. To date, no consideration under the terms of the Lori Goldstein Earn-Out has been payable or paid to the Seller.

The LOGO by Lori Goldstein brand acquisition was accounted for as an asset purchase, and the aggregate purchase price of \$10.3 million was allocated entirely to the trademarks of the brand. Such trademarks have been determined by management to have a finite useful life, and accordingly, amortization is recorded in the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations. The Lori Goldstein trademarks are being amortized on a straight-line basis over their expected useful life of four years.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

### 3. Trademarks and Other Intangibles

Trademarks and other intangibles, net consist of the following:

(\$ in thousands)	Weighted Average Amortization Period	September 30, 2022		
		Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Trademarks (finite-lived)	15 years	68,880	19,827	49,053
Copyrights and other intellectual property	8 years	429	282	147
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 69,309</b>	<b>\$ 20,109</b>	<b>\$ 49,200</b>

(\$ in thousands)	Weighted Average Amortization Period	December 31, 2021		
		Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Trademarks (indefinite-lived)	n/a	\$ 44,500	\$ —	\$ 44,500
Trademarks (finite-lived)	15 years	68,880	15,268	53,612
Non-compete agreement	7 years	562	562	—
Copyrights and other intellectual property	8 years	429	237	192
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 114,371</b>	<b>\$ 16,067</b>	<b>\$ 98,304</b>

Amortization expense for intangible assets was approximately \$1.53 million for the three-month period ended September 30, 2022 (the "current quarter") and was approximately \$1.56 million for the three-month period ended September 30, 2021 (the "prior year quarter").

Amortization expense for intangible assets was approximately \$4.60 million for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2022 (the "current nine months") and was approximately \$4.02 million for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2021 (the "prior year nine months").

During the current nine months, the Company sold its \$44.5 million of indefinite-lived trademarks related to the Isaac Mizrahi Brand; see Note 2 for details. Also during the current nine months, the Company retired its intangible asset for a non-compete agreement related to the Halston Brand, as such intangible asset had reached the end of its estimated useful life and had become fully amortized.

### 4. Significant Contracts and Concentrations

#### Qurate Agreements

Under the Company's agreements with Qurate Retail Group ("Qurate"), collectively referred to as the Qurate Agreements, Qurate is obligated to make payments to the Company on a quarterly basis, based primarily upon a percentage of net retail sales of Lori Goldstein, Judith Ripka, and Longaberger branded merchandise. The Company was also previously a party to a similar agreement with Qurate related to the Isaac Mizrahi Brand through May 31, 2022; see Note 2 for details. Net retail sales are defined as the aggregate amount of all revenue generated through the sale of the specified branded products by Qurate and its subsidiaries under the Qurate Agreements, net of customer returns, and excluding freight, shipping and handling charges, and sales, use, or other taxes. Net licensing revenue from the Qurate Agreements represents a significant portion of the Company's total net revenue.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

- Net licensing revenue from the Qurate Agreements totaled \$1.40 million and \$6.05 million for the current quarter and prior year quarter, respectively, representing approximately 31% and 54% of the Company's total net revenue for the current quarter and prior year quarter, respectively.
- Net licensing revenue from the Qurate Agreements totaled \$10.47 million and \$15.24 million for the current nine months and prior year nine months, respectively, representing approximately 48% and 51% of the Company's total net revenue for the current nine months and prior year nine months, respectively.
- As of September 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the Company had receivables from Qurate of \$1.45 million and \$3.51 million, respectively, representing approximately 22% and 46% of the Company's total net accounts receivable, respectively.

#### 5. Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are presented on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets net of allowances of \$1.26 and \$1.09 million as of September 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively. The Company recognized bad debt expense of \$0.08 million in the current quarter, \$0.17 million in the current nine months, and \$0.13 million in the prior year nine months, but did not recognize any bad debt expense in the prior year quarter.

As of September 30, 2022, approximately \$1.62 million of the Company's outstanding receivables were assigned to a third party agent pursuant to a services agreement entered into during the current quarter, under which the Company assigned, for purposes of collection only, the right to collect certain specified receivables on the Company's behalf and solely for the Company's benefit. Under such agreement, the Company retains ownership of such assigned receivables, and receives payment from the agent (less certain fees charged by the agent) upon the agent's collection of the receivables from customers. During the current quarter and current nine months, the Company paid approximately \$0.04 million in fees to the agent under the aforementioned services agreement.

#### 6. Leases

The Company has an operating lease for its corporate offices and operations facility, as well as certain equipment with a term of 12 months or less.

The Company also has an operating lease for its former retail store location, which was closed in the first quarter of 2022; the Company is currently in the process of negotiating the termination of this lease.

The Company previously had an operating lease for its former office location, which it subleased to a third-party subtenant through February 27, 2022, and the Company's lease of this office space expired by its terms on February 28, 2022.

As of September 30, 2022, the Company's real estate leases have remaining lease terms of 5 – 6 years, with a weighted average remaining lease term of approximately 5.2 years and a weighted average discount rate of 6.25%.

The Company generally recognizes a right-of-use ("ROU") asset, representing its right to use the underlying leased asset for the lease term, and a liability for its obligation to make future lease payments (the lease liability) at commencement date (the date on which the lessor makes the underlying asset available for use) based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. The Company does not recognize ROU assets and lease liabilities for lease terms of 12 months or less, but recognizes such lease payments in operations on a straight-line basis over the lease terms.

Lease expense for operating lease payments is generally recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company recognizes income from subleases (in which the Company is the sublessor) on a straight-line basis over the term

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

of the sublease, as a reduction to lease expense. Lease expense included in selling, general and administrative expenses on the Company's unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations was approximately \$0.4 million for both the current quarter and prior year quarter, approximately \$1.2 million for the prior year nine months, and approximately \$1.0 million for the current nine months.

Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of operating lease liabilities was \$0.4 million in the current quarter and prior year quarter, \$1.3 million in the current nine months, and \$1.7 million in the prior year nine months.

As of September 30, 2022, the maturities of lease obligations were as follows:

<b>(\$ in thousands)</b>	
2022 (October 1 through December 31)	\$ 547
2023	1,711
2024	1,711
2025	1,711
2026	1,710
Thereafter (through 2028)	1,610
Total lease payments	9,000
Less: Discount	1,512
Present value of lease liabilities	7,488
Current portion of lease liabilities	1,331
Non-current portion of lease liabilities	\$ 6,157

## 7. Debt

The Company's net carrying amount of debt was comprised of the following:

<b>(\$ in thousands)</b>	<b>September 30, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Term loan debt	\$ —	\$ 29,000
Unamortized deferred finance costs related to term loan debt	—	(969)
Total	—	28,031
Current portion of debt	—	2,500
Long-term debt	\$ —	\$ 25,531

On May 31, 2022, the Company used \$30.1 million of the proceeds received from the transaction related to the Isaac Mizrahi Brand (see Note 2) to repay all amounts outstanding under the December 30, 2021 term loan agreement with First Eagle Alternative Credit Agent, LLC ("FEAC"), consisting of \$28.4 million in principal amount, a \$1.4 million prepayment fee, and approximately \$0.3 million in interest and related expenses. As a result, the Company recognized a loss on early extinguishment of debt of approximately \$2.3 million during the current nine months, consisting of approximately \$1.4 million of debt prepayment premium, the immediate write-off of approximately \$0.8 million of unamortized deferred finance costs, and approximately \$0.1 million of other costs.

