

---

---

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

---

## Form 10-K

(Mark One)

- ☒ **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 001-33059

---

### Fuel Tech, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

---

Delaware  
(State of Incorporation)

20-5657551  
(I.R.S. ID)

Fuel Tech, Inc.  
27601 Bella Vista Parkway  
Warrenville, IL 60555-1617  
(630) 845-4500  
www.ftek.com

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

COMMON STOCK, \$0.01 par value per share

NASDAQ

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: NONE

---

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

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) 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 the definitions of "large" accelerated filer, "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large Accelerated Filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated Filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated Filer	<input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

As of June 30, 2017, the aggregate market value of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$17,045,910 based on the closing sale price as reported on the NASDAQ National Market System.

As of February 28, 2018, there were 24,132,910 shares of common stock outstanding.

**Documents incorporated by reference:**

Portions of the definitive Proxy Statement to be delivered to shareholders in connection with the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 16, 2018 are incorporated by reference into Part III.

---

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

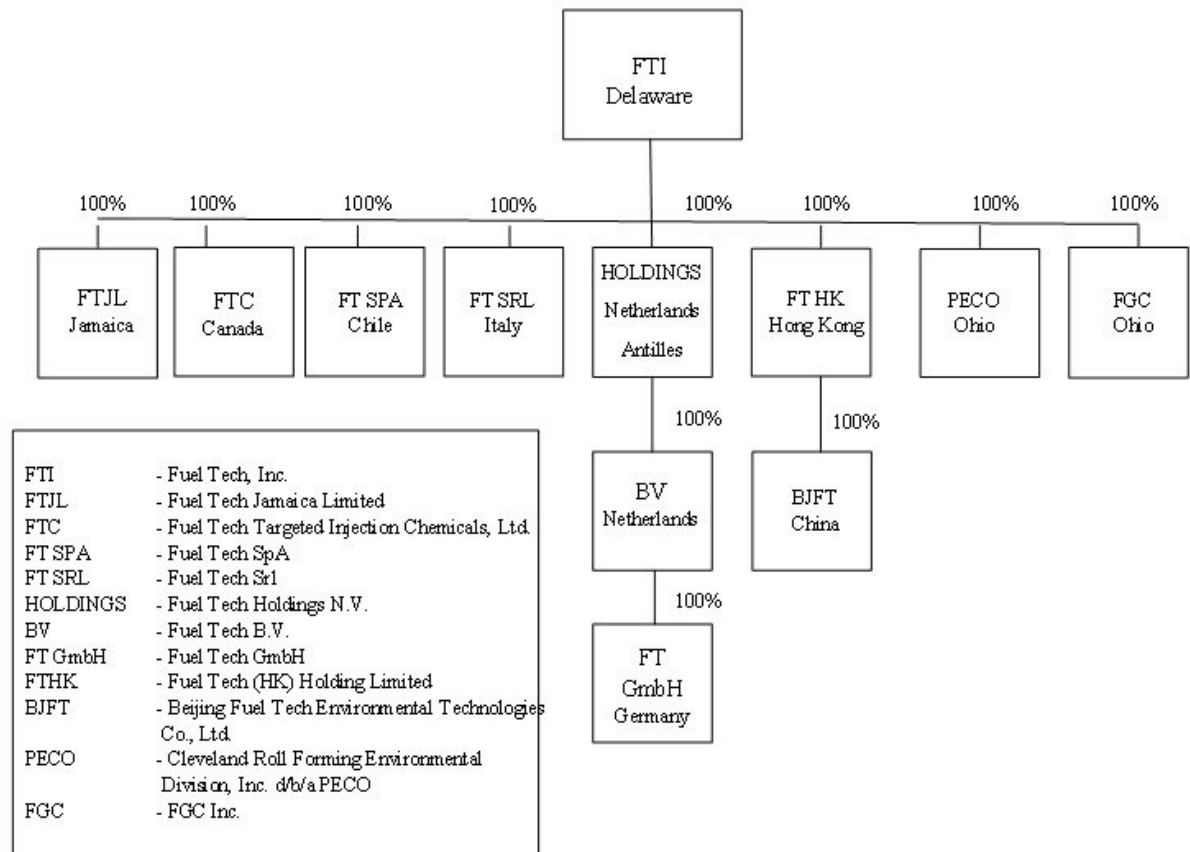
	<b>Page</b>
<b><u>PART I</u></b>	
Item 1. <a href="#">Business</a>	2
Item 1A. <a href="#">Risk Factors</a>	7
Item 1B. <a href="#">Unresolved Staff Comments</a>	9
Item 2. <a href="#">Properties</a>	10
Item 3. <a href="#">Legal Proceedings</a>	10
Item 4. <a href="#">Mine Safety Disclosures</a>	10
<b><u>PART II</u></b>	
Item 5. <a href="#">Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchase of Equity Securities</a>	11
Item 6. <a href="#">Selected Financial Data</a>	13
Item 7. <a href="#">Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</a>	14
Item 7A. <a href="#">Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</a>	25
Item 8. <a href="#">Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</a>	26
Item 9. <a href="#">Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</a>	55
Item 9A. <a href="#">Controls and Procedures</a>	55
Item 9B. <a href="#">Other Information</a>	56
<b><u>PART III</u></b>	
Item 10. <a href="#">Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</a>	58
Item 11. <a href="#">Executive Compensation</a>	58
Item 12. <a href="#">Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</a>	58
Item 13. <a href="#">Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</a>	58
Item 14. <a href="#">Principal Accountant Fees and Services</a>	58
<b><u>PART IV</u></b>	
Item 15. <a href="#">Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</a>	59
<a href="#">Signatures and Certifications</a>	

**TABLE OF DEFINED TERMS**

<b><u>Term</u></b>	<b><u>Definition</u></b>
AIG	Ammonia Injection Grid
ASCR™	A trademark used to describe our Advanced Selective Catalytic Reduction process
CAIR	Clean Air Interstate Rule
CAVR	Clean Air Visibility Rule
CSAPR	Cross-State Air Pollution Rule
CFD	Computational Fluid Dynamics
EPA	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESP	Electrostatic Precipitator
FGC	Flue Gas Conditioning
FUEL CHEM®	A trademark used to describe our fuel and flue gas treatment processes, including its TIFI® Targeted In-Furnace Injection™ technology to control slagging, fouling, corrosion and a variety of sulfur trioxide-related issues
GSG™	Graduated Straightening Grid
HERT™ High Energy Reagent Technology™	A trademark used to describe one of our SNCR processes for the reduction of NO <sub>x</sub>
I-NO <sub>x</sub> ®	Systems can include LNB, OFA, and SNCR components, along with SCR technology, Ammonia Injection Grid (AIG), and Graduated Straightening Grid (GSG™) system
NO <sub>x</sub>	Oxides of nitrogen
NO <sub>x</sub> OUT®	A trademark used to describe one of our SNCR processes for the reduction of NO <sub>x</sub>
NO <sub>x</sub> OUT-SCR®	A trademark used to describe our direct injection of urea as a catalyst reagent
NO <sub>x</sub> OUT-CASCADE®	A trademark used to describe our process for the combination of SNCR and SCR technologies
SCR	Selective Catalytic Reduction
SNCR	Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction
TIFI® Targeted In-Furnace Injection™	A trademark used to describe our proprietary technology that enables the precise injection of a chemical reagent into a boiler or furnace as part of a FUEL CHEM program
UDI™	Urea Direct Injection as the process to provide urea reagent directly into a duct for SCR applications
ULTRA®	A trademark used to describe our process for generating ammonia for use as a Selective Catalytic Reduction reagent

## Fuel Tech, Inc. and Subsidiaries

December 31, 2017



## PART I

### Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains “forward-looking statements,” as defined in Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and reflect our current expectations regarding our future growth, results of operations, cash flows, performance and business prospects, and opportunities, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, our management. We have tried to identify forward-looking statements by using words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “plan,” “expect,” “intend,” “will,” and similar expressions, but these words are not the exclusive means of identifying forward-looking statements. These statements are based on information currently available to us and are subject to various risks, uncertainties, and other factors, including, but not limited to, those discussed herein under the caption “Risk Factors” that could cause our actual growth, results of operations, financial condition, cash flows, performance and business prospects and opportunities to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these statements. Except as expressly required by the federal securities laws, we undertake no obligation to update such factors or to publicly announce the results of any of the forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect future events, developments, or changed circumstances or for any other reason. Investors are cautioned that all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, including those detailed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. See “Risk Factors” in Item 1A.

### ITEM 1 - BUSINESS

As used in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the terms “we,” “us,” or “our,” refer to Fuel Tech, Inc. and our wholly-owned subsidiaries.

#### GENERAL

We are a leading technology company engaged in the worldwide development, commercialization and application of state-of-the-art proprietary technologies for air pollution control, process optimization, combustion efficiency and advanced engineering services. These technologies enable our customers to operate efficiently in a cost-effective and environmentally sustainable manner. We operate as a fully integrated company to apply our extensive knowledge of carbonaceous fuel and combustion engineering to serve a variety of end markets. Our Air Pollution Control (APC) and FUEL CHEM® business processes rely heavily on our unique ability to inject chemical slurries into combustion units, in precise concentrations and locations, to achieve a desired outcome.

- Our APC technologies include advanced combustion modification techniques including low NO<sub>x</sub> burners and over fire air systems, along with post-combustion nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) control approaches, including NO<sub>x</sub>OUT® and HERT™ Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR) and Rich Reagent Injection (RRI) systems. Our Advanced Selective Catalytic Reduction (ASCR) system utilizes the combination of combustion systems and SNCR to provide a cost effective alternative to high capital cost, standalone conventional SCR systems while providing similar NO<sub>x</sub> reduction levels. The ULTRA®
- system generates ammonia on-site for SCR systems using safe urea reagent. Our SCR group provides process design optimization, performance testing and improvement, and catalyst selection services for SCR systems on coal-fired boilers. These technologies have established us as a leader in NO<sub>x</sub> reduction, with installations on over 1,000 units worldwide, where coal, fuel oil, natural gas, municipal waste, biomass, and other fuels are utilized.
- Our FUEL CHEM technologies revolve around the unique application of chemical injection programs which improve the efficiency, reliability, fuel flexibility and environmental status of combustion units by controlling slagging, fouling, corrosion, opacity and acid plume, as well as the formation of sulfur trioxide, ammonium bisulfate, particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). We use our patented TIFI® Targeted In-Furnace Injection™ processes to apply specialty chemical programs to units burning a wide variety of fuels including coal, heavy oil, biomass, and municipal waste. These TIFI programs incorporate design, modeling, equipment, reagent, and service to provide complete customized on-site programs designed to improve plant operations and provide a return on investment in addition to helping meet emission regulatory requirements.

Many of our products and services rely heavily on our computational fluid dynamics and chemical kinetics modeling capabilities, which are enhanced by internally developed, high-end visualization software. These capabilities, coupled with our innovative technologies and multi-disciplined team approach, enable us to provide practical solutions to some of our customers' most challenging issues.

## AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

### *Regulations and Markets: Domestic*

The continued growth of our APC technology segment is dependent upon the adoption and enforcement of environmental regulations in the U.S. and globally. In the U.S., federal and state laws regulating the emission of NO<sub>x</sub> are the primary driver in our APC technology segment. The principal regulatory drivers currently in effect are as follows:

*Clean Air Act:* The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) at levels that are protective of public health with an adequate margin of safety. The six pollutants specified include: Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), Particulate Matter (PM), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Lead, and Carbon Monoxide (CO). The NAAQS provisions require that states comply with ozone and particulate emissions standards. NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are a precursor to ozone formation and also contribute to fine particulate emissions (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), which has been the recent regulatory driver through the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR). NO<sub>x</sub> emissions were targeted as contributors to fine particulate emissions and ozone emissions. Since 1990, programs have been established by the EPA at the regional and federal level to help states in their mission to define and meet their State Implementation Plans (SIPs) for attainment. NAAQS PM standards were issued in 1997, with more stringent standards issued in 2006 and 2012. The NAAQS ozone standards issued in 1997 were made more stringent in 2008. On October 1, 2015, the EPA strengthened the NAAQS for ground-level ozone by reducing the minimum acceptable level from 75 to 70 parts per billion (ppb). Implementation of the 2015 NAAQS standards will begin in 2018 with finalization of the area designations.

*Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR):* On July 7, 2011, the Environmental Protection Agency passed the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) under the “good neighbor” provision of the Clean Air Act to reduce emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> from power plants in the eastern half of the United States. This rule replaces the Clean Air Transport Rule (CATR) and focuses on reducing air emissions contributing to fine particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and ozone nonattainment that often travel across state lines; including SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> which contribute to PM<sub>2.5</sub> transport. CSAPR affected 27 states, with compliance for the first phase in 2012, with additional reductions required in the second phase by 2014. Under CSAPR, state emission caps were designated to mitigate the emission impact on downwind states by controlling emissions from upwind states. If sources within a state caused the state to exceed its assurance limit, severe penalties including a two-for-one reduction based on each source’s contribution percentage of the state overage would be applied. The timing of CSAPR’s implementation has been affected by a number of court actions. In December 2011, CSAPR was stayed prior to implementation due to lawsuits filed by various states and combustion sources, and in August 2012 the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit, vacated CSAPR and remanded it to the EPA. The U.S. Supreme Court reversed that decision in April 2014. Following the remand of the case to the D.C. Circuit, the EPA requested that the court lift the CSAPR stay and toll the CSAPR compliance deadlines by three years. In October 2014, the D.C. Circuit granted the EPA’s request and, accordingly, CSAPR Phase 1 implementation commenced in 2015, with Phase 2 implementation starting in 2018 for the May to September ozone season, one year later than originally planned.

*Industrial Boiler MACT:* In December 2011, the EPA re-proposed its new emissions rule for industrial, commercial and institutional boilers and process heaters, known as the Industrial Boiler Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standard. The EPA implemented the final rule on January 31, 2013, with compliance starting in January 2016 for most units. Emissions regulated include acid gas emissions including hydrochloric acid (HCl), carbon monoxide (CO), mercury, PM, and dioxins. Due to on-going litigation, final resolution has not been determined for all the boiler types and categories, although many sources have installed controls to meet the requirements.

*Clean Air Visibility Rule (CAVR):* The Clean Air Visibility Rule (CAVR), also known as the Regional Haze rule, is part of the Clean Air Act and was finalized in 2005. Under CAVR, certain States are required to submit implementation plans to the EPA to comply with the Regional Haze requirements, and updates are required every five years. A new CAVR was issued in January 2017 which requires states to implement new air pollution controls by 2021. The overall obligation of CAVR is to return the US scenic areas to “active” visibility by 2064.

*Consent Decrees:* Consent decree activity through the US Department of Justice or EPA may require emission sources to meet individual requirements. Sources may also agree to specific air pollution requirements with states or environmental groups.



### *Regulations and Markets: International*

We also sell NO<sub>x</sub> control systems outside the United States, specifically in Europe, Latin America, India (under a license agreement) and in the Pacific Rim, including the People's Republic of China (China). The European Union published the BREF (Best Available Reference Technology) emission guidelines in mid 2017 that further lower emission targets over a span of the next four years. The implementation of the ultra-low emission rules in China is close to completion on large utility boilers but the focus is now shifting to the industrial sector. The Indian government's initial compliance deadline of December 2017 has been delayed but adoption of emission control technologies has started and it is expected to progress at a faster pace in 2018. We expect these developments to further present opportunities to implement our technologies in the international markets.

China continues to represent an attractive opportunity for us as the government continues its policy of pollution control, energy conservation and efficiency improvements as top priorities, as part of tightened standards addressed by the super clean emission regulation officially released in December, 2015. However, the focus is starting to shift to the industrial sector. China's Ministry of Environmental Protection issued super clean emission regulations to be fully implemented by 2020, in support of reducing harmful pollutants and further defining the technologies recommended to achieve the reductions. Super clean emission requires NO<sub>x</sub> emission under 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub> emission under 35 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> and particulate emission under 10 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>. The regulations apply to all public utility units of 300MW or larger and private power generation units of 100MW or larger, and were planned to be progressively implemented in the eastern region by 2017, the central region by 2018, and the western region by 2020. The pace of implementation has been faster than anticipated and is expected to be completed in 2018 with few projects remaining for 2019. These emission limits are now being more diligently enforced on industrial emitters. This prompts a shift for suppliers of emission control technologies to become more active in the industrial market space. We anticipate that Fuel Tech's technologies will be in demand in this sector, particularly with clients in critical process industries such as petro-chemical, who value high performance over low cost.

In Europe, new standards on emissions will lower the environmental impact of more than 3000 large combustion plants throughout the European Union. Moreover, European countries not current EU members are expected to adopt these new standards as part of their approach to gain EU membership. In August 2017, the Large Combustion Plant (LCP) BREF was published with new emission limits being phased in over the next four years for multiple pollutants including NO<sub>x</sub> and particulate matter. In addition, for the first time, limits for Mercury and Hydrogen Chloride have been established for the EU. Despite the significant expansion of renewable energy throughout Europe, the EU and neighboring states still rely heavily on coal generation to provide a stable base load to their power and heating demands. The BREF guidelines reduce NO<sub>x</sub> limit values by up to 25% which will require an upgrade of first generation NO<sub>x</sub> abatement systems, and that is expected to present new opportunities for Fuel Tech. However, the pace of implementation will still be dependent on each country's internal processes.

In India, stricter emission targets were announced by the government in December 2015 and phased implementation has begun. Several companies are actively doing engineering studies and preparing technical specifications for their clients to enable them to implement control technologies for NO<sub>x</sub> and particulate matter in the next couple of years. Trials of SCR and SNCR technologies by NTPC are expected to begin in Q1, 2018. The results are expected to speed up the adoption of these technologies by both government owned plants and IPPs, which is expected to result in a higher demand of Fuel Tech's SNCR and flue gas conditioning technologies, implemented through our collaboration with our local partner ISGEC.

### *Products*

Our NO<sub>x</sub> reduction and particulate control technologies are installed worldwide on over 1000 combustion units, including utility, industrial and municipal solid waste applications. Our products include customized NO<sub>x</sub> control systems and our patented ULTRA<sup>®</sup> technology, which converts urea-to-ammonia on site and provides safe reagent for use in Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) systems.

- SNCR Systems: Our NO<sub>x</sub>OUT<sup>®</sup> and HERT<sup>™</sup> SNCR processes use non-hazardous urea as the reagent rather than ammonia. Both the NO<sub>x</sub>OUT<sup>®</sup> and HERT<sup>™</sup> processes on their own are capable of reducing NO<sub>x</sub> by up to 25% - 50% for utilities and by potentially significantly greater amounts for industrial units in many types of plants with capital costs ranging from \$5 - \$20/kW for utility boilers and with total annualized operating costs ranging from \$1,000 - \$2,000/ton of NO<sub>x</sub> removed.
- I-NO<sub>x</sub><sup>®</sup> Systems: Our I-NO<sub>x</sub><sup>®</sup> systems can include LNB, OFA, and SNCR components, along with SCR technology, Ammonia Injection Grid (AIG), and Graduated Straightening Grid (GSG<sup>™</sup>) system. Together, these systems provide up to 90% NO<sub>x</sub> reduction at significantly lower capital and operating costs than conventional SCR systems while providing greater operational flexibility to plant operators. The capital costs for I-NO<sub>x</sub><sup>®</sup> systems can range from \$30 - \$150/kW depending on boiler size and configuration, which is significantly less than that of conventional SCRs, which can cost \$300/kW or more, while operating costs are competitive with those experienced by SCR systems. Our SCR systems utilize urea or ammonia as the SCR catalyst reagent to achieve NO<sub>x</sub> reductions of up to 85% from industrial combustion sources.



- **ULTRA Technology:** Our ULTRA<sup>®</sup> process is designed to convert urea to ammonia safely and economically for use as a reagent in the SCR process for NO<sub>x</sub> reduction. Recent local objections in the ammonia permitting process have raised concerns regarding the safety of ammonia shipment and storage in quantities sufficient to supply SCR. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security has characterized anhydrous ammonia as a Toxic Inhalation Hazard commodity. Our ULTRA<sup>®</sup> process is believed to be a market leader for the safe conversion of urea to ammonia just prior to injection into the flue gas duct, which is particularly important near densely populated cities, major waterways, harbors or islands, or where the transport of anhydrous or aqueous ammonia is a safety concern. Ammonia feed systems provide reagent flexibility for SCR reagent feed system, while our UDI<sup>™</sup> Urea Direct Injection systems utilize direct injection of reagent without the need for an ammonia injection grid.
- **SCR Processes and Services:** Our SCR group provides process design optimization, performance testing and improvement, and catalyst selection services for SCR systems on coal-fired boilers. In addition, other related services, including start-ups, maintenance support and general consulting services for SCR systems, Ammonia Injection Grid design and tuning to help optimize catalyst performance, and catalyst management services to help optimize catalyst life, are now offered to customers around the world. We also specialize in computational fluid dynamics models, which simulate fluid flow by generating a virtual replication of real-world geometry and operating inputs. We design flow corrective devices, such as turning vanes, ash screens, static mixers and our patented GSG<sup>®</sup> Graduated Straightening Grid. Our models help clients optimize performance in flow critical equipment, such as selective catalytic reactors in SCR systems, where the effectiveness and longevity of catalysts are of utmost concern. The Company's modeling capabilities are also applied to other power plant systems where proper flow distribution and mixing are important for performance, such as flue gas desulfurization scrubbers, electrostatic precipitators, air heaters, exhaust stacks and carbon injection systems for mercury removal.
- **ESP Processes and Services:** ESP technologies for particulate control include Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) products and services including ESP Inspection Services, Performance Modeling, and Performance and Efficiency Upgrades, along with complete turnkey capability for ESP retrofits. Flue gas conditioning (FGC) systems include treatment using sulfur trioxide (SO<sub>3</sub>) and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) based systems to improve the performance of ESPs by modifying the properties of the fly ash particle. Our ULTRA technology can provide the ammonia system feed requirements for FGC applications as a safe alternative to ammonia reagent based systems. FGC systems offer a lower capital cost approach to improving ash particulate capture versus the alternative of installing larger ESPs or utilizing fabric filter technology to meet targeted emissions and opacity limits. Fuel Tech's particulate control technologies have been installed on more than 125 units worldwide.
- **Burner Systems:** Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners and Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners (LNB and ULNB) are available for coal-, oil-, and gas-fired industrial and utility units. Each system application is specifically designed to maximize NO<sub>x</sub> reduction. Computational fluid dynamics combustion modeling is used to validate the design prior to fabrication of equipment. NO<sub>x</sub> reductions can range from 40%-60% depending on the fuel type. Over-Fire Air (OFA) systems stage combustion for enhanced NO<sub>x</sub> reduction. Additional NO<sub>x</sub> reductions, beyond Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners, of 35% - 50% are possible on different boiler configurations on a range of fuel types. Combined overall reductions range from 50% - 70%, with overall capital costs ranging from \$10 - \$20/kW and total costs ranging from \$300 - \$1,500/ton of NO<sub>x</sub> removed, depending on the scope.

The key market dynamic for the APC product line is the continued use of coal as the principal fuel source for global electricity production. Coal currently accounts for approximately 30% of all U.S. electricity generation and roughly 69% of Chinese electricity generation. Major coal consumers include China, the United States and India. The growth of natural gas in the U.S. for industrial applications has increased the need for SCR technology since it often meets the definition of Best Available Control Technology and is required on new industrial units.

Sales of APC products were \$27.8 million, \$34.1 million, and \$43.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

#### *NO<sub>x</sub> Reduction Competition*

Competition with our NO<sub>x</sub> reduction suite of products may be expected from companies supplying urea SNCR systems, combustion modification products, SCR systems and ammonia SNCR systems. In addition, we experience competition in the urea-to-ammonia conversion market.

Combustion modifications, including Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners and Over-Fire Air systems, can be fitted to most types of boilers with cost and effectiveness varying with specific boilers. Combustion modifications may yield up to 20% - 60% NO<sub>x</sub> reduction economically with capital costs ranging from \$10 - \$20/kW and total costs ranging from \$300 - \$1,500/ton of NO<sub>x</sub> removed. The modifications are designed to reduce the formation of NO<sub>x</sub> and are typically the first NO<sub>x</sub> reduction efforts employed. Companies such as GE, and Babcock & Wilcox Company, are active competitors in the Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burner business. Once NO<sub>x</sub> is formed, then the SCR process is an effective and proven method of control for removal of NO<sub>x</sub> up to 90%. SCR systems have a high capital cost of \$300+/kW on retrofit coal applications. Such companies as GE, Babcock Power, Babcock & Wilcox Company, CECO Environmental and Mitsubishi Hitachi, are active SCR system and reagent feed system providers.

The use of ammonia as the reagent for the SNCR process can reduce NO<sub>x</sub> by 30% - 70% on incinerators but has limited applicability in the utility industry. Ammonia system capital costs range from \$5 - \$20/kW, with annualized operating costs ranging from \$1,000 - \$3,000/ton of NO<sub>x</sub> removed. These systems require the use of either anhydrous or aqueous ammonia, both of which are hazardous substances.

In addition to or in lieu of using the foregoing processes, certain customers may elect to close or de-rate plants, purchase electricity from third-party sources, switch from higher to lower NO<sub>x</sub>-emitting fuels or purchase NO<sub>x</sub> emission allowances.

Lastly, with respect to urea-to-ammonia conversion technologies, a competitive approach to our controlled urea decomposition system competes with Wahlco, Inc., which manufactures a system that hydrolyzes urea under high temperature and pressure.

#### *APC Backlog*

Consolidated APC segment backlog at December 31, 2017 was \$22.1 million versus backlog at December 31, 2016 of \$8.0 million. A substantial portion of the backlog as of December 31, 2017 should be recognized as revenue in fiscal 2018, although the timing of such revenue recognition in 2018 is subject to the timing of the expenses incurred on existing projects.

### **FUEL CHEM**

#### *Product and Markets*

The FUEL CHEM<sup>®</sup> technology segment revolves around the unique application of specialty chemicals to improve the efficiency, reliability and environmental status of plants operating in the electric utility, industrial, pulp and paper, waste-to-energy, and university and district heating markets. FUEL CHEM programs are currently in place on combustion units in North America, Mexico and Europe, treating a wide variety of solid and liquid fuels, including coal, heavy oil, black liquor, biomass and municipal waste.

Central to the FUEL CHEM approach is the introduction of chemical reagents, such as magnesium hydroxide, to combustion units via in-body fuel application (pre-combustion) or via direct injection (post-combustion) utilizing our proprietary TIFI<sup>®</sup> technology. By attacking performance-hindering problems, such as slagging, fouling and corrosion, as well as the formation of sulfur trioxide (SO<sub>3</sub>), and ammonium bisulfate (ABS), our programs offer numerous operational, financial and environmental benefits to owners of boilers, furnaces and other combustion units.

The key market dynamic for this product line is the continued use of coal as the principal fuel source for global electricity production. Coal currently accounts for approximately 30% of all U.S. electricity generation and roughly 69% of Chinese electricity generation. Major coal consumers include the United States, China and India. Additional market dynamics include a growing, worldwide utilization of biomass for both steam and electrical production, as well as the strengthening of the pulp and paper industry worldwide, resulting in black liquor recovery boilers needing to maximize throughput.

The principal markets for this product line are electric power plants burning coals with slag-forming constituents such as sodium, iron and high levels of sulfur. Sodium is typically found in the Powder River Basin coals of Wyoming and Montana. Iron is typically found in coals produced in the Illinois Basin region. High sulfur content is typical of Illinois Basin coals and certain Appalachian coals. High sulfur content can give rise to unacceptable levels of SO<sub>3</sub> formation especially in plants with SCR systems and flue gas desulphurization units (scrubbers).

The combination of slagging coals and SO<sub>3</sub>-related issues, such as “blue plume” formation, air pre-heater fouling and corrosion, SCR fouling and the proclivity to suppress certain mercury removal processes, represents an attractive market potential for Fuel Tech.

Sales of the FUEL CHEM products were \$17.4 million, \$21.1 million, and \$30.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

### *Competition*

Competition for our FUEL CHEM product line includes chemicals sold by specialty chemical and combustion engineering companies, such as Ashland Inc., Environmental Energy Services, Inc., and GE Infrastructure. No technologically comparable substantive competition currently exists for our TIFI technology, which is designed primarily for slag control and SO<sub>3</sub> abatement, but there can be no assurance that such lack of substantive competition will continue.

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The majority of our products are protected by U.S. and non-U.S. patents. We own 128 granted patents worldwide and 13 allowed utility model patents in China. We have 68 patent applications pending; including 12 in the United States and 56 in non-U.S. Jurisdictions. These patents and applications cover some 32 inventions, 16 associated with our NO<sub>x</sub> reduction business, 14 associated with the FUEL CHEM business, and two associated with the Fuel Conversion business. Our granted patents have expiration dates ranging from October of 2018 to May of 2037.

