BARFRESH FOOD GROUP INC. Form 10-K April 02, 2018

#### UNITED STATES

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

#### FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

# [X] ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017

or

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number: 000-55131

#### **BARFRESH FOOD GROUP INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<b>Delaware</b> (State or other jurisdiction of	<b>27-1994406</b> (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization)	Identification No.)
8383 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 750, Beverly Hills, California	90211
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

#### 310-598-7113

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None

Securities registered under Section 12(g) of the Act: Common Stock, \$0.000001 par value

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes [] No [X]

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes [] No [X]

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes [X] No []

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes [X] No []

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. []

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

 Large Accelerated filer []
 Accelerated filer []
 Non-accelerated filer []
 Smaller reporting company

 [X]
 X
 X
 X
 X
 X

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates (excluding voting shares held by officers and directors) as of June 30, 2017 was \$37,903,472.

As of March 8, 2018, there were 118,701,577 outstanding shares of common stock of the registrant.

#### **BARFRESH FOOD GROUP INC.**

#### FORM 10-K

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# CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND INFORMATION

This Annual Report on Form 10-K ("Annual Report"), the other reports, statements, and information that we have previously filed or that we may subsequently file with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and public announcements that we have previously made or may subsequently make include, may include, incorporate by reference or may incorporate by reference certain statements that may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this Annual Report and those reports, statements, information and announcements address activities, events or developments that Barfresh Food Group Inc., a Delaware corporation (hereinafter referred to as "we". "us", "our", "Company" or "Barfresh") expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future. Any statements in this document about expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance are not historical facts and are forward-looking statements. These statements are often, but not always, made through the use of words or phrases such as "may", "should", "could", "predict", "potential", "believe", " likely result", "expect", "will continue", "anticipate", "seek", "estimate", "intend", "plan", "projection", "would", "outlook" ar expressions. Accordingly, these statements involve estimates, assumptions and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in them. Any forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by reference to the factors discussed throughout this document. All forward-looking statements concerning economic conditions, rates of growth, rates of income or values as may be included in this document are based on information available to us on the dates noted, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements.

Management cautions that forward-looking statements are qualified by their terms and/or important factors, many of which are outside of our control, involve a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results and events to differ materially from the statements made, including, but not limited to, the following risk factors. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements.

Certain risks and uncertainties could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us, and you should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements made by us, and you should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements made by us, and you should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements made by us, and you should not place on any such forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made and we do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement or statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict which will arise. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. See "Risk Factors" set forth in Item 1A.

#### PART I

Item 1. Business.

#### **Business Overview**

Barfresh is a leader in the creation, manufacturing and distribution of ready to blend frozen beverages. The current portfolio of products includes smoothies, shakes and frappes. Products are packaged in two distinct formats. The Company's original single serve format features portion controlled and ready to blend beverage ingredient packs or "beverage packs". The beverage packs contain all of the solid ingredients necessary to make the beverage, including the base (either sorbet, frozen yogurt or ice cream), real fruit pieces, juices and ice – five ounces of water are added before blending. The Company's bulk "Easy Pour" format also contains all of the solid ingredients necessary to make the beverage, packaged in gallon containers in a concentrated formula that is mixed "one to one" with water. The Company has recently launched a "no sugar added" version of the bulk "Easy Pour" format that is specifically targeted for the USDA national school meal program, including the School Breakfast Program, the National School Lunch Program, and Smart Snacks in Schools Program.

Domestic and international patents and patents pending are owned by Barfresh, as well as related trademarks for all of the single serve products. Patent rights have been granted in 13 jurisdictions including the United States. In addition, the Company has purchased all of the trademarks related to the patented products.

The Company conducts sales through several channels, including National Accounts, Regional Accounts, and Broadline Distributors. Barfresh's primary broadline distribution arrangement is through an exclusive nationwide agreement with Sysco Corporation ("Sysco"), the U.S.'s largest broadline distributor, which was entered into during July 2014, and renewed for an additional two year term on October 2, 2017.

