

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

September 13, 2022

Hiranda Donoghue General Counsel MasterBrand, Inc. 520 Lake Cook Road, Suite 300 Deerfield, Illinois

Re: MasterBrand, Inc.
Draft Registration Statement on Form 10
Filed on August 17, 2022
CIK No. 0001941365

Dear Ms. Donoghue:

We have reviewed your draft registration statement and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by providing the requested information and either submitting an amended draft registration statement or publicly filing your registration statement on EDGAR. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing the information you provide in response to these comments and your amended draft registration statement or filed registration statement, we may have additional comments.

Draft Registration Statement on Form 10 filed August 17, 2022

# SUMMARY, page 1

1. Please revise your summary to provide a more balanced discussion of your company and products. Balance the discussion of your market leadership and your strengths on page 6 with an equally prominent discussion of your weaknesses, including your plan to incur indebtedness prior to or at the time of the distribution.

## Questions and Answers about the Separation, page 11

2. Please revise to address any material changes in stockholder rights between the existing Fortune Brands common stock and the MasterBrand common stock. If none, please include a negative statement to that effect.

Hiranda Donoghue MasterBrand, Inc. September 13, 2022 Page 2

# <u>Can Fortune Brands decide to cancel the Distribution even if all of the conditions have been</u> satisfied?, page 12

3. Please revise this Q&A to discuss any material consequences to stockholders if Fortune Brands waives any of the conditions described and proceeds with the spin-off.

#### Reasons for the Separation, page 49

- 4. Please briefly describe any material negative factors and risks that the board considered when determining whether to engage in the spin-off transaction.
- 5. Wherever applicable, please expand the bullet point list to better explain how it was determined that separating MasterBrand's businesses from Fortune Brand's current business operations would be in the best interests of Fortune Brands and its stockholders. Discuss how the separation will lead to the better focus of each company's specific operational and growth strategies. Discuss the "unique operating needs" of each company, explain each company's tailored capital structures and capital deployment strategies. Explain in detail the decision to separate <u>now</u> as opposed to any other time and the reasons underlying the chosen timing.

## Capitalization, page 59

6. Please include a double line underneath the cash and cash equivalents line so as to clearly distinguish it from the capitalization line items.

<u>Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>

<u>Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>

<u>Note 3: Transaction Accounting Adjustments for the Separation, page 65</u>

- 7. Refer to adjustment (e). Please expand the footnote to also describe that these nonrecurring costs will not recur beyond 12 months after the transaction and remove the adjustment from your pro forma income statement for the twenty-six weeks ended June 26, 2022. Refer to Article 11-02(a)(6)(i)(B) of Regulation S-X.
- 8. We note that adjustment (i) represents costs related to stock-based compensation arrangements in connection with the Separation including modification of historical Fortune Brands grants. Please explain to us why it appears this adjustment will not be reflected on the pro forma statement of income.

#### Note 4. Autonomous Entity Adjustments, page 66

9. Please revise your disclosure relating to adjustment (m) to include the material assumptions used and how the amount was calculated or determined. See Rule 11-02(a)(11)(iii).

#### Note 5. Management Adjustments, page 66

Hiranda Donoghue MasterBrand, Inc. September 13, 2022 Page 3

10. Please revise your disclosure to include the estimated time frame for achieving the synergies and dis-synergies for each adjustment. See Rule 11-02(a)(7)(ii)(D) of Regulation S-X.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Results of Operations

Results of Operations, page 73

11. Please revise to quantify the impact of the factors that you identify as impacting net sales and operating results during each period presented, including the impact of changes in volume and price.

#### General

- 12. Please disclose whether and how your business segments, products, lines of service, projects, or operations are materially impacted by supply chain disruptions. For example, discuss whether you have or expect to:
  - suspend the production, purchase, sale or maintenance of certain items due to a lack
    of raw materials, parts, or equipment; inventory shortages; closed factories; reduced
    headcount; or delayed projects;
  - experience labor shortages that impact your business;
  - experience cybersecurity attacks in your supply chain;
  - experience higher costs due to constrained capacity or increased commodity prices or challenges sourcing materials;
  - experience surges or declines in consumer demand for which you are unable to adequately adjust your supply;
  - be unable to supply products at competitive prices or at all due to export restrictions, sanctions, tariffs, trade barriers, or political or trade tensions among countries; or
  - be exposed to supply chain risk in light of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and/or related geopolitical tension or have sought to "de-globalize" your supply chain.

Explain whether and how you have undertaken efforts to mitigate the impact and where possible quantify the impact to your business.

You may contact SiSi Cheng at (202) 551-5004 or Claire Erlanger at (202) 551-3301 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters. Please contact Bradley Ecker at (202) 551-4985 or Geoffrey Kruczek at (202) 551-3641 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

Division of Corporation Finance Office of Manufacturing Hiranda Donoghue MasterBrand, Inc. September 13, 2022 Page 4

cc: Samir Gandhi