### **Term Loan Debt (through May 31, 2022)**

On December 30, 2021, Xcel, as Borrower, and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, IM Brands, LLC, JR Licensing, LLC, H Licensing, LLC, C Wonder Licensing, LLC, Xcel Design Group, LLC, Judith Ripka Fine Jewelry, LLC, H Heritage Licensing, LLC, Xcel-CT MFG, LLC and Gold Licensing, LLC, as Guarantors (each a "Guarantor" and collectively, the

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

“Guarantors”), entered into a Loan and Security Agreement (the “Loan Agreement”) with FEAC, as lead arranger and as administrative agent and collateral agent for the lenders party to the Loan Agreement, and the financial institutions party thereto as lenders (the “Lenders”). Pursuant to the Loan Agreement, the Lenders made a term loan in the aggregate amount of \$29.0 million (the “Term Loan”). The proceeds of the Term Loan were used for the purpose of refinancing existing indebtedness (i.e., previous term loan debt), to pay fees, costs, and expenses incurred in connection with entering into the Loan Agreement, and for working capital purposes.

Upon entering into the Loan Agreement, Xcel paid a 1.75% closing fee to FEAC for the benefit of the Lenders; the Company also paid approximately \$0.5 million of various legal and other fees in connection with the execution of the Loan Agreement. These fees and costs totaling approximately \$0.97 million were deferred on the Company’s balance sheet as of December 31, 2021 as a reduction of the carrying value of the Term Loan, and commencing in 2022 were being amortized to interest expense over the term of the Term Loan using the effective interest method.

The New Term Loan was to mature on April 14, 2025. Principal on the New Term Loan was payable in quarterly installments of \$625,000 on each of March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each year, commencing on March 31, 2022 and ending on March 31, 2025, with a final payment of \$20,875,000 due on the maturity date of April 14, 2025.

Under the Loan Agreement, Xcel had the right upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to prepay all or any portion of the Term Loan and accrued and unpaid interest thereon. Based on the terms of the Loan Agreement, when the Term Loan was repaid in full on May 31, 2022, Xcel was required to pay a prepayment premium of five percent (5.00%), which amounted to approximately \$1.4 million.

For the prior year quarter, the Company incurred interest expense (including both interest paid in cash and the amortization of deferred finance costs) related to term loan debt of approximately \$0.57 million, and the effective interest rate related to term loan debt was approximately 9.6%.

For the current nine months and prior year nine months, the Company incurred interest expense (including both interest paid in cash and the amortization of deferred finance costs) related to term loan debt of approximately \$1.19 million and \$1.36 million, respectively. The effective interest rate related to term loan debt was approximately 9.8% and 8.4% for the current quarter and prior year quarter, respectively.

## **8. Stockholders’ Equity**

### ***Equity Incentive Plans***

The Company’s 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2021 Plan”) is designed and utilized to enable the Company to provide its employees, officers, directors, consultants, and others whose past, present, and/or potential contributions to the Company have been, are, or will be important to the success of the Company, an opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest in the Company. A total of 4,000,000 shares of common stock are eligible for issuance under the 2021 Plan. The 2021 Plan provides for the grant of any or all of the following types of awards: stock options (incentive or non-qualified), restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance awards, or cash awards. The 2021 Plan is administered by the Company’s Board of Directors, or, at the Board’s discretion, a committee of the Board.

In addition, stock-based awards (including options, warrants, and restricted stock) previously granted under the Company’s 2011 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2011 Plan”) remain outstanding and shares of common stock may be issued to satisfy options or warrants previously granted under the 2011 Plan, although no new awards may be granted under the 2011 Plan.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

**Stock-based Compensation**

The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, “Compensation - Stock Compensation,” by recognizing the fair value of stock-based compensation as an operating expense over the service period of the award or term of the corresponding contract, as applicable. Forfeitures are accounted for as a reduction of compensation cost in the period when such forfeitures occur. For stock option awards for which vesting is contingent upon the achievement of certain performance targets, the timing and amount of compensation expense recognized is based upon the Company’s projections and estimates of the relevant performance metric(s) until the time the performance obligation is satisfied. Expense for such awards is recognized only to the extent that the achievement of the specified performance target(s) has been met or is considered probable.

Total expense recognized in the current quarter and prior year quarter for all forms of stock-based compensation was approximately \$0.05 million and \$0.16 million, respectively. Of the current quarter expense amount, substantially all of the expense related to directors and consultants, and all of the current quarter expense was recorded as operating costs in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations. Of the prior year quarter expense amount, all of which was recorded as operating costs in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations, approximately \$0.11 million related to employees and approximately \$0.05 million related to directors and consultants.

Total expense recognized in the current nine months and prior year nine months for all forms of stock-based compensation was approximately \$0.67 million and \$0.75 million, respectively. Of the current nine months expense amount, approximately \$0.41 million related to employees and approximately \$0.26 million related to directors and consultants. Approximately \$0.57 million of the current nine months expense was recorded as operating costs, and approximately \$0.10 million was recorded as a reduction to other income. Of the prior year nine months expense amount, all of which was recorded as operating costs, approximately \$0.63 million related to employees and approximately \$0.12 million related to directors and consultants.

**Stock Options**

A summary of the Company’s stock options activity for the current nine months is as follows:

	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at January 1, 2022	5,630,970	\$ 2.25	5.46	\$ —
Granted	605,850	1.61		
Canceled	—	—		
Exercised	—	—		
Expired/Forfeited	(474,930)	3.18		
Outstanding at September 30, 2022, and expected to vest	5,761,890	\$ 2.11	4.94	\$ —
Exercisable at September 30, 2022	2,048,556	\$ 2.81	2.01	\$ —

On April 20, 2022, the Company granted options to purchase an aggregate of 380,850 shares of common stock to various employees. The exercise price of the options is \$1.62 per share, and all options vested immediately on the date of grant.

On April 20, 2022 the Company granted options to purchase an aggregate of 125,000 shares of common stock to non-management directors. The exercise price of the options is \$1.62 per share, and 50% of the options vest on each of April 20, 2023 and April 20, 2024.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

On April 26, 2022, the Company granted options to purchase an aggregate of 100,000 shares of common stock to a consultant. The exercise price of the options is \$1.58 per share, and all options vested immediately on the date of grant.

Compensation expense related to stock options for the current quarter and the prior year quarter was approximately \$0.03 million and \$0.05 million, respectively. Compensation expense related to stock options for the current nine months and the prior year nine months was approximately \$0.43 million and \$0.25 million, respectively. Total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested stock options at September 30, 2022 was approximately \$0.12 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately 1.29 years.

