

### **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The following management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A") of the financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto of CES Energy Solutions Corp. ("CES" or the "Company") for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, and the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto of CES for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and CES' 2016 Annual Information Form. This MD&A is dated August 10, 2017, and incorporates all relevant Company information to that date. Amounts are stated in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

Certain statements in this MD&A may constitute forward-looking information or forward-looking statements (collectively referred to as "forward-looking information") which involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of CES, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking information. When used in this MD&A, such information uses such words as "may", "would", "could", "will", "intend", "expect", "believe", "plan", "anticipate", "estimate", and other similar terminology. This information reflects CES' current expectations regarding future events and operating performance and speaks only as of the date of the MD&A. Forward-looking information involves significant risks and uncertainties, should not be read as a guarantee of future performance or results, and will not necessarily be an accurate indication of whether or not such results will be achieved. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking information, including, but not limited to, the factors discussed below. The management of CES believes the material factors, expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking information are reasonable but no assurance can be given that these factors, expectations and assumptions will prove to be correct. The forward-looking information contained in this document speaks only as of the date of the document, and CES assumes no obligation to publicly update or revise such information contained in this document speaks only as of the date of the document, and CES assumes no obligation to publicly update or revise such information to reflect new events or circumstances, except as may be required pursuant to applicable securities laws or regulations.

In particular, this MD&A contains forward-looking information pertaining to the following: the seasonality of CES' business; the anticipated reduction in exposure to the effects of spring break-up in the WCSB; the duration of spring break-up; the certainty and predictability of future cash flows and earnings; the expectation that cash interest costs, maintenance capital and dividends will be fully funded from EBITDAC; future estimates as to dividend levels; the potential means of funding dividends; the intention to make future dividend payments; the business strategy regarding cash dividend payments in the future; the amount of cash to be conserved based on the new dividend level and the ability to retain such cash to preserve the balance sheet and provide liquidity to fund future growth initiatives; the sufficiency of liquidity and capital resources to meet long-term payment obligations; potential M&A opportunities; the long-term capital investments required for CES to execute on its business plan; the amount of CES' non-acquisition related capital expenditures in 2017, including maintenance capital and discretionary expansion capital and the anticipated timing for spending such capital; the expected timing and cost for completion of expansions at the JACAM, Catalyst, and PureChem facilities; expectations regarding increased headcount and cost inflation related to General and Administrative Costs; management's opinion of the impact of any potential litigation or disputes; potential outcomes of the CRA's intent to challenge the Canadian tax consequences of the Conversion (as defined herein); the application of critical accounting estimates and judgements; the timing of adoption of new accounting standards and the potential impact of new accounting standards on CES' financial statements; the collectability of accounts receivable; the effectiveness of CES' credit risk mitigation strategies and the results of any U.S. trade credit insurance claims; management's opinion of the impact of self-insuring trade credit insurance; CES' ability to increase or maintain its market share, including expectations that PureChem and JACAM will increase market share in the oilfield consumable chemical market and Catalyst will increase market share of production and specialty chemicals in the Permian Basin; CES' ability to leverage third party partner relationships to drive innovation in the consumable fluids and chemicals business; supply and demand for CES' products and services, including expectations for growth in CES' production and specialty chemical sales and expected growth in the consumable chemicals market; expectations that CES will rationalize its drilling fluids cost structure; industry activity levels; commodity prices and related pricing pressure; any forward curves for commodity prices; treatment under governmental regulatory and taxation regimes; expectations regarding the impact of proposed changes to Alberta's oil and gas royalty regime; expectations regarding expansion of services in Canada and the U.S.; development of new technologies; expectations regarding CES' growth opportunities in Canada and the U.S.; the effect of acquisitions on the Company including the effect of the Catalyst and StimWrx Acquisitions (as defined herein); expectations regarding the performance or expansion of CES' operations; expectations regarding the diversification of operations away from the drill-bit; expectations that competitor consolidation and business failures will provide future opportunities to CES; expectations regarding demand for CES' services and technology; the potential for CES to expand its business as it relates to water usage and handling; investments in research and development and technology advancements; access to debt and capital markets and cost of capital; CES' ability to continue to comply with covenants in debt facilities; and competitive conditions.

CES' actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking information as a result of the following factors: general economic conditions in Canada, the U.S., and internationally; geopolitical risk; fluctuations in demand for consumable fluids and chemical oilfield services, and any downturn in oilfield activity; a decline in activity in the WCSB, the Permian and other basins in which the Company operates; a decline in frac related chemical sales; a decline in operator usage of chemicals on wells; an increase in the number of customer well shut-ins; volatility in market prices for oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids and the effect of this volatility on the demand for oilfield services generally; the declines in prices for oil, and pricing differentials between world pricing and pricing in North America; competition, and pricing pressures from customers in the current commodity environment; currency risk as a result of fluctuations in value of the U.S. dollar; liabilities and risks, including environmental liabilities and risks inherent in oil and natural gas operations; sourcing, pricing and availability of raw materials, consumables, component parts, equipment, suppliers, facilities, and skilled management, technical and field personnel; the collectability of accounts receivable, particularly in the current low oil and natural gas price environment; ability to integrate technological advances and match advances of competitors; availability of capital; uncertainties in weather and temperature affecting the duration of the oilfield service periods and the activities that can be completed; the ability to successfully integrate and achieve synergies from the Company's acquisitions; changes in legislation and the regulatory environment, including uncertainties with respect to oil and gas royalty regimes, programs to reduce greenhouse gas and other emissions and regulations restricting the use of hydraulic fracturing; pipeline capacity and other transportation infrastructure constraints; reassessment and audit risk associated with the Conversion and other tax filing matters; changes and proposed changes to U.S. policies including the potential for tax reform, and possible renegotiation of international trade agreements including NAFTA, ; divergence in climate change policies between Canada and the U.S.; potential changes to the crude by rail industry; changes to the fiscal regimes applicable to entities operating in the WCSB and the US; access to capital and the liquidity of debt markets; fluctuations in foreign exchange and interest rates, and the other factors considered under "Risk Factors" in CES' Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2016 and "Risks and Uncertainties" in this MD&A.

Without limiting the foregoing, the forward-looking information contained in this MD&A is expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.

### **CORPORATE NAME CHANGE**

Effective June 15, 2017, CES changed its corporate name from "Canadian Energy Services & Technology Corp." to "CES Energy Solutions Corp.". CES has significantly transformed its business since its initial public offering in March 2006, and has broadened its operational footprint across North America. The new company name avoids geographic reference, while incorporation of the CES acronym helps to maintain brand recognition.

### **BUSINESS OF CES**

CES is a leading provider of technically advanced consumable chemical solutions throughout the life-cycle of the oilfield. This includes total solutions at the drill-bit, at the point of completion and stimulation, at the wellhead and pump-jack, and finally through to the pipeline and midstream market. At the drill-bit, CES' designed drilling fluids encompass the functions of cleaning the hole, stabilizing the rock drilled, controlling subsurface pressures, enhancing drilling rates, and protecting potential production zones while conserving the environment in the surrounding surface and subsurface area. At the point of completion and stimulation, CES' designed chemicals form a critical component of fracturing solutions or other forms of remedial well stimulation techniques. The shift to horizontal drilling and multi-stage fracturing with long horizontal well completions has been responsible for significant growth in the drilling fluids and completion and stimulation chemicals markets. At the wellhead and pump-jack, CES' designed production and specialty chemicals provide down-hole solutions for production and gathering infrastructure to maximize production and reduce costs of equipment maintenance. Key solutions include corrosion inhibitors, demulsifiers, H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers, paraffin control products, surfactants, scale inhibitors, biocides and other specialty products. Further, specialty chemicals are used throughout the pipeline and midstream industry to aid in hydrocarbon movement and manage transportation and processing challenges including corrosion, wax build-up and H<sub>2</sub>S.



#### Oilfield Knowledge + Vertically Integrated Technology + Manufacturing = Competitive Advantage



CES operates in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin ("WCSB") and in several basins throughout the United States ("US"), with an emphasis on servicing the ongoing major resource plays. In Canada, CES operates under the trade names Canadian Energy Services, PureChem Services ("PureChem"), StimWrx Energy Services Ltd. ("StimWrx"), Sialco Materials Ltd. ("Sialco"), and Clear Environmental Solutions ("Clear"). In the US, CES operates under the trade names AES Drilling Fluids ("AES"), AES Frac Fluids ("AES Frac"), Superior Weighting Products ("Superior Weighting"), JACAM Chemicals ("JACAM"), and Catalyst Oilfield Services ("Catalyst").

The Canadian Energy Services and AES brands are focused on the design and implementation of drilling fluids systems and completion solutions sold directly to oil and gas producers. The StimWrx brand provides near matrix stimulation and remediation of oil, gas, and injection wells in Western Canada. The Superior Weighting brand custom grinds minerals including

barite, which is the weighting agent utilized in most drilling fluid systems. The JACAM, Catalyst, PureChem, and Sialco brands are vertically integrated manufacturers of advanced specialty chemicals. In addition to being basic in the manufacture of oilfield chemicals, JACAM, Catalyst, and PureChem have expanding distribution channels into the oilfield.

Clear is a complimentary business division that supports the operations and augments the product offerings in the WCSB. Clear is CES' environmental division, providing environmental consulting, water management services, and drilling fluids waste disposal services primarily to oil and gas producers active in the WCSB.

Led by JACAM's state of the art laboratory in Sterling, Kansas, CES now operates eight separate lab facilities across North America: two in Houston, Texas; two in Midland, Texas; and one in each of Carlyle, Saskatchewan; Delta, British Columbia; and Calgary, Alberta. In 2015, CES significantly expanded its laboratory capabilities in Calgary with the opening of its new laboratory and technology center. In the US, CES' main chemical manufacturing and reacting facility is located in Sterling, Kansas with additional low-temperature reacting and chemical blending capabilities in Midland, Texas and chemical blending capabilities in Sonora, Texas. In Canada, CES has a chemical manufacturing and reacting facility located in Delta, British Columbia with additional chemical blending capabilities located in Carlyle, Saskatchewan and Nisku, Alberta. CES also leverages third party partner relationships to drive innovation in the consumable fluids and chemicals business.

CES' business model is relatively asset light and requires limited re-investment capital to grow. As a result, CES has been able to capitalize on the growing market demand for drilling fluids and production and specialty chemicals in North America while generating free cash flow. CES' current dividend level preserves the strength of the Company's balance sheet while providing liquidity to fund potential growth initiatives. CES will continue to be protective of its balance sheet and prudent with its cash dividend.

