## 2. Are We Getting Too Big For Our Boots? - TEACHING NOTE

| Gillians Pool \& Spa Supplies <br> Balance Sheet |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| ASSETS |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and marketable |  |  |  |  |  |
| securities | \$155,000 | \$309,099 | \$75,948 | \$28,826 | \$18,425 |
| Accounts receivable | 10,000 | 12,000 | 20,000 | 77,653 | 90,078 |
| Inventory | 250,000 | 270,000 | 500,000 | 520,000 | 560,000 |
| Current assets | \$415,000 | \$591,099 | \$595,948 | \$626,480 | \$668,503 |
| Land, buildings, plant, |  |  |  |  |  |
| and equipment | \$250,000 | \$250,000 | \$500,000 | \$500,000 | \$500,000 |
| Accumulated depreciation | -25,000 | -50,000 | -100,000 | -150,000 | -200,000 |
| Net fixed assets | \$225,000 | \$200,000 | \$400,000 | \$350,000 | \$300,000 |
| Total assets | \$640,000 | \$791,099 | \$995,948 | \$976,480 | \$968,503 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITIES |  |  |  |  |  |
| Short-term bank loans | \$50,000 | \$145,000 | \$140,000 | \$148,000 | \$148,000 |
| Accounts payable | 10,000 | 10,506 | 19,998 | 15,995 | 16,795 |
| Accruals | 5,000 | 5,100 | 7,331 | 9,301 | 11,626 |
| Current liabilities | \$65,000 | \$160,606 | \$167,329 | \$173,296 | \$176,421 |
| Long-term bank loans | \$63,366 | \$98,000 | \$196,000 | \$190,000 | \$183,000 |
| Mortgage | 175,000 | 173,000 | 271,000 | 268,000 | 264,000 |
| Long-term debt | \$238,366 | \$271,000 | \$467,000 | \$458,000 | \$447,000 |
| Total liabilities | \$303,366 | \$431,606 | \$634,329 | \$631,296 | \$623,421 |
| Common stock (100,000 shares) | \$320,000 | \$320,000 | \$320,000 | \$320,000 | \$320,000 |
| Retained earnings | 16,634 | 39,493 | 41,619 | 25,184 | 25,082 |
| Total equity | \$336,634 | \$359,493 | \$361,619 | \$345,184 | \$345,082 |
| Total liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |
| and equity | \$640,000 | \$791,099 | \$995,948 | \$976,480 | \$968,503 |

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| Gillian's Pool \& Spa Supplies Income Statements |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Net sales | \$900,000 | \$982,500 | \$1,170,000 | \$1,310,400 | \$1,520,064 |
| Cost of goods sold | 729,000 | 801,900 | 962,280 | 1,100,736 | 1,305,000 |
| Gross profit | \$171,000 | \$180,600 | \$207,720 | \$209,664 | \$215,064 |
| Admin and selling exp | \$45,000 | \$58,950 | \$64,350 | \$72,072 | \$91,204 |
| Depreciation | 37,500 | 40,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Miscellaneous expenses | 3,041 | 3,557 | 4,680 | 14,414 | 22,801 |
| Total operating exp | \$85,541 | \$102,507 | \$119,030 | \$136,486 | \$164,005 |
| EBIT | \$85,460 | \$78,093 | \$88,690 | \$73,178 | \$51,059 |
| Interest on ST loans | \$9,600 | \$9,600 | \$9,600 | \$17,760 | \$17,760 |
| Interest on LT loans | 5,400 | 5,400 | 5,400 | 13,500 | 16,470 |
| Interest on mortgage | 16,000 | 13,840 | 12,240 | 21,440 | 21,120 |
| Total interest | \$31,000 | \$28,840 | \$27,240 | \$52,700 | \$55,350 |
| Before-tax earnings | \$54,460 | \$49,253 | \$61,450 | \$20,478 | (\$4,291) |
| Taxes | 21,784 | 19,701 | 24,580 | 8,191 | -1,716 |
| Net income | \$32,676 | \$29,552 | \$36,870 | \$12,287 | $(\$ 2,574)$ |
| Dividends on stock | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Additions to retained earnings | \$32,676 | \$29,552 | \$36,870 | \$12,287 | $(\$ 2,574)$ |
| EPS (100,000 shares) | \$0.33 | \$0.30 | \$0.37 | \$0.12 | (\$0.03) |

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## Questions

## 1. Calculate Gillian Pool and Spa Supplies' average annual compound growth rate of sales and analyze its earnings performance for the past 5 years.