During 2016 and 2017 the Company announced that it had signed supply agreements with several of the major global on-site foodservice operators. On March 8, 2018, the Company announced that it had signed a new supply agreement with one of the largest of these foodservice operators, for exclusive distribution of four of Barfresh's single serve sku's to approximately one thousand food service locations. Distribution of product to these locations through SYSCO will begin during April of 2018. This new agreement, marks the culmination of successful in market tests conducted at several locations, and makes Barfresh's blended beverages available across many of the most attractive locations of the customer's diverse customer base.

The Company also sells to broadline distributors that supply products to the food services market place. Effective July 2, 2014, the Company entered into an exclusive agreement with Sysco Merchandising and Supply Chain Services, Inc. for resale by the Sysco Corporation ("Sysco") to the foodservice industry of the Company's ready-to-blend smoothies, shakes and frappes. Pursuant to that agreement, all Barfresh products are included in Sysco's national core selection of beverage items, making Barfresh its exclusive single-serve, pre-portioned beverage provider. The agreement is mutually exclusive; however, Barfresh may also sell the products to other foodservice distributors, but only to the extent required for such foodservice distributors to service multi-unit chain operators with at least 20 units and where Sysco is not such multi- unit chain operator's nominated distributor for our products. On October 2, 2017, the Sysco agreement was extended for an additional two year period, and expanded to cover bulk easy pour products, on a non-exclusive basis.

On October 26, 2015, Barfresh signed a five year agreement with PepsiCo North America Beverages, a division of PepsiCo, to become its exclusive sales representative within the food service channel to present Barfresh's line of ready-to-blend smoothies and frozen beverages throughout the United States and Canada. Through this agreement, Barfresh' products are included as part of PepsiCo's offerings to its significant customer base. The agreement facilitates access to potential National customer accounts, through introductions provided by PepsiCo's one-thousand plus person foodservice sales team. Barfresh products have become part of PepsiCo's customer presentations at national trade shows and similar venues.

Barfresh utilizes contract manufacturers to manufacture all of its products in the United States. Production lines are currently operational at two locations. The first location is in Salt Lake City, which currently produces both bulk easy pour and single serve products. Annual production capacity with this contract manufacturer is 14 million units per year. The second location is with Yarnell Operations, LLC., a subsidiary of Shulze and Burch, located in Arkansas. The Yarnell's agreement, which was signed during February, 2016, and secures the capacity to ramp up to an incremental production capacity of 100 million units. Yarnell's location enhances the company's ability to efficiently move product throughout the supply chain to destinations in the eastern United States, home to many of the country's large foodservice outlets.

Our corporate office is located at 8383 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 750, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Our telephone number is (310) 598-7113 and our website is <u>www.barfresh.com</u>.

#### **Corporate History and Background**

The Company, which was incorporated in Delaware on February 25, 2010, was originally formed to produce movies. As the result of the reverse merger, more fully described below, the Company is now engaged in the manufacturing and distribution of ready to blend beverages, particularly, smoothies, shakes and frappes.

#### **Reorganization and Recapitalization**

During January, 2012, the Company entered into a series of transactions pursuant to which Barfresh Inc., a Colorado corporation ("Barfresh NV"), was acquired, spun-out prior operations to the former principal shareholder, completed a private offering of securities for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$999,998, conducted a four for one forward stock split and changed the name of the Company. The following describes the steps of this reorganization:

*Acquisition of Barfresh NV.* We acquired all of the outstanding capital stock of Barfresh NV in exchange for the issuance of 37,333,328 shares of our \$0.000001 par value common stock pursuant to a Share Exchange Agreement between us, our former principal shareholder, Barfresh NV and the former shareholders of Barfresh NV. As a result of this transaction, Barfresh NV became our wholly owned subsidiary and the former shareholders of Barfresh NV became our controlling shareholders.

*Spinout of prior business.* Immediately prior to the acquisition of Barfresh NV, we spun-out our previous business operations to a former officer, director and principal shareholder, in exchange for all of the shares of our common stock held by that person. Such shares were cancelled immediately following the acquisition.