### **NON-GAAP MEASURES**

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). Certain supplementary information and measures not recognized under IFRS are also provided in this MD&A where management believes they assist the reader in understanding CES' results. These measures are calculated by CES on a consistent basis unless otherwise specifically explained. These measures do not have a standardized meaning under IFRS and may therefore not be comparable to similar measures used by other issuers. The non-GAAP measures are further defined for use throughout this MD&A as follows:

**EBITDAC** – is defined as net income (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, gains and losses on disposal of assets, amortization of capitalized deferred financing costs, goodwill impairment, unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses, unrealized derivative gains and losses, stock-based compensation, and other gains and losses not considered reflective of underlying operations. EBITDAC is a metric used to assess the financial performance of an entity's operations. Management believes that this metric assists in determining the ability of CES to generate cash from operations. EBITDAC is calculated as follows:

	Three Month June 3		Six Months Ended June 30,	
\$000s	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net income (loss)	6,345	(25,597)	14,123	(49,190)
Add back (deduct):				
Depreciation on property and equipment in cost of sales	9,235	8,334	18,358	17,341
Depreciation on property and equipment in G&A	1,353	1,201	2,692	2,445
Amortization on intangible assets in G&A	5,986	4,931	11,923	10,054
Interest expense, net of interest income	5,976	5,557	12,016	11,366
Amortization of capitalized deferred financing costs	322	316	643	631
Current income tax expense	235	4,252	2,796	2,706
Deferred income tax expense (recovery)	285	(1,315)	(2,450)	(1,736)
Stock-based compensation	5,114	2,395	10,984	8,761
Unrealized foreign exchange loss	105	15	63	16
Unrealized derivative loss (gain)	646	(240)	26	4,185
(Gain) loss on disposal of assets	(247)	(488)	123	(848)
Other finance costs	-	-	169	-
Other (income) loss	(38)	(50)	(42)	181
EBITDAC	35,317	(689)	71,424	5,912

*Funds Flow From Operations* – is defined as cash flow from operations before changes in non-cash operating working capital and represents the Company's after tax operating cash flows. This measure is not intended to be an alternative to cash provided by operating activities as provided in the consolidated statements of cash flows, comprehensive income, or other measures of financial performance calculated in accordance with IFRS. Funds Flow From Operations assists management and investors in analyzing operating performance and leverage.

*Distributable Earnings* – is defined as Funds Flow From Operations less Maintenance Capital (the definition of Maintenance Capital is under "Operational Definitions"). Distributable Earnings is a measure used by management and investors to analyze the amount of funds available to distribute to shareholders before consideration of funds required for growth purposes.

*Payout Ratio* – is defined as dividends declared as a percentage of Distributable Earnings.

*Cash Gross Margin* – represents gross margin under IFRS adjusted to exclude non-cash expenses recorded in cost of sales including depreciation as it relates to assets associated with operations and operating related activities, and gains and losses on disposal of assets. Management believes that this metric assists in demonstrating the cash operating margin of the Company.

Cash General and Administrative Costs - represents general and administrative costs under IFRS adjusted to exclude non-cash

expenses recorded in general and administrative costs such as stock-based compensation and depreciation and amortization as it relates to assets not associated with operations and operating related activities. Management believes that this metric assists in demonstrating the cash general and administrative expenses of the Company.

### **OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS**

Operational terms used throughout this MD&A include:

*Expansion Capital* – represents the amount of capital expenditure that has been or will be incurred to grow or expand the business or would otherwise improve the productive capacity of the operations of the business.

*Maintenance Capital* – represents the amount of capital expenditure that has been or will be incurred to sustain the current level of operations.

*Canadian Market Share* – CES estimates its market share in Canada for its drilling fluids operations by comparing, on a semiweekly basis, active rigs where CES was contracted to provide services to the total active rigs for Western Canada. The number of total active rigs for Western Canada is based on Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors ("CAODC") published data for Western Canada.

*US Market Share* – CES estimates its market share in the US for its drilling fluids operations by comparing, on a semi-weekly basis, active rigs where CES was contracted to provide services to the total active land rigs in the United States. The number of total active rigs in the United States is based on the weekly land based Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count.

*Operating Days* – For its drilling fluids operations, CES estimates its Operating Days, which are revenue generating days, by multiplying the average number of active rigs where CES was providing drilling fluid services by the number of days in the period.

*Treatment Points* – represents the average estimated number of unique wells or oilfield sites serviced monthly by CES in the referenced period with production and specialty chemicals.

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Summary Financial Results		Months Ended June 30,			onths Ended June 30,	
(\$000s, except per share amounts)	2017	2016	% Change	2017	2016	% Change
Revenue	237,576	97,733	143%	489,928	234,882	109%
Gross margin	58,534	15,754	272%	118,319	39,664	198%
as a percentage of revenue	25%	16%		24%	17%	
Cash Gross Margin <sup>(1)</sup>	67,522	23,600	186%	136,800	56,157	144%
as a percentage of revenue	28%	24%		28%	24%	
Income (loss) before taxes	6,865	(22,660)	nmf	14,469	(48,220)	nmf
per share – basic	0.03	(0.10)	nmf	0.05	(0.21)	nmf
per share - diluted	0.03	(0.10)	nmf	0.05	(0.21)	nmf
Net income (loss)	6,345	(25,597)	nmf	14,123	(49,190)	nmf
per share – basic	0.02	(0.11)	nmf	0.05	(0.22)	nmf
per share - diluted	0.02	(0.11)	nmf	0.05	(0.22)	nmf
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	35,317	(689)	nmf	71,424	5,912	1108%
per share – basic	0.13	-	nmf	0.27	0.03	800%
per share - diluted	0.13	-	nmf	0.26	0.03	767%
Funds Flow From Operations (1)	28,626	(10,488)	nmf	56,149	(8,150)	nmf
per share – basic	0.11	(0.05)	nmf	0.21	(0.04)	nmf
per share - diluted	0.11	(0.05)	nmf	0.21	(0.04)	nmf
Dividends declared	1,990	1,749	14%	3,973	6,828	(42%)
per share	0.0075	0.0075	0%	0.0150	0.0305	(51%)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Refer to "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

# **OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL RESULTS**

Highlights for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, in comparison to the three and six months ended June 30, 2016 for CES are as follows:

- The financial results reported herein for the three months ended June 30, 2017 ("Q2 2017") and the six months ended June 30, 2017 ("H1 2017"), are reflective of the improvement in commodity prices that has led to a rebound in activity in the oil and gas industry. In contrast, the results for the three months ended June 30, 2016 ("Q2 2016") and the six months ended June 30, 2016 ("H1 2016"), presented challenging market conditions for the industry with both oil prices and activity levels bottoming in Q2 2016. Although trough pricing levels continue to exist in CES' business lines, the increase in activity has allowed CES to sell higher volumes of its products across its rationalized cost structure, and as a result, the financial results of CES in Q2 2017 and H1 2017 are consistently improved in comparison to the results achieved in Q2 2016 and H1 2016.
- CES generated revenue of \$237.6 million during Q2 2017, compared to \$97.7 million for Q2 2016, an increase of \$139.9 million or 143%. Revenue for H1 2017 was \$489.9 million as compared to \$234.9 million for H1 2016, representing an increase of \$255.0 million or 109%. EBITDAC for Q2 2017 was \$35.3 million as compared to negative \$0.7 million for Q2 2016, representing an increase of \$36.0 million. EBITDAC for H1 2017 was \$71.4 million as compared to \$5.9 million for H1 2017, representing an increase of \$65.5 million. Year-over-year, the Company's operating results benefited from increased activity levels due to the improved commodity price environment. Furthermore, Q2 2017 and H1 2017 include results attributable to both the Permian based Catalyst Acquisition, completed in Q3 2016 and the StimWrx acquisition in Canada, completed in Q1 2017, for which there were no associated results included in the comparable periods. As detailed below, in Q2 2017 and H1 2017 all facets of the business in the US and Canada have made positive contributions to revenue and EBITDAC.

- Revenue generated in the US for Q2 2017 was \$163.0 million compared to \$68.3 million for Q2 2016, an increase of \$94.7 million or 139%. Year-to-date, revenue totaled \$304.7 million, compared to \$158.1 million for H1 2016, representing an increase of \$146.6 million or 93% on a year-over-year basis. This year over year increase is as a result of the improved market conditions in 2017 with significant activity improvement in the drilling fluids business, market share gains in drilling fluids, and increased US Treatment Points, particularly in the Permian Basin as a result of the Catalyst Acquisition, for which there were no associated revenues or Treatment Points in the comparable period in 2016. In the drilling fluids business, the Company continued to grow market share in the US with 11% US Market Share in Q2 2017 and H1 2017 compared to 10% in Q2 2016 and H1 2016.
- Revenue generated in Canada for Q2 2017 was \$74.6 million compared to \$29.5 million for Q2 2016, an increase of \$45.1 million or 153%. Year-to-date, revenue totaled \$185.3 million, compared to \$76.8 million for H1 2016, representing an increase of \$108.5 million or 141% on a year-over-year basis. PureChem continued to gain market share in Canada in production chemicals as Canadian Treatment Points for Q2 2017 and H1 2017 have increased 34% and 44%, respectively, from the comparative periods. During Q2 2017, the drilling fluids business increased its operating days by 201% over Q2 2016, which outpaced the increase in industry rig counts which increased by 155% over Q2 2016. The increase in revenues in Canada for the six months ended June 30, 2017, was a result of improved market conditions and the expansion of our business in an environment experiencing increased activity levels and customer spending, and the contribution by StimWrx, which was acquired January 1, 2017, for which there were no associated revenues in the comparable periods.
- In Q2 2017, CES recorded Cash Gross Margin of \$67.5 million or 28% of revenue, compared to Cash Gross Margin of \$23.6 million or 24% of revenue generated in the same period last year. Year-to-date, CES recorded Cash Gross Margin of \$136.8 million or 28% of revenue, compared to Cash Gross Margin of \$56.2 million or 24% of revenue generated in the same period last year. Although activity levels have improved from 2016, the Company continues to sell its products and services at trough pricing levels. CES has been able to pass through many of its input cost increases but has yet to realize any meaningful price increases for its products. The improvement in Cash Gross Margin as a percentage of revenue in 2017 is evidence of the operating leverage in our consumable chemicals business model, and is as a result of the positive effects of the cost reduction initiatives taken in 2016, combined with increased activity levels as CES has come off its fixed cost base. Refer to "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail on Cash Gross Margin.
- CES recorded net income of \$6.3 million in Q2 2017 as compared to a net loss of \$25.6 million in the prior year. CES recorded net income per share of \$0.02 (\$0.02 diluted) in Q2 2017 versus a net loss per share of (\$0.11) ((\$0.11) diluted) in Q2 2016. For the year-to-date period, CES recorded net income of \$14.1 million compared to a net loss of \$49.2 million in 2016. CES recorded net income per share of \$0.05 (\$0.05) diluted) for H1 2017 versus a net loss per share of (\$0.22) ((\$0.22) diluted) in 2016. The respective year-over-year increase in net income resulted from the factors discussed above offset by higher depreciation and amortization charges and stock-based compensation expenses.
- At June 30, 2017, CES had a net draw of \$56.6 on its existing Senior Facility (December 31, 2016 net draw of nil). The maximum available draw on the Senior Facility at June 30, 2017, was \$150.0 million (December 31, 2016 \$121.4 million). At June 30, 2017, CES is in compliance with the terms and covenants of its Senior Facility.
- Subsequent to June 30, 2017, the Company completed an amendment and two year extension of its syndicated Senior Facility. All of the amendments took effect July 14, 2017 and will remain in effect until maturity of September 28, 2020, subject to certain terms and conditions, and may be extended by one year upon agreement of the lenders and the Company. The principal amendments to the Senior Facility include an increase in the available borrowing amount from \$150.0 to \$165.0, which addresses the needs of the Company's expanding US business, improved pricing on amounts drawn, and certain changes to the Company's debt covenants that are improvements for CES as detailed under the Liquidity and Capital Resources section of this MD&A. In response to increased activity levels requiring CES to build working capital, as at the date of this MD&A, the Company had a net draw of approximately \$65.0 million on its amended Senior Facility.
- At June 30, 2017, the Company had \$300.0 million of outstanding principal on unsecured Senior Notes due on April 17, 2020 (December 31, 2016 \$300.0 million). The Senior Notes bear interest of 7.375% per annum and interest is payable on the Senior Notes semi-annually on April 17th and October 17th. The Company has the option to redeem all of its outstanding Senior Notes on or after April 17, 2017. At June 30, 2017, CES is in compliance with the terms and covenants of its Senior Notes.
- CES continues to maintain a strong statement of financial position or "balance sheet" with positive net working capital of