A summary of the Company's non-vested stock options activity for the current nine months is as follows:

	Number of Options	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Balance at January 1, 2022	3,873,334	\$ 0.07
Granted	605,850	0.79
Vested	(755,850)	0.73
Forfeited or Canceled	(10,000)	1.09
Balance at September 30, 2022	<u>3,713,334</u>	<u>\$ 0.05</u>

**Warrants**

A summary of the Company's warrants activity for the current nine months is as follows:

	Number of Warrants	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding and exercisable at January 1, 2022	116,065	\$ 3.15	2.57	\$ —
Granted	—	—		
Canceled	—	—		
Exercised	—	—		
Expired/Forfeited	—	—		
Outstanding and exercisable at September 30, 2022	<u>116,065</u>	<u>\$ 3.15</u>	<u>1.82</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

No compensation expense related to warrants was recognized in the current quarter, prior year quarter, current nine months, or prior year nine months.



XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

**Stock Awards**

A summary of the Company's restricted stock activity for the current nine months is as follows:

	Number of Restricted Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at January 1, 2022	815,833	\$ 4.00
Granted	347,623	1.58
Canceled	—	—
Vested	(820,123)	3.12
Expired/Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding at September 30, 2022	<u>343,333</u>	<u>\$ 3.66</u>

On April 20, 2022, the Company issued an aggregate of 50,000 shares of common stock to non-management directors, which vest evenly over two years, of which 50% shall vest on April 20, 2023, and 50% shall vest on April 20, 2024.

On April 20, 2022, the Company issued 20,064 shares of common stock to a consultant, which vested immediately.

On May 31, 2022, the Company issued 65,275 shares of common stock to a consultant in connection with the transaction related to the Isaac Mizrahi Brand (see Note 2); these shares vested immediately.

On May 31, 2022, the Company issued 33,557 shares of common stock to a key employee, which vested immediately.

Additionally, on April 20, 2022, the Company issued 178,727 shares of common stock to a member of senior management as payment for a performance bonus earned in 2021. These shares vested immediately. The Company had previously recognized compensation expense of approximately \$0.28 million in 2021 to accrue for this performance bonus.

Compensation expense related to stock awards was approximately \$0.02 million for the current quarter and approximately \$0.12 million for the prior year quarter. Compensation expense related to stock awards was approximately \$0.24 million for the current nine months and approximately \$0.51 million for the prior year nine months. Total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested restricted stock grants at September 30, 2022 was approximately \$0.09 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately 1.25 years.

**Shares Available Under the Company's Equity Incentive Plans**

As of September 30, 2022, there were 3,160,909 shares of common stock available for award grants under the 2021 Plan.

**Shares Reserved for Issuance**

As of September 30, 2022, there were 9,038,864 shares of common stock reserved for issuance, including 5,877,955 shares reserved for issuance pursuant to unexercised warrants and stock options, and 3,160,909 shares available for award grants under the 2021 Plan.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

**9. Earnings (Loss) Per Share**

Basic earnings (loss) per share (“EPS”) is computed by dividing net income (loss) available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS gives effect to all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding during the period, including stock options and warrants, using the treasury stock method. Diluted EPS excludes all potentially dilutive shares of common stock if their effect is anti-dilutive. The following table is a reconciliation of the numerator and denominator of the basic and diluted net (loss) income per share computations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 and 2021:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
<b>Numerator:</b>				
Net (loss) income attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders (in thousands)	\$ (4,042)	\$ (1,136)	\$ 1,961	\$ (5,241)
<b>Denominator:</b>				
Basic weighted average number of shares outstanding	19,624,860	19,541,774	19,624,604	19,418,469
Add: Effect of warrants	—	—	620	—
Add: Effect of stock options	—	—	127,115	—
Diluted weighted average number of shares outstanding	<u>19,624,860</u>	<u>19,541,774</u>	<u>19,752,339</u>	<u>19,418,469</u>
Basic net (loss) income per share	<u>\$ (0.21)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>	<u>\$ 0.10</u>	<u>\$ (0.27)</u>
Diluted net (loss) income per share	<u>\$ (0.21)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>	<u>\$ 0.10</u>	<u>\$ (0.27)</u>

As a result of the net loss for the current quarter, prior year quarter, and prior year nine months, the Company calculated diluted EPS using basic weighted average shares outstanding for such periods, as utilizing diluted shares would be anti-dilutive to loss per share.

The computation of diluted EPS excludes the following potentially dilutive securities because their inclusion would be anti-dilutive:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
Stock options	5,761,890	5,810,945	5,514,140	5,810,945
Warrants	116,065	116,065	115,000	116,065
Total	<u>5,877,955</u>	<u>5,927,010</u>	<u>5,629,140</u>	<u>5,927,010</u>

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

**10. Income Taxes**

The estimated annual effective income tax rate for the current quarter and the prior year quarter was approximately 26% and 28%, respectively, resulting in an income tax provision (benefit) of \$(1.54) million and \$(0.54) million, respectively.

The estimated annual effective income tax rate for the current nine months and the prior year nine months was approximately 62% and 26%, respectively, resulting in an income tax provision (benefit) of \$1.64 million and \$(2.02) million, respectively.

For the current quarter, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences and state taxes, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 5%.

For the prior year quarter, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences and state taxes, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 7%.

For the current nine months, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences, state taxes, and the discrete treatment of stock compensation shortfall, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 41%.

For the prior year nine months, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences and state taxes, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 5%.

**11. Related Party Transactions**

***Isaac Mizrahi***

On February 24, 2020, the Company entered into an employment agreement with Isaac Mizrahi, a principal stockholder of the Company, for Mr. Mizrahi to continue to serve as Chief Design Officer of the Isaac Mizrahi Brand. This employment agreement remained in effect through May 31, 2022. On May 31, 2022, this agreement was transferred to IM Topco as part of the transaction in which the Company sold a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi Brand trademarks to a third party (see Note 2 for details).

On February 24, 2020, the Company also entered into a services agreement with Laugh Club, an entity wholly-owned by Mr. Mizrahi, pursuant to which Laugh Club provided services to Mr. Mizrahi necessary for Mr. Mizrahi to perform his services pursuant to the employment agreement. The Company paid Laugh Club an annual fee of \$0.72 million for such services. This services agreement remained in effect through May 31, 2022. On May 31, 2022, this agreement was transferred to IM Topco as part of the transaction in which the Company sold a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi Brand trademarks to a third party (see Note 2 for details).