 Gillian Pool and Spa Supplies' sales have increased by an average compound rate of $14 \%$ per year over the past five years. In comparison, its net income has declined from over $\$ 32,676$ in 2011, to a loss of \$2,574 in 2015.2. In order to shed some light on the firm's financial condition, which statements should Denny analyze and which measures/calculations should he use so as to compile a detailed report. Please explain why.

Denny should refer to the income statement and the balance sheet over the past 3-5 year period. In addition, he should prepare a cash flow statement, common size income statement and common size balance sheet. Denny should calculate the various liquidity, leverage, profitability, activity, and coverage ratios for at least a three-year period. In addition, a Du Pont analysis of the return on equity will help determine what has affected the profitability of the company.

The accounting statements provide the raw data from which the other statements can be prepared and the various ratios calculated. The cash flow statement helps determine where the cash came from and where it was spent during a year. The common size statements provide useful information regarding the relative trends of the various assets, liabilities, revenue sources, and expense items. They also help the analyst make meaningful comparisons between firms of varying sizes.
3. Realizing that comparison with an appropriate benchmark is a key component of comprehensive ratio analysis, how should Denny go about finding a suitable benchmark?

Based on Gillian Pool \& Spa Supplies' industry classification code, Denny should collect industry averages of the key financial ratios. Some useful sources for industry ratios include: Value Line, Moody's, Standard \& Poor, and Dun \& Bradstreet. In addition to the industry average, the industry leaders' (within the size category) ratios could also be collected from the Internet (e.g. Marketguide.com) and used for comparison.

## 4. While attending his MBA finance class, Denny had learned that doing a common size analysis and DuPont analysis are very useful first steps when analyzing a company's health. Using the 5-year financial statements help Denny perform such analyses and comment on the findings.

The common size income statements and balance sheets for the 5 year period 20112015 are presented in the following 2 tables.

| Gillian Pool \& Spa Supplies |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income Statement |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\underline{2011}$ | 2011\% | $\underline{2012}$ | 2012\% | $\underline{2013}$ | 2013\% | $\underline{2014}$ | 2014\% | $\underline{2015}$ | 2015\% |
| Net sales | \$900,000 | 100.0\% | \$982,500 | 100.0\% | \$1,170,000 | 100.0\% | \$1,310,400 | 100.0\% | \$1,520,064 | 100.0\% |
| Cost of goods sold | 729,000 | 81.0\% | 801,900 | 81.6\% | 962,280 | 82.2\% | 1,100,736 | 84.0\% | 1,305,000 | 85.9\% |
| Gross profit | \$171,000 | 19.0\% | \$180,600 | 18.4\% | \$207,720 | 17.8\% | \$209,664 | 16.0\% | \$215,064 | 14.1\% |
| Admin and selling exp | \$45,000 | 5.0\% | \$58,950 | 6.0\% | \$64,350 | 5.5\% | \$72,072 | 5.5\% | \$91,204 | 6.0\% |
| Depreciation | 37,500 | 4.2\% | 40,000 | 4.1\% | 50,000 | 4.3\% | 50,000 | 3.8\% | 50,000 | 3.3\% |
| Miscellaneous expenses | 3,041 | 0.3\% | 3,557 | 0.4\% | 4,680 | 0.4\% | 14,414 | 1.1\% | 22,801 | 1.5\% |
| Total operating exp | \$85,541 | 9.5\% | \$102,507 | 10.4\% | \$119,030 | 10.2\% | \$136,486 | 10.4\% | \$164,005 | 10.8\% |
| EBIT | \$85,460 | 9.5\% | \$78,093 | 7.9\% | \$88,690 | 7.6\% | \$73,178 | 5.6\% | \$51,059 | 3.4\% |
| Interest on ST loans | \$6,000 | 0.7\% | \$17,400 | 1.8\% | \$16,800 | 1.4\% | \$17,760 | 1.4\% | \$17,760 | 1.2\% |
| Interest on LT loans | 5,703 | 0.6\% | 8,820 | 0.9\% | 17,640 | 1.5\% | 17,100 | 1.3\% | 16,470 | 1.1\% |
| Interest on mortgage | 14,000 | 1.6\% | 13,840 | 1.4\% | 21,680 | 1.9\% | 21,440 | 1.6\% | 21,120 | 1.4\% |
| Total interest | \$25,703 | 2.9\% | \$40,060 | 4.1\% | \$56,120 | 4.8\% | \$56,300 | 4.3\% | \$55,350 | 3.6\% |
| Before-tax earnings | \$59,757 | 6.6\% | \$38,033 | 3.9\% | \$32,570 | 2.8\% | \$16,878 | 1.3\% | (\$4,291) | -0.28\% |
| Taxes | 23,903 | 2.7\% | 15,213 | 1.5\% | 13,028 | 1.1\% | 6,751 | 0.5\% | -1,716 | -0.11\% |
| Net income | \$35,854 | 4.0\% | \$22,820 | 2.3\% | \$19,542 | 1.7\% | \$10,127 | 0.8\% | $(\$ 2,574)$ | -0.17\% |
| Dividends on stock | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  |
| Additions to |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| retained earnings | \$35,854 |  | \$22,820 |  | \$19,542 |  | \$10,127 |  | $(\$ 2,574)$ |  |
| EPS (100,000 shares) | \$0.36 |  | \$0.23 |  | \$0.20 |  | \$0.10 |  | (\$0.03) |  |