Management believes that the protection provided by the numerous claims in the above referenced patents or patent applications is substantial, and afford us a significant competitive advantage in our business. Accordingly, any significant reduction in the protection afforded by these patents or any significant development in competing technologies could have a material adverse effect on our business.

## **EMPLOYEES**

At December 31, 2017, we had 122 employees, 82 in North America, 32 in China and eight in Europe. We enjoy good relations with our employees and are not a party to any labor management agreement.

## **RELATED PARTIES**

Douglas G. Bailey, a member of our Board, is a stockholder of American Bailey Corporation (ABC), which is a related party. Please refer to Note 11 to the consolidated financial statements in this Form 10-K for information about our transactions with ABC. Additionally, see the more detailed information relating to this subject under the caption “Certain Relationships and Related Transactions” in our definitive Proxy Statement to be distributed in connection with our 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which information is incorporated by reference.

## **AVAILABLE INFORMATION**

We are a fully integrated company using a suite of advanced technologies to provide boiler optimization, efficiency improvement and air pollution reduction and control solutions to utility and industrial customers worldwide. Originally incorporated in 1987 under the laws of the Netherlands Antilles as Fuel-Tech N.V., we were domesticated in the United States on September 30, 2006, and continue as a Delaware corporation with our corporate headquarters at 27601 Bella Vista Parkway, Warrenville, Illinois, 60555-1617. Fuel Tech maintains an Internet website at [www.ftek.com](http://www.ftek.com). Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act are made available through our website as soon as reasonably practical after we electronically file or furnish the reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our website also contains our Corporate Governance Guidelines and Code of Ethics and Business Conduct, as well as the charters of the Audit, Compensation, and Nominating and Corporate Governance committees of the Board of Directors. All of these documents are available in print without charge to stockholders who request them. Information on our website is not incorporated into this report.

## **ITEM 1A - RISK FACTORS**

Investors in our Common Shares should be mindful of the following risk factors relative to our business.

### **Our Product Portfolio Lacks Diversification**

We have two broad technology segments that provide advanced engineering solutions to meet the pollution control, efficiency improvement, and operational optimization needs of coal-fired energy-related facilities worldwide. They are as follows:

- The Air Pollution Control technology segment includes technologies to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions in flue gas from boilers, incinerators, furnaces and other stationary combustion sources. These include Low and Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners (LNB and ULNB), Over-Fire Air (OFA) systems, NO<sub>x</sub>OUT<sup>®</sup> and HERT<sup>™</sup> Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR) systems, and Advanced Selective Catalytic Reduction (ASCR<sup>™</sup>) systems. The ASCR system includes ULNB, OFA, and SNCR components, along with a downsized SCR catalyst, Ammonia Injection Grid (AIG), and Graduated Straightening Grid (GSG<sup>™</sup>) systems to provide high NO<sub>x</sub> reductions at significantly lower capital and operating costs than conventional

SCR systems. The NO<sub>x</sub>OUT CASCADE<sup>®</sup> and NO<sub>x</sub>OUT-SCR<sup>®</sup> processes are basic types of ASCR systems, using just SNCR and SCR catalyst components. ULTRA<sup>®</sup> technology creates ammonia at a plant site using safe urea for use with any SCR application. ESP technologies make use of electrostatic precipitator products and services to reduce particulate matter. Flue Gas Conditioning systems are chemical injection systems offered in markets outside the U.S. and Canada to enhance electrostatic precipitator and fabric filter performance in controlling particulate emissions.

- The FUEL CHEM<sup>®</sup> technology segment which uses chemical processes in combination with advanced Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) and Chemical Kinetics Modeling (CKM) boiler modeling for the control of slagging, fouling, corrosion, opacity and other sulfur trioxide-related issues in furnaces and boilers through the addition of chemicals into the furnace using TIFI<sup>®</sup> Targeted In-Furnace Injection<sup>™</sup> technology.

An adverse development in our advanced engineering solution business as a result of competition, technological change, government regulation, customers converting to use natural gas or other fuels, or any other factor could have a significantly greater impact than if we maintained more diverse operations.

### **We Face Substantial Competition**

Competition in the Air Pollution Control market comes from competitors utilizing their own NO<sub>x</sub> reduction processes, including SNCR systems, Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners, Over-Fire Air systems, flue gas recirculation, ammonia SNCR and SCR, which do not infringe our patented technologies. Indirect competition will also arise from business practices such as the purchase rather than the generation of electricity, fuel switching, closure or de-rating of units, and sale or trade of pollution credits and emission allowances. Utilization by customers of such processes or business practices or combinations thereof may adversely affect our pricing and participation in the NO<sub>x</sub> control market if customers elect to comply with regulations by methods other than the purchase of our Air Pollution Control products. See Item 1 “Products” and “NO<sub>x</sub> Reduction Competition” in the *Air Pollution Control* segment overview.

Competition in the FUEL CHEM markets includes chemicals sold by specialty chemical and combustion engineering companies, such as NALCO (Ecolab), GE Infrastructure, and Environmental Energy Services, Inc.

### **Demand for Our APC and FUEL CHEM Products is Affected by External Market Factors**

Reduced coal-fired electricity demand across the United States has led to coal-fired electricity production declines. Contributing to this decline in coal-fired generations were 1) lower natural gas prices which allowed utility operators to increase the amount of power generated from natural gas plants, 2) increased cost of environmental compliance with current environmental regulations, 3) constrained funding for capital projects, and 4) the uncertainty of regulation resulted in electricity generating unit operators delaying investment in NO<sub>x</sub> emission remediation plans until such time as the United States Environmental Protection Agency further clarifies the regulations.

### **Our Business Is Dependent on Continuing Air Pollution Control Regulations and Enforcement**

Our business is significantly impacted by and dependent upon the regulatory environment surrounding the electricity generation market. Our business will be adversely impacted to the extent that regulations are repealed or amended to significantly reduce the level of required NO<sub>x</sub> reduction, or to the extent that regulatory authorities delay or otherwise minimize enforcement of existing laws. Additionally, long-term changes in environmental regulation that threaten or preclude the use of coal or other fossil fuels as a primary fuel source for electricity production which result in the reduction or closure of a significant number of fossil fuel-fired power plants may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. See Item 1 above under the caption “Regulations and Markets” in the *Air Pollution Control* segment overview.

### **We May Not Be Able to Successfully Protect our Patents and Proprietary Rights**

We hold licenses to or own a number of patents for our products and processes. In addition, we also have numerous patent applications pending both in the U.S. and abroad. There can be no assurance that any of our pending patent applications will be granted or that our outstanding patents will not be challenged, overturned or otherwise circumvented by competitors. In foreign markets, the absence of harmonized patent laws makes it more difficult to ensure consistent respect for our patent rights in emerging markets. In addition, certain critical technical information relating to our products which is not patented is held as trade secret, and protected by trade secret laws and restrictions on disclosure contained in our confidentiality and licensing agreements. There can be no assurance that such protections will prove adequate or that we will have adequate remedies against contractual counterparties for disclosure of our trade secrets or other violations of our intellectual property rights. See Item 1 above under the caption “Intellectual Property.”

### **Our Results May Be Affected By Foreign Operations**

In 2007, we expanded our operations in China by establishing a wholly-owned subsidiary in Beijing. Our management believes that the Asia-Pacific region, particularly China, offers significant market opportunities as nations in this region look to establish and implement regulatory policies for improving their environment and utilizing fossil fuels, especially coal, efficiently and effectively. In 2012, we expanded our operations in Latin and South America by establishing a wholly-owned subsidiary in Chile. The future business opportunities in these markets are dependent on the continued implementation and enforcement of regulatory policies that will benefit our technologies, the acceptance of our engineering solutions in such markets, the ability of potential customers to utilize our technologies on a competitive, cost-effective basis, and our ability to protect and enforce our intellectual property rights.

### **Our Operating Results May Be Adversely Affected by Product Pricing**

The onset of significant competition for either of the technology segments might require us to lower our product prices in order to remain competitive and have a corresponding adverse impact on our realized gross margins and operating profitability. See the risk factor entitled “We Face Substantial Competition” above.

### **We May Not Be Able to Purchase Raw Materials on Commercially Advantageous Terms**

Our FUEL CHEM technology segment is dependent, in part, upon a supply of magnesium hydroxide. Any adverse changes in the availability of this chemical will likely have an adverse impact on ongoing operation of our FUEL CHEM programs. On March 4, 2009, we entered into a Restated Product Supply Agreement (“PSA”) with Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties, LLC (MMMS) in order to assure the continuance of a stable supply from MMMS of magnesium hydroxide products for our requirements in the United States and Canada. The term of the PSA expires on December 31, 2019. Pursuant to the PSA, MMMS supplies us with magnesium hydroxide products manufactured pursuant to our specifications and we have agreed to purchase from MMMS, and MMMS has agreed to supply, 100% of our requirements for such magnesium hydroxide products for our customers who purchase such products for delivery in the United States and Canada. There can be no assurance that we will be able to obtain a stable source of magnesium hydroxide in markets outside the United States.

### **Our Customer Base Is Highly Concentrated**

A small number of customers have historically accounted for a significant portion of our revenues. There can be no assurance that our current customers will continue to place orders, that orders by existing customers will continue at the levels of previous periods, or that we will be able to obtain orders from new customers. The loss of one or more of our customers could have a material adverse effect on our sales and operating results.

### **We May Not Be Able to Borrow Funds Pursuant to our Credit Facilities**

We are party to a \$5.0 million domestic revolving credit agreement with JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. As of December 31, 2017, there were no outstanding borrowings on this facility, and we had advanced \$3.0 million of Letters of Credit. The Facility is secured by cash held by the Company in a separate restricted use designated JPM Chase deposit account, which is not readily available for our operating needs. The balance in this restricted cash account is \$6,020 as of December 31, 2017. In addition, our Chinese subsidiary, Beijing Fuel Tech Environmental Technologies Company, Ltd., has a RMB 6.5 million (approximately \$999) revolving credit facility with JPMorgan Chase Bank (China) Company Limited. As of December 31, 2017, there were no outstanding borrowings under this facility, and we had outstanding bank guarantees of approximately \$0.2 million. In the event of any default on our part under either of these agreements, the lender is entitled to accelerate payment of any amounts outstanding and may, under certain circumstances, cancel the facilities. If we were unable to obtain a waiver for a breach of covenant and the lender accelerated the payment of any outstanding amounts, such acceleration may cause our cash position to significantly deteriorate or, if cash on hand were insufficient to satisfy the payment due, may require us to obtain alternate financing.

### **We may not be able to recover a significant portion of our carrying value of our assets held for sale associated with our Fuel Conversion business segment**

Effective June 28, 2017, the Company has suspended all operations associated with the Fuel Conversion business segment. We may not be able to realize as much value from the sale of the assets as we expect and we may incur higher than expected, or unforeseen, costs associated with the disposal related activities. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position and results of operations.

### **ITEM 1B - UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None



## **ITEM 2 - PROPERTIES**

We own an office building in Warrenville, Illinois, which has served as our corporate headquarters since June 23, 2008. This facility, with approximately 40,000 square feet of office space, is sufficient to meet our requirements for the foreseeable future.

We also operate from leased office facilities and we do not segregate any of these leased facilities by operating business segment. The terms of the Company's eight primary lease arrangements are as follows:

- The Stamford, Connecticut building lease, for approximately 6,440 square feet, runs from February 1, 2010 to December 31, 2019. The facility houses certain administrative functions.
- The Beijing, China building lease, for approximately 9,000 square feet, runs from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2020. This facility serves as the operating headquarters for our Beijing Fuel Tech operation.
- The Durham, North Carolina building lease, for approximately 2,590 square feet, runs from July 1, 2016 to July 31, 2019. This facility houses engineering operations.
- The Gallarate, Italy building lease, for approximately 1,636 square feet, runs from May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2019. This facility serves as the operating headquarters for our European operations.
- The Westlake, Ohio building lease, for approximately 3,000 square feet, runs from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2020. This facility houses engineering operations.
- The Aurora, IL warehouse lease, for approximately 11,000 square feet, runs from September 1, 2013 to December 31, 2020. This facility serves as an outside warehouse facility.
- The Overland Park, KS lease, for approximately 600 square feet, runs from October 16, 2015 to October 15, 2018. This facility serves primarily as a sales office.

## **ITEM 3 - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

We are from time to time involved in litigation incidental to our business. We are not currently involved in any litigation in which we believe an adverse outcome would have a material effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, or prospects.

## **ITEM 4 – MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not Applicable

## PART II

### ITEM 5 - MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASE OF EQUITY SECURITIES

#### Market

Our Common Shares have been traded since September 1993 on The NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc, where it trades under the symbol FTEK.

#### Prices

The table below sets forth the high and low sales prices during each calendar quarter since January 2016.

<u>2017</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Fourth Quarter	\$ 1.17	\$ 0.91
Third Quarter	1.14	0.79
Second Quarter	0.99	0.76
First Quarter	1.28	1.02

<u>2016</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Fourth Quarter	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.13
Third Quarter	1.80	1.31
Second Quarter	1.86	1.41
First Quarter	2.05	1.50

#### Dividends

We have never paid cash dividends on the Common Shares and have no current plan to do so in the foreseeable future. The declaration and payment of dividends on the Common Shares are subject to the discretion of our Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors to pay future dividends will depend on general business conditions, the effect of a dividend payment on our financial condition, and other factors the Board of Directors may consider relevant. The current policy of the Board of Directors is to reinvest earnings in operations to promote future growth.

#### Holders

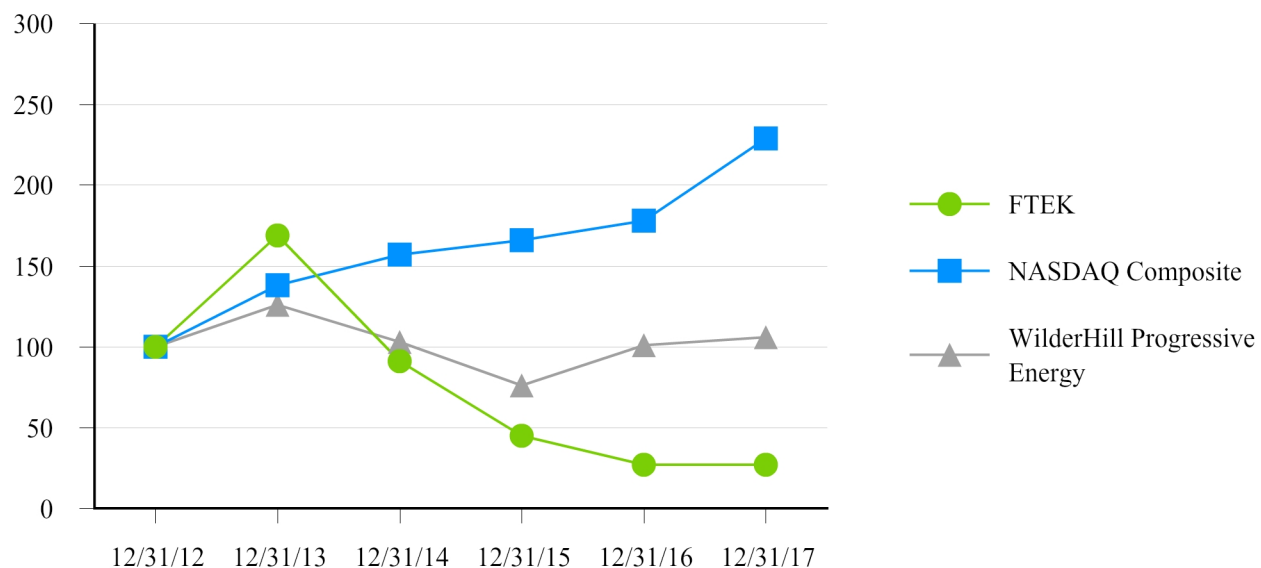
As of February 28, 2018, there were 111 holders of record of our common stock, which does not include the number of beneficial owners whose common stock was held in street name or through fiduciaries.



## Performance Graph

The following line graph compares our total return to stockholders per common share for the five years ended December 31, 2017 to that of the NASDAQ Composite Index and the WilderHill Progressive Energy Index for the period December 31, 2012 through December 31, 2017. The graph tracks the performance of a \$100 investment in the Company's common stock and in each of the indexes (with the reinvestment of all dividends) on December 31, 2012.

### FTEK Stock Performance 2012-2017



## ITEM 6 - SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

Selected financial data are presented below as of the end of and for each of the fiscal years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2017. The selected financial data should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” included elsewhere in this report and the schedules thereto.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA (in thousands of dollars, except for share and per-share data)	For the years ended December 31				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Revenues	\$ 45,166	\$ 55,161	\$ 73,664	\$ 79,017	\$ 109,338
Cost of sales	27,144	36,367	45,107	43,889	62,521
Selling, general and administrative	20,933	25,564	30,897	35,432	36,375
Restructuring charge	119	1,428	219	—	—
Research and development	1,070	1,752	1,447	1,459	2,442
Building, goodwill and intangible assets impairment	2,965	2,074	1,425	23,400	—
Operating (loss) income from continuing operations	(7,065)	(12,024)	(5,431)	(25,163)	8,000
Net (loss) income from continuing operations	(7,069)	(14,588)	(9,554)	(17,448)	5,101
Loss from discontinued operations	(3,914)	(2,800)	(2,826)	(277)	—
Net (loss) income	\$ (10,983)	\$ (17,388)	\$ (12,380)	\$ (17,725)	\$ 5,101
Net (loss) income per common share:					
Basic					
Continuing operations	\$ (0.30)	\$ (0.62)	\$ (0.41)	\$ (0.77)	\$ 0.23
Discontinued operations	(0.16)	(0.12)	(0.13)	(0.01)	—
Basic net (loss) income per common share	\$ (0.46)	\$ (0.74)	\$ (0.54)	\$ (0.78)	\$ 0.23
Diluted					
Continuing operations	\$ (0.30)	\$ (0.62)	\$ (0.41)	\$ (0.77)	\$ 0.23
Discontinued operations	(0.16)	(0.12)	(0.13)	(0.01)	—
Diluted net (loss) income per common share	\$ (0.46)	\$ (0.74)	\$ (0.54)	\$ (0.78)	\$ 0.23
Weighted-average basic shares outstanding	23,872,000	23,365,000	23,101,000	22,782,000	22,286,000
Weighted-average diluted shares outstanding	23,872,000	23,365,000	23,101,000	22,782,000	22,579,000

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DATA (in thousands of dollars)	December 31				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Working capital	\$ 18,025	\$ 26,585	\$ 35,865	\$ 39,688	\$ 48,619
Total assets	50,484	57,788	76,011	91,471	110,058
Long-term obligations	420	346	501	520	789
Total liabilities	16,143	14,396	17,037	19,170	21,435
Stockholders’ equity (1)	34,341	43,392	58,974	72,301	88,623

Notes:

- (1) Stockholders’ equity includes the principal amount of nil coupon non-redeemable perpetual loan notes. See Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements.

## **ITEM 7 - MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS** *(amounts in thousands of dollars)*

### **Background**

We have two broad technology segments that provide advanced engineered solutions to meet the pollution control, efficiency improvement and operational optimization needs of energy-related facilities worldwide. They are as follows:

#### *Air Pollution Control Technologies*

The Air Pollution Control technology segment includes technologies to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions in flue gas from boilers, incinerators, furnaces and other stationary combustion sources. These include Low and Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners (LNB and ULNB), OFA systems, NO<sub>x</sub>OUT and HERT SNCR systems, and ASCR systems. The ASCR system includes ULNB, OFA, and SNCR components, along with a downsized SCR catalyst, AIG, and GSG systems to provide high NO<sub>x</sub> reductions at significantly lower capital and operating costs than conventional SCR systems. The NO<sub>x</sub>OUT CASCADE and NO<sub>x</sub>OUT-SCR processes are basic types of ASCR systems, using just SNCR and SCR catalyst components. ULTRA technology creates ammonia at a plant site using safe urea for use with any SCR application. Our ESP products and services include complete turnkey ESP retrofits and related services. Flue Gas Conditioning systems are chemical injection systems offered in markets outside the U.S. and Canada to enhance electrostatic precipitator and fabric filter performance in controlling particulate emissions. We distribute our products through our direct sales force and third-party sales agents.

#### *FUEL CHEM Technologies*

The FUEL CHEM technology segment, which uses chemical processes in combination with advanced CFD and CKM boiler modeling, for the control of slagging, fouling, corrosion, opacity and other sulfur trioxide-related issues in furnaces and boilers through the addition of chemicals into the furnace using TIFI Targeted In-Furnace Injection technology. Fuel Tech sells its FUEL CHEM program through its direct sales force and agents to industrial and utility power-generation facilities. FUEL CHEM programs have been installed on combustion units in North America, Europe, China, and India, treating a wide variety of solid and liquid fuels, including coal, heavy oil, biomass and municipal waste. The FUEL CHEM program improves the efficiency, reliability and environmental status of plants operating in the electric utility, industrial, pulp and paper, waste-to-energy, university and district heating markets and offers numerous operational, financial and environmental benefits to owners of boilers, furnaces and other combustion units.

The key market dynamic for both technology segments is the continued use of fossil fuels, especially coal, as the principal fuel source for global electricity production. Coal currently accounts for approximately 30% of all U.S. electricity generation and roughly 69% of Chinese electricity generation. Major coal consumers include China, the United States and India.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which require us to make estimates and assumptions. We believe that of our accounting policies (see Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements), the following involve a higher degree of judgment and complexity and are deemed critical. We routinely discuss our critical accounting policies with the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors.

#### *Revenue Recognition*

Revenues from the sales of chemical products are recorded when title transfers, either at the point of shipment or at the point of destination, depending on the contract with the customer. We use the percentage of completion method of accounting for equipment construction, equipment supply and license contracts that are sold within the Air Pollution Control technology segment. Under the percentage of completion method, revenues are recognized as work is performed based on the relationship between actual construction costs incurred and total estimated costs at completion. Construction costs include all direct costs such as materials, labor, and subcontracting costs, and indirect costs allocable to the particular contract such as indirect labor, tools and equipment, and supplies. Revisions in completion estimates and contract values are made in the period in which the facts giving rise to the revisions become known and can influence the timing of when revenues are recognized under the percentage of completion method of accounting. Such revisions have historically not had a material effect on the amount of revenue recognized. Provisions are made for estimated losses on uncompleted contracts in the period in which such losses are determined. As of December 31, 2017, we had four construction contracts in progress that were identified as loss contracts and a provision for losses in the amount of \$117 was recorded in other accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet. As of December 31, 2016, we had two construction contract in progress that was identified as a loss contract and a provision for losses in the amount of \$41 was recorded in other accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.

Typically, our APC contracts are eight to sixteen months in length. A typical contract will have three or four critical operational measurements that, when achieved, serve as the basis for us to invoice the customer via progress billings. At a minimum, these measurements will include the generation of engineering drawings, the shipment of equipment and the completion of a system performance test.

As part of most of our contractual APC project agreements, we contractually commit to customer-specific acceptance criteria that relate to the operational performance of the system that is being sold. These criteria are determined based on mathematical modeling that is performed by our personnel, which is in turn based on operational inputs that are provided by the customer. Our customer is solely responsible for the accuracy of the operating condition information; all performance guarantees and equipment warranties granted by us are void if the operating condition information is inaccurate or is not met.

Accounts receivable includes unbilled receivables, representing revenues recognized in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts under the percentage of completion method of accounting. At December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, unbilled receivables were approximately \$7,894 and \$6,755, respectively, and are included in accounts receivable on the consolidated balance sheet. Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts were \$2,403 and \$1,730 at December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively, and are included in other accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.

We have installed over 1,000 units with APC technology and normally provide performance guarantees to our customers based on the operating conditions for the project. As part of the project implementation process, we perform system start-up and optimization services that effectively serve as a test of actual project performance. We believe that this test, combined with the accuracy of the modeling that is performed, enables revenue to be recognized prior to the receipt of formal customer acceptance.

#### *Allowance for Doubtful Accounts*

The allowance for doubtful accounts is management's best estimate of the amount of credit losses in accounts receivable. In order to control and monitor the credit risk associated with our customer base, we review the credit worthiness of customers on a recurring basis. Factors influencing the level of scrutiny include the level of business the customer has with us, the customer's payment history and the customer's financial stability. Receivables are considered past due if payment is not received by the date agreed upon with the customer, which is normally 30 days. Representatives of our management team review all past due accounts on a weekly basis to assess collectability. At the end of each reporting period, the allowance for doubtful accounts balance is reviewed relative to management's collectability assessment and is adjusted if deemed necessary through a corresponding charge or credit to bad debts expense, which is included in selling, general, and administrative expenses in the consolidated statements of operations. Bad debt write-offs are made when management believes it is probable a receivable will not be recovered.

#### *Inventories*

Inventories consist primarily of spare parts and are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value using the first-in, first-out method. Usage is recorded in cost of sales in the period that parts were issued to a project or used to service equipment. Inventories are periodically evaluated to identify obsolete or otherwise impaired parts and are written off when management determines usage is not probable. On June 30, 2017, the Company established an additional excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$228 which is included in inventory on the consolidated balance sheet. On December 31, 2016, the Company established an excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$825 of which \$175 is included in inventories and \$650 is included in other assets on the consolidated balance sheet. The Company estimates the balance of excess and obsolete inventory by analyzing inventory by age using last used and original purchase date and existing sales pipeline for which the inventory could be used.

#### *Assessment of Potential Impairments of Goodwill and Intangible Assets*

Goodwill is not amortized, but rather is reviewed annually (in the fourth quarter) or more frequently if indicators arise, for impairment. We do not have any indefinite-lived intangible assets other than goodwill. Such indicators include a decline in expected cash flows, a significant adverse change in legal factors or in the business climate, unanticipated competition, a decrease in our market capitalization to an amount less than the carrying value of our assets, or slower growth rates, among others.

Goodwill is allocated among and evaluated for impairment at the reporting unit level, which is defined as an operating segment or one level below an operating segment. We have two reporting units: the FUEL CHEM segment and the APC technology segment.

Our evaluation of goodwill impairment involves first assessing qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. We may bypass this qualitative assessment, or determine that based on our qualitative assessment considering the totality of events and circumstances including macroeconomic factors,

industry and market considerations, current and projected financial performance, a sustained decrease in our share price, or other factors, that additional impairment analysis is necessary. This additional analysis involves comparing the current fair value of a reporting unit to its carrying value. Fuel Tech uses a discounted cash flow (DCF) model to determine the current fair value of its two reporting units as this methodology was deemed to best quantify the present values of our expected future cash flows and yield a fair value that should be in line with the aggregate market value placed on the outstanding number of Common Shares as reflected by the current stock price multiplied by the outstanding common shares. A number of significant assumptions and estimates are involved in the application of the DCF model to forecast operating cash flows, including markets and market share, sales volumes and prices, costs to produce and working capital changes. Events outside our control, specifically market conditions that impact revenue growth assumptions, could significantly impact the fair value calculated. Management considers historical experience and all available information at the time the fair values of its reporting units are estimated. However, actual fair values that could be realized in an actual transaction may differ from those used to evaluate the impairment of goodwill.

The application of our DCF model in estimating the fair value of each reporting segment is based on the 'net asset' approach to business valuation. In using this approach for each reportable segment, we forecast segment revenues and expenses out to perpetuity and then discount the resulting cash flows to their present value using an appropriate discount rate. The forecast considers, among other items, the current and expected business environment, expected changes in the fixed and variable cost structure as the business grows, and a revenue growth rate that we feel is both achievable and sustainable. The discount rate used is composed of a number of identifiable risk factors, including equity risk, company size, and certain company specific risk factors such as our debt-to-equity ratio, among other factors, that when added together, results in a total return that a prudent investor would demand for an investment in our company.

In the event the estimated fair value of a reporting unit per the DCF model is less than the carrying value, additional analysis would be required. The additional analysis would compare the carrying amount of the reporting unit's goodwill with the implied fair value of that goodwill. The implied fair value of goodwill is the excess of the fair value of the reporting unit over the fair values assigned to all of the assets and liabilities of that unit as if the reporting unit was acquired in a business combination and the fair value of the reporting unit represented the purchase price. If the carrying value of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment loss equal to such excess would be recognized.

Fuel Tech performed its annual goodwill impairment analysis for each of its reporting units as of October 1, 2017 and determined that no impairment of goodwill existed within the FUEL CHEM technology segment.