*Financing transaction.* Immediately following the acquisition of Barfresh, we sold an aggregate of 1,333,332 shares of our common stock and five-year warrants to purchase 1,333,332 shares of common stock at a per share exercise price of \$1.50 in a private offering for gross proceeds of \$999,998, less expenses of \$26,895.

*Change of name*. Subsequent to the merger, we changed the name of the Company from Moving Box Inc. to Barfresh Food Group Inc.

*Forward stock split.* Subsequent to the merger, we conducted a four for one forward stock split of the Company's common stock.

#### **Products**

The Company's products are made in two formats. The first is in portion controlled single serving beverage ingredient packs, suitable for smoothies, shakes and frappes that can also be utilized for cocktails and mocktails. These packs contain all of the ingredients necessary to make a smoothie, shake or frappe, including the ice. Simply add water, empty the packet into a blender, blend and serve. The second format is the bulk "Easy Pour" format. The Company's bulk "Easy Pour" format also contains all of the solid ingredients necessary to make the beverage, packaged in gallon containers in a concentrated formula that is mixed "one to one" with water.

The following flavors are available as part of our standard portfolio of single serve products:

Some of the key benefits of the products for the end consumers that drink the products include:

From as little as 150 calories (per serving) Real fruit in every smoothie Dairy free options Kosher approved Gluten Free

#### **Customer Marketing Material**

A wide range of consumer marketing materials has been created to assist customers in selling blended beverages.

#### **Research and Development**

The Company incurred research and development expenses for the year ended December 31, 2017 in the amount of \$574,989 and for the year ended December 31, 2016 in the amount of \$432,146. The increase in Research and Development expenses was primarily attributable to commissioning of new production lines at our contract manufacturer facilities, and increased activity in creating unique flavors for potential customers in our national account pipeline.

#### Competition

There is significant competition in the smoothie market at both the consumer purchasing level and also the product level.

The competition at the consumer level is primarily between specialized juice bars (e.g. Jamba Juice) and major fast casual and fast food restaurant chains (such as McDonalds). Barfresh does not compete specifically at this level but intends to supply its product to customers that fall within these segments to enable them to compete for consumer demand.

There may also be new entrants to the smoothie market that may alter the current competitor landscape.

The existing competition from a product perspective can be separated into three categories:

Specialized juice bar products: The product is made in-store and each ingredient is added separately.

Syrup based products: The fruit puree is supplied in bulk and not portion controlled for each smoothie. These types of products still require the addition of juice, milk or water and/or yogurt and ice. While there are a number of competitors for this style of product, the two dominant competitors are Island Oasis and Minute Maid.

Portion pack products: These products contain only the fruit and yogurt and require the addition of juice or milk and ice. The two dominant competitors are General Mills' Yoplait Smoothies and Inventure Group's Jamba Smoothies.

The Company believes that its single serve products afford a very significant competitive advantage based on ease of use, portion control, premium quality, and minimal capital investment required to enable a customer to begin to carry Barfresh beverage products. The Company also believes that its bulk "Easy Pour" product represents an attractive alternative delivery method for customers that serve high volume locations, where speed of service over extended periods is a critical requirement. The Company has recently launched a "no sugar added" version of the bulk "Easy Pour" format that is specifically targeted for the USDA national school meal program, including the School Breakfast Program, the National School Lunch Program, and Smart Snacks in Schools Program.

#### **Intellectual Property**

Barfresh owns the domestic and intellectual property rights to its products' sealed pack of ingredients used in its single serve products.

In November 2011, the Company acquired patent applications filed in the United States (Patent Application number 11/660415) and Canada (Patent Application number 2577163) from certain related parties. The United States patent was originally filed on December 4, 2007 and it was granted during August of 2017. The Canadian patent was originally filed on August 16, 2005 and it was granted on May 27, 2014.

On October 15, 2013, the Company acquired all of the related international patent rights, which were filed pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty, have been granted in 13 jurisdictions and are pending in the remainder of the jurisdictions that have signed the PCT. In addition, the Company purchased all of the trademarks related to the patented products.

