

WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORP

Form 10-Q

May 08, 2015

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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2015

OR

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

Commission File Number: 001-15369

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WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORPORATION

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

68-0070656  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

773 San Marin Drive, Suite 2215, Novato, CA  
(Address of principal executive offices)

94998  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (415) 408-4700

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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 and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted 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 and post such files). Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

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Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

Title of Each Class	Outstanding at May 4, 2015
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share	8,259,658

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## PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORPORATION  
AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In thousands, except share data, unaudited)

	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,635	\$ 13,493
Restricted cash	45,616	51,258
Equipment held for operating lease, less accumulated depreciation of \$295,515 and \$281,087 at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively	1,050,922	1,066,448
Equipment held for sale	17,600	18,114
Operating lease related receivables, net of allowances of \$282 and \$215 at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively	14,596	8,912
Spare parts inventory	18,288	18,593
Investments	42,574	41,590
Property, equipment & furnishings, less accumulated depreciation of \$9,726 and \$9,420 at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively	21,311	17,955
Intangible assets, net	1,106	1,164
Equipment purchase deposits	6,817	—
Other assets	25,261	24,099
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,259,726</b>	<b>\$ 1,261,626</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 12,636	\$ 21,614
Deferred income taxes	91,866	90,510
Notes payable	842,177	840,956
Maintenance reserves	69,672	66,474
Security deposits	20,771	20,869
Unearned lease revenue	3,381	4,342

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Total liabilities	1,040,503	1,044,765
Shareholders' equity:		
Common stock (\$0.01 par value, 20,000,000 shares authorized; 8,293,377 and 8,346,304 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively)	83	83
Paid-in capital in excess of par	42,140	42,076
Retained earnings	177,000	174,702
Total shareholders' equity	219,223	216,861
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 1,259,726	\$ 1,261,626

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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## WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORPORATION

## AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Consolidated Statements of Income

(In thousands, except per share data, unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Lease rent revenue	\$ 25,097	\$ 26,900
Maintenance reserve revenue	14,148	14,030
Spare parts sales	2,151	418
Gain on sale of leased equipment	662	231
Other revenue	756	1,761
Total revenue	42,814	43,340
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Depreciation and amortization expense	17,705	15,710
Cost of spare parts sales	1,480	340
Write-down of equipment	24	295
General and administrative	9,972	9,685
Technical expense	1,832	1,520
Net finance costs:		
Interest expense	9,567	9,359
Gain on debt extinguishment	(1,151)	—
Total net finance costs	8,416	9,359
Total expenses	39,429	36,909
Earnings from operations	3,385	6,431
Earnings from joint ventures	354	305
Income before income taxes	3,739	6,736
Income tax expense	(1,441)	(2,405)
Net income	\$ 2,298	\$ 4,331
Basic earnings per common share:	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.55
Diluted earnings per common share:	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.53
Average common shares outstanding	7,848	7,914

Diluted average common shares outstanding	8,044	8,129
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See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORPORATION

AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

(In thousands, unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
Net income	\$ 2,298	\$ 4,331
Other comprehensive loss:		
Derivative instruments		
Reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income	—	(125)
Net loss recognized in other comprehensive income	—	(125)
Tax benefit related to items of other comprehensive income	—	46
Other comprehensive loss	—	(79)
Total comprehensive income	\$ 2,298	\$ 4,252

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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## Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity

Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 and 2014

(In thousands, unaudited)

	Issued and Outstanding Shares of Common Stock	Common Stock	Paid-in Capital in Excess of par	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Retained Earnings	Total Shareholders' Equity
Balances at December 31, 2013	8,400	\$ 84	\$ 44,741	\$ 325	\$ 167,455	\$ 212,605
Net income	—	—	—	—	4,331	4,331
Unrealized gain from derivative instruments, net of tax expense of \$46	—	—	—	(79)	—	(79)
Shares issued under stock compensation plans	63	1	211	—	—	212
Cancellation of restricted stock in satisfaction of withholding tax	(16)	(1)	(269)	—	—	(270)
Stock-based compensation, net of forfeitures	—	—	758	—	—	758
Balances at March 31, 2014	8,447	\$ 84	\$ 45,441	\$ 246	\$ 171,786	\$ 217,557
Balances at December 31, 2014	8,346	\$ 83	\$ 42,076	\$ —	\$ 174,702	\$ 216,861
Net income	—	—	—	—	2,298	2,298
Shares repurchased	(38)	—	(724)	—	—	(724)
	10	—	85	—	—	85

Shares issued under stock  
compensation plans

Cancellation of restricted  
stock in satisfaction of  
withholding tax

(25)	—	(514)	—	—	(514)
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Stock-based compensation,  
net of forfeitures

—	—	1,074	—	—	1,074
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Tax benefit on disqualified  
disposition of shares

—	—	143	—	—	143
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Balances at March 31,  
2015

8,293	\$ 83	\$ 42,140	\$ —	\$ 177,000	\$ 219,223
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See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(In thousands, unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 2,298	\$ 4,331
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization expense	17,705	15,710
Write-down of equipment	24	295
Stock-based compensation expenses	1,074	758
Amortization of deferred costs	1,072	1,036
Amortization of interest rate derivative cost	—	(125)
Allowances and provisions	67	2
Gain on sale of leased equipment	(662)	(231)
Gain on extinguishment of debt	(1,151)	—
Income from joint ventures	(354)	(305)
Deferred income taxes	1,357	2,405
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	(5,751)	(366)
Spare parts inventory	305	(428)
Other assets	(2,237)	(501)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(917)	1,734
Restricted cash	5,642	(8,068)
Maintenance reserves	3,198	2,416
Security deposits	(98)	(357)
Unearned lease revenue	(961)	493
Net cash provided by operating activities	20,611	18,799
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sale of equipment (net of selling expenses)	2,405	5,688
Restricted cash for investing activities	—	5,487
Capital contribution to joint ventures	(630)	—
Purchase of equipment held for operating lease	(17,944)	(7,915)
Purchase of property, equipment and furnishings	(3,667)	(156)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(19,836)	3,104
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of notes payable	31,000	5,000

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Debt issuance cost	—	(27)
Interest bearing security deposits	—	1,518
Proceeds from shares issued under stock compensation plans	85	212
Cancellation of restricted stock units in satisfaction of withholding tax	(514)	(270)
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	143	—
Repurchase of common stock	(724)	—
Principal payments on notes payable	(28,623)	(25,506)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,367	(19,073)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	2,142	2,830
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	13,493	12,801
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 15,635	\$ 15,631
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:		
Net cash paid for:		
Interest	\$ 8,753	\$ 8,811
Income Taxes	\$ 5	\$ 55

Supplemental disclosures of non-cash investing activities:

During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, a liability of \$169 and \$802, respectively, was incurred but not paid in connection with our purchase of aircraft and engines.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, engines and equipment totaling \$86 and \$10,924, respectively, were transferred from Held for Operating Lease to Held for Sale but not sold.