\$284.8 million as at June 30, 2017 (December 31, 2016 – \$222.3 million).

During Q2 2017, CES declared monthly dividends totalling \$0.0075 per share as compared to \$0.0075 per share for the • same period in 2016. During Q2 2017, the Company's Payout Ratio averaged 9% as compared to negative 15% in Q2 2016. Further discussion on the Company's dividend is included in the Liquidity and Capital Resources section of this document.

# **RESULTS FOR THE PERIODS**

	Three Months Ended June 30,					
(\$000s, except per share amounts)	2017	2016	\$ Change	% Change		
Revenue	237,576	97,733	139,843	143%		
Cost of sales	179,042	81,979	97,063	118%		
Gross margin	58,534	15,754	42,780	272%		
Gross margin percentage of revenue	25%	16%				
General and administrative expenses	45,343	31,929	13,414	42%		
Finance costs	6,364	6,535	(171)	(3%)		
Other income	(38)	(50)	12	(24%)		
Income (loss) income before taxes	6,865	(22,660)	29,525	nmf		
Current income tax expense	235	4,252	(4,017)	(94%)		
Deferred income tax expense (recovery)	285	(1,315)	1,600	nmf		
Net income (loss)	6,345	(25,597)	31,942	nmf		
Net income (loss) per share – basic	0.02	(0.11)	0.13	nmf		
Net income (loss) per share – diluted	0.02	(0.11)	0.13	nmf		
EBITDAC (1)	35,317	(689)	36,006	nmf		
Common Shares Outstanding	2017	2016		% Change		
End of period	265,614,138	253,867,856		5%		
Weighted average						
- basic	265,190,677	230,573,931		15%		
- diluted	272,217,498	230,573,931		18%		
		As at				
Financial Position (\$000s)	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016		% Change		
Net working capital	284,754	222,323		28%		
Total assets	1,071,245	978,959		9%		
Long-term financial liabilities (2)	366,374	306,267		20%		
Shareholders' equity	583,151	568,837		3%		

**Notes:** <sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

<sup>2</sup>Includes long-term portion of the deferred acquisition consideration, the Senior Facility, the Senior Notes, and finance lease obligations.

## **CES Energy Solutions Corp.**

Management's Discussion and Analysis Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2017

	Six Months Ended June 30,					
(\$000s, except per share amounts)	2017	2016	\$ Change	% Change		
Revenue	489,928	234,882	255,046	109%		
Cost of sales	371,609	195,218	176,391	90%		
Gross margin	118,319	39,664	78,655	198%		
Gross margin percentage of revenue	24%	17%				
General and administrative expenses	90,783	70,945	19,838	28%		
Finance costs	13,109	16,758	(3,649)	(22%)		
Other (income) loss	(42)	181	(223)	nmf		
Income (loss) before taxes	14,469	(48,220)	62,689	nmf		
Current income tax expense	2,796	2,706	90	3%		
Deferred income tax (recovery)	(2,450)	(1,736)	(714)	41%		
Net income (loss)	14,123	(49,190)	63,313	nmf		
Net income (loss) per share – basic	0.05	(0.22)	0.27	nmf		
Net income (loss) per share – diluted	0.05	(0.22)	0.27	nmf		
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	71,424	5,912	65,512	1108%		
Common Shares Outstanding	2017	2016		% Change		
End of period	265,614,138	253,867,856		5%		
Weighted average						
- basic	264,682,839	225,751,133		17%		
- diluted	272,298,539	225,751,133		21%		

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

### **Revenue and Operating Activities**

CES generated revenue of \$237.6 million during the three months ended June 30, 2017, compared to \$97.7 million for the three months ended June 30, 2016, an increase of \$139.9 million or 143%. Year-to-date, gross revenue totaled \$489.9 million, compared to \$234.9 million for the six months ended June 30, 2016, representing an increase of \$255.0 million or 109% on a year-over-year basis.

Geographical revenue information relating to the Company's activities is as follows:

	Revenue		Revenue		
	Three Months Ende	d June 30,	Six Months Ended.	June 30,	
\$000s	2017	2016	2017	2016	
United States	162,967	68,255	304,660	158,100	
Canada	74,609	29,478	185,268	76,782	
	237,576	97,733	489,928	234,882	

Revenue generated in the US for the three months ended June 30, 2017, increased by \$94.7 million or 139% compared to the three months ended June 30, 2016, from \$68.3 million to \$163.0 million. For the six month period ended June 30, 2017, revenue in the US was \$304.7 million compared to \$158.1 million in the same period in 2016, representing an increase of \$146.6 million or 93%. This year over year increase is as a result of the improved market conditions in 2017 with significant activity growth in the drilling fluids business, market share gains in drilling fluids and increased US Treatment Points, particularly in the Permian Basin as a result of the Catalyst Acquisition, for which there were no associated revenues or Treatment Points in the comparable period in 2016. As noted below, US Operating Days in Q2 2017 increased by 122% over Q2 2016, while US Treatment Points increased by 88%. Furthermore, the Company continued to gain market share in Q2 2017 as CES achieved US Market Share of 11% for the three month period ended June 30, 2017, up from 10% in the comparable 2016 period.

Revenue generated in Canada for the three months ended June 30, 2017, increased by \$45.1 million or 153% compared to the three months ended June 30, 2016, from \$29.5 million to \$74.6 million. For the six month period ended June 30, 2017, revenue

in Canada was \$185.3 million compared to \$76.8 million in the same period in 2016, representing an increase of \$108.5 million or 141%. PureChem continued to gain market share in Canada in production chemicals as Canadian Treatment Points for Q2 2017 and H1 2017 have increased 34% and 44%, respectively, from the comparative periods. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, the drilling fluids business increased its operating days by 201% and 125%, respectively, over the comparable periods. As a result of CES' market share gains, CES' percentage increase in operating days outpaced industry rig counts which increased by 155% and 85%, respectively, over Q2 2016 and H12016. The Company achieved Canadian Market Share of 41% and 40% for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, respectively, as compared with 33% for the three and six months ended June 30, 2016. CES expects to maintain its leading market share but future Canadian Market Share will continue to fluctuate with the rapidly changing rig count environment that is being driven by volatility in our customers' risk appetite and spending levels. Further, results for Q2 2017 benefitted from the contribution by StimWrx, which was acquired January 1, 2017, for which there were no associated revenues in the comparable periods, and a shorter, less protracted spring break-up as compared with Q2 2016, which saw sharp declines in activity levels as customers curtailed spending in order to preserve capital, resulting in a protracted spring break-up that outlasted the typical weather constraints.

Included in revenue generated in Canada for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, is 1.8 million and 6.0 million, respectively, (2016 - 0.8 million and 2.1 million, respectively) of revenue generated by Clear, the Company's Environmental Services segment. Clear's business is levered to drilling activity and has been positively impacted by the industry rig activity levels at the drill-bit in Canada. Further contributing to the increase was the addition of new technology and service offerings around waste water management that were delivered at lower than historical margins for the business, resulting in increased revenue from the comparable periods. The financial results of Clear are otherwise not material and as such have been aggregated with the consolidated results of the Company throughout this MD&A.

A summary of rig counts and Operating Days for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, is as follows:

		Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,		ed
	2017	2016	% Change	2017	2016	% Change
Canadian industry rig count (1)	113	44	155%	183	99	85%
US industry rig count (2)	874	399	119%	797	463	72%

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Based on the quarterly average of CAODC published monthly data for Western Canada.

<sup>2</sup> Based on the quarterly average of Baker Hughes published land data for the United States

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,			
	2017	2016	% Change	2017	2016	% Change
Canada	4,161	1,381	201%	13,168	5,850	125%
US	8,340	3,753	122%	15,801	8,450	87%
Total Operating Days <sup>(1)</sup>	12,501	5,134	144%	28,969	14,300	103%

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>*Refer to "Operational Definitions" for further detail.* 

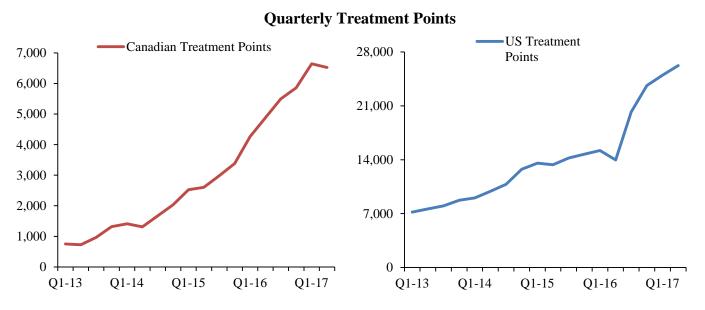
The following table summarizes estimated Treatment Points during the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 as compared to the same period in 2016:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended			
		June 30,		June 30,		
	2017	2016	% Change	2017	2016	% Change
Canada	6,523	4,880	34%	6,582	4,572	44%
US	26,231	13,968	88%	25,604	14,587	76%
Total Treatment Points (1)	32,754	18,848	74%	32,186	19,159	68%

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>*Refer to "Operational Definitions" for further detail.* 

As evidenced by the graphs below, US Treatment Points have continued to trend upwards since the JACAM Acquisition in March of 2013 and have increased considerably subsequent to the August 1, 2016, Catalyst Acquisition. Canadian Treatment Points have continued to trend upwards as the Company continues to gain market share, however treatment points dropped slightly from Q1 2017 to Q2 2017 as a result of spring break-up and weather related conditions that reduced the number of truck treatment and single event stimulation wells that could be serviced in the quarter.