#### **Governmental Approval and Regulation**

The Company is not aware of the need for any governmental approvals of its products.

The Company utilizes contract manufacturers. Before entering into any manufacturing contracts, the Company determines that the manufacturer meets all government requirements.

#### **Environmental Laws**

The Company does not believe that it will be subject to any environmental laws, either state or federal. Any laws concerning manufacturing will be the responsibility of the contract manufacturer.

#### Employees

The Company currently has 30 employees and 3 consultants. There are currently 20 employees and 1 consultant selling our products. We have recently restructured our sales force, eliminating 18 full time positions over a twelve month period, while at the same time expanding our brokerage network.

#### **Research and Development**

The Company incurred research and development expenses for the year ended December 31, 2017, in the amount of \$574,989, and for the year ended December 31, 2016 in the amount of \$432,146. The increase in Research and Development expenses was primarily attributable to commissioning of new production lines at our contract manufacturer facilities, and increased activity in creating unique flavors for potential customers in our national account pipeline.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

An investment in the Company's securities involves significant risks, including the risks described below. The risks included below are not the only ones that the Company faces. Additional risks presently unknown to us or that we currently consider immaterial or unlikely to occur could also impair our operations. If any of the risks or uncertainties described below or any such additional risks and uncertainties actually occur, our business, prospects, financial condition or results of operations could be negatively affected.

#### **Risks Related to Our Business**

#### We have a history of operating losses

We have a history of operating losses and may not achieve or sustain profitability. These operating losses have been generated while we market to potential customers. We cannot guarantee that we will become profitable. Even if we achieve profitability, given the competitive and evolving nature of the industry in which we operate, we may be unable to sustain or increase profitability and our failure to do so would adversely affect the Company's business, including our ability to raise additional funds.

### A worsening of economic conditions or a decrease in consumer spending may adversely impact our ability to implement our business strategy.

Our success depends to a significant extent on discretionary consumer spending, which is influenced by general economic conditions and the availability of discretionary income. There is no certainty regarding economic conditions in the United States, and credit and financial markets and confidence in economic conditions could deteriorate at any time. Accordingly, we may experience declines in revenue during economic turmoil or during periods of uncertainty. Any material decline in the amount of discretionary spending, leading cost-conscious consumers to be more selective in restaurants visited, could have a material adverse effect on our revenue, results of operations, business and financial condition.

# The challenges of competing with the many food services businesses may result in reductions in our revenue and operating margins.

We compete with many well-established companies, food service and otherwise, on the basis of taste, quality and price of product offered, customer service, atmosphere, location and overall guest experience. Our success depends, in part, upon the popularity of our products and our ability to develop new menu items that appeal to consumers across all four day parts. Shifts in consumer preferences away from our products, our inability to develop new menu items that appeal to consumers across all day parts, or changes in our menu that eliminate items popular with some consumers could harm our business. We compete with other smoothie and juice bar retailers, specialty coffee retailers, yogurt and ice cream shops, bagel shops, fast-food restaurants, delicatessens, cafés, take-out food service companies, supermarkets and convenience stores. Our competitors change with each of the four day parts, ranging from coffee bars and bakery cafés to casual dining chains. Many of our competitors or potential competitors have substantially greater financial and other resources than we do, which may allow them to react to changes in the market quicker than we can. In addition, aggressive pricing by our competitors or the entrance of new competitors into our markets, could reduce our revenue and operating margins. We also compete with other employers in our markets for workers and may become subject to higher labor costs as a result of such competition.

### Fluctuations in various food and supply costs, particularly fruit and dairy, could adversely affect our operating results.

Supplies and prices of the various ingredients that we are going to use to can be affected by a variety of factors, such as weather, seasonal fluctuations, demand, politics and economics in the producing countries.

These factors subject us to shortages or interruptions in product supplies, which could adversely affect our revenue and profits. In addition, the prices of fruit and dairy, which are the main ingredients in our products, can be highly volatile. The fruit of the quality we seek tends to trade on a negotiated basis, depending on supply and demand at the time of the purchase. An increase in pricing of any fruit that we are going to use in our products could have a significant adverse effect on our profitability. We cannot assure you that we will be able to secure our fruit supply.