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Presentation: Our unaudited consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Willis Lease Finance Corporation and its subsidiaries (“we” or the “Company”) and have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for reporting on Form 10-Q. Pursuant to such rules and regulations, certain information and note disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted. The accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto, together with Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting of only normal and recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly our financial position as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, and the results of our operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, and our cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014. The results of operations and cash flows for the period ended March 31, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations or cash flows which may be reported for the remainder of 2015.

(b) Fair Value Measurements:

Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Valuation techniques used to measure fair value must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs, to the extent possible. We use a fair value hierarchy based on three levels of inputs, of which the first two are considered observable and the last unobservable, to measure fair value which are the following:

Level 1 - Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 - Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3 - Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

#### Assets Measured and Recorded at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis

We determine fair value of long-lived assets held and used, such as Equipment held for operating lease and Equipment held for sale, by reference to independent appraisals, quoted market prices (e.g. an offer to purchase) and other factors. An impairment charge is recorded when the carrying value of the asset exceeds its fair value.

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The following table shows by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Company's assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis as of March 31, 2015 and 2014, and the gains (losses) recorded during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 on those assets:

	Assets at Fair Value								Total Losses	
	March 31, 2015				March 31, 2014				Three Months Ended	
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	March 31,	2014
	(in thousands)								(in thousands)	
Equipment held for sale	\$ 17,600	\$ —	\$ 14,833	\$ 2,767	\$ 30,376	\$ —	\$ 19,844	\$ 10,532	\$ (24)	\$ (295)
Total	\$ 17,600	\$ —	\$ 14,833	\$ 2,767	\$ 30,376	\$ —	\$ 19,844	\$ 10,532	\$ (24)	\$ (295)

At March 31, 2015, the Company used Level 2 inputs to measure the fair value of certain engines and equipment held for sale. Due to the absence of quoted market prices of certain engines that were held for sale and not consigned to third parties, the fair values of these assets are categorized as Level 3. The fair value of these assets were based on management's estimate considering projected future sales proceeds at March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2014.

An impairment charge is recorded when the carrying value of the asset exceeds its fair value. A write-down of equipment totaling \$24,000 was recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2015 based upon a comparison of the asset net book value with the net proceeds expected from part sales arising from part-out of an engine. An asset write-down of \$0.3 million was recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2014 based upon a comparison of the asset net book value with the net proceeds expected from part sales arising from part-out of an engine.

## (c) Recent Accounting Pronouncements:

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued an Accounting Standards Update, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, which supersedes previous revenue recognition guidance. The new standard requires that a company recognize revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration the company expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. Companies will need to use more judgment and estimates than under the guidance currently in effect, including estimating the amount of variable revenue to recognize over each identified performance obligation. Additional disclosures will be required to help users of financial statements understand the nature, amount and timing of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts. In April 2015, the FASB voted for a one-year deferral of the effective date of the new revenue recognition standard. If approved, the new standard will become effective for the Company beginning with the first quarter 2018 and can be adopted either retrospectively to each prior reporting period presented or as a cumulative effect adjustment as of the



date of adoption. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting this new guidance on the consolidated financial statements.

## 2. Management Estimates

These financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

The preparation of consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to residual values, estimated asset lives, impairments and bad debts. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances for making judgments about the carrying

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values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

Management believes that the accounting policies on revenue recognition, maintenance reserves and expenditures, useful life of equipment, asset residual values, asset impairment and allowance for doubtful accounts are critical to the results of operations.

If the useful lives or residual values are lower than those estimated by us, upon sale of the asset a loss may be realized. Significant management judgment is required in the forecasting of future operating results, which are used in the preparation of projected undiscounted cash-flows and should different conditions prevail, material impairment write-downs may occur.

3. Commitments, Contingencies, Guarantees and Indemnities

We have made a purchase commitment to secure the purchase of an engine and related equipment for a gross purchase price of \$23.1 million, for delivery in 2015. As of March 31, 2015, a non-refundable deposit paid related to this purchase commitment was \$6.8 million.

4. Investments

On May 25, 2011, we entered into an agreement with Mitsui & Co., Ltd. to participate in a joint venture formed as a Dublin-based Irish limited company — Willis Mitsui & Company Engine Support Limited (“WMES”) for the purpose of acquiring and leasing jet engines. Each partner holds a fifty percent interest in the joint venture. The initial capital contribution by the Company for its investment in WMES was \$8.0 million. The Company provided the initial lease portfolio by transferring 7 engines to the joint venture in June 2011. In addition, the Company made \$20.4 million capital contributions to WMES in from 2011 through 2014 for the purchase of 21 engines from third parties, increasing the number of engines in the lease portfolio to 28. The Company made \$0.6 million of capital contributions to WMES and recorded \$0.4 million as a result of the Company’s share of WMES reported earnings during the three months ended March 31, 2015.

On June 3, 2014 we entered into an agreement with China Aviation Supplies Import & Export Corporation Limited (“CASC”) to participate in a joint venture named CASC Willis Engine Lease Company Limited (“CASC Willis”), a new joint venture based in Shanghai, China. Each partner holds a fifty percent interest in the joint venture. In October 2014, each partner made a \$15.0 million initial capital contribution representing the up-front funding for the new joint venture. The new company will acquire and lease jet engines to Chinese airlines and will concentrate on meeting the

fast growing demand for leased commercial aircraft engines and aviation assets in the People's Republic of China.

Three Months Ended March 31, 2015	WMES	CASC	Total
	(in thousands)		
Investment in joint ventures as of December 31, 2014	\$ 26,672	\$ 14,918	\$ 41,590
Capital contribution	630	—	630
Earnings (loss) from joint venture	361	(7)	354
Distribution	—	—	—
Investment in joint ventures as of March 31, 2015	\$ 27,663	\$ 14,911	\$ 42,574

#### 5. Long Term Debt

At March 31, 2015, notes payable consists of loans totaling \$842.2 million, payable over periods of approximately 2.5 to 9.3 years with interest rates varying between approximately 2.4% and 5.5%.