For the three and six three months ended June 30, 2017, CES' top customers accounted for the following percentage of total revenue:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	June 30,		June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Top five customers as a % of total revenue	29%	22%	28%	20%
Top customer as a % of total revenue	13%	11%	13%	10%

#### Cost of Sales and Gross Margin

Gross margin represents the operating profit earned on revenue after deducting the associated costs of sales including cost of products, operational labour, operational related depreciation, transportation, and all other operational related costs. Margins vary due to a change in the type of products sold, the relative product mix, well type, geographic area, and nature of activity (i.e. drilling fluids, production and specialty chemicals, environmental, trucking, etc.). Generally, labour costs have less of an impact on CES' margins than other cost elements such as product costs. Use of consultants and the variable component of compensation for employees provide CES with a means to manage seasonal activity swings as well as overall fluctuations in the demand for CES' products and services.

Gross margin and Cash Gross Margin for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016 are as follows:

		Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
\$000s	2017	2016	2017	2016	
Gross margin	58,534	15,754	118,319	39,664	
as a percentage of revenue	25%	16%	24%	17%	
Add back (deduct):					
Depreciation included in cost of sales	9,235	8,334	18,358	17,341	
Loss (gain) on disposal of assets included in cost of sales	(247)	(488)	123	(848)	
Cash Gross Margin <sup>(1)</sup>	67,522	23,600	136,800	56,157	
as a percentage of revenue	28%	24%	28%	24%	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

The improvement in Cash Gross Margin as a percentage of revenue in Q2 2017 and H1 2017 is a result of the positive effects of cost reduction initiatives taken early in 2016 combined with increased activity levels as CES has come off its fixed cost base in the drilling fluids businesses. Although activity levels have largely improved throughout the industry, pricing pressure from customers persists and the Company continues to sell its products and services at trough pricing levels. With the exception of the pass-through of certain costs like increased labour and commodity price costs, CES has yet to benefit from any broad based price increases to its customers.

Despite this continued pricing pressure, and the annual spring break-up related decline in Canadian activity in Q2 2017, Cash Gross Margin as a percentage of revenue increased from 27% in Q1 2017 to 28% in Q2 2017, which is evidence of the Company's operating leverage in our consumable chemical business model and rationalized cost structure.

### General and Administrative Expenses ("G&A")

The table below details the calculation of Cash General and Administrative Costs, removing stock-based compensation and depreciation and amortization, which are included in general and administrative expenses under IFRS. Cash General and Administrative Costs is a more meaningful measure of the general and administrative expenses affecting CES' free cash flow.

		Three Months Ended June 30.		
\$000s	2017	2016	June 30 2017	2016
General and administrative expenses	45,343	31,929	90,783	70,945
as a percentage of revenue	19%	33%	19%	30%
Deduct non-cash expenses included in general &				
administrative expenses:				
Stock-based compensation	5,114	2,395	10,984	8,761
Depreciation & amortization	7,339	6,132	14,615	12,499
Cash General and Administrative Costs <sup>(1)</sup>	32,890	23,402	65,184	49,685
as a percentage of revenue	14%	24%	13%	21%

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

Cash General and Administrative Costs as a percentage of revenue for both Q2 2017 and H1 2017 have decreased from the comparable periods due to an increase in revenues, resulting in the fixed costs of managing the business being distributed over a larger revenue base. In 2016, the Company took actions to rationalize Cash General and Administrative Costs. These cost reduction measures included reduced corporate and administrative headcounts, reduced compensation levels, and reductions in discretionary spending. As the industry rebounds it is expected that Cash General and Administrative Costs will rise as we add headcount and experience cost inflation. On an absolute basis, Cash General and Administrative Costs increased in Q2 2017 and H1 2017 as compared with Q2 2016 and H1 2016 as a result of the following: growth of the business resulting from increased

industry activity; increased variable compensation costs reflective of increased revenues across all major facets of the business; and the acquisitions of both Catalyst and StimWrx, for which there were no associated costs in the comparable periods. In addition, it should be noted that Cash General and Administrative Costs were negatively impacted in Q2 2017 by an aggregate of \$0.6 million in severance costs and insurance deductibles attributable to the fire at the organoclay plant. Finally, for the three months ended June 30, 2017, US source Cash General and Administrative Costs were negatively impacted on translation by a stronger USD versus CAD over the comparable period in 2016.

Sequentially quarter over quarter, the Company's Cash General and Administrative costs have remained consistent with the \$32.3 million recorded in Q1 2017, and are up as a % of revenue from 13% in Q1 2017 to 14% in Q2 2017 as a result of the lower revenue base with Canadian spring break-up.

### Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expenses are included in both cost of sales and general and administrative expenses on the Company's consolidated statements of income and comprehensive income as follows:

	Three Months June 30	Six Months Ended June 30,		
\$000s	2017	2016	2017	2016
Depreciation recorded in cost of sales:				
Depreciation expense on property and equipment	9,235	8,334	18,358	17,341
Depreciation and amortization recorded in G&A:				
Amortization expense on intangible assets	5,986	4,931	11,923	10,054
Depreciation expense on property and equipment	1,353	1,201	2,692	2,445
	7,339	6,132	14,615	12,499
Total depreciation and amortization expense	16,574	14,466	32,973	29,840

The year-over-year increase in depreciation and amortization expense is primarily attributable to the Company's continued capital investment in the expansion of its operations in Canada and the US, as well as the amortization of the Company's property and equipment and intangible assets associated with the acquisition of Catalyst and StimWrx, for which there was none in the comparable periods in 2016. Further, for the three months ended June 30, 2017, US source depreciation and amortization costs were negatively impacted on translation by a stronger USD versus CAD over the comparable period in 2016.

### Finance Costs

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, finance costs were comprised of the following:

	Three Months Enc June 30,	Three Months Ended Six June 30,		
\$000s	2017	2016	2017	2016
Realized foreign exchange (gain) loss	(505)	490	(586)	1,801
Unrealized foreign exchange loss	105	15	63	16
Realized financial derivative (gain) loss	(180)	397	778	(1,242)
Unrealized financial derivative loss (gain)	646	(240)	26	4,185
Amortization of debt issue costs and premium	322	316	643	631
Interest on debt, net of interest income	5,976	5,557	12,016	11,366
Other finance costs	-	-	169	-
Finance costs	6,364	6,535	13,109	16,757

### Foreign exchange gains and losses

Finance costs for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 include a realized and unrealized net foreign exchange gain totalling \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million, respectively (2016 – net loss of \$0.5 million and \$1.8 million, respectively), primarily

related to foreign exchange gains on the Company's USD denominated receivables and cash balances held in Canada. The net foreign exchange gain was driven by a strengthening CAD throughout the first half of 2017.

#### Derivative gains and losses

Finance costs for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, include a realized and unrealized net derivative loss totalling \$0.5 million and \$0.8 million, respectively, (2016 – net loss of \$0.2 million and \$2.9 million, respectively), relating to the Company's foreign currency derivative contracts. As of June 30, 2017, the Company had a financial derivative liability of net \$0.6 million relating to its outstanding derivative contracts (December 31, 2016 – net asset of \$0.02 million and liability of \$0.6 million, respectively).

CES has a Board approved hedging and derivative policy that sets out the guidelines and parameters management follows when approaching its risk management strategies. At June 30, 2017 the Company had entered into the following foreign exchange USD forward purchase and option contracts to manage its exposure to upcoming USD denominated purchases pursuant to its Canadian and US operations:

	<b>Notional Balance</b>			Average USDCAD
Period	<b>USD\$000s</b>	Contract Type	Settlement	<b>Exchange Rate</b>
July 2017	US\$5,260	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.2827
August 2017	US\$3,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3249
September 2017	US\$3,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3243
October 2017	US\$3,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3238
November 2017	US\$3,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3232
December 2017	US\$3,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3224
January 2018	US\$3,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3217
February 2018	US\$3,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3209
March 2018	US\$2,000	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$1.3223
Total	US\$28,260			\$1.3155

#### Interest expense

Interest on debt, net of interest income in the table above, consists of interest expense on finance lease obligations, the Senior Facility and the Senior Notes, and excludes any non-cash amortization of debt issue costs and premium on both the Senior Notes and the Senior Facility. Finance costs for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 include interest on debt, net of interest income, of \$6.0 million and \$12.0 million, respectively (2016 –\$5.6 million and \$11.4 million, respectively). Year-over-year, interest expense has increased largely as a result of the increased net draw on the Senior Facility throughout 2017 as compared to 2016, thereby increasing interest incurred on outstanding borrowing.

Total interest expense relating to the Company's Senior Notes, and recorded within Interest on debt, net of interest income, in the table above, during the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, is \$5.4 million and \$10.6 million, respectively, consistent with \$5.3 million and \$10.6 million, respectively, in Q2 2016 and H1 2016.

### **Current and Deferred Income Taxes**

Income tax expense is related to taxable income in Canada, the US, and Luxembourg. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, income tax expense was comprised of the following:

	Three Months En	Three Months Ended		
	June 30,		June 30,	
\$000's	2017	2016	2017	2016
Current income tax expense	235	4,252	2,796	2,706
Deferred income tax expense (recovery)	285	(1,315)	(2,450)	(1,736)
Total income tax expense	520	2,937	346	970

The Company is currently under audit by the Canada Revenue Agency (the "CRA") with respect to its conversion from a publicly traded limited partnership to a public corporation on January 1, 2010 (the "Conversion"). The CRA has issued a

proposal letter to the Company with respect to its 2010, 2011 and 2012 taxation years, stating its intention to disallow non-capital losses of approximately \$57.7 million and capital losses of approximately \$18.7 million. While the Company continues to believe its returns were correctly filed and it has not yet received any Notices of Reassessment relating to this matter, it has proposed a settlement offer to the CRA. A current tax expense of \$7.0 million was accrued for in the Company's December 31, 2016 consolidated financial statements based on the settlement proposal for the estimated cash cost related to the resolution of this tax dispute on the Conversion. As at June 30, 2017, this amount remains as a current tax payable in the consolidated financial statements. See also "Risks and Uncertainties – Income Tax Matters".