In addition, on May 31, 2022, all 522,500 unvested shares of restricted stock of the Company held by Mr. Mizrahi (for which all stock-based compensation expense had been previously recognized in prior periods) were immediately vested, with 240,000 of such shares being surrendered for cancellation in satisfaction of withholding tax obligations. Also on May 31, 2022, the Company issued 33,557 additional shares of common stock of the Company (valued at \$50,000) to Mr. Mizrahi, which vested immediately, and made a \$100,000 cash payment to Mr. Mizrahi.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

***IM Topco, LLC***

The Company holds a noncontrolling interest in IM Topco, which is accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

On May 31, 2022, the Company entered into a services agreement with IM Topco, pursuant to which the Company provides certain design and support services (including assistance with the operations of the interactive television business and related talent support) to IM Topco in exchange for payments of \$300,000 per year. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2022, the Company recognized service fee income related to this agreement of \$101,000.

On May 31, 2022, the Company entered into a license agreement with IM Topco, pursuant to which IM Topco granted the Company a license to use certain Isaac Mizrahi trademarks on and in connection with the design, manufacture, distribution, sale, and promotion of women's sportswear products in the United States and Canada during the term of the agreement, in exchange for the payment of royalties in connection therewith. The initial term of this agreement ends December 31, 2026, and provides guaranteed royalties to IM Topco of \$400,000 per year. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2022, the Company recognized royalty expense related to this agreement of \$92,000 and \$123,000, respectively.

**12. Commitments and Contingencies**

***Contingent Obligation – Halston Heritage Earn-Out***

In connection with the February 11, 2019 purchase of the Halston Heritage trademarks from H Company IP, LLC ("HIP"), the Company agreed to pay HIP additional consideration (the "Halston Heritage Earn-Out") of up to an aggregate of \$6.0 million, based on royalties earned through December 31, 2022. The Halston Heritage Earn-Out of \$0.9 million is recorded as a current liability at September 30, 2022 and as a long-term liability at December 31, 2021 in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets, based on the difference between the fair value of the acquired assets of the Halston Heritage trademarks and the total consideration paid. Management estimates that it is highly unlikely the Company will owe any of this contingent obligation at December 31, 2022. In accordance with ASC Topic 480, "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity," the Halston Heritage Earn-Out obligation is treated as a liability in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets because of the variable number of shares payable under the agreement.

***Contingent Obligation – Lori Goldstein Earn-Out***

In connection with the April 1, 2021 acquisition of the Lori Goldstein trademarks, the Company agreed to pay the seller additional cash consideration (the "Lori Goldstein Earn-Out") of up to an aggregate of \$12.5 million, based on royalties earned during the six calendar year period commencing in 2021. The Lori Goldstein Earn-Out of \$6.6 million is recorded as a liability in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets, based on the difference between the fair value of the acquired assets of the Lori Goldstein brand and the total consideration paid, in accordance with the guidance in ASC Subtopic 805-50. At September 30, 2022, \$1.6 million of the balance is recorded as a current liability and \$5.0 million is recorded as a long-term liability; at December 31, 2021, the entire balance was recorded as a long-term liability.

***Contingent Obligation – Isaac Mizrahi Transaction***

In connection with the May 31, 2022 transaction related to the sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi Brand (see Note 2), the Company has agreed with WHP that, in the event that IM Topco receives less than \$13.3 million in aggregate royalties for any four consecutive calendar quarters over a three-year period ending on May 31, 2025, WHP will be entitled to receive from the Company up to \$16 million, less all amounts of net cash flow distributed to WHP on an accumulated basis, as an adjustment to the purchase price previously paid by WHP. Such amount would be payable by the Company in either cash or equity interests in IM Topco held by the Company. No amount has been recorded in the accompanying

XCEL BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements  
September 30, 2022  
(Unaudited)

condensed consolidated balance sheets related to this contingent obligation, and management believes the likelihood of any such payment is remote.

***Legal Proceedings***

From time to time, the Company becomes involved in legal claims and litigation in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, based on consultations with legal counsel, the disposition of litigation currently pending against the Company is unlikely to have, individually or in the aggregate, a materially adverse effect on the Company's business, financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. The Company routinely assesses all its litigation and threatened litigation as to the probability of ultimately incurring a liability, and records its best estimate of the ultimate loss in situations where it assesses the likelihood of loss as probable.

***Coronavirus Pandemic***

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus disease ("COVID-19") as a pandemic, which continues to circulate throughout the U.S. and the world. The COVID-19 pandemic (including actions taken by national, state, and local governments in response to COVID-19) has negatively impacted the U.S. and global economy, disrupted consumer spending and global supply chains, and created significant volatility and disruption of financial markets.

COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, a significant negative impact on the Company's business. The initial onset of the pandemic in 2020 resulted in a sudden decrease in sales for many of the Company's products, from which the Company has yet to fully recover. Additionally, COVID-19 has also impacted, and continues to impact, the Company's supply chain partners, including third party manufacturers, logistics providers, and other vendors, as well as the supply chains of its licensees. These supply chains have experienced, and may continue to experience in the future, disruptions as a result of closed factories, factories operating with a reduced workforce, or other logistics constraints, including vessel, container and other transportation shortages, labor shortages, and port congestion.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there is significant uncertainty surrounding the Company's future results of operations and cash flows. Continued impacts of the pandemic could materially adversely affect the Company's near-term and long-term revenues, earnings, liquidity, and cash flows.

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

*Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.* The statements that are not historical facts contained in this report are forward-looking statements that involve a number of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, all of which are difficult or impossible to predict and many of which are beyond our control, which may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These risks are detailed in the Risk Factors section of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, as filed with the SEC on April 15, 2022. The words “believe,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “continue,” “estimate,” “appear,” “suggest,” “goal,” “potential,” “predicts,” “seek,” “will,” “confident,” “project,” “provide,” “plan,” “likely,” “future,” “ongoing,” “intend,” “may,” “should,” “would,” “could,” “guidance,” and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements.

### Overview

Xcel Brands, Inc. (“Xcel,” the “Company,” “we,” “us,” or “our”) is a media and consumer products company engaged in the design, production, marketing, live streaming, wholesale distribution, and direct-to-consumer sales of branded apparel, footwear, accessories, fine jewelry, home goods and other consumer products, and the acquisition of dynamic consumer lifestyle brands. Xcel was founded in 2011 with a vision to reimagine shopping, entertainment, and social media as one thing. Currently, the Company’s brand portfolio includes wholly owned brands – the LOGO by Lori Goldstein brand (the “Lori Goldstein Brand”), the Halston brand (the “Halston Brand”), the Judith Ripka brand (the “Ripka Brand”), the C Wonder brand (the “C Wonder Brand”), and other proprietary brands – and brands partially-owned through business ventures with third parties – the Longaberger brand (the “Longaberger Brand”) and the Isaac Mizrahi brand (the “Isaac Mizrahi Brand”). Xcel continues to pioneer a true omni-channel sales strategy which includes the promotion and sale of products under its brands through interactive television, digital live-stream shopping, brick-and-mortar retail, wholesale, and e-commerce channels to be everywhere its customers shop.