#### *Building Impairment*

During the second quarter of 2017, we experienced a decrease in our stock price that caused our market capitalization to fall below the equity value on our consolidated balance sheet, which resulted in an indicator of impairment. This, along with an overall slowdown in APC technology and corresponding downward adjustments to our financial forecasts, was considered during a detailed evaluation of the fair value of our reporting units. As a result of these triggering events, Fuel Tech performed a long-lived asset impairment analysis for each of the reporting units as of April 1, 2017. Based on this evaluation, we determined that our APC segment failed the first step of our impairment analysis because the estimated gross cash flows and fair value of the reporting unit was less than its carrying value, thus requiring additional analysis of the segment. However, no impairment resulted as the fair values of the underlying patents and equipment equaled or exceeded their carrying values. We evaluated the corporate asset group, which contains our corporate headquarters office building and land in Warrenville, Illinois, using the residual method and management determined that there was not adequate gross cash flows to support the carrying value. After obtaining an appraisal from a third-party appraiser, management determined that the carrying value of the office building and land exceeded the fair value and recorded an impairment charge of \$2,965 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

#### *Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and Amortizable Intangible Assets*

Long-lived assets, including property, plant and equipment (PP&E) and intangible assets, are reviewed for impairment when events and circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the assets (or asset group) may not be recoverable. If impairment indicators exist, we perform a more detailed analysis and an impairment loss is recognized when estimated future undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use of the asset (or asset group) and its eventual disposition are less than the carrying amount. This process of analyzing impairment involves examining the operating condition of individual assets (or asset group) and estimating a fair value based upon current condition, relevant market factors and remaining estimated operational life compared to the asset's remaining depreciable life. Quoted market prices and other valuation techniques are used to determine expected cash flows. Due to the existence of impairment indicators as more fully described in Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements, we performed a more detailed analysis of potential long-lived and intangible asset impairment in the APC technology asset group during the fourth quarter of 2017 using the aforementioned undiscounted cash flows analysis.

In the fourth quarter of 2016, the Company performed an impairment test of the carrying value of our intangible assets to determine whether any impairment existed. The Company determined that the sum of the expected undiscounted cash flows attributable to certain intangible assets was less than its carrying value and that an impairment write-down was required. The impairment loss primarily related to the developed technology, customer relationships and trademarks acquired in the 2014 acquisition of PECO and FGC. The Company calculated the estimated fair value of the intangible asset by summing the present value of the expected cash flows over its life. The impairment was calculated by deducting the present value of the expected cash flows from the carrying value. This assessment resulted in an impairment charge of \$2,074, which was included in “Goodwill and intangible assets impairment” line in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2016.

In the fourth quarter of 2015, the Company performed an impairment test of the carrying value of our intangible assets to determine whether any impairment existed. The Company determined that the sum of the expected undiscounted cash flows attributable to certain intangible assets was less than its carrying value and that an impairment write-down was required. The impairment loss primarily related to the customer lists acquired in the 2009 acquisition of Advanced Combustion Technology and the 2014 acquisition of PECO. The Company calculated the estimated fair value of the intangible asset by summing the present value of the expected cash flows over its life. The impairment was calculated by deducting the present value of the expected cash flows from the carrying value. This assessment resulted in an impairment write-down of \$1,425, which was included in “Goodwill and intangible assets impairment” line in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2015.

A significant portion of our property and equipment is comprised of assets deployed at customer locations relating to our FUEL CHEM technology asset group, and due to the shorter-term duration over which this equipment is depreciated, the likelihood of impairment is mitigated. The discontinuation of a FUEL CHEM program at a customer site would most likely result in the re-deployment of all or most of the affected assets to another customer location rather than an impairment.

#### *Valuation Allowance for Deferred Income Taxes*

Deferred tax assets represent deductible temporary differences and net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. A valuation allowance is recognized if it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. At the end of each reporting period, management reviews the realizability of the deferred tax assets. As part of this review, we consider if there are taxable temporary differences that could generate taxable income in the future, if there is the ability to carry back the net operating losses or credits, if there is a projection of future taxable income, and if there are any tax planning strategies that can be readily implemented.

#### *Stock-Based Compensation*

We recognize compensation expense for employee equity awards ratably over the requisite service period of the award, adjusted for estimated forfeitures.

We utilize the Black-Scholes option-pricing model to estimate the fair value of stock option awards. Determining the fair value of stock options using the Black-Scholes model requires judgment, including estimates for (1) risk-free interest rate - an estimate based on the yield of zero-coupon treasury securities with a maturity equal to the expected life of the option; (2) expected volatility - an estimate based on the historical volatility of our Common Shares for a period equal to the expected life of the option; and (3) expected life of the option - an estimate based on historical experience including the effect of employee terminations.

In addition, we utilize a Monte Carlo valuation pricing model to determine the fair value of certain restricted stock units (RSUs) that contain market conditions. Determining the fair value of these RSUs requires judgment and involves simulating potential future stock prices based on estimates for the risk-free interest rate, stock volatility, and correlations between our stock price and the stock prices of a peer group of companies. If any of these assumptions differ significantly from actual results, stock-based compensation expense could be impacted.

#### *Recently Adopted Accounting Standards*

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting. The amendments in this Update simplify the income tax effects, minimum statutory tax withholding requirements and impact of forfeitures related to how share-based payments are accounted for and presented in the financial statements. ASU 2016-09 is effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2017. The adoption of ASU 2016-09 did not have a material effect on our earnings, cash flows, or financial position. See Note 8, Stock-Based Compensation, for further discussion.



In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11, Inventory (Topic 330): Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory. This new accounting guidance more clearly articulates the requirements for the measurement and disclosure of inventory. Topic 330, Inventory, currently requires an entity to measure inventory at the lower of cost or market. Market could be replacement cost, net realizable value, or net realizable value less an approximately normal profit margin. This new accounting guidance requires the measurement of inventory at lower of cost and net realizable value. The adoption of ASU 2015-11 is effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2017 and the adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

#### *Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements*

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued ASU 2014-09 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" (Topic 606). These changes created a comprehensive framework for all entities in all industries to apply in the determination of when to recognize revenue, and, therefore, supersede virtually all existing revenue recognition requirements and guidance. This framework is expected to result in less complex guidance in application while providing a consistent and comparable methodology for revenue recognition. The core principle of the guidance is that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. To achieve this principle, an entity should apply the following steps: (i) identify the contract(s) with a customer, (ii) identify the performance obligations in the contract(s), (iii) determine the transaction price, (iv) allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract(s), and (v) recognize revenue when, or as, the entity satisfies a performance obligation. The new standard also requires additional financial statement disclosures that will enable users to understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows relating to customer contracts. In August 2015, the FASB approved a one-year deferral to January 1, 2018. The standard may be applied retrospectively to each prior period presented or retrospectively with the cumulative effect recognized as of the date of adoption. The Company has completed a detailed review of the terms and provisions of its customer contracts in light of these changes. The project team is in the process of finalizing the evaluation of these contracts under the new guidance, as well as assessing the need for any potential changes to the Company's accounting policies and internal control structure. That said, the Company recognizes revenue when title, ownership, and risk of loss pass to the customer, all of which occurs utilizing a percentage of completion (cost-to-cost input), or shipment or delivery of the product based on the applicable shipping terms. Fuel Tech's sales of its products to customers represent single performance obligations, which are not expected to be impacted by these changes. As a result, management does not expect the adoption of these changes to have a material impact on the Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company adopted the standard on January 1, 2018 using the modified retrospective method and the cumulative impact, which the Company expects will be immaterial to the Consolidated Financial Statements, will be recognized in beginning retained earnings.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842). The amendments in this Update increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet and disclosing key information about leasing arrangements. ASU 2016-02 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2019. The Company is in the initial stages of evaluating the impact of the new standard on the accounting policies, processes, and system requirements. While the Company continues to assess the potential impacts of the new standard and anticipate this standard could have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements, the Company does not know or cannot reasonably estimate quantitative information related to the impact of the new standard on the financial statements at this time.

In November 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-18, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Restricted Cash (a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force). The amendments in this Update require that a statement of cash flows explain the change during the period in the total of cash, cash equivalents, and amounts generally described as restricted cash or restricted cash equivalents. Accordingly, restricted cash will be included with cash and cash equivalents when reconciling the beginning-of-period and end-of-period total amounts shown on the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows. ASU 2016-18 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2018 and will be applied using a retrospective approach. Other than this change in presentation within the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, ASU 2016-18 will not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04, Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment. The amendments in this Update simplify how an entity is required to test goodwill for impairment by eliminating Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test. Step 2 measures a goodwill impairment loss by comparing the implied fair value of a reporting unit's goodwill with the carrying amount of that goodwill. ASU 2017-04 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2020. The Company is in the initial stages of evaluating the impact of the new standard on the accounting policies, processes, and system requirements. While the Company continues to assess the potential impacts of the new standard and anticipate this standard could have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements, the Company does not know or cannot reasonably estimate quantitative information related to the impact of the new standard on the financial statements at this time.



## 2017 versus 2016

Revenues for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 were \$45,166 and \$55,161, respectively. The year-over-year decrease of \$9,995, or 18%, was driven by decreased revenue in both APC and FUEL CHEM technology segments in both our United States (U.S.) and foreign operations. Our U.S. revenues decreased by \$13,035 or 31% from \$42,545 to \$29,510, and our international revenues increased by \$3,040 or 24% from \$12,616 to \$15,656.

Revenues for the APC technology segment were \$27,808 for the year ended December 31, 2017, a decrease of \$6,244, or 18%, versus fiscal 2016. First, the U.S. regulatory environment, while remaining favorable for our prospects, has not spurred capital investment in our products by electric power producers. Second, while general economic conditions in the U.S. have improved, energy demand for coal fired power plants has declined as utilities have switched to lower cost natural gas sources. At the same time, these sources have generally allowed utilities to meet their regulatory objectives with existing emissions investments. Sales in foreign locations have not been robust enough to offset reduced demand in the U.S. While we expect to see improved order flow in our U.S. APC segment in 2018, any future orders will be dependent on our customers' capital investment decisions to install emissions control technologies in order to meet state or federal regulations. We continue to actively bid projects in our foreign markets during 2018 and will continue to look for growth opportunities within our chosen markets. Backlog for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 was \$22.1 million and \$8.0 million, respectively.

Revenues for the FUEL CHEM technology segment for the year ended December 31, 2017 were \$17,358, a decrease of \$3,751, or 18% versus fiscal 2016. This decrease is principally associated with reduced product demand from some of our largest Fuel Chem customers. These customers' decision to reduce spending was based on a number of factors including cost of coal fire powered generation, energy demand and overall economic conditions affecting the plant. We remain focused on attracting new customers in our FUEL CHEM business, for both coal and non-coal applications, but our ability to attract new coal customers continues to be affected by the soft electric demand market and fuel switching as a result of low natural gas prices.

Consolidated cost of sales for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 were \$27,144 and \$36,367, respectively. Consolidated gross margin percentages for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 were 40% and 34%, respectively. The gross margins for the APC technology segment increased to 34% in 2017 from 25% in 2016. Gross margin for the APC technology segment in 2016 included charges totaling \$0.8 million consisting of a subcontractor dispute of \$0.6 million and a non-cash excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$0.2 million; exclusive of these charges, gross margin would have been \$9.5 million, or 28%. The overall increase in gross margin in the APC technology segment from 2016 to 2017 is due to product and technology mix. Gross margin percentage for the FUEL CHEM technology segment increased slightly in 2017 to 50% from 48% in 2016. Gross margin for the FUEL CHEM technology segment in 2016 included the impact of the above-referenced non-cash excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$0.6 million; excluding this impact, gross margin would have been \$10.7 million or 51%.

During the second quarter of 2017, we experienced a decrease in our stock price that caused our market capitalization to fall below the equity value on our consolidated balance sheet, which resulted in an indicator of impairment. This, along with an overall slowdown in APC technology and corresponding downward adjustments to our financial forecasts, was considered during a detailed evaluation of the fair value of our reporting units. As a result of these triggering events, Fuel Tech performed a long-lived asset impairment analysis for each of the reporting units as of April 1, 2017. We evaluated the corporate asset group, which contains our corporate headquarters office building and land in Warrenville, Illinois, using the residual method and management determined that there was not adequate gross cash flows to support the carrying value. After obtaining an appraisal from a third-party appraiser, management determined that the carrying value of the office building and land exceeded the fair value and recorded an impairment charge of \$2,965 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 were \$20,933 and \$25,564, respectively. The decrease of \$4,631 or 18%, is primarily attributed to the following:

- A decrease in employee related costs, totaling \$2,060, including an overall reduction in travel and entertainment costs of \$437
- A decrease in stock compensation expense of \$602
- A decrease in depreciation and amortization of \$436
- A decrease in professional fees and consulting services of \$452
- A decrease in office and administrative costs relating to our foreign subsidiaries of \$377
- A decrease in other administrative costs of \$730

Restructuring costs were \$119 and \$1,428 in connection with the workforce reduction for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. See Note 15, Restructuring Activities, for further discussion.

Research and development (“R&D”) expenses were \$1,070 and \$1,752 for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The decrease in research and development expenses for the year ended December 31, 2017 in comparison to the same period prior year amounts was related to organizational workforce actions taken in both 2017 and 2016. The remaining expenditures in our research and development expenses were focused on new product development for our APC and Fuel Chem businesses. We plan to continue focusing on increased research and development efforts in the pursuit of commercial applications for technologies outside of our traditional markets, and in the development and analysis of new technologies that could represent incremental market opportunities.

Interest income for the year ended December 31, 2017 decreased by \$15 to \$10 versus \$25 in 2016. Interest expense was \$0 in both 2017 and 2016. Finally, the decrease in net other expenses to \$28 from \$925 in the prior year is due primarily to the impact of foreign exchange rates as it relates to settlement of balances denominated in foreign currencies, and certain other bank fees related to Letter of Credits.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, we recorded an income tax benefit of \$46 on pre-tax loss of \$7,115. Our effective tax rates were 0.4% and 12.9% for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The effective tax rate for the year-ended December 31, 2017 differed from the federal statutory rate of 34% as a result of net operating losses generated in the United States, China, and Italy, which were offset by establishment of full valuation allowances. For the year ended December 31, 2016, we recorded an income tax expense of \$1,664 on pre-tax loss of \$12,924. Our income tax expense of 1,664 in 2016 resulted from the establishment of a full valuation allowance for the China deferred tax assets.

On December 22, 2017, the United States (“U.S.”) enacted significant changes to the U.S. tax law following the passage and signing of H.R.1, “An Act to Provide for Reconciliation Pursuant to Titles II and V of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018” (the “Tax Act”) (previously known as “The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act”). Information regarding the impact on the Company is included in Note 4. Income Taxes to the consolidated financial statements included herein.

## **2016 versus 2015**

Revenues for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 were \$55,161 and \$73,664, respectively. The year-over-year decrease of \$18,503, or 25%, was driven by decreased revenue in both APC and FUEL CHEM technology segments in both our United States (U.S.) and foreign operations. Our U.S. revenues decreased by \$8,940 or 17% from \$51,485 to \$42,545, and our international revenues declined by \$9,563 or 43% from \$22,179 to \$12,616.

Revenues for the APC technology segment were \$34,052 for the year ended December 31, 2016, a decrease of \$9,433, or 22%, versus fiscal 2015. Revenues in our APC technology segment, which had been growing into 2013 largely through international sales, were adversely affected by a number of factors in 2016. First, the U.S. regulatory environment, while remaining favorable for our prospects, has not spurred capital investment in our products by electric power producers. Second, while general economic conditions in the U.S. have improved, energy demand for coal fired power plants has declined as utilities have switched to lower cost natural gas sources. At the same time, these sources have generally allowed utilities to meet their regulatory objectives with existing emissions investments. Sales in foreign locations have not been robust enough to offset reduced demand in the U.S. While we expect to see improved order flow in our U.S. APC segment in 2017, any future orders will be dependent on our customers' capital investment decisions to install emissions control technologies in order to meet state or federal regulations. We continue to actively bid projects in our foreign markets during 2017 and will continue to look for growth opportunities within our chosen markets. Backlog for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 was \$8.0 million and \$22.2 million, respectively.

Revenues for the FUEL CHEM technology segment for the year ended December 31, 2016 were \$21,109, a decrease of \$9,070, or 30% versus fiscal 2015. This decrease is principally associated with reduced product demand from some of our largest Fuel Chem customers. These customers' decision to reduce spending was based on a number of factors including cost of coal fire powered generation, energy demand and overall economic conditions affecting the plant. We remain focused on attracting new customers in our FUEL CHEM business, for both coal and non-coal applications, but our ability to attract new coal customers continues to be affected by the soft electric demand market and fuel switching as a result of low natural gas prices.

Consolidated cost of sales for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 were \$36,367 and \$45,107, respectively. Consolidated gross margin percentage for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 were 34% and 39%, respectively. The gross margins for the APC technology segment decreased to 25% in 2016 from 30% in 2015. Gross margin for the APC technology segment included charges totaling \$0.8 million consisting of a subcontractor dispute of \$0.6 million and a non-cash excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$0.2 million; exclusive of these charges, gross margin would have been \$9.5 million, or 28%. Gross margin percentage for the FUEL CHEM technology segment decreased slightly in 2016 to 48% from 52% in 2015. Gross margin for the FUEL CHEM technology segment included the impact of the above-referenced non-cash excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$0.6 million; excluding this impact, gross margin would have been \$10.7 million or 51%.

During 2016 we recognized an impairment charge of \$2.1 million for finite-lived APC segment intangible assets. All of the impairment charge recognized in 2016 related to the acquisition of PECO and FGC which was completed on April 30, 2014.

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 were \$25,564 and \$31,116, respectively. The decrease of \$5,333 or 17%, is primarily attributed to the following:

- A decrease in employee related costs, totaling \$3,506
- An increase in stock compensation expense of \$208
- A decrease in depreciation and amortization of \$194
- A decrease in professional fees and consulting services of \$917
- A decrease in office and administrative costs relating to our foreign subsidiaries of \$140
- A decrease in other administrative costs of \$784

Restructuring costs were \$1,428 and \$219 in connection with the workforce reduction for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015. See Note 15, Restructuring Activities, for further discussion.

Research and development (“R&D”) expenses were \$1,752 and \$1,447 for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. We plan to continue focusing on increased R&D efforts in the pursuit of commercial applications for our technologies outside of our traditional markets, and in the development and analysis of new technologies that could represent incremental market opportunities.

Interest income for the year ended December 31, 2016 increased by \$4 to \$25 versus \$21 in 2015. Interest expense of \$0 was recorded in 2016, compared to \$27 in the prior year. Finally, the increase in net other expenses to \$925 from \$360 in the prior year is due primarily to the impact of foreign exchange rates as it relates to settlement of balances denominated in foreign currencies, and certain other bank fees related to Letter of Credits.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, we recorded an income tax expense of \$1,664 on pre-tax loss of \$12,924. Our effective tax rates were 12.9% and 43.6% for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The effective tax rate for the year-ended December 31, 2016 differed from the federal statutory rate of 34% as a result of establishing a full valuation allowance on our China deferred tax assets and net operating losses generated in the United States, which were offset by establishment of full valuation allowance. For the year ended December 31, 2015, we recorded an income tax expense of \$3,757 on pre-tax loss of \$8,623. Our income tax expense of \$3,757 in 2015 resulted from the establishment of a full valuation allowance for the United States deferred tax assets and income from our Italian subsidiary for which we reversed a portion of our deferred income tax valuation allowances as a result of the entity’s previously recorded net operating losses.

## **Liquidity and Sources of Capital**

At December 31, 2017, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$8,366 (excluding restricted cash of \$6,020) and working capital of \$18,025 versus cash and cash equivalents of \$11,826 (excluding restricted cash of \$6,020) and working capital of \$26,585 at December 31, 2016.

Operating activities used \$3,568 of cash for the year ended December 31, 2017, primarily due to the add back of non-cash items from our net loss from continuing operations of \$7,069 including stock compensation expense of \$1,389, depreciation and amortization of 1,503, building impairment charge of \$2,965, excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$228, and a loss on sale of equipment of \$304, as well as a decrease in our accounts receivable balance of \$113, an increase in our inventory balance of \$134, and an increase in prepaid expenses and other current and non-current assets of \$1,084, and an decrease in our accrued liabilities and other non-current liabilities of \$2,439. Partially offsetting these items was subtraction from our net loss related to an increase in our accounts payable balance of \$2,500. Cash used by operating activities also included cash used of \$1,868 associated with the activity of the Fuel Conversion discontinued operations.

Operating activities used \$2,738 of cash for the year ended December 31, 2016, primarily due to the add back of non-cash items from our net loss of \$17,388 including stock compensation expense of \$1,991, depreciation and amortization of 3,500, a decrease in deferred income taxes of \$1,196, intangibles assets impairment charge of \$2,074, excess and obsolete inventory reserve of \$825, a reduction in bad debt expense of \$111, and a loss on sale of equipment of \$60, as well as a decrease in our accounts receivable balance of \$3,522, a decrease in inventory of \$446, and a decrease in prepaid expenses and other current and non-current assets of \$2,893, and an increase in our accrued liabilities and other non-current liabilities of \$699. Partially offsetting these items was subtraction of a non-cash item from our net loss related to a decrease in our accounts payable balance of \$2,445.

Investing activities used cash of \$490 and \$938 for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Investment activities for the year ended December 31, 2017 consisted of purchases of equipment, patents, and other intangibles of \$492 and proceeds from sale of equipment of \$2. Investment activities for the year ended December 31, 2016 consisted of purchases of equipment, patents, and other intangibles of \$940 and proceeds from sale of equipment of \$2.

Financing activities used \$258 of cash for the year ended December 31, 2017 as a result of \$258 in cash used for the acquisition of common shares held in treasury that were withheld for taxes due by employees upon lapsing of restricted stock units. Financing activities used \$6,192 of cash for the year ended December 31, 2016 as a result of \$6,020 increase in restricted cash, and \$172 in cash used for the acquisition of common shares held in treasury that were withheld for taxes due by employees upon lapsing of restricted stock units.

On June 30, 2015, Fuel Tech amended its existing revolving credit facility (the Facility) with JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (JPM Chase) to extend the maturity date through June 30, 2017. The total availability under the facility was \$15,000 and contained a provision to increase the facility up to a total principal amount of \$25,000 upon approval from JPM Chase. The Facility was unsecured, bears interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 300 basis points, and has the Company's Italian subsidiary, Fuel Tech S.r.l., as a guarantor. Fuel Tech can use this Facility for cash advances and standby letters of credit. As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, there were no outstanding borrowings on the credit facility.

The Facility contained several debt covenants with which the Company must comply on a quarterly or annual basis. The Facility required a minimum trailing-twelve month EBITDA of \$500 for the quarters ending March 31, 2016 and June 30, 2016; Beginning with the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2016, the Facility required a minimum EBITDA for the trailing twelve-month period then ended of not less than \$1,000. EBITDA includes after tax earnings with add backs for interest expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, stock-based compensation expense, and other non-cash items. This covenant was waived by our bank through the period ending December 31, 2015. In addition, the Facility required a minimum working capital requirement of \$35,000, starting as of December 31, 2015. Finally, the Facility had an annual capital expenditure limit of \$5,000.

On May 9, 2016, the Company amended its existing U.S. Domestic credit facility with JPM Chase such that the financial covenants as set forth in the credit agreement would not be measured for the period ending as of March 31, 2016, and were removed in their entirety from the Facility. The credit availability under the Facility has been reduced from \$15,000 to \$7,000 with this amendment, and further, JPM Chase's then current Revolving Commitment under the Facility is now secured by cash held by the Company in a separate restricted use designated JPM Chase deposit account. The amount of credit available to the Company under the Facility was \$7,000 from the date of the effective date of the amended facility through May 31, 2016, at which time the credit available to the Company under the Facility was reduced to \$6,000 from June 1, 2016 through July 31, 2016, at which time the credit available to the Company under the Facility was reduced to \$5,000 and will remain as such until the Maturity Date of the Facility on June 30, 2017.

On June 16, 2017, the Company amended its existing U.S. Domestic credit facility with JPM Chase to extend the maturity date to June 28, 2019. There are no financial covenants set forth in this amendment to the Facility. The credit availability under the Facility remains at \$5,000 with this amendment, and further, JPM Chase's current Revolving Commitment under the Facility remains secured by cash held by the Company in a separate restricted use designated JPM Chase deposit account. The amount of credit available to the Company under the Facility is \$5,000 and will remain as such until the Maturity Date of the Facility on June 28, 2019. The Company intends to renew the U.S. Domestic credit facility at its maturity. During the entire period of the Facility the Company must maintain sufficient cash balances in a segregated deposit account equal to the amount of the Facility and has fully pledged such cash as collateral to the bank to support the credit available to the Company under the Facility. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, there were no outstanding borrowings on the credit facility.

On January 10, 2018, the Company amended its existing U.S. Domestic credit facility with JPM Chase to increase the credit available under the Facility by \$500 to \$5,500 from the effective date of the amendment to August 31, 2018. After August 31, 2018, the amount of credit available under the facility will be reduced to \$5,000 through the maturity date of June 28, 2019. There were no other modifications to the terms of the Facility from the amendment of the facility on June 16, 2017.

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, we had outstanding standby letters of credit and bank guarantees totaling approximately \$3,004 and \$3,292, respectively, on our domestic credit facility in connection with contracts in process. We are committed to reimbursing the issuing bank for any payments made by the bank under these instruments. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, there were no cash borrowings under the domestic revolving credit facility and approximately \$1,996 and \$1,708, respectively, was available for future borrowings. We pay a commitment fee of 0.25% per year on the unused portion of the revolving credit facility.



On June 16, 2017, Beijing Fuel Tech Environmental Technologies Company, Ltd. (Beijing Fuel Tech), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fuel Tech, entered into a new revolving credit facility (the China Facility) agreement with JPM Chase for RMB 6.5 million (approximately \$999), which expires on June 29, 2018. The current facility for Beijing Fuel Tech is also secured by cash held by the Company of \$1,020 in a separate restricted use designated JPM Chase deposit account. The Company intends to renew the China Facility at its maturity. This new credit facility replaced the previous RMB 6.5 million facility that expired on June 23, 2017. The facility is unsecured, bears interest at a rate of 125% of the People's Bank of China (PBOC) Base Rate, and is guaranteed by Fuel Tech. Beijing Fuel Tech can use this facility for cash advances and bank guarantees. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, Beijing Fuel Tech had no cash borrowings under the China Facility.

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, we had outstanding standby letters of credit and bank guarantees totaling approximately \$246 and \$22, respectively, on its Beijing Fuel Tech revolving credit facility in connection with contracts in process. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, approximately \$753 and \$914 was available for future borrowings.

In the event of default on either the domestic facility or the China facility, the cross default feature in each allows the lending bank to accelerate the payments of any amounts outstanding and may, under certain circumstances, allow the bank to cancel the facility. If we were unable to obtain a waiver for a breach of covenant and the bank accelerated the payment of any outstanding amounts, such acceleration may cause our cash position to deteriorate or, if cash on hand were insufficient to satisfy the payment due, may require us to obtain alternate financing to satisfy the accelerated payment.

We continue to monitor our liquidity needs and in response to our continued losses have taken measures to reduce expenses and restructure operations which we feel are necessary to ensure we maintain sufficient working capital and liquidity to operate the business and invest in our future.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, we have sustained losses before discontinued operations totaling \$7,069. Our cash used in continuing operations for this same period totaled \$1,700. We have taken measures to reduce our expense infrastructure, and over the past three years have eliminated approximately \$19 million in aggregate expense through headcount and other operating expense cutbacks.

Our cash balance as of December 31, 2017 totaled \$14.4 million (inclusive of our restricted cash balance), and our working capital totaled \$18.0 million. We do not have any outstanding debt obligations other than our letters of credit, and our current credit agreement does not have any financial covenants as we have moved to a cash collateralized line of credit with our lender.

We have evaluated our ongoing business needs, and considered the cash requirements of our base business of Air Pollution Control and Fuel Chem businesses. This evaluation included consideration of the following: a) customer and revenue trends in our APC and Fuel Chem business segments, b) current operating structure and expenditure levels, c) contingent payouts as described in the notes to our financial statements, and d) support for our research and development initiatives.

We currently have a \$5 million domestic U.S. credit facility which we use to issue letters of credit to our customers, which is a fully cash collateralized line of credit requiring us to deposit funds in a restricted cash account to support that credit line. We expect to continue operating under this arrangement for the foreseeable future. Our liquidity may be adversely affected to the extent we are required to collateralize further letters of credit by additional cash deposits.

Based on this analysis, management believes that currently we have sufficient cash and working capital to operate our base APC and Fuel Chem businesses.

### Contractual Obligations and Commitments

In our normal course of business, we enter into agreements obligating us to make future payments. The contractual cash obligations noted below are primarily related to supporting the ongoing operations of the business.

#### Payments due by period in thousands of dollars

<u>Contractual Cash Obligations</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>Thereafter</u>
Operating lease obligations	\$ 1,664	\$ 749	\$ 713	\$ 202	\$ —
Total	\$ 1,664	\$ 749	\$ 713	\$ 202	\$ —

Interest payments in the amount of \$0, \$0, and \$27 were made during the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

In the normal course of our business, we use bank performance guarantees and letters of credit in support of construction contracts with customers as follows:

- in support of the warranty period defined in the contract; or
- in support of the system performance criteria that are defined in the contract.