The year-over-year increase in current income tax expense is primarily related to an increase in operating income in 2017. The year-over-year decrease in deferred income tax expense is primarily due to a combination of changes in the temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes, including the unrecognized deferred tax asset related to current year US tax losses in 2017.

#### Net Working Capital

At June 30, 2017, the Company had a net draw of \$56.6 on its Senior Facility. CES continued to maintain a strong statement of financial position or "balance sheet" as at June 30, 2017, with positive net working capital of \$284.8 million (December 31, 2016 - \$222.3 million). The increase in working capital from December 31, 2016 is primarily due to increased activity levels across all facets of the business and is comprised of the following: a \$61.0 million increase in receivables, a \$26.5 million increase in inventory, a \$4.3 million increase in prepaid expenses, offset by a \$13.4 million reduction in cash, a \$9.8 million increase in accounts payable, a \$4.4 million increase in deferred acquisition consideration, and a \$1.1 million increase in income taxes payable.

### Total Long-Term Assets

Year-over-year, total long-term assets of CES increased by \$14.3 million to \$673.8 million at June 30, 2017 from \$659.5 million at December 31, 2016. The increase is primarily attributable to the long-term assets acquired through the StimWrx Acquisition, which includes \$9.6 million in intangible assets and \$18.1 million of goodwill based on the Company's preliminary purchase price allocation. This increase in long-term assets is partially offset with a decline in USD denominated long-term assets on translation as a result of a stronger CAD at June 30, 2017 compared to December 31, 2016.

#### Long-Term Financial Liabilities

CES had long-term debt totalling \$356.1 million at June 30, 2017, compared to \$298.8 million at December 31, 2016, an increase of \$57.3 million. The increase in long-term debt is primarily as a result of the Company's increased borrowings on the Senior Facility during the period, as a result of the increased activity levels and need to build up working capital to meet growing customer demands. Additional discussion relating to the Company's Senior Facility is included in the Liquidity and Capital Resources section of this MD&A.

At June 30, 2017, long-term debt liabilities were comprised of the following balances:

	As at		
\$000s	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	
Senior Facility	57,014	-	
Senior Notes	300,000	300,000	
	357,014	300,000	
Less net unamortized debt issue costs	(3,044)	(3,683)	
Add net unamortized debt premium	2,084	2,453	
Long-term debt	356,054	298,770	

At June 30, 2017, the Company had finance lease liabilities of \$17.2 million, net of the current portion of \$7.4 million, representing a total increase of \$2.5 million from December 31, 2016.

Future minimum lease payments outstanding under the Company's finance lease obligations are as follows:

\$000s	
Less than 1 year	7,636
1-5 years	10,541
5+ years	-
Total lease payments	18,177
Amount representing implicit interest	(1,003)
Finance lease obligations	17,174
Less: current portion of finance lease obligations	(7,374)
Long-term finance lease obligations	9,800

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, the Company made long-term scheduled debt and lease repayments totalling \$2.5 million and \$4.6 million, respectively, on its finance leases.

### Shareholders' Equity

Shareholders' equity increased by \$14.4 million from \$568.8 million at December 31, 2016 to \$583.2 million at June 30, 2017. The increase in shareholders' equity is primarily attributable to the issuance of \$12.8 million in shares issued as consideration in conjunction with the StimWrx Acquisition, net of share issuance costs, \$14.1 million net income for the period, \$11.0 million in contributed surplus related to stock-based compensation expense, and \$8.6 million relating to the issuance of equity under the Company's stock-based compensation plans. The increase was offset by a \$4.0 million of dividends declared by the Company during the period, \$6.1 million reclassified from contributed surplus for stock-based compensation plans, and a \$22.2 million loss in accumulated other comprehensive income relating to the translation of the Company's wholly-owned USD denominated subsidiaries as CAD strengthened from December 31, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

### **Related Parties**

During the six months ended June 30, 2017, CES sold property and equipment with an aggregate net book value of \$1.1 million to a former employee and a former director of the Company, who at the time of the transactions were employees of the Company, and to companies controlled by the respective former employee and former director, for proceeds of \$0.6 million. These transactions have been accounted for at the exchange amount being the amount agreed to by the related parties.

# QUARTERLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY

		Three Months Ended					
(\$000s, except per share amounts)	Jun 30, 2017	Mar 31, 2017	Dec 31, 2016	Sep 30, 2016			
Revenue	237,576	252,352	187,704	145,140			
Gross margin	58,534	59,785	39,983	32,134			
Net income (loss)	6,345	7,778	(3,973)	(11,387)			
per share– basic	0.02	0.03	(0.02)	(0.04)			
per share– diluted	0.02	0.03	(0.02)	(0.04)			
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	35,317	36,107	23,134	16,580			
per share– basic	0.13	0.14	0.09	0.06			
per share– diluted	0.13	0.13	0.09	0.06			
Funds Flow From Operations <sup>(1)</sup>	28,626	27,523	16,973	11,699			
per share– basic	0.11	0.10	0.06	0.05			
per share– diluted	0.11	0.10	0.06	0.05			
Dividends declared	1,990	1,983	1,965	1,943			
per share	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075			
Shares Outstanding							
End of period	265,614,138	264,825,562	262,300,999	261,665,788			
Weighted average – basic	265,190,677	264,169,358	261,840,909	258,964,524			
Weighted average – diluted	272,217,498	272,554,790	261,840,909	258,964,524			

	Three Mont	ns Ended				
Jun 30, 2016	Mar 31, 2016	Dec 31, 2015	Sep 30, 2015			
97,733	137,149	164,958	187,757			
15,754	23,910	24,906	41,258			
(25,597)	(23,593)	(114,402)	6,457			
(0.11)	(0.11)	(0.52)	0.03			
(0.11)	(0.11)	(0.52)	0.03			
(689)	6,601	8,473	24,561			
-	0.03	0.04	0.11			
-	0.03	0.04	0.11			
(10,488)	2,338	7,844	25,375			
(0.05)	0.01	0.04	0.12			
(0.05)	0.01	0.04	0.11			
1,749	5,079	16,027	18,025			
0.0075	0.0230	0.0730	0.0825			
253,867,856	222,369,084	220,424,818	219,168,309			
230,573,931	220,928,336	219,534,188	218,237,459			
230,573,931	220,928,336	219,534,188	224,545,092			
	97,733 15,754 (25,597) (0.11) (0.11) (689) - - (10,488) (0.05) (0.05) (0.05) 1,749 0.0075 253,867,856 230,573,931	Jun 30, 2016 Mar 31, 2016   97,733 137,149   15,754 23,910   (25,597) (23,593)   (0.11) (0.11)   (0.11) (0.11)   (0.11) (0.11)   (689) 6,601   - 0.03   - 0.03   (10,488) 2,338   (0.05) 0.01   (0.05) 0.01   1,749 5,079   0.0075 0.0230   253,867,856 222,369,084   230,573,931 220,928,336	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

#### Seasonality of Operations

The Western Canadian drilling industry is subject to seasonality with activity usually peaking during the winter months in the first and last quarters of any given calendar year. As temperatures rise in the spring, the ground thaws and becomes unstable, resulting in government road bans which severely restrict activity in the second quarter. These seasonal trends typically lead to quarterly fluctuations in Canadian operating results and working capital requirements which should be considered in any quarter over quarter analysis of the Company. The overall seasonality of the Company's operations has, and will continue to become less pronounced as a result of expansion in the US and increased diversification of operations away from the drill-bit.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

### **Existing Senior Facility**

At June 30, 2017, the Company had a syndicated Senior Facility (the "Senior Facility") which allowed the Company to borrow up to \$150.0 million. The Senior Facility matures on September 28, 2018 and may be extended by one year upon agreement of the lenders and the Company. Amounts drawn on the Senior Facility incur interest at the bank's prime rate or US base rate plus an applicable pricing margin ranging from 0.75% to 1.50% or the Canadian Bankers' Acceptance rate or the LIBOR rate plus an applicable pricing margin ranging from 1.75% to 2.50%. The Senior Facility has a standby fee ranging from 0.35% to 0.56%. The applicable pricing margins are based on a sliding scale of Senior Funded Debt to EBITDA ratio. The obligations and indebtedness under the Senior Facility are secured by all of the assets of CES and its subsidiaries.

At June 30, 2017, the Company had a net draw of \$56.6 million on its Senior Facility and capitalized transaction costs pertaining to the Senior Facility of \$0.4 million (December 31, 2016 – net draw of \$nil, net of capitalized transaction costs of \$0.6 million). The maximum available draw on the Senior Facility at June 30, 2017 was \$150.0 million (December 31, 2016 – \$121.4 million). As at June 30, 2017, the Company had positive net working capital of \$284.8 million as compared with \$222.3 million at December 31, 2016.

In conjunction with the Senior Facility, CES is subject to the following financial covenants:

- The ratio of Senior Funded Debt to trailing EBITDA must not exceed 2.25 to 1.00 calculated on a rolling four-quarter basis; and
- The quarterly ratio of EBITDA to interest expense, on a rolling four-quarter basis, must be more than:
  - 1.50:1.00 for the period ending December 31, 2016;
  - 1.75:1.00 for the period ending March 31, 2017; and
  - 2.00:1.00 thereafter.

The relevant definitions of key ratio terms as set forth in the Senior Facility agreement are as follows:

- EBITDA is defined as net income before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, gains and losses on disposal of assets, amortization of capitalized deferred financing costs, goodwill impairment, unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses, unrealized derivative gains and losses, stock-based compensation, and other gains and losses not considered reflective of underlying operations. EBITDA attributable to businesses acquired in the period are permitted to be added to EBITDA.
- Senior Funded Debt is defined as Total Net Funded Debt, as defined below, minus the principal amount owing on the Company's Senior Notes.
- Total Net Funded Debt is defined as all funded obligations, liabilities, and indebtedness excluding deferred income tax liabilities and deferred tax credits, office leases, other leases characterized as operating leases, and accrued interest not yet due and payable. Total Net Funded Debt is also reduced by any unencumbered cash and securities on deposit or invested with any of the members of the Company's banking syndicate.

The above noted definitions are not recognized under IFRS and are provided strictly for the purposes of the Company's Senior Facility covenant calculations.