Our objective is to build a diversified portfolio of lifestyle consumer brands through organic growth and the strategic acquisition of new brands. To grow our brands, we are focused on the following primary strategies:

- distribution and/or licensing of our brands for sale through interactive television (i.e., QVC, HSN, The Shopping Channel, TVSN, etc.);
- wholesale distribution of our brands to retailers that sell to the end consumer;
- direct-to-consumer distribution of our brands through e-commerce and live streaming;
- licensing our brands to manufacturers and retailers for promotion and distribution through e-commerce, social commerce, and traditional brick-and-mortar retail channels whereby we provide certain design services; and
- acquiring additional consumer brands and integrating them into our operating platform and leveraging our operating infrastructure and distribution relationships.

We believe that Xcel offers a unique value proposition to our retail and direct-to-consumer customers and our licensees for the following reasons:

- our management team, including our officers’ and directors’ experience in, and relationships within the industry;
- our deep knowledge and expertise in live streaming and related technology platforms;

- our design, production, sales, marketing, and supply chain and integrated technology platform that enables us to design and distribute trend-right product; and
- our operating strategy, significant media and internet presence, and distribution network.

Our design, production and supply chain platform was developed to shorten the supply chain cycle by utilizing state-of-the-art supply chain management technology, trend analytics, and data science to actively monitor fashion trends and read and react to customer demands.

### **Summary of Operating Results**

***Three months ended September 30, 2022 (the “current quarter”) compared with the three months ended September 30, 2021 (the “prior year quarter”)***

#### ***Revenues***

Current quarter net revenue decreased approximately \$6.8 million to \$4.5 million from \$11.3 million for the prior year quarter.

Net licensing revenue decreased by approximately \$4.7 million in the current quarter to \$2.2 million, compared with \$6.9 million in the prior year quarter. This decrease in licensing revenue was primarily attributable to the May 31, 2022 sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand through the sale of a 70% interest in IM Topco, LLC to WHP. Since the closing of such sale, we no longer record Isaac Mizrahi brand licensing revenue as part of our revenues.

Net sales decreased by approximately \$2.1 million in the current quarter to \$2.3 million, compared with \$4.4 million in the prior year quarter. This decrease in net sales was primarily attributable to declines in apparel wholesale revenue and, to a lesser extent, in wholesale jewelry sales, mainly driven by a combination of retailers pausing on purchases triggered by excess inventory levels, and the temporary closing of overseas factories due to COVID-19, causing delays in product delivery resulting in cancelled orders.

#### ***Cost of Goods Sold***

Current quarter cost of goods sold was \$1.5 million, compared with \$2.9 million for the prior year quarter.

Gross profit margin from net product sales (net sales less cost of goods sold, divided by net sales) increased from approximately 35% in the prior year quarter to approximately 37% in the current quarter.

Gross profit (net revenue less cost of goods sold) decreased approximately \$5.4 million to \$3.0 million from \$8.4 million in the prior year quarter, primarily driven by the aforementioned decrease in net licensing revenue, and also by the aforementioned decline in the wholesale business.

#### ***Operating Costs and Expenses***

Operating costs and expenses decreased approximately \$1.0 million from \$9.7 million in the prior year quarter to \$8.7 million in the current quarter. This decrease was primarily attributable to lower salaries, benefits and employment costs, driven by the May 31, 2022 sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand, and the transfer of the employees associated with the Isaac Mizrahi brand to the IM Topco, LLC business venture.

#### ***Other (Expense) Income***

We account for our interest in the ongoing operations of IM Topco, LLC using the equity method of accounting. We recognized an equity method loss of \$0.28 million related to our investment for the current quarter, based on the distribution provisions set forth in the related business venture agreement.

### ***Interest and Finance (Income) Expense***

Interest and finance (income) expense for the current quarter was \$0.0 million, compared with \$0.6 million for the prior year quarter. This decrease was primarily attributable to the May 31, 2022 repayment of all of our outstanding term loan debt.

### ***Income Tax (Benefit) Provision***

The estimated annual effective income tax rate for the current quarter and the prior year quarter was approximately 26% and 28%, respectively, resulting in an income tax benefit of \$1.54 million and \$0.54 million, respectively.

For the current quarter, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences and state taxes, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 5%.

For the prior year quarter, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences and state taxes, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 7%.

### ***Net (Loss) Income Attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. Stockholders***

We had a net loss of \$4.0 million for the current quarter, compared with a net loss of \$1.1 million for the prior year quarter, due to the combination of the factors outlined above.

### ***Non-GAAP Net (Loss) Income, Non-GAAP Diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA***

We had a non-GAAP net loss of approximately \$3.3 million, or \$0.17 per diluted share (“non-GAAP diluted EPS”), for the current quarter and non-GAAP net income of \$0.01 million, or \$0.00 per diluted share, for the prior year quarter. Non-GAAP net (loss) income is a non-GAAP unaudited term, which we define as net (loss) income attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders, exclusive of amortization of trademarks, our proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investees, stock-based compensation, loss on extinguishment of debt, gain on sales of assets, gain on reduction of contingent obligations, costs (recoveries) in connection with potential acquisitions, certain adjustments to the provision for doubtful accounts related to the bankruptcy of and economic impact on certain retail customers due to the COVID-19 pandemic, asset impairments, and income taxes. Non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP diluted EPS measures do not include the tax effect of the aforementioned adjusting items, due to the nature of these items and the Company’s tax strategy.

We had Adjusted EBITDA of approximately \$(2.9) million for the current quarter, compared with approximately \$1.0 million for the prior year quarter. Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP unaudited measure, which we define as net (loss) income attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders before depreciation and amortization, our proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investees, interest and finance expenses (including loss on extinguishment of debt, if any), income taxes, other state and local franchise taxes, stock-based compensation, gain on reduction of contingent obligations, gain on sale of assets, costs (recoveries) in connection with potential acquisitions, asset impairments, gain on sales of assets, and certain adjustments to the provision for doubtful accounts related to the bankruptcy of and economic impact on certain retail customers due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Management uses non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA as measures of operating performance to assist in comparing performance from period to period on a consistent basis and to identify business trends relating to the Company’s results of operations. Management believes non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA are also useful because these measures adjust for certain costs and other events that management believes are not representative of our core business operating results, and thus, these non-GAAP measures provide supplemental information to assist investors in evaluating the Company’s financial results.

Non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as alternatives to net income, earnings per share, or any other measure of financial performance calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. Given that non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA are financial



[Table of Contents](#)

measures not deemed to be in accordance with GAAP and are susceptible to varying calculations, our non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA may not be comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies, including companies in our industry, because other companies may calculate non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA in a different manner than we calculate these measures.

In evaluating non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA, you should be aware that in the future we may or may not incur expenses similar to some of the adjustments in this report. Our presentation of non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA does not imply that our future results will be unaffected by these expenses or any other unusual or non-recurring items. When evaluating our performance, you should consider non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA alongside other financial performance measures, including our net income and other GAAP results, and not rely on any single financial measure.