In addition, we use bank performance guarantees with standby letters of credit and performance surety bonds as security for contract performance and other obligations as needed in the normal course of business. As of December 31, 2017, we had outstanding bank performance obligations that may or may not result in cash obligations as follows:

**Commitment expiration by period in thousands of dollars**

<b>Commercial Commitments</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Thereafter</b>
Standby letters of credit and bank guarantees	\$ 3,250	\$ 2,970	\$ 216	\$ 64	\$ —
Total	\$ 3,250	\$ 2,970	\$ 216	\$ 64	\$ —

**Off-Balance-Sheet Transactions**

There were no other off-balance-sheet transactions other than the obligations and commitments listed above during the three-year period ended December 31, 2017.

## **ITEM 7A - QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Our earnings and cash flow are subject to fluctuations due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates. We do not enter into foreign currency forward contracts or into foreign currency option contracts to manage this risk due to the nature of the transactions involved.

We are also exposed to changes in interest rates primarily due to our debt arrangement (refer to Note 10 to the consolidated financial statements). A hypothetical 100 basis point adverse move in interest rates along the entire interest rate yield curve would not have a materially adverse effect on interest expense during the upcoming year ended December 31, 2017.



## ITEM 8 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

### Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Fuel Tech, Inc.

#### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Fuel Tech, Inc. (the Company) as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive (loss) income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements (collectively, the financial statements). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2017, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Basis for Opinion

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

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ RSM US LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2010.

Chicago, Illinois  
March 12, 2018

**Fuel Tech, Inc.**
**Consolidated Balance Sheets**
*(in thousands of dollars, except share and per-share data)*

	December 31,	
	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,366	\$ 11,826
Restricted cash	1,020	6,020
Marketable securities	6	9
Accounts receivable, net	19,690	18,790
Inventories, net	945	1,012
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	3,592	2,891
Income taxes receivable	129	87
Total current assets	33,748	40,635
Property and equipment, net	6,272	10,517
Goodwill	2,116	2,116
Other intangible assets, net	1,671	1,796
Restricted cash	5,000	—
Assets held for sale	485	2,058
Other assets	1,192	666
Total assets	<u>\$ 50,484</u>	<u>\$ 57,788</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 9,065	\$ 6,303
Accrued liabilities:		
Employee compensation	1,487	1,390
Income taxes payable	73	—
Other accrued liabilities	5,098	6,357
Total current liabilities	15,723	14,050
Other liabilities	420	346
Total liabilities	16,143	14,396
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note 9)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$.01 par value, 40,000,000 shares authorized, 24,777,001 and 23,800,924 shares issued, and 24,132,910 and 23,446,035 outstanding in 2017 and 2016, respectively	248	238
Additional paid-in capital	138,760	137,380
Accumulated deficit	(102,503)	(91,520)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(768)	(1,568)
Nil coupon perpetual loan notes	76	76
Treasury stock, 644,091 and 354,889 shares in 2017 and 2016, respectively, at cost	(1,472)	(1,214)
Total stockholders' equity	34,341	43,392
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 50,484</u>	<u>\$ 57,788</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Fuel Tech, Inc.**
**Consolidated Statements of Operations**
*(in thousands of dollars, except share and per-share data)*

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
<b>Revenues</b>	\$ 45,166	\$ 55,161	\$ 73,664
<b>Costs and expenses:</b>			
Cost of sales	27,144	36,367	45,107
Selling, general and administrative	20,933	25,564	30,897
Restructuring charge	119	1,428	219
Research and development	1,070	1,752	1,447
Building and intangible assets impairment	2,965	2,074	1,425
Total Costs and Expenses	52,231	67,185	79,095
<b>Operating loss from continuing operations</b>	(7,065)	(12,024)	(5,431)
Interest expense	—	—	(27)
Interest income	10	25	21
Other expense	(60)	(925)	(360)
<b>Loss from continuing operations before income taxes</b>	(7,115)	(12,924)	(5,797)
Income tax benefit (expense)	46	(1,664)	(3,757)
<b>Net loss from continuing operations</b>	(7,069)	(14,588)	(9,554)
Loss from discontinued operations (net of income tax benefit of \$0 in 2017, 2016 and 2015)	(3,914)	(2,800)	(2,826)
<b>Net loss</b>	\$ (10,983)	\$ (17,388)	\$ (12,380)
<b>Net loss per common share:</b>			
<b>Basic</b>			
Continuing operations	\$ (0.30)	\$ (0.62)	\$ (0.42)
Discontinued operations	(0.16)	(0.12)	(0.12)
<b>Basic net loss per common share</b>	(0.46)	(0.74)	(0.54)
<b>Diluted</b>			
Continuing operations	(0.30)	(0.62)	\$ (0.42)
Discontinued operations	(0.16)	(0.12)	(0.12)
<b>Diluted net loss per common share</b>	(0.46)	(0.74)	(0.54)
<b>Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding:</b>			
Basic	23,872,000	23,365,000	23,101,000
Diluted	23,872,000	23,365,000	23,101,000

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Fuel Tech, Inc.**
**Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive (Loss) Income**
*(in thousands of dollars)*

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
Net (loss)	\$ (10,983)	\$ (17,388)	\$ (12,380)
Other comprehensive (loss):			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	802	(6)	(1,097)
Unrealized (losses)/gains from marketable securities, net of tax	(2)	(6)	(11)
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	800	(12)	(1,108)
Comprehensive (loss)	<u>\$ (10,183)</u>	<u>\$ (17,400)</u>	<u>\$ (13,488)</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Fuel Tech, Inc.**
**Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity**
*(in thousands of dollars or shares, as appropriate)*

	Common Stock		Additional	Accumulated	Accumulated	Nil	Treasury	Total
	Shares	Amount	Paid-in	Deficit	Other	Coupon	Stock	
			Capital		Comprehensive	Perpetual		
					Income (Loss)	Loan Notes		
<b>Balance at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>22,860</b>	<b>\$ 230</b>	<b>\$134,985</b>	<b>\$ (61,752)</b>	<b>\$ (448)</b>	<b>\$ 76</b>	<b>\$ (790)</b>	<b>\$ 72,301</b>
Net loss				(12,380)				(12,380)
Foreign currency translation adjustments					(1,097)			(1,097)
Unrealized loss on marketable securities, net of tax					(11)			(11)
Stock compensation expense			1,809					1,809
Issuance of Deferred Director's shares	39	1	(71)					(70)
Tax effect of expired vested options			(908)					(908)
Common shares issued upon vesting of restricted stock units	352	3	(421)					(418)
Treasury shares withheld	(84)						(252)	(252)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>23,167</b>	<b>\$ 234</b>	<b>\$135,394</b>	<b>\$ (74,132)</b>	<b>\$ (1,556)</b>	<b>\$ 76</b>	<b>\$ (1,042)</b>	<b>\$ 58,974</b>
Net loss				(17,388)				(17,388)
Foreign currency translation adjustments					(6)			(6)
Unrealized loss on marketable securities, net of tax					(6)			(6)
Stock compensation expense			1,991					1,991
Common shares issued upon vesting of restricted stock units	382	4	(5)					(1)
Treasury shares withheld	(103)						(172)	(172)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2016</b>	<b>23,446</b>	<b>\$ 238</b>	<b>\$137,380</b>	<b>\$ (91,520)</b>	<b>\$ (1,568)</b>	<b>\$ 76</b>	<b>\$ (1,214)</b>	<b>\$ 43,392</b>
Net loss				(10,983)				(10,983)
Foreign currency translation adjustments					802			802
Unrealized loss on marketable securities, net of tax					(2)			(2)
Stock compensation expense			1,389					1,389
Common shares issued upon vesting of restricted stock units	976	10	(9)					1
Treasury shares withheld	(289)						(258)	(258)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2017</b>	<b>24,133</b>	<b>\$ 248</b>	<b>\$138,760</b>	<b>\$ (102,503)</b>	<b>\$ (768)</b>	<b>\$ 76</b>	<b>\$ (1,472)</b>	<b>\$ 34,341</b>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Fuel Tech, Inc.**
**Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**
*(in thousands of dollars)*

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net loss	\$ (10,983)	\$ (17,388)	\$ (12,380)
Loss from discontinued operations	3,914	2,800	2,826
Net loss from continuing operations	(7,069)	(14,588)	(9,554)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in (provided by) operating activities:			
Depreciation	1,312	1,780	2,067
Amortization	215	1,118	1,536
Loss (gain) on disposal of equipment	304	60	(26)
Provision for doubtful accounts, net	—	(111)	—
Deferred income taxes	—	1,196	4,916
Stock compensation expense, net of forfeitures	1,389	1,991	1,809
Building and intangible assets impairment	2,965	2,074	1,425
Excess and obsolete inventory provision	228	825	—
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:			
Accounts receivable	113	3,522	7,880
Inventories	(134)	446	(560)
Prepaid expenses, other current assets and other noncurrent assets	(1,084)	2,893	(1,245)
Accounts payable	2,500	(2,445)	1,817
Accrued liabilities and other noncurrent liabilities	(2,439)	699	(913)
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities - continuing operations	(1,700)	(540)	9,152
Net cash used in operating activities - discontinued operations	(1,868)	(2,198)	(2,224)
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(3,568)	(2,738)	6,928
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchases of property, equipment and patents	(492)	(940)	(802)
Proceeds from the sale of equipment	2	2	26
Net cash used in investing activities	(490)	(938)	(776)
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payments on short-term borrowings	—	—	(1,623)
Change in restricted cash	—	(6,020)	—
Treasury shares withheld	(258)	(172)	(252)
Net cash used in financing activities	(258)	(6,192)	(1,875)
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash	856	10	(1,230)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(3,460)	(9,858)	3,047
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	11,826	21,684	18,637
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 8,366</u>	<u>\$ 11,826</u>	<u>\$ 21,684</u>
<b>Supplemental Cash Flow Information:</b>			
Cash paid for:			
Interest	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 27
Income taxes paid	\$ 31	\$ 368	\$ —

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

*(in thousands of dollars, except share and per-share data)*

### **1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **Organization**

Fuel Tech, Inc. and subsidiaries ("Fuel Tech", the "Company", "we", "us" or "our") provides advanced engineered solutions for the optimization of combustion systems in utility and industrial applications. Our primary focus is on the worldwide marketing and sale of NO<sub>x</sub> reduction technologies as well as our FUEL CHEM program. The Company's NO<sub>x</sub> reduction technologies reduce nitrogen oxide emissions from boilers, furnaces and other stationary combustion sources.

Our FUEL CHEM program is based on proprietary TIFI<sup>®</sup> Targeted In-Furnace<sup>™</sup> Injection technology, in combination with advanced Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) and Chemical Kinetics Modeling (CKM) boiler modeling, in the unique application of specialty chemicals to improve the efficiency, reliability and environmental status of combustion units by controlling slagging, fouling, corrosion, opacity and other sulfur trioxide-related issues in the boiler.

Our business is materially dependent on the continued existence and enforcement of air quality regulations, particularly in the United States. We have expended significant resources in the research and development of new technologies in building our proprietary portfolio of air pollution control, fuel and boiler treatment chemicals, computer modeling and advanced visualization technologies.

International revenues were \$15,656, \$12,616, and \$22,179 for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. These amounts represented 35%, 23%, and 30% of Fuel Tech's total revenues for the respective periods of time. Foreign currency changes did not have a material impact on the calculation of these percentages. We have foreign offices in Beijing, China and Gallarate, Italy.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Fuel Tech and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

#### **Reclassifications**

Certain reclassifications to prior year amounts have been made in the consolidated financial statements to conform to the current period presentation. In the second quarter of 2017, the Company suspended all operations associated with the Fuel Conversion business segment. All amounts for the periods presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets have been reclassified to Assets Held for Sale and all amounts in the Consolidated Statements of Operations have been reclassified to Discontinued Operations; Refer to footnote 2 for further detail.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. The Company uses estimates in accounting for, among other items, revenue recognition, allowance for doubtful accounts, income tax provisions, excess and obsolete inventory reserve, impairment of long-lived assets, and warranty expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, and accounts payable are reasonable estimates of their fair value due to their short-term nature. Our marketable securities are carried at fair value based on quoted market prices in an active market.



## Cash and Cash Equivalents

We include cash and investments having an original maturity of three months or less at the time of acquisition in cash and cash equivalents. We have never incurred realized or unrealized holdings gains or losses on securities classified as cash equivalents. Income resulting from short-term investments is recorded as interest income. At December 31, 2017, we had cash on hand of approximately \$1,260 at our Beijing, China subsidiary that is subject to certain local regulations that may limit the immediate availability of these funds outside of China. Cash on hand at our Italy subsidiary totaled approximately \$1,132 at December 31, 2017.

## Restricted Cash

Restricted cash represents funds that are restricted to satisfy any amount borrowed against the Company's existing revolving credit facility (the Facility) with JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. The remaining balance of restricted cash totaling \$6,020 will remain through the Maturity Date of the Facility. Refer to Note 10 Debt Financing for further information on the Facility.

## Foreign Currency Risk Management

Our earnings and cash flows are subject to fluctuations due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates. We do not enter into foreign currency forward contracts or into foreign currency option contracts to manage this risk due to the nature of the transactions involved.

## Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist of amounts due to us in the normal course of our business, are not collateralized, and normally do not bear interest. Accounts receivable includes unbilled receivables, representing costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts under the percentage of completion method. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, unbilled receivables were approximately \$7,894 and \$6,755, respectively.

## Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The allowance for doubtful accounts is our management's best estimate of the amount of credit losses in accounts receivable. In order to control and monitor the credit risk associated with our customer base, we review the credit worthiness of customers on a recurring basis. Factors influencing the level of scrutiny include the level of business the customer has with Fuel Tech, the customer's payment history, and the customer's financial stability. Receivables are considered past due if payment is not received by the date agreed upon with the customer, which is normally 30 days. Representatives of our management team review all past due accounts on a weekly basis to assess collectability. At the end of each reporting period, the allowance for doubtful accounts balance is reviewed relative to management's collectability assessment and is adjusted if deemed necessary through a corresponding charge or credit to bad debts expense, which is included in selling, general, and administrative expenses in the consolidated statements of operations. Bad debt write-offs are made when management believes it is probable a receivable will not be recovered. The table below sets forth the components of the Allowance for Doubtful Accounts for the years ended December 31.

Year	Balance at January 1	Provision charged to expense	Write-offs / Recoveries	Balance at December 31
2015	\$ 1,922	\$ —	\$ (150)	\$ 1,772
2016	\$ 1,772	\$ 172	\$ (375)	\$ 1,569
2017	\$ 1,569	\$ —	\$ (24)	\$ 1,545

## Prepaid expenses and other current assets

Prepaid expenses and other current assets includes Chinese banker acceptances of \$613 and \$838 as of December 31, 2017 and 2016. These are short-term commitments of typically 30 to 60 days for future payments and can be redeemed at a discount or applied to future vendor payments.

## Inventories

Inventories consist primarily of spare parts and are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value using the first-in, first-out method. Usage is recorded in cost of sales in the period that parts were issued to a project or used to service equipment. Inventories are periodically evaluated to identify obsolete or otherwise impaired parts and are written off when management determines usage is not probable. The Company estimates the balance of excess and obsolete inventory by analyzing inventory by age using last used and original purchase date and existing sales pipeline for which the inventory could be used. The table below sets forth the components of the Excess and Obsolete Inventory Reserve for the years ended December 31.

Year	Balance at January 1	Provision charged to expense	Write-offs / Recoveries	Balance at December 31
2016	\$ —	\$ 825	\$ —	\$ 825
2017	\$ 825	\$ 228		\$ 1,053

### Foreign Currency Translation and Transactions

Assets and liabilities of consolidated foreign subsidiaries are translated into U.S. dollars at exchange rates in effect at year end. Revenues and expenses are translated at average exchange rates prevailing during the year. Gains or losses on foreign currency transactions and the related tax effects are reflected in net income. The resulting translation adjustments are included in stockholders' equity as part of accumulated other comprehensive income.

### Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss)

The changes in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) by component were as follows:

	December 31,	
	2017	2016
<b>Foreign currency translation</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	\$ (1,574)	\$ (1,568)
Other comprehensive (loss):		
Foreign currency translation adjustments (1)	802	(6)
Balance at end of period	\$ (772)	\$ (1,574)
<b>Available-for-sale marketable securities</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 6	\$ 12
Other comprehensive (loss):		
Net unrealized holding (loss) (2)	(2)	(6)
Balance at end of period	\$ 4	\$ 6
<b>Total accumulated other comprehensive (loss)</b>	<b>\$ (768)</b>	<b>\$ (1,568)</b>

- (1) In all periods presented, there were no tax impacts related to rate changes and no amounts were reclassified to earnings.  
(2) In all periods presented, there were no realized holding gains or losses and therefore no amounts were reclassified to earnings.

### Research and Development

Research and development costs are expensed as incurred. Research and development projects funded by customer contracts are reported as part of cost of goods sold. Internally funded research and development expenses are reported as operating expenses.

### Product/System Warranty

We typically warrant our air pollution control products and systems against defects in design, materials and workmanship for one to two years. A provision for estimated future costs relating to warranty expense is recorded when the products/systems become commercially operational.

### Goodwill

Goodwill is not amortized, but is reviewed annually or more frequently if indicators arise, for impairment. Our evaluation of goodwill impairment involves first assessing qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. We may bypass this qualitative assessment, or determine that based on our qualitative assessment considering the totality of events and circumstances including macroeconomic factors, industry and market considerations, current and projected financial performance, a sustained decrease in our share price, or other factors, that additional impairment analysis is necessary. This additional analysis involves comparing the current fair value of our reporting units to their carrying values. We use a discounted cash flow (DCF) model to determine the current fair value of our two reporting units. A number of significant assumptions and estimates are involved in the application of the DCF model to forecast operating cash flows, including markets and market share, sales volumes and prices, costs to produce and working capital changes. Management considers

historical experience and all available information at the time the fair values of its reporting units are estimated. However, actual fair values that could be realized in an actual transaction may differ from those used to evaluate the impairment of goodwill.

Goodwill is allocated to each of our reporting units, which is defined as an operating segment or one level below an operating segment, upon acquisition after considering the nature of the net assets giving rise to the goodwill and how each reporting unit would enjoy the benefits and synergies of the net assets acquired. Goodwill is also evaluated for impairment at the reporting unit level. We have two reporting units for goodwill evaluation purposes: the FUEL CHEM technology segment and the APC technology segment. There is no goodwill associated with our APC business technology segment.

The entire goodwill balance of \$2,116 was allocated to the FUEL CHEM technology segment as of December 31, 2017 and 2016. The Company did not recognize a charge for goodwill impairment for the periods ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

### **Other Intangible Assets**

Management reviews other finite-lived intangible assets, which include customer lists and relationships, covenants not to compete, patent assets, trade names, and acquired technologies, for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of an asset or asset group may not be recoverable. In the event that impairment indicators exist, a further analysis is performed and if the sum of the expected undiscounted future cash flows resulting from the use of the asset or asset group is less than the carrying amount of the asset or asset group, an impairment loss equal to the excess of the asset or asset group's carrying value over its fair value is recorded. Management considers historical experience and all available information at the time the estimates of future cash flows are made, however, the actual cash values that could be realized may differ from those that are estimated. In the fourth quarter of 2016, the Company performed an impairment test of the carrying value of our intangible assets to determine whether any impairment existed given the decline in our stock price and sustained operating losses in our APC segment. The Company determined that the sum of the expected undiscounted cash flows attributable to certain intangible assets was less than its carrying value and that an impairment charge was required. The impairment loss primarily related to the developed technology, customer relationships and trademarks acquired in the 2014 acquisition of PECO and FGC. The Company calculated the estimated fair value of the intangible asset by summing the present value of the expected cash flows over its life. The impairment was calculated by deducting the present value of the expected cash flows from the carrying value. This assessment resulted in an impairment charge of \$2,074, which was included in "Intangible assets impairment" in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2016.

In the fourth quarter of 2015, the Company performed an impairment test of the carrying value of our intangible assets to determine whether any impairment existed. The Company determined that the sum of the expected undiscounted cash flows attributable to certain intangible assets was less than its carrying value and that an impairment write-down was required. The impairment loss primarily related to the customer lists acquired in the 2009 acquisition of Advanced Combustion Technology and the 2014 acquisition of PECO. The Company calculated the estimated fair value of the intangible asset by summing the present value of the expected cash flows over its life. The impairment was calculated by deducting the present value of the expected cash flows from the carrying value. This assessment resulted in an impairment write-down of \$1,425, which was included in "Intangible assets impairment" in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Third-party costs related to the development of patents are included within other intangible assets on the consolidated balance sheets. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the net patent asset balance, excluding patents acquired in business acquisitions, was \$1,611 and \$1,656, respectively. The third-party costs capitalized as patent costs during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 were \$135 and \$166, respectively. Third-party costs are comprised of legal fees that relate to the review and preparation of patent disclosures and filing fees incurred to present the patents to the required governing body.

Our intellectual property portfolio has been a significant building block for the Air Pollution Control and FUEL CHEM technology segments. The patents are essential to the generation of revenue for our businesses and are essential to protect us from competition in the markets in which we serve. These costs are being amortized on the straight-line method over the period beginning with the patent issuance date and ending on the patent expiration date. Patent maintenance fees are charged to operations as incurred.

Amortization expense from continuing operations for intangible assets was \$215, \$1,118 and \$1,536 for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The table below shows the amortization period and other intangible asset cost by intangible asset as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the accumulated amortization and net intangible asset value in total for all other intangible assets.

Description of Other Intangibles	Amortization Period	2017			2016		
		Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Customer relationships	11-15 years	\$ 1,198	\$ (1,138)	\$ 60	\$ 3,119	\$ (2,979)	\$ 140
Patent assets	1- 20 years	2,412	(801)	1,611	3,100	(1,444)	1,656
Total		<u>\$ 3,610</u>	<u>\$ (1,939)</u>	<u>\$ 1,671</u>	<u>\$ 6,219</u>	<u>\$ (4,423)</u>	<u>\$ 1,796</u>

The table below shows the estimated future amortization expense for intangible assets:

Year	Estimated Amortization Expense
2018	\$ 198
2019	138
2020	138
2021	138
2022	138
Thereafter	921
Total	<u>\$ 1,671</u>

### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is stated at historical cost. Provisions for depreciation are computed by the straight-line method, using estimated useful lives that range based on the nature of the asset. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the associated lease term or the estimated useful life of the asset. Depreciation expense from continuing operations was \$1,312, \$1,780, and \$2,067 for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The table below shows the depreciable life and cost by asset class as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the accumulated depreciation and net book value in total for all classes of assets.

Description of Property and Equipment	Depreciable Life	2017	2016
Land		\$ 1,050	\$ 1,440
Building	39 years	3,950	4,535
Building and leasehold improvements	3-39 years	3,264	5,087
Field equipment	3-4 years	19,251	19,467
Computer equipment and software	2-3 years	3,124	2,973
Furniture and fixtures	3-10 years	1,539	1,521
Vehicles	5 years	32	36
Total cost		<u>32,210</u>	<u>35,059</u>
Less accumulated depreciation		<u>(25,938)</u>	<u>(24,542)</u>
Total net book value		<u>\$ 6,272</u>	<u>\$ 10,517</u>

Property and equipment is reviewed for impairment when events and circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the assets (or asset group) may not be recoverable. If impairment indicators exist, we perform a more detailed analysis and an impairment loss is recognized when estimated future undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use of the asset (or asset group) and its eventual disposition are less than the carrying amount. This process of analyzing impairment involves examining the operating condition of individual assets (or asset group) and estimating a fair value based upon current condition, relevant market factors and remaining estimated operational life compared to the asset's remaining depreciable life. Quoted market prices and other valuation techniques are used to determine expected cash flows. A significant portion of our property and equipment is comprised of assets deployed at customer locations relating to our FUEL CHEM technology asset group, and due to the shorter-term duration over which this equipment is depreciated, the likelihood of impairment is mitigated. The discontinuation of a FUEL CHEM program at a customer site would most likely result in the re-deployment of all or most of the affected assets to another customer location rather than an impairment.

During the second quarter of 2017, we experienced a decrease in our stock price that caused our market capitalization to fall below the equity value on our consolidated balance sheet, which resulted in an indicator of impairment. This, along with an overall slowdown in APC technology and corresponding downward adjustments to our financial forecasts, was considered during a detailed evaluation of the fair value of our reporting units. As a result of these triggering events, Fuel Tech performed a long-lived asset impairment analysis for each of the reporting units as of April 1, 2017. Based on this evaluation, we determined that our APC segment failed the first step of our impairment analysis because the estimated gross cash flows and fair value of the reporting unit was less than its carrying value, thus requiring additional analysis of the segment. However, no impairment resulted as the fair values of the underlying patents and equipment equaled or exceeded their carrying values. We evaluated the corporate asset group, which contains our corporate headquarters office building and land in Warrenville, Illinois, using the residual method and management determined that there was not adequate gross cash flows to support the carrying value. After obtaining an appraisal from a third-party appraiser, management determined that the carrying value of the office building and land exceeded the fair value and recorded an impairment charge of \$2,965 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

## **Revenue Recognition**

Revenues from the sales of chemical products are recorded when title transfers, either at the point of shipment or at the point of destination, depending on the contract with the customer.

We utilize the percentage of completion method of accounting for equipment construction and license contracts that are sold within the Air Pollution Control technology segment. Under the percentage of completion method, revenues are recognized as work is performed based on the relationship between actual construction costs incurred and total estimated costs at completion. Construction costs include all direct costs such as materials, labor, subcontracting costs, and indirect costs allocable to the particular contract such as indirect labor, tools and equipment, and supplies. Revisions in completion estimates and contract values are made in the period in which the facts giving rise to the revisions become known and can influence the timing of when revenues are recognized under the percentage of completion method of accounting. Such revisions have historically not had a material effect on the amount of revenue recognized. Provisions are made for estimated losses on uncompleted contracts in the period in which such losses are determined. The completed contract method is used for certain contracts when reasonably dependable estimates of the percentage of completion cannot be made. When the completed contract method is used, revenue and costs are deferred until the contract is substantially complete, which usually occurs upon customer acceptance of the installed product.

## **Cost of Sales**

Cost of sales includes all internal and external engineering costs, equipment and chemical charges, inbound and outbound freight expenses, internal and site transfer costs, installation charges, purchasing and receiving costs, inspection costs, warehousing costs, project personnel travel expenses and other direct and indirect expenses specifically identified as project- or product line-related, as appropriate (e.g., test equipment depreciation and certain insurance expenses). Certain depreciation and amortization expenses related to tangible and intangible assets, respectively, are allocated to cost of sales. We classify shipping and handling costs in cost of sales in the consolidated statements of operations.

## **Selling, General and Administrative Expenses**

Selling, general and administrative expenses primarily include the following categories except where an allocation to the cost of sales line item is warranted due to the project- or product-line nature of a portion of the expense category: salaries and wages, employee benefits, non-project travel, insurance, legal, rent, accounting and auditing, recruiting, telephony, employee training, Board of Directors' fees, auto rental, office supplies, dues and subscriptions, utilities, real estate taxes, commissions and bonuses, marketing materials, postage and business taxes. Departments comprising the selling, general and administrative line item primarily include the functions of executive management, finance and accounting, investor relations, regulatory affairs, marketing, business development, information technology, human resources, sales, legal and general administration.

## **Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes is determined using the asset and liability approach of accounting for income taxes. Under this approach, the provision for income taxes represents income taxes paid or payable (or received or receivable) for the current year plus the change in deferred taxes during the year. Deferred taxes represent the future tax consequences expected to occur when the reported amounts of assets and liabilities are recovered or paid, and result from differences between the financial and tax bases of our assets and liabilities and are adjusted for changes in tax rates and tax laws when enacted. Valuation allowances are recorded to reduce deferred tax assets when it is more likely than not that a tax benefit will not be realized. In evaluating the need for a valuation allowance, management considers all potential sources of taxable income, including income available in carryback periods, future reversals of taxable temporary differences, projections of taxable income, and income from tax planning strategies, as well as all available positive and negative evidence. Positive evidence includes factors such as a history of profitable operations,

projections of future profitability within the carryforward period, including from tax planning strategies, and our experience with similar operations. Negative evidence includes items such as cumulative losses, projections of future losses, or carryforward periods that are not long enough to allow for the utilization of a deferred tax asset based on existing projections of income. Deferred tax assets for which no valuation allowance is recorded may not be realized upon changes in facts and circumstances.

Tax benefits related to uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return are recorded when such benefits meet a more likely than not threshold. Otherwise, these tax benefits are recorded when a tax position has been effectively settled, which means that the statute of limitation has expired or the appropriate taxing authority has completed their examination even though the statute of limitations remains open. Interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions are recognized as part of the provision for income taxes and are accrued beginning in the period that such interest and penalties would be applicable under relevant tax law until such time that the related tax benefits are recognized.