As at June 30, 2017, CES was in compliance with the terms and covenants of Senior Facility, calculated as follows:

	As:	at
\$000s	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Senior Funded Debt to trailing EBITDA Ratio (Must be < 2.25:1.00)		
Senior Funded Debt	77,722	4,138
EBITDA for the four quarters ended	115,286	53,969
Ratio	0.674	0.077
EBITDA to Interest Expense (Must be > 2.00:1.00)		
EBITDA for the four quarters ended	115,286	53,969
Interest Expense for the four quarters ended	23,724	23,189
Ratio	4.859	2.327

### Amendment and Extension of Senior Facility

On July 14, 2017, the Company completed an amendment and two year extension of its syndicated Senior Facility. The principal amendments to the Senior Facility are as follows:

- subject to certain terms and conditions, the maturity date of the Senior Facility is extended from September 28, 2018 to September 28, 2020, and may be extended further by one year upon agreement of the lenders and the Company;
- the covenant relief period which was entered into March 29, 2016 is terminated;
- the Maximum Net Senior Funded Debt to EBITDA ratio increased from 2.25 to 2.50;
- the Minimum EBITDA to Interest Expense ratio increased from 2.00 to 2.50. Additionally, at the option of the Company and subject to certain conditions, the Minimum EBITDA to Interest Expense threshold may be reduced to 1.50 for a period not in excess of three consecutive quarters, returning to the requisite 2.50 in the fourth quarter thereafter. This optional interest coverage step-down may only be utilized once prior to September 28, 2020;
- the previously restrictive covenant of Total Net Funded Debt to EBITDA has been eliminated;
- improved pricing range on Canadian Prime Rate Loans, U.S. Base Rate Loans and U.S. Prime Rate Loans from prime plus 0.75% 1.50% to prime plus 0.45% 1.00%;
- improved pricing range on LIBOR Loans, Bankers' Acceptances and Letters of Credit from the applicable rate plus 1.75% 2.50% to the applicable rate plus 1.45% 2.00%; and
- the U.S. Operating Facility is increased from US\$25.0 million to US\$40.0 million, to address the needs of the Company's expanding US business, resulting in an increase to the overall Senior Facility of US\$15.0 million.

The relevant definitions of key ratio terms as set forth in the amendments to the Senior Facility are consistent with those in the previous Senior Facility, with the exception of the term "Senior Funded Debt", defined above, which is hereto forth referred to as "Net Senior Debt". Other terms and conditions from the amendment remain consistent with those of the previous Senior Facility.

As at the date of this MD&A, the Company had a net draw of approximately \$65.0 million on its amended Senior Facility and is in compliance with the terms and covenants of the amended Senior Facility.

#### Senior Notes

At June 30, 2017 the Company had \$300.0 million of outstanding principal on unsecured Senior Notes due on April 17, 2020 (December 31, 2016 - \$300.0 million). The Senior Notes bear interest of 7.375% per annum and interest is payable on the Senior Notes semi-annually on April 17<sup>th</sup> and October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Senior Notes contain certain early redemption options, whereby the Company can choose to redeem all of or a portion of at various redemption prices, which include the principal amount plus any accrued and unpaid interest to the applicable redemption date. The Company has the ability to redeem all of its outstanding Senior Notes on or after April 17, 2017. The Senior Notes are unsecured, ranking equal in right of payment to all existing and future unsecured indebtedness, and have been guaranteed by the Company's current and future subsidiaries. Certain restrictions exist relating to items such as making restricted payments and incurring additional debt. As at the date of this MD&A the Senior Notes were trading over par. At June 30, 2017, CES is in compliance with the terms and covenants of its Senior Notes.

### **Other Indebtedness**

In addition to the above, CES has non-bank vehicle and equipment finance leases which are secured by each related asset at a weighted average interest rate of approximately 5.16%, and have termination dates ranging from July 2017 through August 2021.

At June 30, 2017, outstanding vehicle and equipment finance lease obligations totalled \$17.2 million as compared to \$14.7 million at December 31, 2016.

The following table details the remaining contractual maturities of the Company's financial liabilities as of June 30, 2017:

	Payments Due By Period <sup>(1)</sup>					
\$000s	Less than 3 months	3 months to 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	5+ years	Total
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	91,540	-	-	-	-	91,540
Dividends payable <sup>(2)</sup>	664	-	-	-	-	664
Income taxes payable	-	3,485	-	-	-	3,485
Deferred acquisition consideration	4,588	4,443	370	150	-	9,551
Senior Notes (4)	-	-	-	300,000	-	300,000
Interest on Senior Notes	-	22,125	22,125	22,125	-	66,375
Finance lease obligations at floating interest rates <sup>(3)</sup>	1,333	6,041	6,177	3,623	-	17,174
Office and facility rent, and other	2,993	6,033	5,400	6,044	2,866	23,336
	101,118	42,127	34,072	331,942	2,866	512,125

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Payments denominated in foreign currencies have been translated using the appropriate June 30, 2017 exchange rate

<sup>2</sup> Dividends declared as of June 30, 2017

<sup>3</sup> Finance lease obligations reflect principal payments and excludes any associated interest portion

<sup>4</sup> The Senior Notes are due on April 17, 2020

As of the date of this MD&A, management is satisfied that CES has sufficient liquidity and capital resources to meet the longterm payment obligations of its outstanding loans and commitments. CES assesses its requirements for capital on an ongoing basis and there can be no guarantee that CES will not have to obtain additional capital to finance the expansion plans of the business or to finance future working capital requirements. In the event that additional capital is required, based on the market conditions at the time, it may be difficult to issue additional equity or increase credit capacity and the cost of any new capital may exceed historical norms and/or impose more stringent covenants and/or restrictions on CES. CES continues to focus on evaluating credit capacity, credit counterparties, and liquidity to ensure its ability to be able to meet its ongoing commitments and obligations.

### Cash Flows from Operating Activities

For the three months ended June 30, 2017, cash flow from operating activities was an inflow of \$5.6 million compared to \$24.3 million during the three months ended June 30, 2016, with the decrease being primarily as a result of the change in non-cash working capital. Funds Flow From Operations takes into consideration changes in non-cash working capital and represents the Company's after tax operating cash flows. For the three months ended June 30, 2017, Funds Flow From Operations was an inflow of \$28.6 million, compared to an outflow of \$10.5 million for the three months ended June 30, 2016. The increase in Funds Flow from Operations from Q2 2016 to Q2 2017 is largely as a result of the increase in activity in the quarter and resulting impact on net operating cash flows during the second quarter.

	Three Months June 30		Six Months Ended June 30,		
\$000's	2017	2016	2017	2016	
Cash provided by operating activities	5,605	24,274	(28,713)	61,989	
Adjust for:					
Change in non-cash operating working capital	23,021	(34,762)	84,862	(70,139)	
Funds Flow From Operations (1)	28,626	(10,488)	56,149	(8,150)	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

### Cash Flows from Investing Activities

For the three months ended June 30, 2017, net cash outflows from investing activities totalled \$15.8 million, an increase from the \$8.8 million outflow from investing activities during the three months ended June 30, 2016, primarily as a result the increase in in investment in property and equipment in Q2 2017 compared to Q2 2016 by \$9.3 million as a result of increased expansion capital deployed in the quarter.

For the three months ended June 30, 2017, \$18.1 million was spent on property and equipment (net of \$3.6 million in vehicle finance leases). During the quarter, CES had \$5.9 million of additions related to Maintenance Capital and \$14.5 million of additions related to Expansion Capital including asset and vehicle financing. Notable expansion additions during the quarter ended June 30, 2017 include: \$3.6 million in aircraft; \$3.3 million in vehicles, \$2.7 million for warehouse and facilities, \$1.6 million in trucks and trailers, \$1.4 million for machinery and field equipment, \$0.9 million for processing equipment, \$0.6 million for tanks, and \$0.4 million for other expansion additions.

Expansion Capital expenditures in Q2 2017 were primarily related to the continued expansion of the JACAM, Catalyst, and PureChem facilities. Details of investment made in property and equipment are as follows:

	Three Months June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
\$000's	2017	2016	2017	2016
Expansion Capital (1)	14,468	8,552	24,680	17,608
Maintenance Capital <sup>(1)</sup>	5,914	984	9,779	1,367
Other capital expenditures <sup>(2)</sup>	1,311	-	1,311	-
Total investment in property and equipment	21,693	9,536	35,770	18,975
Asset financing and leases	(3,574)	(1,287)	(7,328)	(2,389)
Capital expenditures	18,119	8,249	28,442	16,586
Change in non-cash investing working capital	(515)	79	20	501
Cash used for investment in property and equipment	17,604	8,328	28,462	17,087

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the "Operational Definitions" for further detail.

<sup>2</sup> Other capital expenditures include amounts incurred for the reconstruction of the organoclay plant, for which all costs, except for deductibles totalling US\$0.3 million, are fully insured.

Historically, the long-term capital investments required for CES to execute its business plan are not significant in relation to the total revenue and EBITDAC generated by the Company and the majority of capital expenditures are made at the discretion of CES based on the timing and the expected overall return on the investment. For fiscal 2017, CES's expected non-acquisition related capital expenditures are estimated at this time to be approximately \$60.0 million, of which an estimated \$16.0 million will be maintenance capital additions, and an estimated \$44.0 million will be for expansion capital additions.

### Cash Flows from Financing Activities

For the three months ended June 30, 2017, cash flows from financing activities totalled a cash inflow of \$10.2 million compared to a cash inflow of \$83.8 million during the comparative prior year period. This year-over-year decrease in cash inflows from financing activities is primarily due to the increased draws on the Senior Facility, offset by a reduction in net proceeds relating to the completion of the Offering in the comparable period of 2016.

CES calculated Distributable Earnings based on Funds Flow From Operations and the Payout Ratio based on the level of dividends declared as follows:

	Three Months June 30		Six Months Ended June 30.		
\$000's	2017	2016	2017	2016	
Cash provided by operating activities	5,605	24,274	(28,713)	61,989	
Adjust for:					
Change in non-cash operating working capital	23,021	(34,762)	84,862	(70,139)	
Funds Flow From Operations (1)	28,626	(10,488)	56,149	(8,150)	
less: Maintenance Capital <sup>(2)</sup>	(5,914)	(984)	(9,779)	(1,367)	
Distributable Earnings <sup>(1)</sup>	22,712	(11,472)	46,370	(9,517)	
Dividends declared	1,990	1,749	3,973	6,828	
Payout Ratio (1)	9%	-15%	9%	-72%	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

<sup>2</sup> Refer to the "Operational Definitions" for further detail.

Distributable Earnings were \$22.7 million for the three months ended June 30, 2017, compared with negative \$11.5 million for the same period in 2016. During the three months ended June 30, 2017, CES declared monthly dividends totalling \$0.0075 per share for the quarter. During the second quarter of 2017, the Payout Ratio was 9% as compared to negative 15% for the second quarter of 2016.