### Our business depends substantially on the continuing efforts of our senior management and other key personnel, and our business may be severely disrupted if we lose their services.

Our future success heavily depends on the continued service of our senior management and other key employees. If one or more of our senior executives is unable or unwilling to continue to work for us in his present position, we may have to spend a considerable amount of time and resources searching, recruiting, and integrating a replacement into

our operations, which would substantially divert management's attention from our business and severely disrupt our business. This may also adversely affect our ability to execute our business strategy.

### Our senior management's limited experience managing a publicly traded company may divert management's attention from operations and harm our business.

With the exception of our Chief Financial Officer, our senior management team has relatively limited experience managing a publicly traded company and complying with federal securities laws, including compliance with recently adopted disclosure requirements on a timely basis. Our management will be required to design and implement appropriate programs and policies in responding to increased legal, regulatory compliance and reporting requirements, and any failure to do so could lead to the imposition of fines and penalties and harm our business.

# We may be unable to attract and retain qualified, experienced, highly skilled personnel, which could adversely affect the implementation of our business plan.

Our success depends to a significant degree upon our ability to attract, retain and motivate skilled and qualified personnel. As we become a more mature company in the future, we may find recruiting and retention efforts more challenging. If we do not succeed in attracting, hiring and integrating excellent personnel, or retaining and motivating existing personnel, we may be unable to grow effectively. The loss of any key employee, including members of our senior management team, and our inability to attract highly skilled personnel with sufficient experience in our industries could harm our business.

#### Product liability exposure may expose us to significant liability.

We may face an inherent business risk of exposure to product liability and other claims and lawsuits in the event that the development or use of our technology or prospective products is alleged to have resulted in adverse effects. We may not be able to avoid significant liability exposure. Although we believe our insurance coverage to be adequate, we may not have sufficient insurance coverage, and we may not be able to obtain sufficient coverage at a reasonable cost. An inability to obtain product liability insurance at acceptable cost or to otherwise protect against potential product liability claims could prevent or inhibit the commercialization of our products. A product liability claim could hurt our financial performance. Even if we ultimately avoid financial liability for this type of exposure, we may incur significant costs in defending ourselves that could hurt our financial performance and condition.

#### Our inability to protect our intellectual property rights may force us to incur unanticipated costs.

Our success will depend, in part, on our ability to obtain and maintain protection in the United States and internationally for certain intellectual property incorporated into our products. Our intellectual property rights may be challenged, narrowed, invalidated or circumvented, which could limit our ability to prevent competitors from marketing similar solutions that limit the effectiveness of our patent protection and force us to incur unanticipated costs. In addition, existing laws of some countries in which we may provide services or solutions may offer only limited protection of our intellectual property rights.

# Our products may infringe the intellectual property rights of third parties, and third parties may infringe our proprietary rights, either of which may result in lawsuits, distraction of management and the impairment of our business.

As the number of patents, copyrights, trademarks and other intellectual property rights in our industry increases, products based on our technology may increasingly become the subject of infringement claims. Third parties could assert infringement claims against us in the future. Infringement claims with or without merit could be time consuming, result in costly litigation, cause product shipment delays or require us to enter into royalty or licensing agreements. Royalty or licensing agreements, if required, might not be available on terms acceptable to us, or at all. We may initiate claims or litigation against third parties for infringement of our proprietary rights or to establish the validity of our proprietary rights. Litigation to determine the validity of any claims, whether or not the litigation is resolved in our favor, could result in significant expense to us and divert the efforts of our technical and management personnel from productive tasks. If there is an adverse ruling against us in any litigation, we may be required to pay substantial damages, discontinue the use and sale of infringing products and expend significant resources to develop non-infringing technology or obtain licenses to infringing technology. Our failure to develop or license a substitute technology could prevent us from selling our products.

### If securities or industry analysts do not publish research, or publish inaccurate or unfavorable research, about our business, our share price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock may be impacted, in part, by the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about our business or us. There can be no assurance that analysts will cover us, continue to cover us or provide favorable coverage. If one or more analysts downgrade our stock or change their opinion of our stock, our share price may decline. In addition, if one or more analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which could cause our share price or trading volume to decline.