### Stock-Based Compensation

Our stock-based employee compensation plan, referred to as the Fuel Tech, Inc. 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan (Incentive Plan), was adopted in May 2014 and allows for awards to be granted to participants in the form of non-qualified stock options, incentive stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance awards, and bonuses or other forms of share-based or non-share-based awards or combinations thereof. Participants in the Incentive Plan may be our directors, officers, employees, consultants or advisors (except consultants or advisors in capital-raising transactions) as the directors determine are key to the success of our business. There are a maximum of 4,400,676 shares that may be issued or reserved for awards to participants under the Incentive Plan as of December 31, 2017. Based on the existing issued or reserved awards in Incentive Plan, there are 404,941 shares available to be used for future awards to participants in the Incentive Plan as of December 31, 2017.

### Basic and Diluted Earnings per Common Share

Basic earnings per share excludes the antidilutive effects of stock options, restricted stock units (RSUs) and the nil coupon non-redeemable convertible unsecured loan notes (see Note 7). Diluted earnings per share includes the dilutive effect of the nil coupon non-redeemable convertible unsecured loan notes, RSUs, and unexercised in-the-money stock options, except in periods of net loss where the effect of these instruments is antidilutive. Out-of-the-money stock options are excluded from diluted earnings per share because they are anti-dilutive. At December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, we had outstanding equity awards of 2,210,000, 1,800,000 and 2,068,000, respectively, which were antidilutive for the purpose of inclusion in the diluted earnings per share calculation because the exercise prices of the options were greater than the average market price of our common stock. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, we had an additional 168,000 and 184,000 equity awards that were antidilutive because of the net loss in the year then ended. These equity awards could potentially dilute basic EPS in future years.

The table below sets forth the weighted-average shares used at December 31 in calculating earnings (loss) per share:

	2017	2016	2015
Basic weighted-average shares	23,872,000	23,365,000	23,101,000
Conversion of unsecured loan notes	—	—	—
Unexercised options and unvested restricted stock units	—	—	—
Diluted weighted-average shares	<u>23,872,000</u>	<u>23,365,000</u>	<u>23,101,000</u>

### Risk Concentrations

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to a significant concentration of credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. The Company maintains deposits in federally insured financial institutions in excess of federally insured limits. However, management believes the Company is not exposed to significant credit risk due to the financial position of its primary depository institution where a significant portion of its deposits are held.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, we had one customer which individually represented greater than 10% of revenues. The customer contributed primarily to our FUEL CHEM technology segment and represented 10% of consolidated revenues. We had no customers that accounted for greater than 10% of our current assets as of December 31, 2017.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, we had one customer which individually represented greater than 10% of revenues. This customer contributed primarily to our APC technology segment and represented 19% of consolidated revenues. We had no customers that accounted for greater than 10% of our current assets as of December 31, 2016.



For the year ended December 31, 2015, we had one customer which individually represented greater than 10% of revenues. This customer contributed primarily to our FUEL CHEM technology segment and represented 12% of consolidated revenues. We had no customers that accounted for greater than 10% of our current assets as of December 31, 2015.

We control credit risk through requiring milestone payments on long-term contracts, performing ongoing credit evaluations of its customers, and in some cases obtaining security for payment through bank guarantees and letters of credit.

### **Treasury Stock**

We use the cost method to account for its common stock repurchases. During the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, we withheld 289,202 and 103,097 shares of our Common Shares, valued at approximately \$258 and \$172, respectively, to settle personal tax withholding obligations that arose as a result of restricted stock units that vested. Refer to Note 6, "Treasury Stock," for further discussion.

### **Recently Adopted Accounting Standards**

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting. The amendments in this Update simplify the income tax effects, minimum statutory tax withholding requirements and impact of forfeitures related to how share-based payments are accounted for and presented in the financial statements. ASU 2016-09 is effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2017. The adoption of ASU 2016-09 did not have a material effect on our earnings, cash flows, or financial position. See Note 8, Stock-Based Compensation, for further discussion.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11, Inventory (Topic 330): Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory. This new accounting guidance more clearly articulates the requirements for the measurement and disclosure of inventory. Topic 330, Inventory, currently requires an entity to measure inventory at the lower of cost or market. Market could be replacement cost, net realizable value, or net realizable value less an approximately normal profit margin. This new accounting guidance requires the measurement of inventory at lower of cost and net realizable value. The adoption of ASU 2015-11 is effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2017 and the adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

### **Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued ASU 2014-09 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" (Topic 606). These changes created a comprehensive framework for all entities in all industries to apply in the determination of when to recognize revenue, and, therefore, supersede virtually all existing revenue recognition requirements and guidance. This framework is expected to result in less complex guidance in application while providing a consistent and comparable methodology for revenue recognition. The core principle of the guidance is that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. To achieve this principle, an entity should apply the following steps: (i) identify the contract(s) with a customer, (ii) identify the performance obligations in the contract(s), (iii) determine the transaction price, (iv) allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract(s), and (v) recognize revenue when, or as, the entity satisfies a performance obligation. The new standard also requires additional financial statement disclosures that will enable users to understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows relating to customer contracts. In August 2015, the FASB approved a one-year deferral to January 1, 2018. The standard may be applied retrospectively to each prior period presented or retrospectively with the cumulative effect recognized as of the date of adoption. The Company has completed a detailed review of the terms and provisions of its customer contracts in light of these changes. The project team is in the process of finalizing the evaluation of these contracts under the new guidance, as well as assessing the need for any potential changes to the Company's accounting policies and internal control structure. That said, the Company recognizes revenue when title, ownership, and risk of loss pass to the customer, all of which occurs utilizing a percentage of completion (cost-to-cost input), or shipment or delivery of the product based on the applicable shipping terms. Fuel Tech's sales of its products to customers represent single performance obligations, which are not expected to be impacted by these changes. As a result, management does not expect the adoption of these changes to have a material impact on the Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company adopted the standard on January 1, 2018 using the modified retrospective method and the cumulative impact, which the Company expects will be immaterial to the Consolidated Financial Statements, will be recognized in beginning retained earnings.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842). The amendments in this Update increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet and disclosing key information about leasing arrangements. ASU 2016-02 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2019. The Company is in the initial stages of evaluating the impact of the new standard on the accounting policies, processes, and system

requirements. While the Company continues to assess the potential impacts of the new standard and anticipate this standard could have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements, the Company does not know or cannot reasonably estimate quantitative information related to the impact of the new standard on the financial statements at this time.

In November 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-18, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Restricted Cash (a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force). The amendments in this Update require that a statement of cash flows explain the change during the period in the total of cash, cash equivalents, and amounts generally described as restricted cash or restricted cash equivalents. Accordingly, restricted cash will be included with cash and cash equivalents when reconciling the beginning-of-period and end-of-period total amounts shown on the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows. ASU 2016-18 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2018 and will be applied using a retrospective approach. Other than this change in presentation within the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, ASU 2016-18 will not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04, Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment. The amendments in this Update simplify how an entity is required to test goodwill for impairment by eliminating Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test. Step 2 measures a goodwill impairment loss by comparing the implied fair value of a reporting unit's goodwill with the carrying amount of that goodwill. ASU 2017-04 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2020. The Company is in the initial stages of evaluating the impact of the new standard on the accounting policies, processes, and system requirements. While the Company continues to assess the potential impacts of the new standard and anticipate this standard could have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements, the Company does not know or cannot reasonably estimate quantitative information related to the impact of the new standard on the financial statements at this time.

## **2. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS**

During 2017, the Company has suspended all operations associated with the Fuel Conversion business segment. The components of the net assets of the Fuel Conversion discontinued operations as of December 31, 2017 are included in Assets held for sale on the Consolidated Balance Sheets totaling \$485 which consists primarily of certain equipment. The components of the net assets of the Fuel Conversion discontinued operations as of December 31, 2016 are included in Assets held for sale on the Consolidated Balance Sheets totaling \$2,058 which consisted of certain equipment of \$402 and the Carbonite intangible asset of \$1,656. The resulting amount in assets held for sale was determined using management's assumptions based on a plan of sale and we may not be able to realize as much value from the sale of the assets as we expect. In addition, accrued severance of \$376 is included in the other accrued liabilities line of the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2017. The Fuel Conversion business segment had no other assets or liabilities associated with it.

The activity of the Fuel Conversion discontinued operations consisted of Research and Development, severance, an impairment charge and other costs for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016, and 2015 of \$3,914, \$2,800 and \$2,826, respectively. The loss from discontinued operations in the Consolidated Statement of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2017 includes the severance charges associated with suspension of the Fuel Conversion business segment of \$581. The loss from discontinued operations in the Consolidated Statement of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2017 includes an impairment charge related to the Carbonite intangible asset of \$1,354 as a result of not being able to reach an agreement with a third-party to acquire or license the Carbonite technology. Absent a third-party agreement, management determined there was not adequate gross cash flows to support the carrying value of the asset and recorded the impairment charge during the fourth quarter of 2017. The Fuel Conversion business segment had no revenues associated with it.

The Company expects to incur \$581 of severance costs relating to the suspension of the Fuel Conversion business segment, of which \$205 was paid in 2017, \$311 will be paid in 2018 and \$65 will be paid in 2019. The Company expects to incur storage fees and other disposal costs associated with certain property, plant and equipment and contractual termination payments or other miscellaneous expenses but an estimated amount or range of amounts has not yet been determined.

### 3. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN PROGRESS

The status of contracts in progress as of December 31, 2017 and 2016 is as follows:

	2017	2016
Costs incurred on uncompleted contracts	\$ 101,600	\$ 111,925
Estimated earnings	49,561	55,527
Earned revenue	151,161	167,452
Less billings to date	(145,670)	(162,427)
Total	\$ 5,491	\$ 5,025
Classified as follows:		
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts	\$ 7,894	\$ 6,755
Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts	(2,403)	(1,730)
Total	\$ 5,491	\$ 5,025

Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts are included in accounts receivable on the consolidated balance sheet, while billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts are included in other accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.

As of December 31, 2017 we had four construction contracts in progress that were identified as loss contracts and a provision for losses of \$117 was recorded in other accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet. As of December 31, 2016, we had 2 construction contracts in progress that was identified as a loss contract and a provision for losses of \$41 was recorded in other accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.

### 4. INCOME TAXES

On December 22, 2017, the United States ("U.S.") enacted significant changes to the U.S. tax law following the passage and signing of H.R.1, "An Act to Provide for Reconciliation Pursuant to Titles II and V of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018" (the "Tax Act") (previously known as "The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act"). The Tax Act included significant changes to existing tax law, including a permanent reduction to the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21%, a one-time repatriation tax on deferred foreign income ("Transition Tax"), deductions, credits and business-related exclusions.

On December 22, 2017, the SEC issued guidance under Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 118, Income Tax Accounting Implications of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("SAB 118") directing taxpayers to consider the impact of the U.S. legislation as "provisional" when it does not have the necessary information available, prepared or analyzed (including computations) in reasonable detail to complete its accounting for the change in tax law. The Company did not record additional provisional income tax given the Company has full valuation allowances on its deferred tax assets and liabilities and the net operating loss generated in 2017. This represents our best estimate based on interpretation of the U.S. legislation as we are still accumulating data to finalize the underlying calculations, or in certain cases, the U.S. Treasury is expected to issue further guidance on the application of certain provisions of the U.S. legislation. Future adjustments to the provisional numbers will be recorded as discrete adjustments to income tax expense in the period in which those adjustments become estimable and/or are finalized.

Accordingly, the Company's income tax provision as of December 31, 2017 reflects (i) the current year impacts of the U.S. Tax Act on the estimated annual effective tax rate and (ii) the following discrete items resulting directly from the enactment of the Tax Act based on the information available, prepared, or analyzed (including computations) in reasonable detail:

- (a) The Tax Act reduced the U.S. federal corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%. The impact from the permanent reduction to the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21% is effective January 1, 2018. The Company adjusted the deferred tax asset and liabilities and the corresponding valuation reserve as a result of the reduction in the U.S. federal corporate tax rate.

The Tax Act imposes a one-time transition tax on earnings of certain foreign subsidiaries that were previously tax deferred and creates new taxes on certain foreign-sourced earnings. The one-time transition tax is based on our total post-1986 foreign earnings and profits ("E&P") for which we have previously deferred from U.S. income taxes. The Company determined there to be no provisional amount for its one-time transition tax liability for its foreign subsidiaries given the cumulative net operating losses in its foreign jurisdictions. We have not yet completed our calculation of the total post-1986 foreign E&P for these foreign subsidiaries. Further, the transition tax is based in part on the amount of those earnings held in cash and other specified assets which may change

when we finalize these amounts and the calculation of post-1986 foreign E&P previously deferred from U.S. federal taxation. No additional income taxes have been provided for any remaining undistributed foreign earnings not subject to the transition tax and any additional outside basis difference (i.e., basis difference in excess of that subject to the one-time transition tax) inherent in these entities as these amounts continue to be indefinitely reinvested in foreign operations. It is not practicable to determine the amount of unrecognized withholding taxes and deferred tax liability related to any remaining undistributed foreign earnings not subject to the transition tax and additional outside basis difference in these entities. The position to indefinitely reinvest foreign earnings will be reassessed as part of the analysis related to the one-time repatriation tax.

Within the calculation of the Company's annual effective tax rate the Company has used assumptions and estimates that may change as a result of future guidance, interpretation, and rule-making from the Internal Revenue Service, the SEC, and the FASB and/or various other taxing jurisdictions. For example, the Company anticipates that the state jurisdictions will continue to determine and announce their conformity to the Tax Act which could have an impact on the annual effective tax rate.

The components of (loss) income before taxes for the years ended December 31 are as follows:

<u>Origin of income before taxes</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
United States	\$ (9,821)	\$ (13,016)	\$ (9,763)
Foreign	(1,208)	(2,708)	1,140
(Loss) before income taxes	<u>\$ (11,029)</u>	<u>\$ (15,724)</u>	<u>\$ (8,623)</u>

Significant components of income tax benefit (expense) for the years ended December 31 are as follows:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Current:			
Federal	\$ 111	\$ (357)	\$ 1,155
State	—	—	(14)
Foreign	(65)	(105)	(120)
Total current	<u>46</u>	<u>(462)</u>	<u>1,021</u>
Deferred:			
Federal	—	—	(4,143)
State	—	—	(548)
Foreign	—	(1,202)	(87)
Total deferred	<u>—</u>	<u>(1,202)</u>	<u>(4,778)</u>
Income tax benefit (expense)	<u>\$ 46</u>	<u>\$ (1,664)</u>	<u>\$ (3,757)</u>

A reconciliation between the provision for income taxes calculated at the U.S. federal statutory income tax rate and the consolidated income tax expense in the consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31 is as follows:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Provision at the U.S. federal statutory rate	34.0 %	34.0 %	34.0 %
State taxes, net of federal benefit	— %	2.4 %	5.2 %
Foreign tax rate differential	(0.2)%	— %	0.6 %
Valuation allowance	10.2 %	(42.7)%	(72.3)%
Federal tax rate change	(43.9)%	— %	— %
Other true up	— %	(0.6)%	(7.8)%
Intangible assets impairment and other non-deductibles	(1.8)%	— %	(2.2)%
Other	2.1 %	(4.1)%	(1.1)%
Income tax benefit (expense) effective rate	<u>0.4 %</u>	<u>(11.0)%</u>	<u>(43.6)%</u>

The deferred tax assets and liabilities at December 31 are as follows:

	2017	2016
Deferred tax assets:		
Stock compensation expense	\$ 1,814	\$ 2,624
Goodwill	2,366	2,235
Royalty accruals	443	353
Intangible assets	—	967
Bad debt allowance	360	389
Inter-company interest expense accrual	496	629
Net operating loss carryforwards	5,253	5,485
Credit carry-forwards	694	584
Inventory reserve	254	318
Depreciation	555	—
Other	362	399
Total deferred tax assets	12,597	13,983
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Depreciation	—	(460)
Intangible assets	(386)	—
Other	(146)	(344)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(532)	(804)
Net deferred tax asset before valuation allowance	12,065	13,179
Valuation allowances for deferred tax assets	(12,065)	(13,179)
Net deferred tax asset	\$ —	\$ —

The change in the valuation allowance for deferred tax assets for the years ended December 31 is as follows:

Year	Balance at January 1	Charged to costs and expenses	(Deductions)/ Other	Balance at December 31
2015	\$ 2,006	6,625	(799)	\$ 7,832
2016	\$ 7,832	5,347	—	\$ 13,179
2017	\$ 13,179	(1,114)	—	\$ 12,065

For the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, there were no exercises of stock options.

As required by ASC 740, we recognize the financial statement benefit of a tax position only after determining that the relevant tax authority would more likely than not sustain the position following an audit. For tax positions meeting the more-likely-than-not threshold, the amount recognized in the financial statements is the largest benefit that has a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with the relevant tax authority.

The following table summarizes our unrecognized tax benefit activity (excluding interest and penalties) during the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015:

Description	2017	2016	2015
Balance at beginning of period	\$ —	\$ 140	\$ 117
Increases in positions taken in a current period	—	—	38
Decreases due to settlements	—	(140)	(15)
Balance at end of period	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 140

We recognize interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense for all periods presented. There were no interest and penalties recognized in income tax expense during the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015. The total amount of unrecognized tax benefits as of December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, including interest and penalties, was \$0, \$0 and \$140, respectively, all of which if ultimately recognized will reduce our annual effective tax rate.

We are subject to income taxes in the U.S. federal jurisdiction, and various states and foreign jurisdictions. Tax regulations within each jurisdiction are subject to the interpretation of the related tax laws and regulations and require significant judgment to apply. With few exceptions, we are no longer subject to U.S. federal, state and local, or non-U.S. income tax examinations by tax authorities for the years before 2014.

Management periodically estimates our probable tax obligations using historical experience in tax jurisdictions and informed judgments. There are inherent uncertainties related to the interpretation of tax regulations in the jurisdictions in which we transact business. The judgments and estimates made at a point in time may change based on the outcome of tax audits, as well as changes to or further interpretations of regulations. If such changes take place, there is a risk that the tax rate may increase or decrease in any period. Tax accruals for tax liabilities related to potential changes in judgments and estimates for both federal and state tax issues are included in current liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.

The investment in our foreign subsidiaries is considered to be indefinite in duration and therefore we have not provided a provision for deferred U.S. income taxes on the unremitted earnings from those subsidiaries. A provision has not been established because it is not practicable to determine the amount of unrecognized deferred tax liability for such unremitted foreign earnings and because it is our present intention to reinvest the undistributed earnings indefinitely. This position will be reassessed as part of the analysis related to the one-time repatriation tax.

As required by ASC 740, a valuation allowance must be established when it is more likely than not that all or a portion of a deferred tax asset will not be realized. We have approximately \$13,276 of US net operating loss carryforwards available to offset future US taxable income as of December 31, 2017. The net operating loss carry-forwards related to tax losses generated in prior years in the US begin to expire in 2034. Further, we have tax loss carry-forwards of approximately \$3,837 available to offset future foreign income in Italy as of December 31, 2017. We have recorded a full valuation allowance against the resulting \$920 deferred tax asset because we cannot anticipate when or if this entity will have taxable income sufficient to utilize the net operating losses in the future. There is no expiration of the net operating loss carry-forwards related to tax losses generated in prior years in Italy. Finally, we have tax loss carry-forwards of approximately \$3,613 available to offset future foreign income in China as of December 31, 2017. The net operating loss carry-forwards related to tax losses generated in prior years in China expire in 2022.

## **5. COMMON SHARES**

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, we had 24,777,001 and 23,800,924 Common Shares issued and 24,132,910 and 23,446,035 outstanding, with an additional 6,715 shares reserved for issuance upon conversion of the nil coupon non-redeemable convertible unsecured loan notes (see Note 7). As of December 31, 2017, we had 4,400,676 shares reserved for issuance upon the exercise or vesting of equity awards, of which 1,116,750 are stock options that are currently exercisable (see Note 8).

## **6. TREASURY STOCK**

Common shares held in treasury totaled 644,091 and 354,889 with a cost of \$1,472 and \$1,214 at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. These shares were withheld from employees to settle personal tax withholding obligations that arose as a result of restricted stock units that vested during the current and prior years.

## **7. NIL COUPON NON-REDEEMABLE CONVERTIBLE UNSECURED LOAN NOTES**

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, we had a principal amount of \$76 of nil coupon non-redeemable convertible unsecured perpetual loan notes (the “Loan Notes”) outstanding. The Loan Notes are convertible at any time into Common Shares at rates of \$6.50 and \$11.43 per share, depending on the note. As of December 31, 2017, the nil coupon loan notes were convertible into 6,715 common shares. Based on our closing stock price of \$1.12 at December 31, 2017, the aggregate fair value of the common shares that the holders would receive if all the loan notes were converted would be approximately \$8, which is less than the principal amount of the loans outstanding as of that date. The Loan Notes bear no interest and have no maturity date. They are repayable in the event of our dissolution and the holders do not have the option to cash-settle the notes. Accordingly, they have been classified within stockholders’ equity in the accompanying balance sheet. The notes do not hold distribution or voting rights unless and until converted into common shares.

In 2017, 2016 and 2015, there were no Loan Notes repurchased by the Company.



## 8. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

Under our stock-based employee compensation plan, referred to as the Fuel Tech, Inc. 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan (Incentive Plan), awards may be granted to participants in the form of Non-Qualified Stock Options, Incentive Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units (“RSUs”), Performance Awards, Bonuses or other forms of share-based or non-share-based awards or combinations thereof. Participants in the Incentive Plan may be our directors, officers, employees, consultants or advisors (except consultants or advisors in capital-raising transactions) as the directors determine are key to the success of our business. There are a maximum of 4,400,676 shares that may be issued or reserved for awards to participants under the Incentive Plan. At December 31, 2017, we had approximately 404,941 equity awards available for issuance under the Incentive Plan.

We adopted the provisions of ASU 2016-09 as of January 1, 2017. Pursuant to this adoption, we recorded any excess tax benefits within income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2017, where previously these were recorded as increases or decreases to additional paid-in capital. This change has been applied prospectively effective January 1, 2017, and therefore no adjustments were made to prior periods. Given the Company has a full valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets, there were no excess tax benefits to record for the year ended December 31, 2017. In addition, we have continued to account for forfeitures of awards based on an estimate of the number of awards expected to be forfeited and adjusting the estimate when it is no longer probable that the employee will fulfill the service condition. In accordance with the guidance, we retrospectively reported cash paid on behalf of employees for withholding shares for tax-withholding purposes as a financing activity in the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows. Additionally, there were no excess tax benefits for the year ended December 31, 2017. Any future excess tax benefits will be classified as an operating activity, applied prospectively. The adoption of this ASU did not result in a material change in our earnings, cash flows, or financial position.

Stock-based compensation is included in selling, general and administrative costs in our consolidated statements of operations.

The components of stock-based compensation from continuing operations for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 were as follows:

	For the Year Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
Stock options	\$ 120	\$ 90	\$ 194
Restricted stock units	1,269	1,901	1,615
Total stock-based compensation expense	1,389	1,991	1,809
Tax benefit of stock-based compensation expense	—	—	(696)
After-tax effect of stock based compensation	\$ 1,389	\$ 1,991	\$ 1,113

As of December 31, 2017, there was \$893 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to all non-vested share-based compensation arrangements granted under the Incentive Plan. That cost is expected to be recognized over the remaining requisite service period of 2.8 years.

### Stock Options

The stock options granted to employees under the Incentive Plan have a 10-year life and they vest as follows: 50% after the second anniversary of the award date, 25% after the third anniversary, and the final 25% after the fourth anniversary of the award date. Fuel Tech calculates stock compensation expense for employee option awards based on the grant date fair value of the award, less expected annual forfeitures, and recognizes expense on a straight-line basis over the four-year service period of the award. Stock options granted to members of our Board of Directors vest immediately. Stock compensation for these awards is based on the grant date fair value of the award and is recognized in expense immediately.

Fuel Tech uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate the grant date fair value of employee stock options. The principal variable assumptions utilized in valuing options and the methodology for estimating such model inputs include: (1) risk-free interest rate – an estimate based on the yield of zero-coupon treasury securities with a maturity equal to the expected life of the option; (2) expected volatility – an estimate based on the historical volatility of Fuel Tech’s Common Stock for a period equal to the expected life of the option; and (3) expected life of the option – an estimate based on historical experience including the effect of employee terminations.

Based on the results of the model, the weighted-average fair value of the stock options granted during the 12-month periods ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively, were \$0.68, \$1.11 and \$1.54 per share using the following weighted average assumptions:

	2017	2016	2015
Expected dividend yield	—%	—%	—%
Risk-free interest rate	2.33%	1.85%	2.21%
Expected volatility	61.2%	62.3%	51.6%
Expected life of option	10.0 years	8.8 years	8.8 years

The following table presents a summary of our stock option activity and related information for the years ended December 31:

	2017		2016		2015	
	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at beginning of year	1,039,750	\$ 8.39	1,191,125	\$ 10.48	1,546,500	\$ 11.62
Granted	176,000	0.96	81,000	1.58	126,000	2.44
Exercised	—	—	—	—	—	—
Expired or forfeited	(99,000)	18.32	(232,375)	16.72	(481,375)	12.04
Outstanding at end of year	1,116,750	\$ 6.34	1,039,750	\$ 8.39	1,191,125	\$ 10.48
Exercisable at end of year	1,116,750	\$ 6.34	1,039,750	\$ 8.39	1,191,125	\$ 10.48
Weighted-average fair value of options granted during the year		\$ 0.68		\$ 1.11		\$ 1.54

The following table provides additional information regarding our stock option activity for the 12 months ended December 31, 2017:

	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding on January 1, 2017	1,039,750	\$ 8.39		
Granted	176,000	0.96		
Exercised	—	—		
Expired or forfeited	(99,000)	18.32		
Outstanding on December 31, 2017	1,116,750	\$ 6.34	4.8 years	\$ 27,280
Exercisable on December 31, 2017	1,116,750	\$ 6.34	4.8 years	\$ 27,280

The aggregate intrinsic value in the preceding table represents the total pretax intrinsic value, based on our closing stock price of \$1.12 as of December 31, 2017, which would have been received by the option holders had those options holders exercised their stock options as of that date.

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding at December 31, 2017:

Options Outstanding				Options Exercisable	
Range of Exercise Prices	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price
\$ 0.96 - \$6.58	707,500	6.9 years	\$ 3.02	707,500	\$ 3.02
\$ 6.59 - \$11.59	319,250	1.6 years	9.68	319,250	9.68
\$11.60 - \$16.60	20,000	0.6 years	15.42	20,000	15.42
\$16.61 - \$21.70	15,000	0.2 years	17.82	15,000	17.82
\$21.71 - \$26.80	55,000	0.4 years	23.15	55,000	23.15
\$ 0.96 - \$26.80	1,116,750	4.8 years	\$ 6.34	1,116,750	\$ 6.34

Non-vested stock option activity for the 12 months ended December 31, 2017 was as follows:

	Non-Vested Stock Options Outstanding	Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding on January 1, 2017	—	\$ —
Granted	176,000	0.68
Vested	(176,000)	0.68
Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding on December 31, 2017	—	—

As of December 31, 2017, there was \$0 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock options granted under the Incentive Plan. Fuel Tech received no proceeds from the exercise of stock options in the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. It is our policy to issue new shares upon option exercises, loan conversions, and vesting of restricted stock units. We have not used cash and do not anticipate any future use of cash to settle equity instruments granted under share-based payment arrangements.

### Restricted Stock Units

Restricted stock units (RSUs) granted to employees vest over time based on continued service (typically vesting over a period between two and four years). Such time-vested RSUs are valued at the date of grant using the intrinsic value method based on the closing price of the Common Shares on the grant date. Compensation cost, adjusted for estimated forfeitures, is amortized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period.

In addition to the time vested RSUs described above, performance-based RSU agreements (the Agreements) are issued annually to our President/Chief Executive Officer; Senior Vice President, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer; and Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. The Agreements provide each participating executive the opportunity to earn three types of awards with each award type specifying a targeted number of RSUs that may be granted to each executive based on either the individual performance of the executive or our relative performance compared to a peer group, as determined by the award type. The Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors (the Committee) determines the extent to which, if any, RSUs will be granted based on the achievement of the applicable performance criteria specified in the Agreement. This determination will be made following the completion of the applicable performance period (each a Determination Date). Such performance based awards include the following:

- The first type of award is based on individual performance during the respective calendar year as determined by the Committee based on performance criteria specified in the Agreement. These awards will vest over a three-year period beginning on the Determination Date. We estimated the fair value of these performance-based RSU awards on the date of the Agreement using the trading price of the Company's stock and our estimate of the probability that the specified performance criteria will be met. The fair value measurement and probability estimate will be re-measured each reporting date until the Determination Date, at which time the final award amount will be known. For these job performance-based awards, we amortize compensation costs over the requisite service period, adjusted for estimated forfeitures, for each separately vesting tranche of the award.
- The second type of RSU award contains a targeted number of RSUs to be granted based on our revenue growth relative to a specified peer group during a period of two calendar years. These awards vest 67% on the second anniversary of the Agreement date and 33% on the third anniversary of the Agreement date. We estimated the fair value of these performance-based RSU awards on the Agreement date using the trading price of the Company's stock and our estimate of the probability that the specified performance criteria will be met. For these revenue growth performance-based awards, we amortize compensation costs over the requisite service period, adjusted for estimated forfeitures, for each separately vesting tranche of the award.
- The third type of RSU award contains a targeted number of RSUs to be granted based on the total shareholder return (TSR) of our Common Shares relative to a specified peer group during a period of two calendar years. These awards vest 67% on the second anniversary of the Agreement date and 33% on the third anniversary of the Agreement date. We estimated the fair value of these market-based RSU awards on the Agreement date using a Monte Carlo valuation methodology and amortize the fair value over the requisite service period for each separately vesting tranche of the award. The principal variable assumptions utilized in valuing these RSUs under this valuation methodology include the risk-free interest rate, stock volatility and correlations between our stock price and the stock prices of the peer group of companies.