### **Dividend Policy**

The Company declared dividends to holders of common shares for the six months ended June 30, 2017, as follows:

\$000s except per share amounts	Dividend Record Date	Dividend Payment Date	Per Common Share	Total	
January	Jan 31	Feb 15	\$0.0025	660	
February	Feb 28	Mar 15	\$0.0025	661	
March	Mar 31	Apr 13	\$0.0025	662	
April	Apr 28	May 15	\$0.0025	662	
May	May 31	Jun 15	\$0.0025	664	
June	Jun 30	Jul 14	\$0.0025	664	
Total dividends declared during the period			\$0.0150	3,973	

Through the course of the year, monthly dividends declared as a proportion of net income and distributable earnings will vary significantly based on the Company's financial performance. During periods of relatively strong financial performance, typically associated with higher activity levels, dividends declared as a percentage of net income and cash flow from operations will decrease, and likewise, during periods of relatively weaker financial performance dividends declared as a percentage of net income and cash flow from operations will increase. Dividends are funded by cash provided by operating activities. During periods of insufficient cash availability, due to relatively weaker financial performance or changes in the level of working capital, dividends may be funded by available cash or through CES' credit facilities.

Management and the Board of Directors review the appropriateness of dividends on a monthly basis taking into account applicable solvency requirements under corporate legislation; current and anticipated industry conditions; and, particularly, growth opportunities requiring Expansion Capital, and management's forecast of Distributable Earnings and the Payout Ratio. At this time, CES intends to continue to pay cash dividends to shareholders, but these dividends are not guaranteed. In addition, future expansion, investments, and acquisitions may be funded internally by withholding a portion of cash flow in conjunction with, or in replacement of, external sources of capital such as debt or the issuance of equity. To the extent that CES withholds cash flow to finance these activities, the amount of cash dividends to shareholders may be reduced. Alternatively, to the extent

that CES' sustainable operating after tax cash flow improves, the amount of cash dividends to shareholders may be increased. Over the long-term, CES' business model has historically shown it can support a proportion of cash flow from operations being paid out as a dividend as the long-term Expansion Capital investments and Maintenance Capital expenditures required for CES to execute its business plan have not been significant in relation to the total revenue and EBITDAC generated.

Subsequent to June 30, 2017, the Company declared dividends to holders of common shares in the amount of \$0.0025 per common share payable on August 15, 2017, for shareholders of record on July 31, 2017. CES will continue to be protective of its balance sheet and provide liquidity to fund potential growth initiatives by being prudent with its cash dividend going forward, particularly if the volatility in the oil price environment continues.

### Shareholders' Equity

As of June 30, 2017, CES had a total of 265,614,138 common shares outstanding. As of the date of this MD&A, CES had a total of 265,649,120 common shares outstanding.

#### Stock-based Compensation,

As at June 30, 2017, a total of 26,564,414 common shares were reserved for issuance under the Company's Restricted Share Unit Plan, which has a sub-limit of 5% of common shares outstanding, Share Rights Incentive Plan, and Stock Settled Director Fee Program, of which 5,819,723 common shares remained available for grant.

#### a) Share Rights Incentive Plan ("SRIP")

At June 30, 2017, a total of 14,803,800 Share Rights were outstanding (December 31, 2016 - 14,045,400) at a weighted average exercise price of \$6.34 (assuming all SRIP's are exercised at their respective original exercise price) of which 6,638,399 were exercisable. As of the date of this MD&A, an aggregate 14,758,800 Share Rights remaining outstanding, of which 6,647,399 are exercisable.

#### b) Restricted Share Unit Plan ("RSU")

At June 30, 2017, a total of 5,937,891 Restricted Share Units were outstanding (December 31, 2016 - 4,858,585) at a weighted average issuance price of \$5.61, none of which have vested. As of the date of this MD&A, an aggregate of 5,906,522 Restricted Share Units remain outstanding.

#### Commitments

At June 30, 2017, CES had the following additional commitments not included as liabilities on its statement of financial position:

\$000s	2017 - 6 months	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Office and facility rent, and other	5,915	5,866	4,222	2,569	1,611	20,183

Payments denominated in foreign currencies have been translated using the appropriate June 30, 2017 exchange rate

As of the date of this MD&A, given its financial position, CES fully anticipates it will be able to meet these commitments.

The Company is involved in litigation and disputes arising in the normal course of operations. Management is of the opinion that any potential litigation it is aware of will not have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations and therefore the commitment table does not include any provisions for any outstanding litigation or potential claims.

## CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGMENTS AND ESTIMATES

As a routine element of the financial statement preparation process, management is required to make estimates and assumptions based on information available as at the financial statement date. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and the possible disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the condensed consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses for the period.

Although estimates and assumptions must be made during the financial statement preparation process, it is management's opinion that none of the estimates or assumptions were highly uncertain at the time they were made. The most significant estimates in CES' condensed consolidated financial statements have been set out in the Company's MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2016, and its audited annual consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2016.

## **RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS**

There were no new or amended accounting standards or interpretations adopted during the six months ended June 30, 2017, that are material to the financial statements. A description of accounting standards and interpretations that will be adopted by the Company in future periods can be found in the notes to the annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

### Disclosure Controls and Procedures ("DC&P")

DC&P have been designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be reported by CES is gathered, recorded, processed, summarized and reported to senior management, including the President and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of CES, to allow timely decisions regarding required public disclosure by CES in its annual filings, interim filings, or other reports filed or submitted in accordance with Canadian securities legislation.

### Internal Controls over Financial Reporting ("ICFR")

Management of CES is responsible for establishing and maintaining ICFR for CES to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. There have been no changes to CES' internal controls over financial reporting during the six months ended June 30, 2017 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, its internal controls over financial reporting.

In accordance with the provisions of NI 52-109, Management has limited the scope of their design of the Company's DC&P and ICFR to exclude controls, policies, and procedures of Catalyst, which was acquired on August 1, 2016. Management is currently reviewing the Catalyst ICFR systems and processes and has not identified any significant design or operating deficiencies to date.

While the President and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer believe that CES' disclosure controls and procedures ("DC&P") and ICFR provide a reasonable level of assurance that they are effective, they do not expect that the DC&P or ICFR will prevent all errors and fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived or operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met.

For information regarding the corporate governance policies and practices of CES, the reader should refer to CES' 2016 Annual Report, CES' Annual Information Form dated March 9, 2017 in respect of the year ended December 31, 2016, and CES' Information Circular in respect to the June 15, 2017 Annual General and Special Meeting of shareholders each of which are available on the CES' SEDAR profile at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

## **RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

CES' customers are primarily North American oil and gas producers. Activity in the oil and gas industry is cyclical in nature. CES is directly affected by fluctuations in the level and complexity of oil and natural gas exploration and development activity carried on by its clients. In Canada, drilling activity is seasonal and, in turn, throughout North America it is directly affected by a variety of factors including: weather; natural disasters such as floods, tornados, and hurricanes; oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids commodity prices; access to capital markets; and government policies including, but not limited to, royalty, environmental, and industry regulations. Any prolonged or significant decrease in energy prices, economic activity, or an adverse change in government regulations could have a significant negative impact on exploration and development drilling and completion activity in North America and, in turn, demand for CES' products and services.

As a provider of technically advanced consumable chemical solutions throughout the life-cycle of the oilfield, the volatility in activity experienced at the drill-bit, fracturing and completion stages is somewhat muted by the long-term and less variable revenue generated by CES at the pump-jack and wellhead during the production stage and in the mid-stream, pipeline and transportation phases. As CES grows these facets of its business, the predictability of its earnings should also increase. The revenue and general market consumption of consumable chemicals in these market segments is more stable and predictable than the drilling fluids market, and by all accounts on a volume basis the overall market continues to grow. However, CES is a relatively new entrant and is much smaller than the larger, more established competitors in this space. This presents opportunities as well as risks to the overall success CES may achieve in the production and specialty chemical space.

Despite the improvement in oil prices, in general oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas commodity prices in North America continue to see weakness, and in general all trade at discounts to comparable world-wide bench-marks. This increases risk to

CES' customers and reduces their available cash flow. Crude prices were depressed in 2016, with West Texas Intermediate ("WTI") reaching a low in February 2016 of USD\$26.05/bbl, a price that was last seen in May 2003. Oil prices improved in the last half of 2016 but prices continue to see volatility in the face of both production and supply issues, geopolitical forces, and other macro-economic forces. The forward curves for 2018 and 2019 are trading below USD\$50/bbl which is far below the USD\$100/bbl pricing enjoyed by operators in July 2014. In addition, many operators in the WCSB have been challenged by additional crude oil pricing differentials versus world benchmarks such as Brent and WTI. Furthermore, there is ongoing uncertainty around the ability for WCSB producers to reach markets given the status of several proposed pipeline projects, the potential for a change to US trade policies, tax reform, and potential changes to the crude by rail industry in the face of several derailments.

Natural gas prices have remained relatively weak since their peak in 2008. With gas in storage above five year averages, North America has most quoted spot prices trading around USD\$3.00 per MMBtu, and the futures curve for Nymex Henry Hub is trading below USD\$3.00 per MMBtu for 2018 and 2019.

The volatility in the financial markets has impacted the general availability of both credit and equity financing in the marketplace. World-wide political and economic risks seem to be intensifying and, although there is more optimism for stronger economic growth in the US, there are added risks and uncertainties around the impact of new policies proposed by the recently elected Trump administration, including, but not limited to, the renegotiation of international trade agreements; the potential changes to US trade policies; and tax reform. Despite CES' successful issuance of equity through the Offering completed in June 2016, in general since the fall of 2014 there has been a retreat in the energy equity markets and in particular energy related debt markets as a result of low commodity prices. As demonstrated by CES' withdrawal in March 2017 of its opportunistic attempt to refinance its outstanding Senior Notes it may prove to be difficult under future market conditions to issue additional equity, maintain or increase credit capacity, or re-finance existing credit without significant costs. CES is also reliant on its Senior Facility to fund working capital and other growth initiatives. As noted in this MD&A CES has successfully renewed and extended its Senior Facility but in the event CES' lenders are unable to, or choose not to continue to fund CES, it would impair CES' ability to operate until alternative sources of financing were obtained, as access to the Senior Facility is critical to the effective execution of CES' business plan. At June 30, 2017, CES is in compliance with terms and covenants of all of its lending agreements.