The following table is a reconciliation of net loss attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders (our most directly comparable financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP) to non-GAAP net (loss) income:

(\$ in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021
Net loss attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders	\$ (4,042)	\$ (1,136)
Amortization of trademarks	1,520	1,519
Proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investee	742	—
Stock-based compensation	51	163
Income tax benefit	(1,539)	(535)
Non-GAAP net (loss) income	<u>\$ (3,268)</u>	<u>\$ 11</u>

The following table is a reconciliation of diluted loss per share (our most directly comparable financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP) to non-GAAP diluted EPS:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021
Diluted loss per share	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.06)
Amortization of trademarks	0.08	0.08
Proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investee	0.04	—
Stock-based compensation	0.00	0.01
Income tax provision (benefit)	(0.08)	(0.03)
Non-GAAP diluted EPS	<u>\$ (0.17)</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Non-GAAP weighted average diluted shares	<u>19,624,860</u>	<u>20,323,358</u>

The following table is a reconciliation of net loss attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders (our most directly comparable financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP) to Adjusted EBITDA:

(\$ in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021
Net loss attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders	\$ (4,042)	\$ (1,136)
Depreciation and amortization	1,815	1,891
Proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investee	742	—
Interest and finance (income) expense	(6)	588
Income tax benefit	(1,539)	(535)
State and local franchise taxes	85	33
Stock-based compensation	51	163
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ (2,894)</u>	<u>\$ 1,004</u>

***Nine months ended September 30, 2022 (the “current nine months”) compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2021 (the “prior year nine months”)***

***Revenues***

Current nine months net revenue decreased approximately \$8.1 million to \$21.7 million from \$29.8 million for the prior year nine months.

Net licensing revenue decreased by approximately \$4.1 million in the current nine months to \$13.3 million, compared with \$17.4 million in the prior year nine months. This decrease in licensing revenue was primarily attributable to the May 31, 2022 sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand through the sale of a 70% interest in IM Topco, LLC to WHP, partially offset by increased licensing revenue generated by the Lori Goldstein brand, which we acquired on April 1, 2021.

Net sales decreased by approximately \$4.0 million in the current nine months to \$8.4 million, compared with \$12.4 million in the prior year nine months. This decrease in net sales was primarily attributable to declines in apparel wholesale revenue and, to a lesser extent, in wholesale jewelry sales, mainly driven by the previously mentioned retailer inventory levels and delays in product deliveries and canceled sales orders.

***Cost of Goods Sold***

Current nine months cost of goods sold was \$5.7 million, compared with \$7.8 million for the prior year nine months.

Gross profit margin from net product sales (net sales less cost of goods sold, divided by net sales) declined from approximately 38% in the prior year nine months to approximately 32% in the current nine months, primarily due to selling-off of seasoned apparel inventory during the earlier portion of 2022 and inventory write-downs related to cancelled sales orders.

Gross profit (net revenue less cost of goods sold) decreased approximately \$4.1 million to \$16.0 million from \$22.1 million in the prior year nine months, primarily driven by the aforementioned decrease in net licensing revenue.

***Operating Costs and Expenses***

Operating costs and expenses increased approximately \$2.6 million from \$27.6 million in the prior year nine months to \$30.2 million in the current nine months. This increase was primarily driven by the combination of (i) costs associated with the Lori Goldstein brand acquired on April 1, 2021 (including salaries, benefits and employment taxes as well as increased trademark amortization expense), (ii) \$1.0 million of bonuses awarded to senior management related to the May 31, 2022 sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand, and (iii) higher shipping and logistics costs, as well as cost increases from other service providers and vendors due to the current inflationary economic environment.

***Other (Expense) Income***

We recognized a gain on the sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand in the current nine months of approximately \$20.6 million, which was comprised of \$46.2 million of cash proceeds plus the recognition of the fair value of our retained interest in the brand of \$19.8 million, less \$0.9 million of fees and expenses directly related to the transaction and the derecognition of the brand trademarks previously recorded on our balance sheet of \$44.5 million.

We account for our interest in the ongoing operations of IM Topco, LLC using the equity method of accounting. We recognized an equity method loss of \$0.28 million related to our investment for the current nine months, based on the distribution provisions set forth in the related business venture agreement.

**Interest and Finance (Income) Expense**

Interest and finance expense for the current nine months was \$3.5 million, compared with \$2.3 million for the prior year nine months. This increase was primarily attributable to a higher loss on early extinguishment of debt as a result of the May 31, 2022 repayment of all of our outstanding term loan debt in the current nine months compared with a smaller loss on early extinguishment of debt incurred in the prior year nine months as a result of the April 14, 2021 term loan debt refinancing. This was partially offset by the fact that we had no interest expense in the current quarter, as all of our outstanding term loan was repaid on May 31, 2022 and we have not incurred any new debt.

**Income Tax (Benefit) Provision**

The estimated annual effective income tax rate for the current nine months and the prior year nine months was approximately 62% and 26%, respectively, resulting in an income tax provision (benefit) of \$1.64 million and \$(2.02) million, respectively.

For the current nine months, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences, state taxes, and the discrete treatment of stock compensation shortfall, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 41%.

For the prior year nine months, the federal statutory rate differed from the effective tax rate primarily due to recurring permanent differences and state taxes, which increased the effective tax rate by approximately 5%.

**Net (loss) Income Attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. Stockholders**

We had net income of \$2.0 million for the current nine months, compared with a net loss of \$5.2 million for the prior year nine months, due to the combination of the factors outlined above.

**Non-GAAP Net (Loss) Income, Non-GAAP Diluted EPS, and Adjusted EBITDA**

We had a non-GAAP net loss of approximately \$8.8 million, or \$0.45 per diluted share, for the current nine months and a non-GAAP net loss of \$1.6 million, or \$0.08 per diluted share, for the prior year nine months.

We had Adjusted EBITDA of approximately \$(6.6) million for the current nine months, compared with approximately \$1.0 million for the prior year nine months.

The following table is a reconciliation of net income (loss) attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders (our most directly comparable financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP) to non-GAAP net income:

(\$ in thousands)	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021
Net income (loss) attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders	\$ 1,961	\$ (5,241)
Amortization of trademarks	4,559	3,915
Proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investee	742	—
Stock-based compensation	568	754
Loss on extinguishment of debt	2,324	821
Certain adjustments to provision for doubtful accounts	—	132
Gain on sale of assets	(20,608)	—
Income tax provision (benefit)	1,639	(2,019)
Non-GAAP net (loss) income	<u>\$ (8,815)</u>	<u>\$ (1,638)</u>

[Table of Contents](#)

The following table is a reconciliation of diluted earnings (loss) per share (our most directly comparable financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP) to non-GAAP diluted EPS:

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.27)
Amortization of trademarks	0.23	0.20
Proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investee	0.04	—
Stock-based compensation	0.03	0.04
Loss on extinguishment of debt	0.12	0.04
Certain adjustments to provision for doubtful accounts	—	0.01
Gain on sale of assets	(1.05)	—
Income tax provision (benefit)	0.08	(0.10)
Non-GAAP diluted EPS	\$ (0.45)	\$ (0.08)
Non-GAAP weighted average diluted shares	19,624,604	19,418,469

The following table is a reconciliation of net income (loss) attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders (our most directly comparable financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP) to Adjusted EBITDA:

(\$ in thousands)	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2022	2021
Net income (loss) attributable to Xcel Brands, Inc. stockholders	\$ 1,961	\$ (5,241)
Depreciation and amortization	5,447	4,949
Proportional share of trademark amortization of equity method investee	742	—
Interest and finance expense	3,505	2,311
Income tax provision (benefit)	1,639	(2,019)
State and local franchise taxes	121	105
Stock-based compensation	568	754
Certain adjustments to provision for doubtful accounts	—	132
Gain on sale of assets	(20,608)	—
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ (6,625)	\$ 991

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

### Liquidity

Our principal capital requirements have been to fund working capital needs, acquire new brands, and to a lesser extent, capital expenditures. As of September 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021, our cash and cash equivalents were approximately \$8.4 million and \$4.5 million, respectively.