### We will continue to incur increased costs as a result of operating as a public company, and our management will be required to devote substantial time to compliance initiatives and corporate governance practices.

As a public company, we will continue to incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and other applicable securities rules and regulations impose various requirements on public companies, including establishment and maintenance of effective disclosure and financial controls and corporate governance practices. Our management and other personnel will need to continue to devote a substantial amount of time to these compliance initiatives. Moreover, these rules and regulations will increase our legal and financial compliance costs and make some activities more time-consuming and costly.

We cannot predict or estimate the amount of additional costs we may incur to continue to operate as a public company, nor can we predict the timing of such costs. These rules and regulations are often subject to varying interpretations, in many cases due to their lack of specificity, and, as a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies which could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices.

We have identified material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting. If we fail to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting, we may not be able to accurately report our financial results or prevent fraud.

Pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, or Section 404, we are required to furnish a report by our management on our internal control over financial reporting. As such, our management has conducted this evaluation and, as of December 31, 2017, identified the following material weakness in the Company's internal control over financial reporting:

Inadequate Segregation of Duties: We have an inadequate number of personnel to properly implement certain control procedures related to segregation of duties.

Management has concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are not effective. Effective internal control over financial reporting is necessary to provide reliable financial reports and effectively prevent fraud. If we cannot provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, our operating results could be harmed. We will need to continue to dedicate internal resources, potentially engage outside consultants and adopt a detailed work plan to modify and document the adequacy of internal control over financial reporting, continue steps to improve control processes as appropriate, validate through testing that controls are functioning as documented and implement a continuous reporting and improvement process for internal control over financial reporting. Continued identification of one or more material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting could result in an adverse reaction in the financial markets due to a loss of confidence in the reliability of our financial statements.

### Failure to comply with the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act could subject us to penalties and other adverse consequences.

As a Delaware corporation, we are subject to the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which generally prohibits United States companies from engaging in bribery or other prohibited payments to foreign officials for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business. Some foreign companies, including some that may compete with our Company, may not be subject to these prohibitions. Corruption, extortion, bribery, pay-offs, theft and other fraudulent practices may occur from time-to-time in countries in which we conduct our business. However, our employees or other agents may engage in conduct for which we might be held responsible. If our employees or other agents are found to have engaged in such practices, we could suffer severe penalties and other consequences that may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

#### **Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock**

# Our common stock is quoted on the OTCQB, which may have an unfavorable impact on our stock price and liquidity.

Our common stock is quoted on the OTCQB, which is a significantly more limited trading market than the New York Stock Exchange, or the NASDAQ Stock Market. The quotation of the Company's shares on the OTCQB may result in a less liquid market available for existing and potential shareholders to trade shares of our common stock, could depress the trading price of our common stock and could have a long-term adverse impact on our ability to raise capital in the future.

### There is limited liquidity on the OTCQB, which may result in stock price volatility and inaccurate quote information.

When fewer shares of a security are being traded on the OTCQB, volatility of prices may increase and price movement may outpace the ability to deliver accurate quote information. Due to lower trading volumes in shares of our common stock, there may be a lower likelihood of one's orders for shares of our common stock being executed, and current prices may differ significantly from the price one was quoted at the time of one's order entry.

# If we are unable to adequately fund our operations, we may be forced to voluntarily file for deregistration of our common stock with the SEC.

Compliance with the periodic reporting requirements required by the SEC consumes a considerable amount of both internal, as well external, resources and represents a significant cost for us. If we are unable to continue to devote adequate funding and the resources needed to maintain such compliance, while continuing our operations, we could be forced to deregister with the SEC. After the deregistration process, our common stock would only be tradable on the "Pink Sheets" and could suffer a decrease in or absence of liquidity.

# Because we became public by means of a "reverse merger", we may not be able to attract the attention of major brokerage firms.

Additional risks may exist since we became public through a "reverse merger". Securities analysts