We recorded expense of approximately \$1,269, \$1,901 and \$1,615 associated with our restricted stock unit awards in 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively. During the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, there were 981,633 and 381,916 restricted stock units that vested with a grant date fair value of \$2,794 and \$1,667, respectively.

A summary of restricted stock unit activity for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Unvested restricted units at January 1, 2015	977,069	5.36
Granted	789,500	3.33
Forfeited	(209,748)	4.62
Vested	(351,938)	5.17
Unvested restricted stock units at December 31, 2015	1,204,883	4.21
Granted	845,862	1.88
Forfeited	(205,033)	4.25
Vested	(381,916)	4.36
Unvested restricted stock units at December 31, 2016	1,463,796	2.82
Granted	1,090,000	0.97
Forfeited	(213,001)	2.99
Vested (1)	(981,633)	2.85
Unvested restricted stock units at December 31, 2017	1,359,162	1.28

(1) The increase in shares vested in 2017 is due to the accelerated vesting of outstanding remaining restricted stock units approved by the Company's Board of Directors on June 28, 2017.

### Deferred Directors Fees

In addition to the Incentive Plan, Fuel Tech has a Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors (Deferred Plan). Under the terms of the Deferred Plan, Directors can elect to defer Directors' fees for shares of Fuel Tech Common Stock that are issuable at a future date as defined in the agreement. In accordance with ASC 718, Fuel Tech accounts for these awards as equity awards as opposed to liability awards. In 2017, 2016 and 2015, there was no stock-based compensation expense under the Deferred Plan.

## 9. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Fuel Tech is subject to various claims and contingencies related to, among other things, workers compensation, general liability (including product liability), and lawsuits. The Company records liabilities where a contingent loss is probable and can be reasonably estimated. If the reasonable estimate of a probable loss is a range, the Company records the most probable estimate of the loss or the minimum amount when no amount within the range is a better estimate than any other amount. The Company discloses a contingent liability even if the liability is not probable or the amount is not estimable, or both, if there is a reasonable possibility that a material loss may have been incurred.

During the fourth quarter of 2017, the Company was notified that, on a project for which the Company served as a subcontractor to a prime contractor, the prime contractor had received notice from the end-user customer in China of its intent to deduct from final payment for the project liquidated damages in the amount of approximately \$920 due to delays in project completion. Thus far, the prime contractor is working to resolve this matter without resorting to litigation. Nevertheless, the matter is in the preliminary stage and we cannot predict the ultimate outcome of this claim or estimate a range of possible losses related to this matter at this time. We intend to pursue all of our rights should the current negotiations not result in a satisfactory resolution of this matter.

## Operating Leases

We lease office space, automobiles and certain equipment under agreements expiring on various dates through 2020. Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases that have initial or remaining lease terms in excess of one year as of December 31, 2017 are as follows:

Year of Payment	Amount
2018	\$ 749
2019	713
2020	202
Total	<u>\$ 1,664</u>

For the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, rent expense, net of related party sub-lease income, approximated \$902, \$1,006, and \$1,166, respectively.

We are party to a sublease agreement with American Bailey Corporation (ABC) that obligates ABC to reimburse us for its share of lease and lease-related expenses under our February 1, 2010 lease of executive offices in Stamford, Connecticut. Please refer to Note 11 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion of our relationship with ABC. The future minimum lease income under this non-cancellable sublease as of December 31, 2017 is as follows:

Year of Payment	Amount
2018	\$ 155
2019	155
Total	<u>\$ 310</u>

The terms of the Company's seven primary lease arrangements are as follows:

- The Stamford, Connecticut building lease, for approximately 6,440 square feet, runs from February 1, 2010 to December 31, 2019. The facility houses certain administrative functions.
- The Beijing, China building lease, for approximately 9,000 square feet, runs from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2020. This facility serves as the operating headquarters for our Beijing Fuel Tech operation.
- The Durham, North Carolina building lease, for approximately 2,590 square feet, runs from July 1, 2016 to July 31, 2019. This facility houses engineering operations.
- The Gallarate, Italy building lease, for approximately 1,636 square feet, runs from May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2019. This facility serves as the operating headquarters for our European operations.
- The Westlake, Ohio building lease, for approximately 3,000 square feet, runs from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2020. This facility houses engineering operations.
- The Aurora, IL warehouse lease, for approximately 11,000 square feet, runs from September 1, 2013 to December 31, 2020. This facility serves as an outside warehouse facility.
- The Overland Park, KS lease, for approximately 600 square feet, runs from October 16, 2015 to October 15, 2018. This facility serves primarily as a sales office.

## Performance Guarantees

The majority of Fuel Tech's long-term equipment construction contracts contain language guaranteeing that the performance of the system that is being sold to the customer will meet specific criteria. On occasion, performance surety bonds and bank performance guarantees/letters of credit are issued to the customer in support of the construction contracts as follows:

- in support of the warranty period defined in the contract; or
- in support of the system performance criteria that are defined in the contract.

As of December 31, 2017, we had outstanding bank performance guarantees and letters of credit in the amount of \$3,250 in support of equipment construction contracts that have not completed their final acceptance test or that are still operating under a warranty period. The performance guarantees and letters of credit expire in dates ranging from April 2018 through December 2021. The expiration dates may be extended if the project completion dates are extended. Our management believes it is probable that these projects will be successfully completed and that there will not be a material adverse impact on our operations from these bank performance guarantees and letters of credit. As a result, no liability has been recorded for these performance guarantees.

## Product Warranties

We issue a standard product warranty with the sale of our products to customers. Our recognition of warranty liability is based primarily on analyses of warranty claims experience in the preceding years as the nature of our historical product sales for which we offer a warranty are substantially unchanged. This approach provides an aggregate warranty accrual that is historically aligned with actual warranty claims experienced. Changes in the warranty liability from continuing operations in 2017, 2016 and 2015 are summarized below:

	2017	2016	2015
Aggregate product warranty liability at beginning of year	\$ 159	\$ 268	\$ 268
Net aggregate expense (income) related to product warranties	—	(109)	8
Aggregate reductions for payments	—	—	(8)
Aggregate product warranty liability at end of year	<u>\$ 159</u>	<u>\$ 159</u>	<u>\$ 268</u>

## 10. DEBT FINANCING

On June 30, 2015, Fuel Tech amended its existing revolving credit facility (the Facility) with JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (JPM Chase) to extend the maturity date through June 30, 2017. The total availability under the facility was \$15,000 and contained a provision to increase the facility up to a total principal amount of \$25,000 upon approval from JPM Chase. The Facility was unsecured, bears interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 300 basis points, and has the Company's Italian subsidiary, Fuel Tech S.r.l., as a guarantor. Fuel Tech can use this Facility for cash advances and standby letters of credit. As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, there were no outstanding borrowings on the credit facility.

The Facility contained several debt covenants with which the Company must comply on a quarterly or annual basis. The Facility required a minimum trailing-twelve month EBITDA of \$500 for the quarters ending March 31, 2016 and June 30, 2016; Beginning with the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2016, the Facility required a minimum EBITDA for the trailing twelve-month period then ended of not less than \$1,000. EBITDA includes after tax earnings with add backs for interest expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, stock-based compensation expense, and other non-cash items. This covenant was waived by our bank through the period ending December 31, 2015. In addition, the Facility required a minimum working capital requirement of \$35,000, starting as of December 31, 2015. Finally, the Facility had an annual capital expenditure limit of \$5,000.

On May 9, 2016, the Company amended its existing U.S. Domestic credit facility with JPM Chase such that the financial covenants as set forth in the credit agreement would not be measured for the period ending as of March 31, 2016, and were removed in their entirety from the Facility. The credit availability under the Facility has been reduced from \$15,000 to \$7,000 with this amendment, and further, JPM Chase's then current Revolving Commitment under the Facility is now secured by cash held by the Company in a separate restricted use designated JPM Chase deposit account. The amount of credit available to the Company under the Facility was \$7,000 from the date of the effective date of the amended facility through May 31, 2016, at which time the credit available to the Company under the Facility was reduced to \$6,000 from June 1, 2016 through July 31, 2016, at which time the credit available to the Company under the Facility was reduced to \$5,000 and will remain as such until the Maturity Date of the Facility on June 30, 2017.

On June 16, 2017, the Company amended its existing U.S. Domestic credit facility with JPM Chase to extend the maturity date to June 28, 2019. There are no financial covenants set forth in this amendment to the Facility. The credit availability under the Facility remains at \$5,000 with this amendment, and further, JPM Chase's current Revolving Commitment under the Facility remains secured by cash held by the Company in a separate restricted use designated JPM Chase deposit account. The amount of credit available to the Company under the Facility is \$5,000 and will remain as such until the Maturity Date of the Facility on June 28, 2019. The Company intends to renew the U.S. Domestic credit facility at its maturity. During the entire period of the Facility the Company must maintain sufficient cash balances in a segregated deposit account equal to the amount of the Facility and has fully pledged such cash as collateral to the bank to support the credit available to the Company under the Facility. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, there were 0 outstanding borrowings on the credit facility.

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, we had outstanding standby letters of credit and bank guarantees totaling approximately \$3,004 and \$3,292, respectively, on our domestic credit facility in connection with contracts in process. We are committed to reimbursing the issuing bank for any payments made by the bank under these instruments. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, there were no cash borrowings under the domestic revolving credit facility and approximately \$1,996 and \$1,708, respectively, was available for future borrowings. We pay a commitment fee of 0.25% per year on the unused portion of the revolving credit facility.



On June 16, 2017, Beijing Fuel Tech Environmental Technologies Company, Ltd. (Beijing Fuel Tech), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fuel Tech, entered into a new revolving credit facility (the China Facility) agreement with JPM Chase for RMB 6.5 million (approximately \$999), which expires on June 29, 2018. The current facility for Beijing Fuel Tech is also secured by cash held by the Company of \$1,020 in a separate restricted use designated JPM Chase deposit account. The Company intends to renew the China Facility at its maturity. This new credit facility replaced the previous RMB 6.5 million facility that expired on June 23, 2017. The facility is unsecured, bears interest at a rate of 125% of the People's Bank of China (PBOC) Base Rate, and is guaranteed by Fuel Tech. Beijing Fuel Tech can use this facility for cash advances and bank guarantees. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, Beijing Fuel Tech had no cash borrowings under the China Facility.

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, we had outstanding standby letters of credit and bank guarantees totaling approximately \$246 and \$22, respectively, on its Beijing Fuel Tech revolving credit facility in connection with contracts in process. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, approximately \$753 and \$914 was available for future borrowings.

In the event of default on either the domestic facility or the China facility, the cross default feature in each allows the lending bank to accelerate the payments of any amounts outstanding and may, under certain circumstances, allow the bank to cancel the facility. If we were unable to obtain a waiver for a breach of covenant and the bank accelerated the payment of any outstanding amounts, such acceleration may cause our cash position to deteriorate or, if cash on hand were insufficient to satisfy the payment due, may require us to obtain alternate financing to satisfy the accelerated payment.

#### Subsequent Event

On January 10, 2018, the Company amended its existing U.S. Domestic credit facility with JPM Chase to increase the credit available under the Facility by \$500 to \$5,500 from the effective date of the amendment to August 31, 2018. After August 31, 2018, the amount of credit available under the facility will be reduced to \$5,000 through the maturity date of June 28, 2019. There were no other modifications to the terms of the Facility from the amendment of the facility on June 16, 2017.

## **11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Persons now or formerly associated with American Bailey Corporation (ABC), including our Chairman, currently own approximately 28% of our outstanding Common Shares. On January 1, 2004, we entered into an agreement whereby ABC reimburses us for services that certain employees provide to ABC. In addition, ABC is a sub-lessee under our February 1, 2010 lease of its offices in Stamford, Connecticut, which runs through December 31, 2019. ABC reimburses us for its share of lease and lease-related expenses under the sublease agreement. The Stamford facility houses certain administrative functions. The amounts earned from ABC related to the subleases for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, were \$164, \$165 and \$155, respectively. The amount due from ABC related to the sublease agreement was \$13, \$13 and \$14 at December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 respectively.

## **12. DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN**

We have a retirement savings plan available for all our U.S. employees who have met minimum length-of-service requirements. Our contributions are determined based upon amounts contributed by the employees with additional contributions made at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Costs related to this plan were \$285, \$376 and \$433 in 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

## **13. BUSINESS SEGMENT, GEOGRAPHIC AND QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA**

### **Business Segment Financial Data**

Effective June 28, 2017, the Company has suspended all operations associated with the Fuel Conversion business segment. We now segregate our financial results into two reportable segments representing two broad technology segments as follows:

- The Air Pollution Control technology segment includes technologies to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions in flue gas from boilers, incinerators, furnaces and other stationary combustion sources. These include Low and Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burners (LNB and ULNB), Over-Fire Air (OFA) systems, NO<sub>x</sub>OUT<sup>®</sup> and HERT<sup>™</sup> Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR) systems, and Advanced Selective Catalytic Reduction (ASCR<sup>™</sup>) systems. Our ASCR systems include ULNB, OFA, and SNCR components, along with a downsized SCR catalyst, Ammonia Injection Grid (AIG), and Graduated Straightening Grid GSG<sup>™</sup> systems to provide high NO<sub>x</sub> reductions at significantly lower capital and operating costs than conventional SCR systems. The NO<sub>x</sub>OUT CASCADE<sup>®</sup> and NO<sub>x</sub>OUT-SCR<sup>®</sup> processes are more basic, using just SNCR and SCR catalyst components. ULTRA<sup>®</sup> technology creates ammonia at a plant site using safe urea for use with any SCR application. Flue Gas Conditioning systems are chemical injection systems offered in markets outside the U.S. and Canada to enhance electrostatic precipitator and fabric filter performance in controlling particulate emissions.

- The FUEL CHEM<sup>®</sup> technology segment, which uses chemical processes in combination with advanced CFD and CKM boiler modeling, for the control of slagging, fouling, corrosion, opacity and other sulfur trioxide-related issues in furnaces and boilers through the addition of chemicals into the furnace using TIFI<sup>®</sup> Targeted In-Furnace Injection<sup>™</sup> technology.

The “Other” classification includes those profit and loss items not allocated to either reportable segment. There are no inter-segment sales that require elimination.

We evaluate performance and allocate resources based on gross margin by reportable segment. The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies. We do not review assets by reportable segment, but rather, in aggregate for the Company as a whole.

Information about reporting segment net sales and gross margin from continuing operations are provided below:

For the year ended December 31, 2017	Air Pollution Control Segment	FUEL CHEM Segment	Other	Total
Revenues from external customers	\$ 27,808	\$ 17,358	\$ —	\$ 45,166
Cost of sales	(18,478)	(8,666)	—	(27,144)
Gross margin	9,330	8,692	—	18,022
Selling, general and administrative	—	—	(20,933)	(20,933)
Restructuring charge	(58)	(61)	—	(119)
Research and development	—	—	(1,070)	(1,070)
Building impairment	—	—	(2,965)	(2,965)
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 9,272	\$ 8,631	\$ (24,968)	\$ (7,065)

For the year ended December 31, 2016	Air Pollution Control Segment	FUEL CHEM Segment	Other	Total
Revenues from external customers	\$ 34,052	\$ 21,109	\$ —	\$ 55,161
Cost of sales	(25,370)	(10,997)	—	(36,367)
Gross margin	8,682	10,112	—	18,794
Selling, general and administrative	—	—	(25,564)	(25,564)
Restructuring charge	(537)	(891)	—	(1,428)
Research and development	—	—	(1,752)	(1,752)
Intangible assets impairment	—	—	(2,074)	(2,074)
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 8,145	\$ 9,221	\$ (29,390)	\$ (12,024)

For the year ended December 31, 2015	Air Pollution Control Segment	FUEL CHEM Segment	Other	Total
Revenues from external customers	\$ 43,485	\$ 30,179	\$ —	\$ 73,664
Cost of sales	(30,612)	(14,495)	—	(45,107)
Gross margin	12,873	15,684	—	28,557
Selling, general and administrative	—	—	(30,897)	(30,897)
Restructuring charge	(149)	(70)	—	(219)
Research and development	—	—	(1,447)	(1,447)
Intangible assets impairment	(1,425)	—	—	(1,425)
Operating income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 11,299	\$ 15,614	\$ (32,344)	\$ (5,431)

## Geographic Segment Financial Data

Information concerning our operations by geographic area is provided below. Revenues are attributed to countries based on the location of the customer. Assets are those directly associated with operations of the geographic area.

For the years ended December 31,	2017	2016	2015
Revenues:			
United States	\$ 29,510	\$ 42,545	\$ 51,485
Foreign	15,656	12,616	22,179
	<u>\$ 45,166</u>	<u>\$ 55,161</u>	<u>\$ 73,664</u>

As of December 31,	2017	2016
Assets:		
United States	\$ 29,945	\$ 37,684
Foreign	20,539	20,104
	<u>\$ 50,484</u>	<u>\$ 57,788</u>

## 14. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

We apply authoritative accounting guidance for fair value measurements of financial and nonfinancial assets and liabilities. This guidance defines fair value, establishes a consistent framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosure for each major asset and liability category measured at fair value on either a recurring or nonrecurring basis and clarifies that fair value is an exit price, representing the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. As a basis for considering such assumptions, the standard establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows:

- Level 1 – Observable inputs to the valuation methodology such as quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 – Inputs to the valuation methodology including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in inactive markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means
- Level 3 – Significant unobservable inputs in which there is little or no market data, which require the reporting entity to develop its own estimates and assumptions or those expected to be used by market participants. Generally, these fair value measures are model-based valuation techniques such as discounted cash flows, option pricing models, and other commonly used valuation techniques

Transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy are recognized based on the actual date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. We had no assets or liabilities that were valued using level 2 or level 3 inputs and therefore there were no transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy during the periods ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

The carrying amount of our short-term debt and revolving line of credit approximates fair value due to its short-term nature and because the amounts outstanding accrue interest at variable market-based rates.

The following table summarizes the Company's assets measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis relating to the building impairment charge recognized during the second quarter of 2017, as more fully described in Note 1.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Impairment Losses	Fair Value at December 31, 2017
Building	—	—	7,965	(2,965)	5,000
	—	—	7,965	(2,965)	5,000

The following table summarizes the Company's assets measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis relating to an intangible assets impairment charge recognized during 2016 primarily related to the customer lists, developed technology and trademarks acquired in the 2014 acquisition of PECO and FGC in the APC technology segment, as more fully described in Note 1.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Impairment Losses	Fair Value at December 31, 2016
Other intangible assets, net	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,525	\$ (2,074)	\$ 3,451
	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,525	\$ (2,074)	\$ 3,451

The following table summarizes the Company's assets measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis relating to an intangible assets impairment charge recognized during 2015 primarily related to the customer lists acquired in the 2014 acquisition of PECO and FGC in the APC technology segment, as more fully described in Note 1.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Impairment Losses	Fair Value at December 31, 2015
Other intangible assets, net	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 8,569	\$ (1,425)	\$ 7,144
	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 8,569	\$ (1,425)	\$ 7,144

## 15. RESTRUCTURING ACTIVITIES

The Company continued to reduce its workforce to better align its organizational infrastructure to its revised operating plans. The Company recorded a charge of \$706 in 2017 in connection with the workforce reduction. This charge included \$581 related to severance and benefit continuation costs due to the suspension of all operations associated with the Fuel Conversion business segment. The Company incurred restructuring charges of \$1,428 for the twelve-months ended December 31, 2016. The following is a reconciliation of the accrual for the workforce reduction that is included within the "Accrued Liabilities" line of the consolidated balance sheets twelve-months ending December 31, 2017.

	Twelve Months Ended	
	2017	2016
Restructuring liability at January 1,	\$ 309	\$ —
Amounts expensed	125	1,428
Amounts expensed - discontinued operations	581	—
Amounts paid	(624)	(1,119)
Restructuring liability at December 31,	\$ 391	\$ 309

## 16. Unaudited Quarterly Financial Data

Set forth below are the unaudited quarterly financial data for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

For the quarters ended	March 31	June 30	September 30	December 31
<b>2017</b>				
Revenues	\$ 8,491	\$ 9,741	\$ 13,548	\$ 13,386
Cost of sales	4,769	6,116	8,498	7,761
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	(1,776)	(5,585)	(178)	470
Loss from discontinued operations	(730)	(1,269)	(239)	(1,676)
Net loss	(2,506)	(6,854)	(417)	(1,206)
Basic net income (loss) per common share:				
Continuing operations	(0.07)	(0.24)	(0.01)	0.02
Discontinued operations	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.01)	(0.07)
Basic net income (loss) per common share:	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.29)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.05)
Diluted net loss per common share:				
Continuing operations	(0.07)	(0.24)	(0.01)	0.02
Discontinued operations	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.01)	(0.07)
Diluted net loss per common share:	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.29)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.05)
<b>2016</b>				
Revenues	\$ 17,822	\$ 15,175	\$ 12,596	\$ 9,568
Cost of sales	11,774	9,595	7,281	7,717
Net loss from continuing operations	(1,950)	(1,801)	(2,389)	(8,448)
Loss from discontinued operations	(687)	(827)	(630)	(656)
Net loss	(2,637)	(2,628)	(3,019)	(9,104)
Basic net loss per common share:				
Continuing operations	(0.08)	(0.08)	(0.10)	(0.36)
Discontinued operations	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)
Basic net loss per common share:	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.13)	\$ (0.39)
Diluted net loss per common share:				
Continuing operations	(0.08)	(0.08)	(0.10)	(0.36)
Discontinued operations	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)
Diluted net loss per common share:	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.13)	\$ (0.39)

## ITEM 9 - CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None

## ITEM 9A - CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

### Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer, our management evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act), as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K (the "Evaluation Date"). Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer concluded that, as of the Evaluation Date, our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is (i) recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms and (ii) accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

## **Change in Internal Controls**

There were no changes in Fuel Tech's internal control over financial reporting during the year to which this report relates that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect Fuel Tech's internal control over financial reporting.

## **Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act. As required by Rule 13a-15(c) under the Exchange Act, our management has carried out an evaluation, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting as of the end of the last fiscal year. The framework on which such evaluation was based is contained in the report entitled "Internal Control—Integrated Framework" issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the "COSO Report") in 2013.

Our system of internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Based on its assessment, management has concluded that we maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017, based on criteria in "Internal Control - Integrated Framework" issued by the COSO in 2013.

## **ITEM 9B - OTHER INFORMATION**

On March 8, 2018, the Compensation Committee of the Board adopted Fuel Tech's 2018 Corporate Incentive Plan (the "2018 CIP"), including establishing the financial performance threshold for payout and the percentage of the incentive pool to be paid out to participants in the CIP for 2018. The 2018 CIP provides all U.S. or Canadian based employees (excluding sales personnel) that Fuel Tech designates to participate in the CIP with the opportunity to earn an annual cash bonus based upon employee performance and Fuel Tech's achievement of certain level of operating income as discussed below. As such, Fuel Tech's President and Chief Executive Officer (Vincent J. Arnone), Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary (Albert G. Grigonis) and Vice President, Treasurer and Controller (James M. Pach) are all participants in the 2018 CIP. Potential cash awards under the 2018 CIP are designed to focus employees on the achievement of both positive earnings growth for Fuel Tech as well as on their own individual performance.

The 2018 CIP is structured as follows:

- 2018 CIP payouts are based on Fuel Tech's ability to realize Operating Income in fiscal 2018. For purposes of the 2018 CIP, "Operating Income" means Fuel Tech's operating income before the impact of incentive pay (but including adjustments to reflect the payment of sales commissions). An "Incentive Pool" may be created dependent on Fuel Tech's obtaining specified levels of Operating Income during the fiscal year. If the Incentive Pool is created, each participant will be awarded his or her designated portion of the Incentive Pool. The simplified focus on Operating Income alone is intended to provide an objective measurement of Fuel Tech's financial performance, to directly tie any 2018 CIP payout to the overall financial performance of Fuel Tech across all business lines, and thus, align the interests of all 2018 CIP participants with the overall financial performance of Fuel Tech.
- No amounts will be payable under the 2018 CIP unless Fuel Tech achieves a minimum of \$1 million in Operating Income for fiscal 2018. Accordingly, if Fuel Tech's financial performance for 2018 falls below \$1 million, there will be no payout under the 2018 CIP.
- If Fuel Tech generates \$1 million of Operating Income in fiscal 2018, the percentage of Operating Income to be funded into the Incentive Pool will equal 50% of the first \$2 million of Operating Income, 40% of any incremental Operating Income between \$2 million and \$3 million, and 20% of any incremental Operating Income over \$3 million. For example, if Fuel Tech earned \$4.0 million in Operating Income in fiscal 2018, the amount of Operating Income funded into the Incentive Pool would equal \$1.6 million, consisting of: (a) 50.0% of the Operating Income up to \$2.0 million (\$1 million); (b) 40.0% of the next \$1.0 million in incremental Operating Income in excess of \$2.0 million up to \$3.0 million (\$400,000), plus (b) 20.0% of the \$1.0 million in Operating Income over \$3.0 million (\$200,000). On the other hand, if Fuel Tech earned \$700,000 in Operating Income in fiscal 2018, no amount would be funded into the Incentive Pool because the \$1 million payout threshold would not have been met. The aggregate size of the potential Incentive Pool is restricted only by the level of Fuel Tech's financial performance for fiscal 2018.

- The 2018 CIP contemplates that incentive payments to individual employees will be based on the amount of the Incentive Pool; the employee's 2018 base wages; the employee's target bonus factor (a percentage assigned to each employee based on such employee's job level and contribution) and, for all employees below the level of Senior Vice President, the employee's achievement percentage (an overall job performance multiplier factor that can range from 0% to 100%, and represents the employee's achievement of individual objectives in 2018).
- The target bonus factor for Mr. Arnone under the 2018 CIP is 50%, for Mr. Grigonis 40% and for Mr. Pach, 30%. In addition, the 2018 CIP provides that the achievement percentage assigned to Fuel Tech's Principal Executive Officer (Mr. Arnone), Principal Financial Officer (Mr. Pach), and any executive or senior vice president (Mr. Grigonis) will automatically equal 100%. Accordingly, for such officers, payments under the 2018 CIP are formulaic, and do not involve the exercise of any discretion by the Board or Committee regarding such officer's achievement of objectives or any other subjective, qualitative assessments.
- The actual amounts of fiscal 2018 cash bonuses earned, if any, for any 2018 Named Executive Officer who is a Participant in the 2018 EOIP will be reported in Fuel Tech's proxy statement for its 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

On December 6, 2017, the Committee adopted Fuel Tech's 2018 APC and National Sales Manager Commission Plan (the "APC Plan") and 2018 FUEL CHEM® Officer Sales Commission Plan (the "FUEL CHEM" Plan). Each of the APC Plan and the FUEL CHEM Plan provide for sales commission payments to be made to Fuel Tech's Senior Vice President, Sales (William E. Cummings, Jr.).

- Under the APC Plan, Fuel Tech will pay to its Senior Vice President, Sales a commission equal to a specified percentage of the as-sold contract value of all sales of products and services in Fuel Tech's APC product line in the United States and Canada.
- The FUEL CHEM Plan provides for sales commission payments to be made to Fuel Tech's Senior Vice President, Sales. Under the FUEL CHEM Plan, Fuel Tech will pay to such officer a commission equal to a specified percentage of all net revenue realized for customer units located in the United States and Canada.



### PART III

#### ITEM 10 – DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Information required by this Item will be set forth under the captions “Election of Directors,” “Directors and Executive Officers of Fuel Tech,” “Compensation Committee,” “Audit Committee,” and “Financial Experts” in our definitive Proxy Statement related to the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “Proxy Statement”) and is incorporated by reference.

We have adopted a Code of Ethics and Business Conduct (the “Code”) that applies to all employees, officers and directors, including the Chief Executive Officer, Principal Financial Officer and Controller. A copy of the Code is available free of charge to any person on written or telephone request to our Legal Department at the address or telephone number described in Item 1 under the heading “Available Information.” The Code is also available on our website at [www.ftek.com](http://www.ftek.com).