Restricted cash at December 31, 2021 was approximately \$0.7 million, and consisted of cash deposited as collateral for an irrevocable standby letter of credit associated with the lease of our corporate office and operating facility. There was no restricted cash at September 30, 2022, as the aforementioned letter of credit had expired and was not renewed.

We expect that existing cash and operating cash flows will be adequate to meet our operating and capital expenditure needs for at least the 12 months subsequent to the filing date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

### Changes in Working Capital

Our working capital (current assets less current liabilities, excluding the current portion of operating lease obligations and any contingent obligations payable in common stock) was \$13.7 million and \$7.9 million as of September 30, 2022 and

December 31, 2021, respectively. This increase in working capital was primarily attributable to the net proceeds received from the May 31, 2022 sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand to WHP, partially offset by the full repayment of all of our term loan debt in the second quarter of 2022, and operating costs paid during the third quarter of 2022.

Commentary on the components of our cash flows for the current nine months as compared with the prior year nine months is set forth below.

### ***Operating Activities***

Net cash used in operating activities was approximately \$11.03 million in the current nine months, compared with approximately \$5.53 million in the prior year nine months.

The current nine months cash used in operating activities was primarily attributable to the combination of the net income of \$1.02 million plus non-cash items of approximately \$(11.30) million and the net change in operating assets and liabilities of approximately \$(0.75) million. Non-cash items were primarily comprised of a \$(20.61) million net gain on the sale of the assets of the Isaac Mizrahi brand, \$5.45 million of depreciation and amortization, \$0.57 million of stock-based compensation, a \$2.32 million loss on extinguishment of debt, and \$0.36 million of deferred taxes. The net change in operating assets and liabilities was primarily comprised of an increase in inventory of \$(0.51) million, decreases in various operating liabilities of \$(0.80) million, and changes in lease-related assets and liabilities of \$(0.20) million, partially offset by a decrease in accounts receivable of \$0.75 million.

The prior year nine months cash used in operating activities was primarily attributable to the combination of the net loss of \$(5.80) million plus non-cash expenses of approximately \$4.85 million and the net change in operating assets and liabilities of approximately \$(4.58) million. Non-cash net expenses were primarily comprised of \$4.95 million of depreciation and amortization, \$0.75 million of stock-based compensation, \$0.13 million of bad debt expense, \$0.21 million of amortization of deferred finance costs, a \$0.82 million loss on extinguishment of debt, and a deferred income tax benefit of \$(2.02) million. The net change in operating assets and liabilities was primarily comprised of an increase in inventory of \$(2.21) million and an increase in accounts receivable of \$(2.19) million.

### ***Investing Activities***

Net cash provided by investing activities for the current nine months was approximately \$45.17 million, and was predominantly attributable to \$45.41 million of net proceeds from the sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand to WHP, partially offset by approximately \$0.24 million of capital expenditures.

Net cash used in investing activities for the prior year nine months was approximately \$4.75 million, which was primarily attributable to the acquisition of the Lori Goldstein brand on April 1, 2021, and, to a lesser extent, capital expenditures relating to the fit-out and furnishing of our Judith Ripka fine jewelry retail store (which opened in the second quarter of 2021 and was subsequently closed in the first quarter of 2022).

### ***Financing Activities***

Net cash used in financing activities for the current nine months was approximately \$30.95 million, which mainly consisted of \$29.00 million of repayments of our term loan debt, and, to a lesser extent, \$1.51 million of prepayment and other fees associated with the extinguishment of debt, as well as \$0.44 million of shares repurchased related to withholding taxes on vested restricted stock.

Net cash provided by financing activities for the prior year nine months was approximately \$8.93 million, and was primarily attributable to \$25.0 million of proceeds from term loan debt entered into on April 14, 2021, as well as \$2.5 million of proceeds drawn from a revolving loan facility. Also contributing to cash inflows from financing activities was a \$1.0 million capital contribution in Longaberger Licensing, LLC by the non-controlling interest holder. Partially offsetting these proceeds were \$(16.75) million paid on the balance of previous term loan debt, \$(0.37) million of fees paid to the previous debtholders in connection with the extinguishment of previous term loan debt, \$(1.20) million of deferred

finance costs paid in connection with the April 14, 2021 term loan, and \$(1.25) million of scheduled principal payments made under the April 14, 2021 term loan.

#### **Other Factors**

We continue to seek to expand and diversify the types of products being produced and licensed under our brands. We plan to continue to diversify the distribution channels within which products are sold, in an effort to reduce dependence on any particular retailer, consumer, or market sector within each of our brands. The Lori Goldstein brand, Halston brand, C Wonder brand, and Isaac Mizrahi brand have a core business in fashion apparel and accessories. The Ripka brand is a fine jewelry business, and the Longaberger brand focuses on home good products, which we believe helps diversify our industry focus while at the same time complements our business operations and relationships.

While the recent sale of a majority interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand is expected to result in a short-term decrease in our revenues, as that brand represented a significant portion of our historical revenues, we will seek to replace those revenues in the long-term with new strategic business initiatives. The proceeds from the sale, as well as the continuing cash flows from our retained interest in the Isaac Mizrahi brand, are expected to help fuel various strategic initiatives as we concentrate our resources on growing our brands, new brand launches, and investing in livestreaming technology platforms and partnerships.

We continue to work towards expanding our wholesale and e-commerce businesses, and complement these operations with our licensing business. In addition, we continue to seek new opportunities, including expansion through interactive television, live streaming, our design, production and supply chain platform, additional domestic and international licensing arrangements, and acquiring additional brands.