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At March 31, 2015, we had a revolving credit facility to finance the acquisition of aircraft engines for lease as well as for general working capital purposes, with the amounts drawn under the facility not to exceed that which is allowed under the borrowing base as defined by the credit agreement. On June 4, 2014, we entered into a Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement which increased this revolving credit facility to \$700.0 million from \$450.0 million and extended the maturity date by five years to June 2019. Debt issuance costs totaling \$4.9 million were incurred related to the new facility. As of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, \$239.0 million and \$270.0 million were available under this facility, respectively. On a quarterly basis, the interest rate is adjusted based on the Company's leverage ratio, as calculated under the terms of the revolving credit facility. Based on the Company's leverage ratio of 4.20 at December 31, 2014, the interest rate on this facility is one-month LIBOR plus 2.75% as of March 31, 2015. Under the revolving credit facility, all subsidiaries except WEST II and WOLF jointly and severally guarantee payment and performance of the terms of the loan agreement. The guarantee would be triggered by a default under the agreement.

On September 17, 2012, we closed an asset-backed securitization ("ABS") through a newly-created, bankruptcy-remote, Delaware statutory trust, Willis Engine Securitization Trust II, or "WEST II", of which the Company is the sole beneficiary. WEST II issued and sold \$390 million aggregate principal amount of Class 2012-A Term Notes (the "Notes") and received \$384.9 million in net proceeds. We used these funds, net of transaction expenses and swap termination costs, in combination with our revolving credit facility to pay off the prior WEST notes totaling \$435.9 million. At closing, 22 engines were pledged as collateral from WEST to the Company's revolving credit facility, which provided the remaining funds to pay off the WEST notes.

The assets and liabilities of WEST II will remain on the Company's balance sheet. The current portfolio of 68 commercial jet aircraft engines and leases thereof secures the obligations of WEST II under the ABS. The Notes have no fixed amortization and are payable solely from revenue received by WEST II from the engines and the engine leases, after payment of certain expenses of WEST II. The Notes bear interest at a fixed rate of 5.50% per annum. The Notes may be accelerated upon the occurrence of certain events, including the failure to pay interest for five business days after the due date thereof. The Notes are expected to be paid 10 years from the issuance date by September 17, 2022. The legal final maturity of the Notes is September 15, 2037.

In connection with the transactions described above, effective September 17, 2012, the Company entered into a Servicing Agreement and Administrative Agency Agreement with WEST II to provide certain engine, lease management and reporting functions for WEST II in return for fees based on a percentage of collected lease revenues and asset sales. Because WEST II is consolidated for financial statement reporting purposes, all fees eliminate upon consolidation.

At March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, \$346.9 million and \$351.9 million of WEST II term notes were outstanding, respectively. The assets of WEST II are not available to satisfy our obligations or any of our affiliates other than the obligations specific to WEST II. WEST II is consolidated for financial statement presentation purposes. WEST II's ability to make distributions and pay dividends to the Company is subject to the prior payments of its debt and other obligations and WEST II's maintenance of adequate reserves and capital. Under WEST II, cash is collected in a restricted account, which is used to service the debt and any remaining amounts, after debt service and defined

expenses, are distributed to the Company. Additionally, a portion of maintenance reserve payments and all lease security deposits are accumulated in restricted accounts and are available to fund future maintenance events and to secure lease payments, respectively. Cash from maintenance reserve payments are held in the restricted cash account equal to the maintenance obligations projected for the subsequent six months, and are subject to a minimum balance of \$9.0 million.

On March 25, 2015, we paid off the remaining balance of the two term notes, associated with the WOLF assets, of \$23.1 million at a discount. This transaction resulting in a \$1.2 million gain recorded for the extinguishment of debt included in our statement of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015.

On July 16, 2014, we closed on a loan for a ten year term totaling \$13.4 million. Interest is payable at a fixed rate of 2.83% for the initial five years of the loan and principal and interest is paid monthly. The loan provided

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100% of the funding for the purchase of a corporate aircraft. The balance outstanding on this loan is \$12.6 million and \$12.9 million as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

On January 10, 2014, we extended the term of an existing loan that was scheduled to mature on January 11, 2014. The loan has a term of 4 years with a maturity date of January 11, 2018. Interest is payable at one-month LIBOR plus 2.25% and principal and interest is paid quarterly. The loan is secured by three engines. The balance outstanding on this loan is \$14.1 million and \$14.5 million as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

On September 28, 2012, we closed on a loan for a five year term totaling \$8.7 million. Interest is payable at a fixed rate of 5.50% and principal and interest is paid quarterly. The loan is secured by one engine. The funds were used to purchase the engine secured under the loan. The balance outstanding on this loan is \$7.6 million and \$7.7 million as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

One-month LIBOR was 0.18% and 0.17% at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

The following is a summary of the aggregate maturities of notes payable at March 31, 2015:

Year	(in thousands)
2015	\$ 17,716
2016	24,809
2017	32,004
2018	35,099
2019	486,266
Thereafter	246,283
	\$ 842,177

6. Derivative Instruments

We have periodically held interest rate derivative instruments to mitigate exposure to changes in interest rates, in particular one-month LIBOR, with \$475.1 million and \$468.5 million of our borrowings at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, at variable rates. As a matter of policy, we do not use derivatives for speculative

purposes. We currently have no interest rate swap agreements in place. During 2013 we were a party to one interest rate swap agreement with a notional outstanding amount of \$100.0 million with a fixed rate of 2.10%. The swap agreement expired in November 2013. The remaining effective portion of these hedges at the swap expiration date is being amortized into earnings over the term of the underlying borrowings. We recorded a \$0.1 million benefit to net finance costs during the three months ended March 31, 2014.

The Company estimates the fair value of derivative instruments using a discounted cash flow technique and uses creditworthiness inputs that can be corroborated by observable market data evaluating the Company's and counterparties' risk of non-performance. Valuation of the derivative instruments requires certain assumptions for underlying variables and the use of different assumptions would result in a different valuation. We apply hedge accounting and account for the change in fair value of our cash flow hedges through other comprehensive income for all derivative instruments.

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## Earnings Effects of Derivative Instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Income

The following table provides information about the income effects of our cash flow hedging relationships for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014:

Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships	Location of (Gain) Loss Recognized on Derivatives in the Statements of Income	Amount of (Gain) Loss Recognized on Derivatives in the Statements of Income Three Months Ended March 31,	
		2015	2014
		(in thousands)	
Interest rate contracts	Interest expense	\$ —	\$ (125)
Total		\$ —	\$ (125)

Our derivatives are designated in a cash flow hedging relationship with the effective portion of the change in fair value of the derivative reported in the cash flow hedges subaccount of accumulated other comprehensive income.

## Effect of Derivative Instruments on Cash Flow Hedging

The following tables provide additional information about the financial statement effects related to our cash flow hedges for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014:

Location of Gain Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	Amount of Gain Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion) Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
	(in thousands)	
Interest expense	\$ —	\$ 125
Total	\$ —	\$ 125

The effective portion of the change in fair value on a derivative instrument designated as a cash flow hedge is reported as a component of other comprehensive income and is reclassified into earnings in the period during which the transaction being hedged affects earnings or it is probable that the forecasted transaction will not occur. The ineffective portion of the hedges is recorded in earnings in the current period. However, these are highly effective



hedges and no significant ineffectiveness occurred in either of the periods presented.