Other information concerning our directors and executive officers and relating to corporate governance will be set forth under the captions “Election of Directors,” “Audit Committee,” “Compensation and Nominating Committee,” “Financial Experts,” “Corporate Governance” and “General” in our Proxy Statement related to the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and is incorporated by reference.

#### ITEM 11 - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Information required by this Item will be set forth under the caption “Executive Compensation” in our definitive Proxy Statement and is incorporated by reference.

#### ITEM 12 - SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The following table provides information for all equity compensation plans as of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, under which our securities were authorized for issuance:

<u>Plan Category</u>	Number of Securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options and vesting of restricted stock units	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plan excluding securities listed in column (a)
	(a)	(b)	(c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (1)	2,475,912	\$ 6.34	404,941

- (1) Includes Common Shares of Fuel Tech, Inc. authorized for awards under Fuel Tech’s 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan adopted in May of 2014.

In addition to the plans listed above, we have a Deferred Compensation Plan for directors under which 100,000 Common Shares have been reserved for issuance as deferred compensation with respect to director’s fees.

Further information required by this Item will be set forth under the caption “Principal Stockholders and Stock Ownership of Management” in the definitive Proxy Statement and is incorporated by reference.

#### ITEM 13 - CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Information required by this Item will be set forth under the captions “Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation” and “Certain Relationships and Related Transactions” in our definitive Proxy Statement and is incorporated by reference.

#### ITEM 14 - PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

Information required by this Item will be set forth under the caption “Approval of Appointment of Auditors” in our definitive Proxy Statement and is incorporated by reference.

## PART IV

### ITEM 15 - EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

#### (a) (1) Financial Statements

The financial statements identified below and required by Part II, Item 8 of this Form 10-K are set forth above.

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting  
 Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm  
 Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2017 and 2016  
 Consolidated Statements of Operations for Years Ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015  
 Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive (Loss) Income for Years Ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015  
 Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the Years Ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015  
 Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Years Ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015  
 Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### (2) Financial Statement Schedules

All other schedules have been omitted because of the absence of the conditions under which they are required or because the required information, where material, is shown in the financial statements or the notes thereto.

#### (3) Exhibits

Exhibit	Description	Filed Herewith	Incorporated by Reference			
			Form	Period ending	Exhibit	Filing date
3.1	<a href="#">Certificate of Incorporation of Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>		8-K		3.2	10/5/2006
3.2	<a href="#">Certificate of Conversion of Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>		8-K		3.1	10/5/2006
3.3	<a href="#">Amended and Restated By-Laws of Fuel Tech, Inc. dated as of May 28, 2015</a>		8-K		3.1	6/1/2015
4.1	<a href="#">Instrument Constituting US \$19,200,000 Nil Coupon Non-Redeemable Convertible Unsecured Loan Notes of Fuel-Tech N.V., dated December 21, 1989</a>		10-Q	9/30/2009	4.1	11/4/2009
4.2	<a href="#">First Supplemental Instrument Constituting US \$3,000 Nil Coupon Non-Redeemable Convertible Unsecured Loan Notes of Fuel-Tech N.V., dated July 10, 1990</a>		10-Q	9/30/2009	4.2	11/4/2009
4.3	<a href="#">Instrument Constituting US \$6,000 Nil Coupon Non-Redeemable Convertible Unsecured Loan Notes of Fuel-Tech N.V., dated March 12, 1993</a>		10-Q	9/30/2009	4.3	11/4/2009
4.4*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Incentive Plan as amended through June 3, 2004</a>		S-8		4.1	10/2/2006
4.5*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan</a>		S-8		4.1	3/31/2014
4.6*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of Non-Executive Director Stock Option Agreement</a>		10-K	12/31/2006	4.6	3/6/2007
4.7	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan Non-Employee Director's Stock Option Agreement</a>		10-Q	6/30/2014	4.2	8/11/2014
4.8*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of Non-Qualified Stock Option Agreement</a>		10-K	12/31/2006	4.7	3/6/2007
4.9*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of Incentive Stock Option Agreement</a>		10-K	12/31/2006	4.8	3/6/2007
4.10*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of Revised Restricted Stock Unit Agreement</a>		10-K	12/31/2011	4.9	3/5/2012
4.11*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan)</a>		10-Q	6/30/2014	4.1	8/11/2014
4.12*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan Stock Option Agreement</a>		10-Q	3/31/2015	10.2	5/11/2015
4.13*	<a href="#">Fuel Tech, Inc. Form of 2016 Executive Performance RSU Award Agreement</a>		10-K	12/31/2015	4.17	3/24/2016

## Table of Contents

10.1**	<a href="#">License Agreement dated November 18, 1998 between The Gas Technology Institute and Fuel Tech, Inc. relating to the FLGR Process.</a>	10-K	12/31/1999	3.3	3/30/2000
10.2**	<a href="#">Amendment No. 1, dated February 28, 2000, to License Agreement dated November 18, 1998 between The Gas Technology Institute and Fuel Tech, Inc. relating to the FLGR Process.</a>	10-K	12/31/1999	3.3	3/30/2000
10.3	<a href="#">Form of Indemnity Agreement between Fuel Tech, Inc. and its Directors and Officers.</a>	8-K		99.1	2/7/2007
10.4**	<a href="#">Restated Supply Agreement, dated March 4, 2009, between Fuel Tech, Inc. and Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties, LLC.</a>	10-K	12/31/2008	10.7	3/5/2009
10.5	<a href="#">Amendment No. 1 to Restated Supply Agreement, dated October 31, 2013, between Fuel Tech, Inc. and Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties, Inc.</a>	10-Q	9/30/2013	10.1	11/13/2013
10.6	<a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement, dated April 28, 2014, between Lawrence Ekey and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	3/31/2014	10.1	5/12/2014
10.7	<a href="#">Credit Agreement, dated as of June 30, 2009, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	9/30/2009	10.5	11/4/2009
10.8	<a href="#">First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of October 5, 2009, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	9/30/2009	10.6	11/4/2009
10.9	<a href="#">Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of November 4, 2009, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	9/30/2009	10.7	11/4/2009
10.10	<a href="#">Third Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 30, 2011, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	6/30/2011	4.1	8/8/2011
10.11	<a href="#">Fourth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 30, 2013, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	6/30/2013	4.1	8/7/2013
10.12	<a href="#">Fifth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 16th, 2015, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-K	12/31/2015	10.12	3/24/2015
10.13	<a href="#">Sixth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 30, 2015, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	6/30/2015	10.2	8/10/2015
10.14	<a href="#">Seventh Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of December 31, 2015, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-K	12/31/2015	10.14	3/24/2015
10.15	<a href="#">Eight Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of May 9, 2016, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	3/31/2016	10.1	5/10/2016
10.16	<a href="#">Ninth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 16, 2017, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	6/30/2017	10.1	8/14/2017
10.17	<a href="#">Tenth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of January 10, 2018, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	X			
10.18	<a href="#">Cash Collateral Pledge Agreement, dated as of May 27, 2016, between JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	6/30/2016	10.1	8/9/2016
10.19	<a href="#">Sublease Agreement, dated December 9, 2009, between Fuel Tech, Inc. and American Bailey Corporation</a>	10-K	12/31/2009	10.14	3/4/2010
10.20*	<a href="#">2015 Executive Officer Incentive Plan of Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-Q	3/31/2015	10.1	5/11/2015
10.22*	<a href="#">2016 Executive Officer Plan of Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-K	12/31/2016	10.18	3/24/2015
10.23*	<a href="#">2017 Executive Officer Plan of Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	X			
10.24*	<a href="#">2016 Corporate Incentive Plan of Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	10-K	12/31/2016	10.19	3/24/2015
10.25*	<a href="#">2018 Corporate Incentive Plan of Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	X			

## Table of Contents

10.26*	<a href="#">2017 Fuel Tech, Inc. FUEL CHEM Officer Sales Commission Plan</a>	X				
10.27*	<a href="#">2018 Fuel Tech, Inc. FUEL CHEM Officer Sales Commission Plan</a>	X				
10.28*	<a href="#">2017 Fuel Tech, Inc. APC Officer and NSM Sales Commission Plan</a>	X				
10.29*	<a href="#">2018 Fuel Tech, Inc. APC Officer and NSM Sales Commission Plan</a>	X				
10.30*	<a href="#">Employment Agreement, dated August 2, 2010, between David S. Collins and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>		10-Q	6/30/2010	10.1	8/9/2010
10.32*	<a href="#">Employment Agreement dated August 31, 2009, between William E. Cummings, Jr. and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>		10-K	12/31/2009	10.10	3/14/2010
10.33*	<a href="#">Employment Agreement, dated September 20, 2010 between Vincent J. Arnone and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>		10-K	12/31/2011	10.21	3/5/2012
10.34*	<a href="#">Employment Agreement, dated July 13, 2003, between Albert G. Grigonis and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>		10-K	12/31/2013	10.21	3/10/2014
10.35*	<a href="#">Employment Agreement, dated March 9, 2018, between James M. Pach and Fuel Tech, Inc.</a>	X				
23.1	<a href="#">Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.</a>	X				
31.1	<a href="#">Certifications of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.</a>	X				
31.2	<a href="#">Certifications of principal financial officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.</a>	X				
32	<a href="#">Certification of Chief Executive Officer and principal financial officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.</a>	X				
101.1	INS XBRL Instance Document.					
101.2	SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.					
101.3	CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.					
101.4	DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.					
101.5	LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.					
101.6	PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.					

\* Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

\*\* Portions of this document have been omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment and the omitted information has been filed separately with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## **SIGNATURES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

FUEL TECH, INC.

Date: March 12, 2018

By: /s/ Vincent J. Arnone

---

Vincent J. Arnone

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: March 12, 2018

By: /s/ James M. Pach

---

James M. Pach

Vice President, Treasurer and Controller

(Principal Financial Officer)

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been duly signed below by the following persons on behalf of Fuel Tech, Inc. and in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Date: March 12, 2018

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>/s/ Vincent J. Arnone</u> Vincent J. Arnone	President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)
<u>/s/ James M. Pach</u> James M. Pach	Vice President, Treasurer and Controller (Principal Financial Officer)
<u>/s/ Douglas G. Bailey</u> Douglas G. Bailey	Director
<u>/s/ Thomas S. Shaw, Jr.</u> Thomas S. Shaw, Jr.	Director
<u>/s/ Dennis L. Zeitler</u> Dennis L. Zeitler	Director
<u>/s/ James J. Markowsky, Ph.D.</u> James J. Markowsky, Ph.D.	Director



CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in Registration Statements (No. 333-201422 and 333-36390) on Form S-8 of Fuel Tech, Inc. of our report dated March 12, 2018, relating to the consolidated financial statements, appearing in this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Fuel Tech, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2017.

/s/ RSM US LLP

Chicago, Illinois  
March 12, 2018

I, Vincent J. Arnone, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Fuel Tech, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 (e) and 15d-15 (e) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 12, 2018

By: /s/ Vincent J. Arnone

---

Vincent J. Arnone

Chief Executive Officer

I, James M. Pach, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Fuel Tech, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 (e) and 15d-15 (e) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 12, 2018

By: /s/ James M. Pach

---

James M. Pach

Vice President, Treasurer and Controller

The undersigned in their capacities as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Registrant do hereby certify that:

(i) this report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

(ii) information contained in the report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in the report.

Date: March 12, 2018

By: /s/ Vincent J. Arnone

Vincent J. Arnone

Chief Executive Officer

Date: March 12, 2018

By: /s/ James M. Pach

James M. Pach

Vice President, Treasurer and Controller

Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the "Act") this certification accompanies the Report and shall not, except to the extent required by the Act, be deemed filed by the Registrant for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to Fuel Tech, Inc. and will be retained by Fuel Tech, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

**JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.**  
**TENTH AMENDMENT TO CREDIT AGREEMENT**

**THIS TENTH AMENDMENT TO CREDIT AGREEMENT** (*this “Amendment”*) is dated as of January 10, 2018 and is by and between **FUEL TECH INC.**, a Delaware corporation (*the “Borrower”*), the Loan Parties party hereto, and **JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.**, a national banking association (*“Lender”*).

**WHEREAS**, Lender and the Loan Parties are parties to a Credit Agreement dated as of June 30, 2009 (*together with the nine amendments as described below, the “Credit Agreement”*). The Credit Agreement evidences certain credit facilities pursuant to which the Lender has made certain revolving loans to the Loan Parties on the terms and conditions set forth therein. The Loan Parties’ obligations under the Credit Agreement were originally evidenced by that certain Promissory Note executed by Borrower in the original principal amount of \$25,000,000.00 dated June 30, 2009 (*the “Note”*);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the First Amendment to Credit Agreement dated October 5, 2009, the parties corrected a scrivener's error which had occurred in Section 6.14 (b) (*“Leverage Ratio”*) of the Credit Agreement;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Second Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated November 4, 2009, the Lender waived a default of the covenant set forth in Section 6.14(a) of the Agreement, amended the Minimum Net Income covenant, amended the Leverage Ratio, and amended the definitions of “Permitted Acquisitions” and “Applicable Rate”;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Third Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated June 30, 2011, the Lender renewed and reduced the revolving credit facility evidenced by the Note to \$15,000,000.00 and adjusted the Tangible Net Worth Covenant;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Fourth Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated June 30, 2013, the Lender extended the maturity date of the revolving credit facility evidenced by the Note to June 30, 2015 and also amended the financial covenants set forth at Sections 6.14(b) (*“Leverage Ratio”*) and 6.14(c) (*“Minimum Tangible Net Worth”*) of the Credit Agreement;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Fifth Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated June 20, 2014,, Lender made further adjustments to Section 6.14(c) of the Credit Agreement (*“Minimum Tangible Net Worth”*);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Sixth Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated June 30, 2015, Lender, among other things, renewed the Revolving Credit Facility and extended same until June 30, 2016, changed certain pricing on the Revolving Credit Facility, waived certain financial covenant violations, and restated certain financial covenants;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Seventh Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated December 31, 2015, the parties agreed, among other things, that (i) certain covenants (*Minimum EBITDA and Shareholder Equity*) not be tested for the period ending December 31, 2015, with the Shareholder Equity covenant to be deleted in its entirety, (ii) a new Working Capital covenant be established and tested beginning as of December 31, 2015, and (iii) the Minimum EBITDA covenant be revised and tested beginning as of March 31, 2016;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Eighth Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated May 9, 2016, the parties agreed, among other things, that (i) the Revolving Commitment would be reduced to \$5,000,000.00 after August 1, 2016, (ii) a Cash Collateral Account satisfactory to the Lender would be in place until Maturity, and (iii) as a result of the creation of the Cash Collateral Account all financial covenants had been deleted;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Ninth Amendment the Maturity Date was extended to June 28, 2019;

**WHEREAS**, the Lender is willing to so modify the terms of the Credit Agreement, but only on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. The parties acknowledge the accuracy of the foregoing recitals. All capitalized terms used herein without specific definitions should be accorded the meanings set forth for such terms in the Credit Agreement.
2. For the period from January 10, 2018 to and including August 31, 2018 the Commitment shall be increased by \$500,000 to \$5,500,000. After August 31, 2018 to the Maturity Date, it will be decreased to \$5,020,000.
3. The obligation of the Lender to amend the Agreement as herein above set forth and the effectiveness of this Amendment, is subject to satisfaction of the following conditions precedent:
  - (a) Lender, Borrower and Loan Parties shall have executed this Amendment;
  - (b) Borrower shall be in good standing in the States of Illinois and Delaware;
  - (c) Borrower shall pay all costs and fees incurred by Lender in connection with the preparation and performance of this Amendment;
  - (d) There shall be no less than \$5,520,000.00 in the Cash Collateral Account until the later of (i) all commitments and outstanding letter of credit obligations are reduced to \$5,000,000 or less, or (ii) August 31, 2018; at which time the Cash Collateral Account shall be no less than \$5,020,000; and

successors and assigns of the Borrower, Loan Parties and the Lender.

1. Except as expressly amended hereby, the Credit Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. The Credit Agreement and its eight prior amendments as well as the Cash Collateral Account Pledge Agreement and all rights and powers created thereby are in all respects ratified and confirmed.
2. This Amendment has been duly authorized, executed and delivered on behalf of the Borrower and Loan Parties pursuant to all requisite corporate authority, and the Credit Agreement as amended hereby constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of the Borrower and Loan Parties, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws relating to creditor's rights.
3. Borrower hereby certifies, represents and warrants to Lender that all certifications, representations and warranties made by Borrower to Lender in or in connection with the Credit Agreement and the Cash Collateral Account Pledge Agreement were true in all material respects as of the date of the Credit Agreement and the Cash Collateral Account Pledge Agreement and are true in all material respects on and as of the date hereof as if made on and as of the date hereof.
4. Borrower and the Loan Parties hereby acknowledge and agree that they have no defenses, offsets or counterclaims to the payment of principal, interest, fees or other liabilities owing under the Credit Agreement and the Cash Collateral Pledge Agreement and they hereby waive and relinquish any such defenses, offsets or counterclaims and Borrower and the Loan Parties hereby release Lender and its respective officers, directors, agents, affiliates, successors and assigns from any claim, demand or cause of action, known or unknown, contingent or liquidated, which may exist or hereafter be known to exist relating to any matter prior to the date hereof.
5. Except as otherwise specified herein, this Amendment embodies the entire agreement and understanding between Lender and Borrower with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, consents and understandings relating to such subject matter.
6. This Amendment may be signed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
7. This Amendment is governed and controlled by the laws of the state of Illinois.

[Signature Page to Follow]

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this Amendment has been duly executed as of the date and year specified at the beginning hereof.



**BORROWER:**

**FUEL TECH, INC.,** a  
Delaware corporation

By:  
Name:  
Title:

**LOAN GUARANTOR:**

**FUEL TECH S.r.l.,**  
organized under the laws of the Italian Republic

By:  
Name:  
Title:

**LENDER:**

**JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.,** a  
national association

By:  
Name:  
Title:

# FUEL TECH, INC.

## **2017 Executive Officer Incentive Plan**

### **1. THE PLAN**

1.1 **Objectives.** The Executive Officer Incentive Plan (“EOIP”) of Fuel Tech, Inc., a Delaware corporation, (the “Company”), is designed to provide each Participant with financial incentives based upon Company financial results, measured in terms of Adjusted EBITDA, Revenues and APC Bookings. The EOIP is an annual bonus plan based on the Company’s fiscal performance in 2017. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined shall have the meanings set forth in Section 4 below.

1.2 **Plan Supersedes All Prior Short-Term Incentive Compensation Programs for Participants.** This EOIP supersedes and replaces all prior cash incentive compensation programs for all Participants.

### **2. ELIGIBILITY**

2.1 **Participants.** The Company’s Executive Chairman; Chief Executive Officer; Chief Financial Officer; and Senior Vice President and General Counsel and shall each be a Participant in the EOIP. The Committee, in its business discretion, may subjectively decide to designate additional full-time senior management employees of the Company to be Participants in the EOIP after consideration of the recommendations of the Company’s Chief Executive Officer. The addition of new full-time senior management employees to the EOIP would require modification to the EOIP’s formulaic funding or payout mechanics, subject to approval by the Committee.

Participants must be employed on the last day of a fiscal year (December 31) in order to be eligible for a payout under the EOIP based on that fiscal year’s performance. No amounts will be deemed earned or payable under the EOIP by any Participant whose employment with the Company ends on or before the last day of the fiscal year. A Participant deemed to be eligible for a payout in accordance with the provisions of the EOIP for a given fiscal year, need not be employed on the day of a bonus payout under this EOIP for such fiscal year in order to be eligible for the payout.

2.2 **Involuntary Termination of Employment.** Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, if, during a fiscal year in which the EOIP is in effect, a Participant’s employment with the Company is involuntarily terminated: (a) not for cause by the Company, or (b) on account of the Participant’s death, or (c) on account of the Participant’s disability (as that term is defined below), then to the extent and at the time the Company determines there shall be a payout for that fiscal year under the EOIP, the affected Participant shall be eligible for a pro rata EOIP payment (or, in the case of death, to that employee’s estate) in accordance with the applicable calculations of Section 3, “EOIP Payouts” and subject to all the other provisions of the EOIP; provided, however, that only the normal employee wages paid to the affected employee (as determined by the Company in its sole discretion and excluding bonuses, allowances, paid leave, vacation or severance payments) through that Participant’s separation date from the Company shall be used in such pro rata allocations.

Any funds not paid out to a Participant under the EOIP, whether due to voluntary termination of employment, termination of employment for cause or otherwise, will automatically revert back to the Company.

### 3. **EOIP Payouts**

3.1 **Incentive Pool.** EOIP payouts are based on the Company's performance for three financial metrics – Adjusted EBITDA, Revenues and APC Bookings. An "Incentive Pool" may or may not be created dependent on the Company's financial performance pertaining to all or some of those metrics during the fiscal year. If the Incentive Pool is created, each Participant is then awarded that Participant's designated portion of the Incentive Pool on or before March 31, 2017. The methodology for calculating EOIP payouts to Participants is more fully described below.

3.2 **Minimum Adjusted EBITDA Threshold.** No amounts shall be payable under this EOIP for any fiscal year unless the Company has achieved the established minimum threshold of Adjusted EBITDA for such fiscal year. Accordingly, if the Company's financial performance for the fiscal year falls below the established minimum threshold of Adjusted EBITDA, there is no payout under the EOIP of any kind, regardless of the annual Revenue or annual APC Bookings amounts achieved.

#### 3.3 **Funding and Payout.**

3.3.1 A percentage of Adjusted EBITDA is set aside in an Incentive Pool with respect to each fiscal year to provide for bonus payments under this EOIP based on performance in the following three categories: (i) Adjusted EBITDA, (ii) Revenue and (iii) APC Bookings. The percentage of Adjusted EBITDA that is set aside based on the Company's actual level attained in each of these three categories shall be determined by the Committee after consideration of the recommendations of the Company's Chief Executive Officer.

3.3.2 Once the Company's minimum threshold of Adjusted EBITDA is met, the percentage of Adjusted EBITDA set aside in the Incentive Pool rises pro rata incrementally based on actual Company performance in each of the Adjusted EBITDA, Revenues, and APC Bookings financial metrics subject to an overall Incentive Pool funding percentage upper limit cap, all as shown in the chart below. The payout formula for a Participant is shown in the chart below.

(Amounts shown in thousands)

<b><u>Executive Officer Incentive Plan Mechanics</u></b>					
	<b><u>Minimums</u></b>	<b><u>Funding Percentage</u></b>	<b><u>Incremental Value</u></b>	<b><u>Incremental Percentage</u></b>	<b><u>Percentage Cap</u></b>
Adjusted EBITDA, as defined	\$4,000	1.25%	200	0.100%	2.25%
Revenue	\$57,500	0.625%	450	0.050%	1.125%
APC Bookings	\$38,000	<u>0.625%</u>	900	0.050%	<u>1.125%</u>
		3.00%			7.00%

<b><u>Executive Officer Plan Incentive Participation % Summary</u></b>	
<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Percentage of Pool</u></b>
Executive Chairman	20.0%
Chief Executive Officer	40.0%
Chief Financial Officer	20.0%
SVP, General Counsel & Secretary	20.0%
	100.0%

#### 4. **DEFINITIONS**

*“Adjusted EBITDA”* – means generally earnings before interest expense, taxes, depreciation and amortization, profit sharing plan contributions, stock compensation, incentive pay (excluding sales commissions) and other unusual or non-cash charges, but shall be as determined by the Company, in its sole discretion, with the assistance of its accountants. In calculating Adjusted EBITDA, the Company shall exclude the effects of any acquisition or divestiture undertaken by the Company for the fiscal year in which such event occurs.

*“APC Bookings”* – means generally to revenue (a) to which the Company has a legally binding, contractual right pursuant to a Sales Contract signed after December 31, 2015, and (b) which involves the sale of equipment or services associated with the Company’s APC product line, all as determined by the Company, in its sole discretion. For purposes of clarity, it is understood that APC Bookings shall not include revenue (i) for equipment or services included in the scope of work of contracts executed and entered into prior to January 1, 2017 and restated in newly executed contracts; (ii) revenues relating to work for which authorization to proceed from the customer is required but has not been obtained in writing; or (iii) revenues relating to any equipment or services the delivery of which has been cancelled by the customer.

*“Committee”* – means the Compensation Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors or such other committee as may from time to time succeed or perform the functions of that Committee.

*“Disability”* – means that a Participant, after exhausting any applicable leave available under the Company's policies, is unable because of physical or mental condition to perform the essential functions of such Participant's position, with or without a reasonable accommodation.

*“Revenue”* – means the Company’s net sales, as determined by the Company in its sole discretion.

*“Sales Contract”* – means a comprehensive set of executed, legally binding documents between the Company and a customer, in form and substance acceptable to the Company.

#### 5. **OTHER CONDITIONS**

5.1 No Alienation of Awards. Payouts under this EOIP may not be assigned or alienated, except that payouts earned and payable may be assigned under the laws of descent and distribution of the Participant’s domicile.

5.2 No Right of Employment. Neither the EOIP nor any action taken under the EOIP shall be construed, expressly or by implication, as either giving to any Participant the right to be retained in the employ of the Company or any affiliate, or altering or limiting the employment-at-will relationship between the Company and any Participant.

5.3 Taxes, Withholding. The Company or any affiliate shall have the right to deduct from any payout under the EOIP any applicable federal, state or local taxes or other amounts required by applicable law, rule, or regulation to be withheld with respect to such payment.

5.4 Code Section 409A. The EOIP is intended to be exempt from or comply with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

5.5 Plan Administration; Effectiveness for any Fiscal Year. The EOIP shall be administered by or under the authority of the Committee which shall have the full discretionary power to administer and interpret this EOIP and to establish rules for its administration.

5.6 Reservation of Rights; Governing Law; Contract Disclaimer. The Company reserves the right to amend or cancel the EOIP in whole or in part at any time without notice. There can be no guaranty that the EOIP will be in effect in any subsequent fiscal year. The Company also reserves the right to decide all questions and issues arising under the EOIP and its decisions are final. The EOIP shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Illinois. The EOIP is a statement of the Company's intentions and does not constitute a guarantee that any particular EOIP payment amount will be paid. It does not create a contractual relationship or any contractually enforceable rights between the Company or its wholly owned subsidiaries and the Participant.

# **FUEL TECH, INC.**

## **2018 Corporate Incentive Plan**

### **1. THE PLAN**

1.1 Objectives. This Corporate Incentive Plan of Fuel Tech, Inc. a Delaware corporation (the “Company”) is designed to provide Eligible Employees with an annual cash bonus incentive based on both Company financial results and, to the extent and in the manner set forth in Sections 3 and 4 below, the applicable Eligible Employee’s overall job performance contribution to achieving those results. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in Section 4 of this Incentive Plan.

1.2 General. The Incentive Plan is an annual bonus plan commencing January 1, 2018, with payouts based on the Company’s financial performance in 2018. For Eligible Employees, this Incentive Plan supersedes and replaces all prior annual bonus incentive compensation programs for all regular, full-time and part-time U.S. or Canadian based employees of the Company.

### **2. ELIGIBILITY**

2.1 Eligible Employees. Except as provided in Section 2.2, Eligible Employees must be employed on the last day of a fiscal year (December 31) in order to be eligible for a payout under the Incentive Plan based on that fiscal year’s performance. No amounts will be deemed earned or payable under the Incentive Plan by any employee whose employment with the Company ends on or before the close of business on the last day of the fiscal year. An Eligible Employee deemed to be eligible for a payout in accordance with the provisions of the Incentive Plan for a given fiscal year, need not be employed on the day of a bonus payout under this Incentive Plan for such fiscal year in order to be eligible for the payout.

2.2 Involuntary Termination of Employment. Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, if, during a fiscal year in which the Incentive Plan is in effect, an Eligible Employee’s employment with the Company is involuntarily terminated: (a) not for cause by the Company, or (b) on account of the Eligible Employee’s death, or (c) on account of the Eligible Employee’s Disability, then to the extent and at the time the Company determines there shall be a payout for that fiscal year under the Incentive Plan, the affected Eligible Employee shall be eligible for a *pro rata* Incentive Plan payment (or, in the case of death, to that employee’s estate) in accordance with the applicable calculations of Section 3, “Incentive Plan Payouts” and subject to all the other provisions of the Incentive Plan. Such pro rata payment shall equal the payout amount for the affected Eligible Employee determined in accordance with Section 3 below; provided, however, that only the normal employee wages paid to the affected employee (as determined by the Company in its sole discretion and excluding bonuses, allowances, paid leave, vacation or severance payments) through that Eligible Employee’s separation date from the Company shall be used in such *pro rata* allocations.

### **3. INCENTIVE PLAN PAYOUTS**



### 3.1 Incentive Pool Funding.

3.1.1 Payout Threshold. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Incentive Plan, no Bonus Award will be made to any Eligible Employee unless the Company has achieved the established minimum threshold of Operating Income of \$1.0 million. Accordingly, if the Company fails to achieve the established minimum threshold of Operating Income, there is no payout under the Incentive Plan of any kind, regardless of the Company's financial performance or the Eligible Employee's achievement of his or her personal performance goals

#### 3.1.2 Funding Based on Company Performance.

(a) The Company will set aside a percentage of Operating Income in an Incentive Pool to provide for bonus payments under this Incentive Plan based on the amount of Operating Income earned by the Company in 2018. The percentage of Operating Income that is set aside based on the Company's financial performance shall be determined by the Committee after consideration of the recommendations of the Company's Chief Executive Officer.