The Western Canadian drilling industry is subject to seasonality with activity usually peaking during the winter months in the first and fourth quarters of any given calendar year. As temperatures rise in the spring, the ground thaws and becomes unstable, resulting in government road bans which severely restrict activity in the second quarter. These seasonal trends typically lead to quarterly fluctuations in Canadian operating results and working capital requirements which should be considered in any quarter over quarter analysis of the Company. Due to financial constraints of our customers, this reduced level of activity will likely outlast the typical weather constraints on a resumption of drilling activity. As the drilling fluids business expands in the US, and as the production focused and infrastructure focused chemical business is built out, it is expected that the overall seasonality of the Company's operations will be less pronounced.

The ability of CES to sell and expand its services will also depend upon the ability to attract and retain qualified personnel as needed. As the industry recovers from the trough activity levels of 2016, the demand for skilled employees has been increasing and the supply of top quality, experienced talent has been limited. The unexpected loss of CES' key personnel or the inability to retain or recruit skilled personnel could have an adverse effect on CES' results. CES addresses this risk by:

- attracting well trained and experienced professionals;
- offering competitive compensation at all levels;
- ensuring a safe working environment with clearly defined standards and procedures; and
- offering its employees both internal and external training programs.

CES takes its health, safety, and environmental responsibilities seriously and has instituted standards, policies, and procedures to address these risks. In addition, CES maintains insurance policies with respect to its operations providing coverage over what it considers to be material insurable risks. Although the Company maintains insurance policies, such insurance may not provide adequate coverage in all circumstances, nor are all such risks insurable. It is possible that the Company's insurance coverage will not be sufficient to address the costs arising out of the allocation of liabilities and risk of loss.

Significant changes in the oil and gas industry including economic conditions, environmental regulations, government policy, and other factors may adversely affect CES' ability to realize the full value of its accounts receivable. In addition, a concentration of credit risk exists in trade accounts receivable since they are predominantly with companies operating in the

WCSB, Texas and the Mid-continent regions, and Northeast regions of the US. CES continues to attempt to mitigate the credit risk associated with its customer receivables by performing credit checks as considered necessary, managing the amount and timing of exposure to individual customers, reviewing its credit procedures on a regular basis, reviewing and actively following up on older accounts, and insuring trade credit risks where deemed appropriate. CES does not anticipate any significant issues in the collection of its customer receivables at this time outside of those which have already been provided for. However, if the low oil and natural gas price environment persists, and if access to capital markets remains weak for CES' customers, there would be a risk of increased bad debts. It is not possible at this time to predict the likelihood, or magnitude, of this risk.

The provincial governments of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan collect royalties on the production from Crown lands. These fiscal royalty regimes are reviewed and adjusted from time to time by the respective governments for appropriateness and competitiveness. In addition, the Alberta Government has recently implemented a carbon levy. Initial indications are that the carbon levy is an additional cost for oil and gas producers in the province. However, the exact effect of the carbon levy and its impact on CES' business is indeterminable at this time. The potential for future changes in these and other jurisdictions for additional royalties, levies and other taxes, and other climate change related taxes is an on-going risk for the oilfield services sector.

CES' US footprint and size of operations continues to increase. US expansion provides CES with upside potential and reduces certain risks through diversification of operations. It also exposes the Company to additional specific risks including: integration risks of the acquired businesses; currency risk with added exposure to fluctuations in the USD; regulatory risks associated with environmental concerns; and the future impact of increased regulatory requirements.

The Company and its various subsidiaries are subject to corporate income and other taxation in various federal, provincial and state jurisdictions in Canada, the US, and Luxembourg. For the current and historical fiscal years, the Company's and its subsidiaries' income tax and other tax returns are subject to audits and reassessments by the various taxation authorities and where applicable, the Company adjusts previously recorded tax expense to reflect audit adjustments. We believe we have adequately provided for all income tax obligations. However, changes in facts, circumstances and interpretations as a result of income tax audits, reassessments, litigation with tax authorities, new tax legislation, or changes in administrative positions of tax authorities could result in an increase or decrease to the Company's provision for income taxes. Although not quantifiable at this time, these differences could potentially have a material impact on future net income and the Company's effective tax rate.

Effective January 1, 2010, Canadian Energy Services L.P. (the "Partnership") and Canadian Energy Services Inc. (the "General Partner") completed a transaction with Nevaro Capital Corporation ("Nevaro") which resulted in the Partnership converting from a publicly-traded Canadian limited partnership to a publicly-traded corporation formed under the Canada Business Corporations Act. The Conversion resulted in the unitholders of the Partnership becoming shareholders of CES with no changes to the underlying business operations. CES undertook the Conversion as the limited partnership structure restricted the ability for CES to grow in the United States. Pursuant to the Limited Partnership Agreement in place, only persons who were residents in Canada, or, if partnerships were Canadian partnerships, in each case for purposes of the Income Tax Act (Canada), could own Class A Units of CES. CES proactively assessed several options available to expand its equity holding base beyond Canadian residents. In addition, in order to satisfy conditions of the Champion acquisition, CES was required to alter its legal structure. The resulting decision of CES and unitholders based on current legislation.

In 2014, the Company received a proposal letter from the Canada Revenue Agency (the "CRA") which stated its intent to challenge the Canadian tax consequences of the Conversion. The CRA's position is based on the acquisition of control rules and the general anti-avoidance rules in the Income Tax Act (Canada). The CRA's proposed reassessment sought to disallow certain tax pools, in which CES would have been obligated to remit cash taxes of approximately \$16.0 million for the three taxation years, plus approximately \$5.3 million in interest to June 30, 2017. While the Company continues to believe its returns were correctly filed and it has not yet received any Notices of Reassessment relating to this matter, it has proposed a settlement offer to the CRA. A current tax expense of \$7.0 million has been accrued in the Company's December 31, 2016 consolidated financial statements based on the settlement proposal for the estimated cash cost related to the resolution of this tax dispute on the Conversion. As at June 30, 2017, this amount remains as a current tax payable in the consolidated financial statements.

Reference should be made to CES' Annual Information Form dated March 9, 2017 for the year ended December 31, 2016, and in particular to the heading "Risk Factors" for further risks associated with the business, operations, and structure of CES which is available on CES' SEDAR profile at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

## OUTLOOK

The past two years have been extremely challenging as CES has navigated through the protracted industry downturn. With the improvement in industry activity in the second half of 2016 and to date in 2017, CES continues to be modestly optimistic with its outlook. If WTI can remain above the USD\$45bbl mark, most of our customers' initiatives are economic and activity should continue to improve in 2017 or at minimum not retrench to 2016 levels. As the industry has rebounded, CES has gained market share in all of its segments by demonstrating to customers the benefits of CES' technologies, service, and attention to problem solving. CES has yet to realize any meaningful price increases in the recovery. The improvement in financial performance is evidence of the operating leverage in our consumable chemicals business model, and is a direct result of the cost reduction initiatives taken in 2016, combined with increased activity levels as CES has come off its fixed cost base.

CES believes that over time it can continue to grow its share of the oilfield consumable chemical markets in which it competes. The Catalyst Acquisition in 2016 was another significant step forward in this regard as CES sees the Permian Basin having the most near-term opportunities for growth. CES' strategy is to utilize its decentralized management model; its vertically integrated manufacturing model; its problem solving through science approach; its patented and proprietary technologies; and its superior execution to increase market share. The downturn has made many middlemen, or competitors who are simply resellers of other company's products, redundant. By being basic in the manufacture of the consumable chemicals it sells, CES continues to be price competitive and a technology leader. Recent competitor consolidations and business failures will provide further opportunities for CES in this recovery period. CES believes that its unique value proposition makes it the premier independent provider of technically advanced consumable chemical solutions to the North American oilfield.

Emerging from the downturn, CES' balance sheet is well positioned to capitalize on the improving oilfield activity. In Q2 2017, CES built positive net working capital and continued to draw on its Senior Facility. As at the date of this MD&A, the Company had a net draw of approximately \$65.0 million on its Senior Facility and its Senior Notes in the amount of \$300 million are not due until April 2020. In 2017, it is expected that EBITDAC will exceed expenditures on cash interest, capital expenditures, and dividends.

CES will continue to assess M&A opportunities that will improve CES' competitive position and enhance profitability. Any acquisitions must meet CES' stringent financial and operational metrics. In its core businesses, CES will focus on growing market share, controlling costs, developing or acquiring new technologies, and making strategic investments as required to position the business to capitalize on the industry rebound.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information related to CES can be found on the System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval (SEDAR) at <u>www.sedar.com</u>. Information is also accessible on CES's web site at <u>www.cesenergysolutions.com</u>.

#### STOCK EXCHANGE LISTINGS

The Toronto Stock Exchange Trading Symbol: CEU

OTC Trading Symbol: CESDF

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kyle D. Kitagawa<sup>1,2,4</sup> Chairman

D. Michael G. Stewart<sup>1,4</sup>

John M. Hooks<sup>2,4</sup>

Rodney L. Carpenter<sup>3</sup>

Burton J. Ahrens<sup>1,4</sup>

Colin D. Boyer<sup>2,3</sup>

Philip J. Scherman<sup>1</sup>

Thomas J. Simons

<sup>1</sup>Member of the Audit Committee <sup>2</sup>Member of the Compensation Committee <sup>3</sup>Member of the Health, Safety and Environment Committee <sup>4</sup>Member of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee

#### **OFFICERS**

Thomas J. Simons President & Chief Executive Officer

Craig F. Nieboer, CA Chief Financial Officer

Kenneth E. Zinger Canadian President & Chief Operating Officer

Kenneth D. Zandee Vice President, Marketing

Jason D. Waugh Vice President

James M. Pasieka Corporate Secretary

#### AUDITORS

Deloitte LLP Chartered Professional Accountants, Calgary, AB

**BANKERS** Scotiabank Canada, Calgary, AB

### LEGAL COUNSEL

McCarthy Tetrault, LLP, Calgary, AB Crowe & Dunlevy, Oklahoma City, OK

#### **REGISTRAR & TRANSFER AGENT**

Computershare Investor Services Inc. Calgary, AB and Toronto, ON

#### CORPORATE OFFICE

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#### CANADIAN BUSINESS UNITS

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Sialco Materials Ltd. 6605 Dennett Place Delta, BC V4G 1N4 Phone: 604-940-4777 Toll Free: 1-800-335-0122 Fax: 604-940-4757

Clear Environmental Solutions Suite 720, 736 – 8th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 1H4 Phone: 403-263-5953 Fax: 403-229-1306

#### US BUSINESS UNITS

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JACAM Chemical Company 205 S. Broadway Sterling, KS 67579 Phone: 620-278-3355 Fax: 620-278-2112

Catalyst Oilfield Services 11999 East Highway 158 Gardendale, TX 79758 Phone: 432-563-0727 Fax: 432-224-1038

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