#### Counterparty Credit Risk

The Company evaluates the creditworthiness of the counterparties under its hedging agreements. The swap counterparty for the interest rate swap in place during the first eleven months of 2013 was a large financial institution in the United States that possessed an investment grade credit rating. Based on this rating, the Company believes that the counterparty was creditworthy and that their continuing performance under the hedging agreement was probable, and had not required the counterparty to provide collateral or other security to the Company.

#### 7. Stock-Based Compensation Plans

Our 2007 Stock Incentive Plan (the 2007 Plan) was adopted on May 24, 2007. Under this 2007 Plan, a total of 2,000,000 shares are authorized for stock based compensation in the form of either restricted stock or stock options. 2,122,272 shares of restricted stock were granted under the 2007 Stock Incentive Plan by March 31,

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2015. Of this amount, 135,368 shares of restricted stock were withheld or forfeited and returned to the pool of shares which could be granted under the 2007 Stock Incentive Plan resulting in a net number of 13,096 shares which were available as of March 31, 2015 for future issuance under the 2007 Incentive Plan. The fair value of the restricted stock awards equaled the stock price at the date of grants. The following table summarizes restricted stock activity during the years ended December 31, 2013, December 31, 2014 and the three months ended March 31, 2015.

	Shares
Restricted stock at December 31, 2012	682,654
Granted in 2013 (vesting over 4 years)	130,000
Granted in 2013 (vesting on first anniversary from date of issuance)	21,408
Cancelled in 2013	(60,110)
Vested in 2013	(258,822)
Restricted stock at December 31, 2013	515,130
Granted in 2014 (vesting over 3 years)	174,500
Granted in 2014 (vesting over 4 years)	13,000
Granted in 2014 (vesting on first anniversary from date of issuance)	50,208
Cancelled in 2014	(5,750)
Vested in 2014	(221,732)
Restricted stock at December 31, 2014	525,356
Granted in 2015 (vesting over 4 years)	5,000
Vested in 2015	(78,302)
Restricted stock at March 31, 2015	452,054

All cancelled shares have reverted to the share reserve and are available for issuance at a later date, in accordance with the 2007 Plan.

Our accounting policy is to recognize the associated expense of such awards on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. At March 31, 2015, the stock compensation expense related to the restricted stock awards that will be recognized over the average remaining vesting period of 1.9 years totals \$5.1 million. At March 31, 2015, the intrinsic value of unvested restricted stock awards is \$8.4 million. The 2007 Plan terminates on May 24, 2017.

In the three months ended March 31, 2015, no options under the 1996 Stock Options/Stock Issuance Plan (the 1996 Plan) were exercised. As of March 31, 2015, there are 49,000 stock options remaining under the 1996 Plan which have an intrinsic value of \$0.5 million.

## 8. Income Taxes

Income tax expense for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$1.4 million and \$2.4 million, respectively. The effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was 38.5% and 35.7%, respectively. It is more likely than not that the income from our investment in WMES will be in a liability position in 2015. This resulted in the effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increasing.

The Company records tax expense or benefit for unusual or infrequent items discretely in the period in which they occur. Our tax rate is subject to change based on changes in the mix of assets leased to domestic and foreign lessees, the proportions of revenue generated within and outside of California, the amount of executive compensation exceeding \$1.0 million as defined in IRS code 162(m) and numerous other factors, including changes in tax law.

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9. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amount reported in the consolidated balance sheets for cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, operating lease related receivable, notes receivable and accounts payable approximates fair value because of the immediate or short-term maturity of these financial instruments.

The carrying amount of the Company's outstanding balance on its Notes Payable as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 was estimated to have a fair value of approximately \$852.4 million and \$847.0 million, respectively, based on the fair value of estimated future payments calculated using the prevailing interest rates at each year end.

10. Operating Segments

The Company operates in two business segments: (i) Leasing and Related Operations which involves acquiring and leasing, primarily pursuant to operating leases, commercial aircraft, aircraft engines and other aircraft equipment and the selective purchase and resale of commercial aircraft engines and other aircraft equipment and (ii) Spare Parts Sales which involves the purchase and resale of after-market engine and airframe parts, whole engines, engine modules and portable aircraft components and leasing of engines destined for disassembly and sale of parts.

The Company evaluates the performance of each of the segments based on profit or loss after general and administrative expenses and inter-company allocation of interest expense. While the Company believes there are synergies between the two business segments, the segments are managed separately because each requires different business strategies.

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The following tables present a summary of the operating segments (amounts in thousands):

For the three months ended March 31, 2015	Leasing and		Eliminations (1)	Total
	Related Operations	Spare Parts Sales		
Revenue:				
Lease rent revenue	\$ 25,097	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 25,097
Maintenance reserve revenue	14,148	—	—	14,148
Spare parts sales	—	2,151	—	2,151
Gain on sale of leased equipment	662	—	—	662
Other revenue	617	295	(156)	756
Total revenue	40,524	2,446	(156)	42,814
Expenses:				
Depreciation and amortization expense	17,633	72	—	17,705
Cost of spare parts sales	—	1,480	—	1,480
General and administrative	9,337	635	—	9,972
Net finance costs	8,326	90	—	8,416
Other expense	1,856	—	—	1,856
Total expenses	37,152	2,277	—	39,429
Earnings from operations	\$ 3,372	\$ 169	\$ (156)	\$ 3,385

(1) Represents revenue generated between our

operating segments

For the three months ended March 31, 2014	Leasing and		Eliminations	Total
	Related Operations	Spare Parts Sales		
Revenue:				
Lease rent revenue	\$ 26,900	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 26,900
Maintenance reserve revenue	14,030	—	—	14,030
Spare parts sales	—	418	—	418
Gain on sale of leased equipment	231	—	—	231
Other revenue	1,046	715	—	1,761
Total revenue	42,207	1,133	—	43,340
Expenses:				
Depreciation and amortization expense	15,638	72	—	15,710
Cost of spare parts sales	—	340	—	340
General and administrative	9,021	664	—	9,685
Net finance costs	9,359	—	—	9,359
Other expense	1,815	—	—	1,815
Total expenses	35,833	1,076	—	36,909

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Earnings from operations	\$ 6,374	\$ 57	\$ —	\$ 6,431
Total assets as of March 31, 2015	\$ 1,240,865	\$ 18,861	\$ —	\$ 1,259,726
Total assets as of December 31, 2014	\$ 1,241,837	\$ 19,789	\$ —	\$ 1,261,626

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

Overview

Our core business is acquiring and leasing, primarily pursuant to operating leases, commercial aircraft engines and related aircraft equipment; and the selective purchase and sale of commercial aircraft engines (collectively "equipment"). In 2013, we launched Willis Aeronautical Services, Inc. ("Willis Aero"), a wholly-owned subsidiary, whose primary focus is the sale of aircraft engine parts and materials through the acquisition or consignment of aircraft and engines from third parties.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

There have been no material changes to our critical accounting policies and estimates from the information provided in Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates included in our 2014 Form 10-K.