However, the impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic (including actions taken by national, state, and local governments in response to COVID-19) has negatively impacted the U.S. and global economy, disrupted consumer spending and global supply chains, and created significant volatility and disruption of financial markets. More specifically, COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, a significant negative impact on our business. The initial onset of the pandemic in 2020 resulted in a sudden decrease in sales for many of the Company's products, from which we have yet to fully recover. The global pandemic has affected the financial health of certain of our customers, and the bankruptcy of certain other customers; as a result, we continue to recognize an allowance for doubtful accounts of approximately \$1.3 million as of September 30, 2022, and may be required to make additional adjustments for doubtful accounts which would increase our operating expenses in future periods and negatively impact our operating results. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there is significant uncertainty surrounding the Company's future results of operations and cash flows. Continued impacts of the pandemic could materially adversely affect the Company's near-term and long-term revenues, earnings, liquidity, and cash flows.

In addition, the global shipping industry continues to face challenges related to port delays and tight availability for carriers and containers. This situation has negatively impacted our supply chain partners, including third party manufacturers, logistics providers, and other vendors, as well as the supply chains of our licensees, and has resulted in increased cost of supply and freight costs for us and our licensees. Such higher costs are currently expected to continue for the remainder of 2022, if not longer.

Further, the cost of raw materials, labor, manufacturing, energy, fuel, shipping and logistics, and other inputs related to the production and distribution of our products have increased and may continue to increase unexpectedly. Beginning in the first quarter of 2022, input costs increased significantly. We expect the pressures of input cost inflation to continue for the remainder of 2022, if not through 2023. We may not be able to mitigate the impact of inflation and cost increases or pass these costs along to our customers.

Also, poor economic and market conditions, including a potential recession, may negatively impact market sentiment, decreasing the demand for apparel, footwear, accessories, fine jewelry, home goods, and other consumer products, which would adversely affect our operating income and results of operations. If we are unable to take effective measures in a timely manner to mitigate the impact of the inflation as well as a potential recession, our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected.

Our long-term success, however, will still remain largely dependent on our ability to build and maintain our brands' awareness and continue to attract wholesale and direct-to-consumer customers, and contract with and retain key licensees, as well as our and our licensees' ability to accurately predict upcoming fashion and design trends within their respective customer bases and fulfill the product requirements of the particular retail channels within the global marketplace. Unanticipated changes in consumer fashion preferences and purchasing patterns, slowdowns in the U.S. economy, changes in the prices of supplies, consolidation of retail establishments, and other factors noted in "Risk Factors" could adversely affect our licensees' ability to meet and/or exceed their contractual commitments to us and thereby adversely affect our future operating results

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future material effect on our financial condition, results of operations, or liquidity.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The preparation of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to exercise judgment. We exercise considerable judgment with respect to establishing sound accounting policies and in making estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of our assets and liabilities, our recognition of revenues and expenses, and disclosure of commitments and contingencies at the date of the financial statements. We evaluate our estimates and judgments on an on-going basis. We base our estimates and judgments on a variety of factors, including our historical experience, knowledge of our business and industry, and current and expected economic conditions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. We periodically re-evaluate our estimates and assumptions with respect to these judgments and modify our approach when circumstances indicate that modifications are necessary. While we believe that the factors we evaluate provide us with a meaningful basis for establishing and applying sound accounting policies, we cannot guarantee that the results will always be accurate. Because the determination of these estimates requires the exercise of judgment, actual results could differ from such estimates.

Please refer to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, filed with the SEC on April 15, 2022, for a discussion of our critical accounting policies and estimates.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2022, there were no material changes to our accounting policies.

### **ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Not applicable to smaller reporting companies.

### **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### **A. EVALUATION OF DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES:**

Our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")) as of September 30, 2022, the end of the period covered by this report. Based on, and as of the date of such evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2022 such that the information required to be disclosed in our SEC reports is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms, and is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

**B. CHANGES IN INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING:**

There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2022 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.



## **PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

In the ordinary course of business, from time to time we become involved in legal claims and litigation. In the opinion of management, based on consultations with legal counsel, the disposition of litigation currently pending against us is unlikely to have, individually or in the aggregate, a materially adverse effect on our business, financial position, or results of operations.

### **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

We operate in a highly competitive industry that involves numerous known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could impact our operations. The risks described in Part I, Item 1A, “Risk Factors” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021 are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our financial condition and/or operating results.

We have identified the following risk as a material change from the risk factors previously disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021.

#### ***Inflation and/or a potential recession could adversely impact our business and results of operations.***

Many of the components of our cost of goods sold are subject to price increases that are attributable to factors beyond our control, including but not limited to, global economic conditions, trade barriers or restrictions, supply chain disruptions, changes in crop size, product scarcity, demand dynamics, currency rates, water supply, weather conditions, import and export requirements, and other factors. The cost of raw materials, labor, manufacturing, energy, fuel, shipping and logistics, and other inputs related to the production and distribution of our products have increased and may continue to increase unexpectedly.

Beginning in the first quarter of 2022, input costs increased significantly. We expect the pressures of input cost inflation to continue for the remainder of 2022, if not through 2023. We may not be able to mitigate the impact of inflation and cost increases or pass these costs along to our customers.

In addition, poor economic and market conditions, including a potential recession, may negatively impact market sentiment, decreasing the demand for apparel, footwear, accessories, fine jewelry, home goods, and other consumer products, which would adversely affect our operating income and results of operations. If we are unable to take effective measures in a timely manner to mitigate the impact of the inflation as well as a potential recession, our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected.

### **ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

There were no sales of unregistered or registered securities during the three months ended September 30, 2022.

### **ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

None.

### **ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable.

### **ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

The following exhibits are filed herewith:

[31.1 Rule 13a-14\(a\)/15d-14\(a\) Certification \(CEO\)](#)

[31.2 Rule 13a-14\(a\)/15d-14\(a\) Certification \(CFO\)](#)

[32.1 Section 1350 Certification \(CEO\)](#) \*

[32.2 Section 1350 Certification \(CFO\)](#) \*

101.INS Inline XBRL Instance Document

101.SCH Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document

101.CAL Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document

101.DEF Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definitions Linkbase Document

101.LAB Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document

101.PRE Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

\* Furnished herewith.

**SIGNATURES**

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

Date: November 14, 2022

By: /s/ Robert W. D'Loren

Name: Robert W. D'Loren

Title: Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ James Haran

Name: James Haran

Title: Chief Financial Officer and Vice President

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Robert W. D'Loren, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2022 of Xcel Brands, Inc. (the "Company").
2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly 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 quarterly report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly 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 quarterly report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal controls 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.

November 14, 2022

By: /s/ Robert W. D'Loren

Name: Robert W. D'Loren

Title: Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

---

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, James Haran, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2022 of Xcel Brands, Inc. (the "Company").
2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly 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 quarterly report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly 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 quarterly report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the Company's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal controls 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.

November 14, 2022

By: /s/ James Haran

Name: James Haran

Title: Chief Financial Officer and Vice President

---

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

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Xcel Brands, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2022 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Robert W. D'Loren, 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; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

November 14, 2022

By: /s/ Robert W. D'Loren

Name: Robert W. D'Loren

Title: Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

---

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

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Xcel Brands, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2022 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, James Haran, 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; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

November 14, 2022

By: /s/ James Haran

Name: James Haran

Title: Chief Financial Officer and Vice President

---