The common size income statement indicates that the firm's cost of goods sold has increased quite a bit since 2011 (from $81 \%$ to $85.9 \%$ ). Miscellaneous expenses ( $0.3 \%$ to $1.5 \%$ ), interest charges ( $2.9 \%$ to $3.6 \%$ ) and selling and administration expenses ( $5 \%$ to $6 \%$ )

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have also increased slightly. The firm needs to look into its cost structure and try and reduce the overall costs of doing business.

Common Size Balance Sheets


The common size balance sheet (shown below) shows that the firm's inventory and accounts receivables levels have gone up sharply, while its cash balance has significantly declined. Fixed assets have increased over the past 5 years. The firm has taken on significantly larger amounts of short and long-term debt relative to its total assets. Total equity has decreased from $32.42 \%$ of total assets to around $28 \%$. As a result its capital structure has become more leveraged.

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has decreased significantly since 2011. Most of the decrease has come from the deteriorating profit situation. The firm's total asset turnover has improved consistently since 2013.

The firm's ROE has suffered significantly since 2011. This has occurred largely due to the steep drop in net profit margin. Had the firm not had such a high equity multiplier (from its high level of debt), the ROE situation would have looked considerably worse.

## 5. Analyze Gillian Pool's liquidity, asset utilization, long-term solvency, and profitability ratios. What arguments would have to be made to convince the bank that they should grant Gillian Pool \& Spa Supplies the loan?

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## Liquidity:

The firm's overall liquidity is quite good with a current ratio of 3.79 and it has improved quite a bit over the past three years. However, much of its current assets are tied in inventory, since its quick ratio is only 0.62 . The ability of the firm to pay off its current liabilities from its cash reserves is not very good either and has deteriorated significantly over the past five years.

## Asset utilization:

The firm's inventory turnover is much lower than what it was back in 2011. There was some improvement in 2013 and 2014, but there is still a lot of room for further improvement. The receivables turnover ratio has declined as well. An average collection period of 22 days is pretty high for a retail business. The total asset turnover although not very high is at its highest level in five years.

## Long-term solvency:

The firm's debt ratio is $64 \%$ of total assets. Its debt level has gone up by almost $17 \%$ since 2011. Since the firm's coverage ratios are fairly low and declining, the firm's financial structure can be considered to be fairly risky.

## Profitability:

The firm's profitability ratios have declined significantly in the past three years. The firm is currently making losses.

## Arguments that can be made to get the loan:

Improving liquidity (current ratio) and total asset turnover.
Proof of better inventory management system (if possible)
6. If you were the commercial loan officer and were approached by Andy for a short term loan of $\mathbf{\$ 5 0 , 0 0 0}$, what would your decision be?

Given the firm's poor profitability and cash flow situation, I would not grant the loan. However, I would tell him that if he can demonstrate improvement in inventory management and better profitability over the next 2 quarters, we would reconsider.
7. What recommendations should Denny make to Andy for improvement, if any? The firm needs to improve its inventory management, and credit collection policies. Further, the cost of sales and miscellaneous costs should be looked into and brought down more in line with its level in 2011. This will improve the liquidity and profitability of the company.
8. What kinds of problems do you think Andy would have to cope with when doing a comprehensive financial statement analysis of Gillian Pool \& Spa Supplies? What are the limitations of financial statement analysis in general?

## General Problems

# Selection of comparison benchmark 

Accounting procedures differ.
Different fiscal year end
Seasonal businesses
Extraordinary gains/losses

## Specific Problems

Selection of appropriate benchmark/ industry averages