Results of Operations

Three months ended March 31, 2015, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2014:

**Lease Rent Revenue.** Lease rent revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 decreased 6.7% to \$25.1 million from the comparable period in 2014. This decrease primarily reflects lower average utilization partially offset by an increase in the size of the lease portfolio, which translated into a lower amount of equipment on lease. The aggregate net book value of lease equipment at March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$1,050.9 million and \$1,022.5 million, respectively, an increase of 2.8%. The average utilization for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was 81% and 87%, respectively. At March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, approximately 83% and 84% of equipment held for lease by book value was on lease.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, we added \$2.7 million of equipment and capitalized costs to the lease portfolio. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, we added \$8.0 million of equipment and capitalized costs to the lease portfolio.

**Maintenance Reserve Revenue.** Our maintenance reserve revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased 0.8% to \$14.1 million from \$14.0 million for the comparable period in 2014. The increase was due to higher maintenance reserve revenues generated for engines on short term leases.

**Spare Parts Sales.** Spare parts sales for the three months ended March 31, 2015 were \$2.2 million compared to \$0.4 million in the comparable period in 2014. Spare parts sales for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased due to the continued ramp up at Willis Aero which launched during the fourth quarter of 2013.

**Gain on Sale of Leased Equipment.** During the three months ended March 31, 2015, we sold one engine and sold other related equipment generating a net gain of \$0.7 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, we sold two engines and other related equipment generating a net gain of \$0.2 million.

**Other Revenue.** Our other revenue consists primarily of management fee income, lease administration fees and third party consignment commissions earned by Willis Aero. Other revenue decreased to \$0.8 million from \$1.8 million for the comparable period in 2014 primarily due to a decrease in fees earned related to engines managed on behalf of third parties and lower revenue resulting from commissions on third party spare parts sales.

**Depreciation and Amortization Expense.** Depreciation and amortization expense increased 12.7% to \$17.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 from \$15.7 million in the comparable period in 2014, due to changes in estimates of useful lives and residual values on certain older engine types. As of July 1, 2014, we adjusted the depreciation for certain older engine types. It is our policy to review estimates regularly to reflect the



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cost of equipment over the useful life of these engines. The 2015 change in depreciation estimate resulted in a \$1.5 million increase in depreciation for the three months ended March 31, 2015. The net effect of the 2014 change in depreciation estimate is a reduction in net income of \$0.8 million or \$0.10 in diluted earnings per share for the three months ended March 31, 2015 over what net income would have otherwise been had the change in depreciation estimate not been made.

Cost of Spare Parts Sales. Cost of spare parts sales was \$1.5 million and \$0.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2014, respectively. Gross margin on parts sales in the first quarter were 31.2% compared to 18.7% from the corresponding prior period due to the sale of higher margin spare parts this quarter.

Write-down of Equipment. A write-down of equipment totaling \$24,000 was recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2015 due to a management decision to consign an engine for part-out and sale, in which the assets net book value exceeds the estimated proceeds from part-out. A write-down of equipment totaling \$0.3 million was recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2014 due to a management decision to consign an engine for part out and sale, in which the assets net book value exceeds the estimated proceeds from part-out.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses increased 3.0% to \$10.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015, from \$9.7 million in the comparable period in 2014, due primarily to higher salary expense (\$0.4 million), stock based compensation expense (\$0.3 million), partially offset by lower legal fees (\$0.4 million).

Technical Expense. Technical expenses consist of the cost of engine repairs, engine thrust rental fees, outsourced technical support services, engine storage and freight costs. These expenses increased by \$0.3 million to \$1.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015, from \$1.5 million in the comparable period in 2014 due primarily to an increase in engine technical services expense due to a higher volume of engine returns.

Net Finance Costs. Net finance costs decreased 10.1% to \$8.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015, from \$9.4 million in the comparable period in 2014, due primarily to a gain on the extinguishment of debt of \$1.2 million recorded during the three months ended March 31, 2015. The notes payable balance at March 31, 2015 and 2014, was \$842.2 million and \$767.1 million, respectively, an increase of 9.8%. As of March 31, 2015, \$475.1 million of our debt is tied to one-month U.S. dollar LIBOR which increased from an average of 0.15% for the three months ended March 31, 2014 to an average of 0.17% for the three months ended March 31, 2015 (average of month-end rates). As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, one-month LIBOR was 0.18% and 0.15%, respectively. To mitigate exposure to interest rate changes, we periodically enter into interest rate swap agreements. The last of our interest rate swap agreements matured in November 2013. In the three months ended March 31, 2014, \$0.1 million were realized through the income statement as a decrease in interest expense as a result of the swap agreements.

Income Tax Expense. Income tax expense for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$1.4 million and \$2.4 million, respectively. The effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was 38.5% and 35.7%, respectively. It is more likely than not that the income from our investment in WMES will be in a liability position in 2015. This resulted in the effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increasing.

The Company records tax expense or benefit for unusual or infrequent items discretely in the period in which they occur. Our tax rate is subject to change based on changes in the mix of assets leased to domestic and foreign lessees, the proportions of revenue generated within and outside of California, the amount of executive compensation exceeding \$1.0 million as defined in IRS code 162(m) and numerous other factors, including changes in tax law.

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### Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued an Accounting Standards Update, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, which supersedes previous revenue recognition guidance. The new standard requires that a company recognize revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration the company expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. Companies will need to use more judgment and estimates than under the guidance currently in effect, including estimating the amount of variable revenue to recognize over each identified performance obligation. Additional disclosures will be required to help users of financial statements understand the nature, amount and timing of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts. In April 2015, the FASB voted for a one-year deferral of the effective date of the new revenue recognition standard. If approved, the new standard will become effective for the Company beginning with the first quarter 2018 and can be adopted either retrospectively to each prior reporting period presented or as a cumulative effect adjustment as of the date of adoption. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting this new guidance on the consolidated financial statements.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

We finance our growth through borrowings secured by our equipment lease portfolio. Cash of approximately \$31.0 million and \$5.0 million in the three-month periods ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, was derived from this activity. In these same time periods, \$28.6 million and \$25.5 million, respectively, was used to pay down related debt. Cash flow from operating activities was \$20.6 million and \$18.8 million in the three-month periods ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

At March 31, 2015, \$10.1 million in cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash were held in foreign subsidiaries. We do not intend to repatriate the funds held in foreign subsidiaries to the United States. In the event that we decide to repatriate these funds to the United States, we would be required to accrue and pay taxes upon the repatriation.

