



KPMG LLP
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Kansas City, MO 64106-2162

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors
Waddell & Reed, Inc.:

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Waddell & Reed, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2017, the related consolidated statements of earnings, comprehensive income, changes in stockholder's equity, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Company has elected to change its method of accounting for net periodic pension cost to immediately recognize actuarial gains and losses in net periodic pension cost in the year in which the gains and losses occur.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Accompanying Supplemental Information

The supplemental information contained in Schedules I, II, and III has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements. The supplemental information is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental information reconciles to the consolidated financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental information. In forming our opinion on the supplemental information, we evaluated whether the supplemental information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with 17 C.F.R. § 240.17a-5. In our opinion, the supplemental information contained in Schedules I, II, and III is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated financial statements as a whole.

KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 1981.
Kansas City, Missouri
February 23, 2018