Our primary use of funds is for the purchase of equipment for lease. Purchases of equipment (including capitalized costs) totaled \$17.9 million and \$7.9 million for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Cash flows from operations are driven significantly by payments made under our lease agreements, which comprise lease rent revenue, security deposits and maintenance reserves, and are offset by net finance costs and general and administrative costs. Note that cash received from maintenance reserve arrangements for some of our engines on lease are restricted per our WEST II debt agreement. Cash from WEST II engine maintenance reserve payments, that can be used to fund future maintenance events, are held in the restricted cash account equal to the maintenance obligations projected for the subsequent six months, and are subject to a minimum balance of \$9.0 million. The lease revenue

stream, in the short-term, is at fixed rates while a portion of our debt is at variable rates. If interest rates increase, it is unlikely we could increase lease rates in the short term and this would cause a reduction in our earnings and operating cash flows. Lease rent revenue and maintenance reserves are also affected by the amount of equipment off-lease. Approximately 83%, by book value, of our assets were on lease at March 31, 2015 compared to 84% at March 31, 2014. The average utilization rate was 81% for the three months ended March 31, 2015 compared to 87% for the three months ended March 31, 2014. If there is any increase in off-lease rates or deterioration in lease rates that are not offset by reductions in interest rates, there will be a negative impact on earnings and cash flows from operations.

At March 31, 2015, notes payable consists of loans totaling \$842.2 million, payable over periods of approximately 2.5 to 9.3 years with interest rates varying between approximately 2.4% and 5.5%.

At March 31, 2015, we had a revolving credit facility to finance the acquisition of aircraft engines for lease as well as for general working capital purposes, with the amounts drawn under the facility not to exceed that which is allowed under the borrowing base as defined by the credit agreement. On June 4, 2014, we entered into a Second

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Amended and Restated Credit Agreement which increased this revolving credit facility to \$700.0 million from \$450.0 million and extended the maturity date by five years to June 2019. Debt issuance costs totaling \$4.9 million were incurred related to the new facility. As of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, \$239.0 million and \$270.0 million were available under this facility, respectively. On a quarterly basis, the interest rate is adjusted based on the Company's leverage ratio, as calculated under the terms of the revolving credit facility. Based on the Company's leverage ratio of 4.20 at December 31, 2014, the interest rate on this facility is one-month LIBOR plus 2.75% as of March 31, 2015. Under the revolving credit facility, all subsidiaries except WEST II and WOLF jointly and severally guarantee payment and performance of the terms of the loan agreement. The guarantee would be triggered by a default under the agreement.

On September 17, 2012, we closed an asset-backed securitization ("ABS") through a newly-created, bankruptcy-remote, Delaware statutory trust, Willis Engine Securitization Trust II, or "WEST II", of which the Company is the sole beneficiary. WEST II issued and sold \$390 million aggregate principal amount of Class 2012-A Term Notes (the "Notes") and received \$384.9 million in net proceeds. We used these funds, net of transaction expenses and swap termination costs, in combination with our revolving credit facility to pay off the prior WEST notes totaling \$435.9 million. At closing, 22 engines were pledged as collateral from WEST to the Company's revolving credit facility, which provided the remaining funds to pay off the WEST notes.

The assets and liabilities of WEST II will remain on the Company's balance sheet. The current portfolio of 68 commercial jet aircraft engines and leases thereof secures the obligations of WEST II under the ABS. The Notes have no fixed amortization and are payable solely from revenue received by WEST II from the engines and the engine leases, after payment of certain expenses of WEST II. The Notes bear interest at a fixed rate of 5.50% per annum. The Notes may be accelerated upon the occurrence of certain events, including the failure to pay interest for five business days after the due date thereof. The Notes are expected to be paid 10 years from the issuance date by September 17, 2022. The legal final maturity of the Notes is September 15, 2037.

In connection with the transactions described above, effective September 17, 2012, the Company entered into a Servicing Agreement and Administrative Agency Agreement with WEST II to provide certain engine, lease management and reporting functions for WEST II in return for fees based on a percentage of collected lease revenues and asset sales. Because WEST II is consolidated for financial statement reporting purposes, all fees eliminate upon consolidation.

At March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, \$346.9 million and \$351.9 million of WEST II term notes were outstanding, respectively. The assets of WEST II are not available to satisfy our obligations or any of our affiliates other than the obligations specific to WEST II. WEST II is consolidated for financial statement presentation purposes. WEST II's ability to make distributions and pay dividends to the Company is subject to the prior payments of its debt and other obligations and WEST II's maintenance of adequate reserves and capital. Under WEST II, cash is collected in a restricted account, which is used to service the debt and any remaining amounts, after debt service and defined expenses, are distributed to the Company. Additionally, a portion of maintenance reserve payments and all lease security deposits are accumulated in restricted accounts and are available to fund future maintenance events and to secure lease payments, respectively. Cash from maintenance reserve payments are held in the restricted cash account

equal to the maintenance obligations projected for the subsequent six months, and are subject to a minimum balance of \$9.0 million.

On March 25, 2015, we paid off the remaining balance of the two term notes, associated with the WOLF assets, of \$23.1 million at a discount. This transaction resulting in a \$1.2 million gain recorded for the extinguishment of debt included in our statement of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015.

On July 16, 2014, we closed on a loan for a ten year term totaling \$13.4 million. Interest is payable at a fixed rate of 2.83% for the initial five years of the loan and principal and interest is paid monthly. The loan provided 100% of the funding for the purchase of a corporate aircraft. The balance outstanding on this loan is \$12.6 million and \$12.9 million as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

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On January 10, 2014, we extended the term of an existing loan that was scheduled to mature on January 11, 2014. The loan has a term of 4 years with a maturity date of January 11, 2018. Interest is payable at one-month LIBOR plus 2.25% and principal and interest is paid quarterly. The loan is secured by three engines. The balance outstanding on this loan is \$14.1 million and \$14.5 million as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

On September 28, 2012, we closed on a loan for a five year term totaling \$8.7 million. Interest is payable at a fixed rate of 5.50% and principal and interest is paid quarterly. The loan is secured by one engine. The funds were used to purchase the engine secured under the loan. The balance outstanding on this loan is \$7.6 million and \$7.7 million as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

One-month LIBOR was 0.18% and 0.17% at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

Virtually all of the above debt is subject to our ongoing compliance with the covenants of each financing, including debt/equity ratios, minimum tangible net worth and minimum interest coverage ratios, and other eligibility criteria including customer and geographic concentration restrictions. In addition, under these facilities, we can typically borrow up to 85% of an engine's net book value and 65% of spare part's net book value. Therefore we must have other available funds for the balance of the purchase price of any new equipment to be purchased or we will not be permitted to draw on these facilities. The facilities are also cross-defaulted against other facilities. If we do not comply with the covenants or eligibility requirements, we may not be permitted to borrow additional funds and accelerated payments may become necessary. Additionally, much of the above debt is secured by engines to the extent that engines are sold, repayment of that portion of the debt could be required.

At March 31, 2015, we are in compliance with the covenants specified in the revolving credit facility, including the Interest Coverage Ratio requirement of at least 2.25 to 1.00, and the Total Leverage Ratio requirement to remain below 5.00 to 1.00. As defined in the revolving credit facility Credit Agreement, the Interest Coverage Ratio is the ratio of Earnings before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization and other one-time charges (EBITDA) to Consolidated Interest Expense and the Total Leverage Ratio is the ratio of Total Indebtedness to Tangible Net Worth. At March 31, 2015, we are in compliance with the covenants specified in the WEST II indenture and servicing agreement.

Approximately \$23.8 million of our debt is repayable during the next 12 months. Such repayments consist of scheduled installments due under term loans. Repayments are funded by the use of unrestricted cash reserves and from cash flows from ongoing operations. The table below summarizes our contractual commitments at March 31, 2015:

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	Total	Payment due by period (in thousands)			
		Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 Years
Long-term debt obligations	\$ 842,177	\$ 23,769	\$ 67,208	\$ 511,052	\$ 240,148
Interest payments under long-term debt obligations	175,129	34,446	64,839	47,319	28,525
Operating lease obligations	3,545	1,108	1,698	739	-
Purchase obligations	23,112	23,112	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,043,963	\$ 82,435	\$ 133,745	\$ 559,110	\$ 268,673

We have estimated the interest payments due under long-term debt by applying the interest rates applicable at March 31, 2015 to the remaining debt, adjusted for the estimated debt repayments identified in the table above. Actual interest payments made will vary due to changes in the rates for one-month LIBOR.



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We have made a purchase commitment to secure the purchase of an engine and related equipment for a gross purchase price of \$23.0 million, for delivery in 2015. As of March 31, 2015, a non-refundable deposit paid related to this purchase commitment was \$6.8 million.

Our principal offices are located in Novato, California. We occupy space in Novato under a lease that covers approximately 20,534 square feet of office space and expires September 30, 2018. The remaining lease rental commitment is approximately \$1.9 million. Equipment leasing, financing, sales and general administrative activities are conducted from the Novato location. We sub-lease office and warehouse space for our operations in San Diego, California. This lease expires October 31, 2015, and the remaining lease commitment is approximately \$0.1 million. We lease office and warehouse space in Shanghai, China. The office lease expires December 31, 2015 and the warehouse lease expires July 31, 2017 and the remaining lease commitments are approximately \$49,000 and \$17,000, respectively. We lease office space in London, United Kingdom. The lease expires December 21, 2015 and the remaining lease commitment is approximately \$55,000. We lease office space in Blagnac, France. The lease expires December 31, 2015 and the remaining lease commitment is approximately \$12,000. We lease office space in Dublin, Ireland. The lease expires May 15, 2017 and the remaining lease commitment is approximately \$25,000. We lease office space in Singapore. The lease expires October 31, 2015 and the remaining lease commitment is approximately \$66,000. We lease office and warehouse space in Boynton Beach, Florida. The lease expires October 29, 2019 and the remaining lease commitment is approximately \$1.3 million.

We believe our equity base, internally generated funds and existing debt facilities are sufficient to maintain our level of operations for the next twelve months. A decline in the level of internally generated funds, such as could result if the amount of equipment off-lease increases or there is a decrease in availability under our existing debt facilities, would impair our ability to sustain our level of operations. We continually discuss additions to our capital base with our commercial and investment banks. If we are not able to access additional capital, our ability to grow our asset base consistent with historical trends will be impaired and our future growth limited to that which can be funded from internally generated capital.

## Management of Interest Rate Exposure

At March 31, 2015, \$475.1 million of our borrowings were on a variable rate basis at various interest rates tied to one-month LIBOR. Our equipment leases are generally structured at fixed rental rates for specified terms. Increases in interest rates could narrow or result in a negative spread, between the rental revenue we realize under our leases and the interest rate that we pay under our borrowings. We periodically enter into interest rate derivative instruments to mitigate our exposure to interest rate risk and not to speculate or trade in these derivative products. We currently have no interest rate swap agreements in place.

We record derivative instruments at fair value as either an asset or liability. We have used derivative instruments (primarily interest rate swaps) to manage the risk of interest rate fluctuation. While substantially all our derivative transactions are entered into for the purposes described above, hedge accounting is only applied where specific criteria

have been met and it is practicable to do so. In order to apply hedge accounting, the transaction must be designated as a hedge and the hedge relationship must be highly effective. The hedging instrument's effectiveness is assessed utilizing regression analysis at the inception of the hedge and on at least a quarterly basis throughout its life. All of the transactions that we have designated as hedges are accounted for as cash flow hedges. The effective portion of the gain or loss on a derivative instrument designated as a cash flow hedge is reported as a component of other comprehensive income and is reclassified into earnings in the period during which the transaction being hedged affects earnings. The ineffective portion of these hedges flows through earnings in the current period. The hedge accounting for these derivative instrument arrangements decreased interest expense by zero and \$0.1 million for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. This incremental cost (benefit) for the swaps effective for hedge accounting was included in interest expense for the respective periods.

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For any interest rate swaps that we enter into, we will be exposed to risk in the event of non-performance of the interest rate hedge counter-parties. We anticipate that we may hedge additional amounts of our floating rate debt in the future.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Our primary market risk exposure is that of interest rate risk. A change in LIBOR rates would affect our cost of borrowing. Increases in interest rates, which may cause us to raise the implicit rates charged to our customers, could result in a reduction in demand for our leases. Alternatively, we may price our leases based on market rates so as to keep the fleet on-lease and suffer a decrease in our operating margin due to interest costs that we are unable to pass on to our customers. As of March 31, 2015, \$475.1 million of our outstanding debt is variable rate debt. We estimate that for every one percent increase or decrease in interest rates on our variable rate debt (net of derivative instruments), annual interest expense would increase or decrease \$4.8 million.

We previously hedged a portion of our borrowings from time to time, effectively fixing the rate of these borrowings. This hedging activity helps protect us against reduced margins on longer term fixed rate leases. In November 2013, the last of our interest rate swap agreements matured. For any interest rate swaps entered into, we will be exposed to risk in the event of non-performance of the interest rate hedge counterparties. We anticipate that we may hedge additional amounts of our floating rate debt in the future.

We are also exposed to currency devaluation risk. All of our leases require payment in U.S. dollars. During the three months ended March 31, 2015, 94% of our lease rent revenues came from non-United States domiciled lessees. If these lessees' currency devalues against the U.S. dollar, the lessees could potentially encounter difficulty in making their lease payments.

No customer accounted for more than 10% of total lease rent revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2014.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures. Based on management's evaluation (with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO)), as of the end of the period covered by this report, our CEO and CFO have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)), are effective to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms, and is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

#### Inherent Limitations on Controls

Management, including the CEO and interim CFO, does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures will prevent or detect all error and fraud. Any control system, no matter how well designed and operated, is based upon certain assumptions and can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that its objectives will be met. Further, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that misstatements due to error or fraud will not occur or that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been detected. The design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs.

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(b) Changes in internal control over financial reporting. There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting during our fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2015 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

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

(a) None.

(b) None.

(c) Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities. On September 27, 2012, the Company announced that its Board of Directors has authorized a plan to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of its common stock over the next 5 years. This plan extends the previous plan authorized on December 8, 2009, and increases the number of shares authorized for repurchase to up to \$100.0 million.

Common stock repurchases, under our authorized plan, in the three months ended March 31, 2015 were as follows:

Period	Average Price per Share (in thousands, except per share data)	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans

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January 1, 2015 - January 31, 2015	—	\$ —	—	\$ 77,970
February 1, 2015 - February 28, 2015	—	\$ —	—	\$ 77,970
March 1, 2015 - March 31, 2015	38	\$ 18.82	38	\$ 77,932
Total	38	\$ 18.82	38	\$ 77,932

Item 5. Other Information

As previously disclosed in a Form 8-K filed on April 14, 2015, our Chief Financial Officer, Bradley S. Forsyth, is currently on short-term medical leave. The Company has retained the temporary services of E. Payson Smith, who is serving as our interim Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Smith has been a Partner at FLG Partners for the past eleven years, performing interim financial executive functions. Mr. Smith is signing this 10-Q as he is currently performing the function of the Company's principal financial officer.

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Item 6.Exhibits

(a) Exhibits.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit

Number	Description
3.1	Certificate of Incorporation, dated March 12, 1998, as amended by the Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation, dated May 6, 1998 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our report on Form 10-K filed on March 31, 2009).
3.2	Bylaws, dated April 18, 2001 as amended by (1) Amendment to Bylaws, dated November 13, 2001, (2) Amendment to Bylaws, dated December 16, 2008, (3) Amendment to Bylaws, dated September 28, 2010, and (4) Amendment to Bylaws, dated August 5, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our report on Form 8-K filed on August 9, 2013).
4.1	Rights Agreement dated as of September 24, 1999, by and between Willis Lease Finance Corporation and American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, as Rights Agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Form 8-K filed on October 4, 1999).
4.2	Second Amendment to Rights Agreement dated as of December 15, 2005, by and between Willis Lease Finance Corporation and American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, as Rights Agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to our report on Form 10-K filed on March 31, 2009).
4.3	Third Amendment to Rights Agreement dated as of September 30, 2008, by and between Willis Lease Finance Corporation and American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, as Rights Agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to our report on Form 10-K filed on March 31, 2009).
4.4	Form of Certificate of Designations of the Registrant with respect to the Series I Junior Participating Preferred Stock (formerly known as "Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock") (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to our report on Form 10-K filed on March 31, 2009).
4.5	Form of Amendment No. 1 to Certificate of Designations of the Registrant with respect to Series I Junior Participating Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to our report on Form 10-K filed on March 31, 2009).
10.1	Form of Indemnification Agreement entered into between the Registrant and its directors and officers (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K filed on October 1, 2010).
10.2	1996 Stock Option/Stock Issuance Plan, as amended and restated as of March 1, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to Form S-8 filed on September 26, 2003).
10.3	2007 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Proxy Statement for 2007 Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed on April 30, 2007).
10.4	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Charles F. Willis IV dated as of December 1, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K filed on December 22, 2008).
10.5	Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Donald A. Nunemaker dated November 21, 2000 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to our report on Form 10-K filed on April 2, 2001).

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- 10.6 Amendment to Employment Agreement between Registrant and Donald A. Nunemaker dated December 31, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on May 9, 2011).
- 10.7 Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Bradley S. Forsyth dated February 20, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Form 8-K filed on February 21, 2007).
- 10.8 Amendment to Employment Agreement between Registrant and Bradley S. Forsyth dated December 31, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on May 9, 2011).
- 10.9 Employment Agreement between the Registrant and Dean M. Poulakidas dated March 31, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to Form 8-K filed on June 19, 2013).

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- 10.10 Loan and Aircraft Security Agreement dated September 30, 2012 between Banc of America Leasing & Capital, LLC and Willis Lease Finance Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on November 9, 2012).
- 10.11\* Indenture dated as of September 14, 2012 among Willis Engine Securitization Trust II, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee, the Registrant and Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on November 9, 2012).
- 10.12\* Security Trust Agreement dated as of September 14, 2012 by and among Willis Engine Securitization Trust II, Willis Engine Securitization (Ireland) Limited, the Engine Trusts listed on Schedule V thereto, each of the additional grantors referred to therein and from time to time made a party thereto and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.15 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on November 9, 2012).
- 10.13\* Note Purchase Agreement dated as of September 6, 2012 by and among Willis Engine Securitization Trust II, the Registrant, Credit Agricole Securities (USA) Inc. and Goldman, Sachs & Co. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.16 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on November 9, 2012).
- 10.14\* Servicing Agreement dated as of September 17, 2012 between Willis Engine Securitization Trust II, the Registrant and the entities listed on Appendix A thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.17 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on November 9, 2012).
- 10.15\* Administrative Agency Agreement dated as of September 17, 2012 among Willis Engine Securitization Trust II, the Registrant, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee, and the entities listed on Appendix A thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.18 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on November 9, 2012).
- 10.16\* Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of June 4, 2014, among the Company, Union Bank, N.A., as administrative agent and security agent, and certain lenders and financial institutions named therein (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.16 to our report on Form 10-Q filed on August 11, 2014).
- 11.1 Statement re Computation of Per Share Earnings.
- 14.1 Code of Ethics (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 14.1 to our report on Form 10-K filed on March 16, 2010).
- 21.1 Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
- 31.1 Certification of Charles F. Willis, IV, pursuant to Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of E. Payson Smith, pursuant to Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 101 The following materials from the Company's report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Income, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Shareholder's Equity and Comprehensive Income, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, and (v) Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

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\*Portions of these exhibits have been omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment and the redacted material has been filed separately with the Commission.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: May 8, 2015

Willis Lease Finance Corporation

By: /s/ E. Payson Smith  
E. Payson Smith

Interim Chief Financial Officer