(b) Once the Company's minimum threshold of Operating Income is met (as described in Section 3.1.1 above), the percentage of Operating Income set aside in the Incentive Pool will be as follows:

<u>Operating Income</u>	<u>Funding Percentage</u>
\$0 to \$2 million	50%
\$2,000,001 to \$3,000,000	40%
\$3,000,000 and above	20%

By way of illustration, if the Company earned \$4.0 million in Operating Income in fiscal 2018, the amount of Operating Income funded into the Incentive Pool would equal \$1.6 million, consisting of: (a) 50.0% of the Operating Income up to \$2.0 million (\$1 million); (b) 40.0% of the next \$1.0 million in incremental Operating Income in excess of \$2.0 million up to \$3.0 million (\$400,000), plus (b) 20.0% of the \$1.0 million in Operating Income over \$3.0 million (\$200,000).

By way of further illustration, if the Company earned \$700,000 in Operating Income in fiscal 2018, no amount would be funded into the Incentive Pool because the \$1 million payout threshold described in Section 3.1.1 above would not have been met.

3.2 Incentive Pool Allocation. The Incentive Pool shall be allocated among Eligible Employees in the manner set forth set forth below:

$$\text{Payout} = A \times \frac{B \times C \times D}{E}$$

“A” equals the total amount of the Incentive Pool.

“B” equals the Eligible Employee’s Base W-2 Wages (as defined in Section 4).

“C” equals the Eligible Employee’s Target Bonus Factor (as defined in Section 4).

“D” equals the Eligible Employee’s Realization Percentage (as defined in Section 4).

“E” equals the aggregate total sum reached by adding together the products obtained by multiplying (a) the Base W-2 Wages of each Eligible Employee times (b) such Eligible Employee’s respective Target Bonus Factor times (c) such Eligible Employee’s respective Realization Percentage.

#### **4. DEFINITIONS**

“*Operating Income*” - means Operating Income before the impact of incentive pay (but including adjustments to reflect the payment of sales commissions), as determined by the Company, in its sole discretion.

“*Base W-2 Wages*” - means, with respect to each Eligible Employee, such Eligible Employee’s respective normal W-2 base wages paid in 2018 (excluding overtime or other compensation including, without limitation, bonuses, allowances, paid leave, or vacation).

“*China/Pacific Rim Group*” - means each United States employee of the Company or its People’s Republic of China subsidiary whom the Company selects to be members of that group.

“*Incentive Plan*” or “*CIP*” - means the 2018 Corporate Incentive Plan of Fuel Tech, Inc., as amended from time to time.

“*Committee*” - means the Compensation Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors or such other committee as may from time to time succeed to or perform the functions of that Committee.

“*Disability*” - means that an applicable Eligible Employee, after exhausting any applicable leave available under the Company’s policies, is unable because of physical or mental condition to perform the essential functions of the Employee’s position, with or without a reasonable accommodation.

“*Eligible Employee*” - means, subject to the employee non-eligibility exceptions stated below, each regular, full-time and part-time U.S. or Canadian based employee of the Company. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following employees of the Company are not eligible to participate in the Incentive Plan: (a) each employee of the Company or its subsidiaries who is designated by the Company to be a member of one of the following groups: the Sales Group, the China/Pacific Rim Group or the Europe/Western Asia Group; and (b) any employee who has agreed to ineligibility via a separate written agreement with the Company.

*“Europe/Western Asia Group”* - means each United States employee of the Company or any of the Company’s European subsidiaries whom the Company selects to be a member of that group.

*“Individual Objectives”* means the individual performance objectives established for applicable Eligible Employee (including the weighting given to the realization of each Individual Objective in the determination of such Eligible Employee’s “Realization Percentage” (as defined in Section 4 below)) and communicated to the applicable Eligible Employee no later than April 15, 2018.

*“Realization Percentage”* - means a percentage representing the extent to which, if any, an applicable Eligible Employee has achieved his or her Individual Objectives for 2018, as determined by the Company in its sole and absolute discretion and communicated to such Eligible Employee after December 31, 2018; provided, however, that notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, with respect to any Eligible Employee that is serving as an executive vice president, senior vice president or has been designated as the Company’s Principal Executive Officer or Principal Financial Officer (as defined under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended), such Eligible Employee’s Realization Percentage will automatically and without further action by the Company equal 100%.

*“Sales Group”* - means the Senior Vice President, Sales, the National Sales Manager, APC Sales and each United States employee of the Company whom the Company selects to participate in the Company’s then current FUEL CHEM Employee Commission Plan, APC Employee Commission Plan, Aftermarket Commission Plan and Business Development Commission Plan.

*“Target Bonus Factor”* - means a percentage assigned to each Eligible Employee on the basis of such Eligible Employee’s job level and contribution as determined by the Company in its sole and absolute discretion. Each Eligible Employee’s Target Bonus Factor shall be communicated to such employee no later than April 15, 2018.

## **5. OTHER CONDITIONS**

5.1 No Alienation of Awards. Payouts under this Incentive Plan may not be assigned or alienated, except that payouts earned and payable may be assigned under the laws of descent and distribution of the employee’s domicile.

5.2 No Right of Employment. Neither the Incentive Plan nor any action taken under the Incentive Plan shall be construed, expressly or by implication, as either giving to any participant the right to be retained in the employ of the Company or any affiliate, or altering or limiting the employment-at-will relationship between the Company and any employee.

5.3 Taxes, Withholding. The Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of the Company) shall have the right to deduct from any payout under the Incentive Plan any applicable federal, state or local taxes or other amounts required by applicable law, rule, or regulation to be withheld with respect to such payment.

5.4 Code Section 409A. The Incentive Plan is intended to be exempt from or comply with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

5.5 Administration. The Incentive Plan shall be administered by or under the authority of the Committee which shall have the full discretionary power to administer and interpret this Incentive Plan and to establish rules for its administration.

5.6 Effectiveness. The Incentive Plan will not be deemed effective for any fiscal year until such time, if any, as the determination of the Incentive Plan financial performance metrics and Incentive Pool allocations contemplated by Section 3 above have been released for communication to Incentive Plan participants, which date shall be no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> of each fiscal year.

## **6. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS; GOVERNING LAW; CONTRACT DISCLAIMER.**

**6.1 FOR UNITED STATES-BASED ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES:** The Company reserves the right to amend or cancel the Incentive Plan in whole or in part at any time without notice. There can be no guaranty that the Incentive Plan will be in effect in any subsequent fiscal year. The Company also reserves the right to decide all questions and issues arising under the Incentive Plan and its decisions are final. The Incentive Plan shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Illinois. The Incentive Plan is a statement of the Company's intentions and does not constitute a guarantee that any particular Incentive Plan payment amount will be paid. It does not create a contractual relationship or any contractually enforceable rights between the Company or its wholly owned subsidiaries and the employee.

**6.2 FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BASED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES:** This Incentive Plan is only valid for the year 2018. As indicated above, the Company reserves the right in its sole discretion to adopt or not adopt a new incentive plan in 2019, but, if adopted, with features, terms and conditions to be communicated to non-U.S. based Eligible Employees by March 31, 2019. However, there is no guarantee that in 2019 or in subsequent years an Incentive Plan or similar plan shall be adopted. The Company also reserves the right to decide all questions and issues arising under the Incentive Plan and its decisions are final. The Incentive Plan shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws applicable to the affected Eligible Employee's place of work. The adoption of this Incentive Plan for 2018 does not constitute a guaranty that any particular Incentive Plan payout amount will be paid even if incentive compensation has previously consistently been granted for a certain

**period of time. It does not create a contractual relationship or any contractually enforceable rights between the Company and any Eligible Employee.**

# FUEL TECH, INC.

## 2017 FUEL CHEM® Officer Commission Plan

### 1. OBJECTIVE; EFFECTIVE DATE

**1.1. Objective.** This 2017 FUEL CHEM Officer Commission Plan (“Plan”) describes the terms upon which Fuel Tech, Inc. (“Fuel Tech”) will compensate its Senior Vice President, Sales for the sale of products and services relating to its FUEL CHEM line of business for sales occurring in the United States and Canada. The objective of this Plan is to increase the revenues and profitability of Fuel Tech by providing compensation incentives to its Senior Vice President, Sales.

**1.2. Effective Date.** This Plan shall be effective as of January 1, 2017 and continue in effect through December 31, 2017, subject to the terms hereof.

### 2. DEFINITIONS

*“Commercial Contract”* – means a comprehensive set of executed, legally binding documents between Fuel Tech and a customer for the commercial operation of the FUEL CHEM program, in form and substance acceptable to Fuel Tech.

*“Commission”* — means the commission paid to the Officer in accordance with this Plan.

*“Eligible Employee”* — means any Fuel Tech employee eligible for participation in the 2017 FUEL CHEM Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

*“Employee Commission Plan”* — means the 2017 APC Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

*“Net Revenue”* – means, with respect to any customer unit all gross revenues actually recognized by Fuel Tech from the sale of the chemical portion of the FUEL CHEM program, the sale of availability fees or TIFI On Demand and the sale of miscellaneous equipment, less third-party sales commissions, duties, taxes (including, without limitation, applicable value-added tax, business tax or sales tax), cost of freight, fuel surcharges, upcharges, refunds, rebates, credits, risk-share forgiveness, write-offs for uncollectible amounts, discounts and returns and allowances, computed based upon Fuel Tech’s then-current internal accounting records in accordance with GAAP.

*“Officer”* — means Fuel Tech’s Senior Vice President, Sales.

*“Specified Percentage”* — means the confidential percentage rate provided to the Officer together with this Plan.

### 3. COMMISSION

**3.1 Commission.** Fuel Tech shall pay to the Officer a Commission equal to the Specified Percentage, on a customer unit by customer unit basis, on Net Revenue pursuant to Commercial Contracts for customer units. A Commission shall only be payable on any such Sales Contract if a Commission would be payable to an Eligible Employee under Fuel Tech's 2017 FUEL CHEM Employee Commission Plan.

**3.2 Payments.** Following the end of each calendar quarter during which this Plan is in effect, Fuel Tech will determine the aggregate amount of Commission due to the Officer based upon Fuel Tech's then-current internal accounting records in accordance with GAAP, and pay the Officer the amount of such Commission from the prior calendar quarter within forty-five (45) days, subject to any offsets.

#### **4. ADDITIONAL TERMS**

**4.1 Dispute Resolution.** Disagreements or disputes between Fuel Tech and the Officer arising out of or relating to the interpretation of this Plan shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer. Such officer shall decide the issue in his sole and absolute discretion. Any such decision shall be final and binding.

**4.2 Modification, Amendment or Termination.** This Plan is subject to modification, amendment or termination at any time at the discretion of Fuel Tech. Fuel Tech shall provide the Officer with written notice of any such modification, amendment or termination.

**4.3 No Effect on Employment.** This Plan is not intended to and does not in any way alter the at-will nature of the Officer's employment with Fuel Tech, nor does it constitute a guarantee of employment for a specified period. Employment with Fuel Tech is at will, which means that either the Officer or Fuel Tech may terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without cause or prior notice. This Plan does not create a contractual relationship or any contractually enforceable rights between the Company or its wholly owned subsidiaries and the employee.

**4.4 Disclaimer.** This Plan is only valid for the year 2017. There is no guarantee that in 2018 or in subsequent years a commission plan or similar plan shall be adopted, and, if adopted, the terms, conditions and provisions of any such plan shall be determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of Fuel Tech.



## FUEL TECH, INC.

### 2018 FUEL CHEM® Officer Commission Plan

#### 1. OBJECTIVE; EFFECTIVE DATE

**1.1. Objective.** This 2018 FUEL CHEM Officer Commission Plan (“Plan”) describes the terms upon which Fuel Tech, Inc. (“Fuel Tech”) will compensate its Senior Vice President, Sales for the sale of products and services relating to its FUEL CHEM line of business for sales occurring in the United States and Canada. The objective of this Plan is to increase the revenues and profitability of Fuel Tech by providing compensation incentives to its Senior Vice President, Sales.

**1.2. Effective Date.** This Plan shall be effective as of January 1, 2018 and continue in effect through December 31, 2018, subject to the terms hereof.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

*“Commercial Contract”* – means a comprehensive set of executed, legally binding documents between Fuel Tech and a customer for the commercial operation of the FUEL CHEM program, in form and substance acceptable to Fuel Tech.

*“Commission”* — means the commission paid to the Officer in accordance with this Plan.

*“Eligible Employee”* — means any Fuel Tech employee eligible for participation in the 2018 FUEL CHEM Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

*“Employee Commission Plan”* — means the 2018 APC Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

*“Net Revenue”* – means, with respect to any customer unit all gross revenues actually recognized by Fuel Tech from the sale of the chemical portion of the FUEL CHEM program, the sale of availability fees or TIFI On Demand and the sale of miscellaneous equipment, less third-party sales commissions, duties, taxes (including, without limitation, applicable value-added tax, business tax or sales tax), cost of freight, fuel surcharges, upcharges, refunds, rebates, credits, risk-share forgiveness, write-offs for uncollectible amounts, discounts and returns and allowances, computed based upon Fuel Tech’s then-current internal accounting records in accordance with GAAP.

*“Officer”* — means Fuel Tech’s Senior Vice President, Sales.

*“Specified Percentage”* — means the confidential percentage rate provided to the Officer together with this Plan.

#### 3. COMMISSION

**3.1 Commission.** Fuel Tech shall pay to the Officer a Commission equal to the Specified Percentage, on a customer unit by customer unit basis, on Net Revenue pursuant to Commercial Contracts for customer units. A Commission shall only be payable on any such Sales Contract if a Commission would be payable to an Eligible Employee under Fuel Tech's 2018 FUEL CHEM Employee Commission Plan.

**3.2 Payments.** Following the end of each calendar quarter during which this Plan is in effect, Fuel Tech will determine the aggregate amount of Commission due to the Officer based upon Fuel Tech's then-current internal accounting records in accordance with GAAP, and pay the Officer the amount of such Commission from the prior calendar quarter within forty-five (45) days, subject to any offsets.

#### **4. ADDITIONAL TERMS**

**4.1 Dispute Resolution.** Disagreements or disputes between Fuel Tech and the Officer arising out of or relating to the interpretation of this Plan shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer. Such officer shall decide the issue in his sole and absolute discretion. Any such decision shall be final and binding.

**4.2 Modification, Amendment or Termination.** This Plan is subject to modification, amendment or termination at any time at the discretion of Fuel Tech. Fuel Tech shall provide the Officer with written notice of any such modification, amendment or termination.

**4.3 No Effect on Employment.** This Plan is not intended to and does not in any way alter the at-will nature of the Officer's employment with Fuel Tech, nor does it constitute a guarantee of employment for a specified period. Employment with Fuel Tech is at will, which means that either the Officer or Fuel Tech may terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without cause or prior notice. This Plan does not create a contractual relationship or any contractually enforceable rights between the Company or its wholly owned subsidiaries and the employee.

**4.4 Disclaimer.** This Plan is only valid for the year 2018. There is no guarantee that in 2019 or in subsequent years a commission plan or similar plan shall be adopted, and, if adopted, the terms, conditions and provisions of any such plan shall be determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of Fuel Tech.

# FUEL TECH, INC.

## 2017 APC Officer and NSM Commission Plan

### 1. OBJECTIVE; EFFECTIVE DATE

**1.1. Objective.** This 2017 Air Pollution Control (“APC”) Officer and NSM Commission Plan (“Plan”) describes the terms upon which Fuel Tech, Inc. (“Fuel Tech”) will compensate its Senior Vice President, Sales and its National Sales Manager, Sales for the sale of products and services relating to its APC line of business for sales occurring in the United States and Canada. The objective of this Plan is to increase the revenues and profitability of Fuel Tech by providing compensation incentives to its Senior Vice President, Sales and its National Sales Manager, Sales.

**1.2. Effective Date.** This Plan shall be effective as of January 1, 2017 and continue in effect through December 31, 2017, subject to the terms hereof.

### 2. DEFINITIONS

*“APC Product Line”* – means any of the following product lines or services offered by Fuel Tech: (a) the ASCR product Line, (b) the SCR product Line, (c) the combustion modification product Line, (d) the HERT SNCR Product Line, (e) the NOxOUT® SNCR Product Line, (f) the NOxOUT ULTRA® Product Line, (g) Catalyst and Catalyst Services, (h) Turnkey Installation Services, (i) CFD Modeling and (j) Consulting Services.

*“Commission”* — means the commission paid to the Officer or NSM in accordance with this Plan.

*“Eligible Employee”* — means any Fuel Tech employee eligible for participation in the 2017 APC Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

*“Employee Commission Plan”* — means the 2017 APC Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

*“NSM”* — means Fuel Tech’s National Sales Manager, APC Sales.

*“Officer”* — means Fuel Tech’s Senior Vice President, Sales.

*“Sales Contract”* – means a comprehensive set of executed, legally binding documents between Fuel Tech and a customer, in form and substance acceptable to Fuel Tech.

*“Specified Percentage”* — means the confidential percentage rate provided to the Officer and the NSM together with this Plan.

### 3. COMMISSION

**3.1 Commission.** For each Sales Contract involving the sale of equipment included in an APC Product Line in the United States and Canada, Fuel Tech shall pay to the Officer and the NSM a Commission equal to the Specified Percentage. A Commission shall only be payable on any such Sales Contract if a commission would be payable to an Eligible Employee under Fuel Tech's 2017 APC Employee Commission Plan for such Sales Contract.

**3.2 Payments.** Following the end of each calendar quarter during which this Plan is in effect, Fuel Tech will determine the aggregate amount of Commission due to the Officer or NSM based upon Fuel Tech's then-current internal accounting records in accordance with GAAP, and pay the Officer or NSM the amount of such Commission from the prior calendar quarter within forty-five (45) days, subject to any offsets.

#### **4. ADDITIONAL TERMS**

**4.1 Dispute Resolution.** Disagreements or disputes between Fuel Tech and the Officer or NSM arising out of or relating to the interpretation of this Plan shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President, Marketing & Sales for resolution. Such officers shall decide the issue in their sole and absolute discretion. Any such decision shall be final and binding.

**4.2 Modification, Amendment or Termination.** This Plan is subject to modification, amendment or termination at any time at the discretion of Fuel Tech. Fuel Tech shall provide the Officer and NSM with written notice of any such modification, amendment or termination.

**4.3 No Effect on Employment.** This Plan is not intended to and does not in any way alter the at-will nature of the Officer's employment with Fuel Tech, nor does it constitute a guarantee of employment for a specified period. Employment with Fuel Tech is at will, which means that either the Officer, NSM or Fuel Tech may terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without cause or prior notice. This Plan does not create a contractual relationship or any contractually enforceable rights between the Company or its wholly owned subsidiaries and the employee.

**4.4 Disclaimer.** This Plan is only valid for the year 2017. There is no guarantee that in 2018 or in subsequent years a commission plan or similar plan shall be adopted, and, if adopted, the terms, conditions and provisions of any such plan shall be determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of Fuel Tech.

## FUEL TECH, INC.

### 2018 APC Officer and NSM Commission Plan

#### 1. OBJECTIVE; EFFECTIVE DATE

**1.1. Objective.** This 2018 Air Pollution Control (“APC”) Officer and NSM Commission Plan (“Plan”) describes the terms upon which Fuel Tech, Inc. (“Fuel Tech”) will compensate its Senior Vice President, Sales and its National Sales Manager, Sales for the sale of products and services relating to its APC line of business for sales occurring in the United States and Canada. The objective of this Plan is to increase the revenues and profitability of Fuel Tech by providing compensation incentives to its Senior Vice President, Sales and its National Sales Manager, Sales.

**1.2. Effective Date.** This Plan shall be effective as of January 1, 2018 and continue in effect through December 31, 2018, subject to the terms hereof.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

“*APC Product Line*” – means any of the following product lines or services offered by Fuel Tech: (a) the ASCR product Line, (b) the SCR product Line, (c) the combustion modification product Line, (d) the HERT SNCR product line, (e) the NOxOUT® SNCR product Line, (f) the NOxOUT ULTRA® product Line, (g) catalyst and catalyst services, (h) turnkey installation services, (i) CFD modeling and (j) consulting Services.

“*Commission*” — means the commission paid to the Officer or NSM in accordance with this Plan.

“*Eligible Employee*” — means any Fuel Tech employee eligible for participation in the 2018 APC Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

“*Employee Commission Plan*” — means the 2018 APC Employee Commission Plan, as such plan may be amended in Fuel Tech’s sole discretion.

“*NSM*” — means Fuel Tech’s National Sales Manager, APC Sales.

“*Officer*” — means Fuel Tech’s Senior Vice President, Sales.

“*Sales Contract*” – means a comprehensive set of executed, legally binding documents between Fuel Tech and a customer, in form and substance acceptable to Fuel Tech.

“*Specified Percentage*” — means the confidential percentage rate provided to the Officer and the NSM together with this Plan.

#### 3. COMMISSION

**3.1 Commission.** For each Sales Contract involving the sale of equipment included in an APC Product Line in the United States and Canada, Fuel Tech shall pay to the Officer and the NSM a Commission equal to the Specified Percentage. A Commission shall only be payable on any such Sales Contract if a commission would be payable to an Eligible Employee under Fuel Tech's 2018 APC Employee Commission Plan for such Sales Contract.

**3.2 Payments.** Following the end of each calendar quarter during which this Plan is in effect, Fuel Tech will determine the aggregate amount of Commission due to the Officer or NSM based upon Fuel Tech's then-current internal accounting records in accordance with GAAP, and pay the Officer or NSM the amount of such Commission from the prior calendar quarter within forty-five (45) days, subject to any offsets.

#### **4. ADDITIONAL TERMS**

**4.1 Dispute Resolution.** Disagreements or disputes between Fuel Tech and the Officer or NSM arising out of or relating to the interpretation of this Plan shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer for resolution. Such officers shall decide the issue in their sole and absolute discretion. Any such decision shall be final and binding.

**4.2 Modification, Amendment or Termination.** This Plan is subject to modification, amendment or termination at any time at the discretion of Fuel Tech. Fuel Tech shall provide the Officer and NSM with written notice of any such modification, amendment or termination.

**4.3 No Effect on Employment.** This Plan is not intended to and does not in any way alter the at-will nature of the Officer's employment with Fuel Tech, nor does it constitute a guarantee of employment for a specified period. Employment with Fuel Tech is at will, which means that either the Officer, NSM or Fuel Tech may terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without cause or prior notice. This Plan does not create a contractual relationship or any contractually enforceable rights between the Company or its wholly owned subsidiaries and the employee.

**4.4 Disclaimer.** This Plan is only valid for the year 2018. There is no guarantee that in 2019 or in subsequent years a commission plan or similar plan shall be adopted, and, if adopted, the terms, conditions and provisions of any such plan shall be determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of Fuel Tech.

**FUEL TECH, INC.**  
**EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT - GENERAL**

This Employment Agreement ("Agreement") is made as of March 9, 2018 between Fuel Tech, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company") with offices at 27601 Bella Vista Parkway, Warrenville, Illinois 60555 , and James M. Pach ("Employee").

The Company is a leader in air pollution control and the development and use of specialty chemicals for improving the efficiency, reliability, and environmental status of plants operating in the electric utility, industrial, pulp and paper, and waste-to-energy markets. The Company has invested considerable time and expense to develop and protect its goodwill, customer relationships, and Confidential Information (as defined below). Employee understands and agrees that the provisions of this Agreement are reasonable and necessary to protect the legitimate business interests of the Company.

In consideration of the Company's employment of Employee, the compensation and benefits provided to Employee, and Employee's access to Confidential Information, the Company and Employee agree as follows:

1. Employment Status. Employment with the Company is contingent on Employee signing this Agreement. Employee shall also be entitled to participate in such benefits as the Company provides to its employees generally.

**No statement in this Employment Agreement shall be construed to grant Employee an employment contract of fixed duration, as altering the at-will employment relationship with Employee, or as a limitation, either express or implied, on the Company's right to discipline or discharge employee. Either Employee or the Company may terminate the employment relationship at any time, for any reason, with or without notice and with or without cause.**

2. Best Efforts; Duty of Loyalty. During Employee's employment, Employee agrees to use his/her best efforts and to faithfully and diligently perform Employee's duties, to act in the Company's best interests at all times, and to abide by all of the Company's policies, procedures, and guidelines (including, without limitation, the Company's policies, procedures and guidelines set forth in the Company's Code of Business Ethics and Conduct, and the Company's Employee Handbook) as well as all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances. The Company reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to change any such policies, procedures, or guidelines, in whole or in part, at any time in the future, with or without notice to Employee.

3. Developments. Employee shall disclose promptly and completely to the Company in writing, and shall respond to all inquiries by the Company about, whether during or after employment, all inventions, programs, processes, software, data, formulae, trade secrets, ideas, concepts, discoveries and developments, whether patentable or not, that during employment Employee may make, conceive, reduce to writing or other storage media, or with respect to which Employee shall acquire the right to grant licenses or to become licensed, either solely or jointly with others, and that: (a) relate to any subject matter with which Employee's work for the Company may be concerned; (b) relate to or are concerned with the business, products or projects of the Company or that of its customers; or (c) involve the use of the Company's time, material or facilities ("Developments").

Employee agrees that all Developments are and shall remain the sole and absolute property of the Company or its nominees. Employee will not withhold Developments from the Company for the use or benefit of Employee or any other person or Company after Employee's employment terminates.

4. Copyrights. Employee agrees that all writings, illustrations, models, pictures, software, and other such materials and original works of authorship ("Works") created or produced by Employee during the term of his employment with the Company and relating to his/her employment with the Company shall be a work made for hire under U.S. copyright laws and shall be at all times the sole and absolute property of the Company or its nominees. To the extent that such Works are not works made for hire under the U.S. copyright laws, then Employee grants, assigns, and transfers to the Company any and all rights (including but not limited to copyrights) in all such Works.



5. Assignment. At all times during and after Employee's employment with the Company and at no expense to Employee, Employee shall execute and deliver such assignments and other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company to obtain or uphold for the benefit of the Company, patents, trademarks, and copyrights in any and all countries for Developments, whether or not Employee is the inventor or creator thereof. The Company shall be the sole and absolute owner of any resulting patents, trademarks, and copyrights for Developments.

6. Development Exclusions. This Agreement does not apply to a Development or Work that was developed entirely on Employees' own time and that used no equipment, facility, supplies or trade secret information of the Company and (a) that does not result from any work performed by Employee for the Company or (b) that does not relate to the business of the Company or to the Company's actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development.

7. Development Compensation. Employee shall receive no compensation for actions required of Employee under the requirements of Sections 3 and 4 and 5 above whether during or after termination of employment, provided, however, that Employee shall be reimbursed by the Company for any of Employee's reasonable out of pocket expenses necessarily arising out of such actions and such expenses are approved in advance by the Company.

8. Confidentiality; Non-Use. Employee agrees, at all times, to hold in trust and confidence all Confidential Information, as defined below, that Employee has acquired or may acquire during Employee's employment with the Company. The term "Confidential Information" means any information (whether or not specifically labeled or identified as "confidential"), in any form or medium, that is disclosed to, developed, or learned by Employee during his/her employment, that relates to the business, services, techniques, know-how, processes, methods, formulations, investments, finances, operations, plans, research or development of the Company, and that is not generally known outside of the Company. Confidential Information includes, but is not limited to: the identity and information concerning the needs and preferences of current, former, and prospective customers; performance, compensation, and other personnel data concerning employees of the Company; business plans and strategies; plans for recruiting and hiring new personnel; trade secrets; and pricing strategies and policies. Confidential Information does not include the general skills, knowledge, and experience gained during Employees employment and common to others in the industry or information that is or becomes publicly available without any breach by Employee of this Agreement. Employee agrees that at all times both during and after his/her employment, Employee will not, without the Company's express written permission, use Confidential Information for Employee's own benefit or the benefit of any other person or entity or disclose Confidential Information to any person other than (a) in the case of disclosures made while Employee is employed by the Company, persons to whom disclosure is required in connection with the performance of Employee's duties for the Company or (b) any disclosure requested by a court or regulatory authority with jurisdiction over the subject matter, in which event Employee agrees promptly to notify the Company in advance of and cooperate with the Company in any efforts to suppress or limit such disclosure.

9. Company Property. Employee shall carefully preserve the Company's property and not convert it to personal use. At the termination of Employee's employment or at any other time requested by the Company, Employee shall return to the Company any and all Company property entrusted to Employee, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all notes, correspondence, books, laboratory logs, computer disks and tapes or other data storage media, engineering records, drawings, keys, key cards, credit cards, telephone cards, computers, equipment and vehicles.

10. Misuse of Third Party Information. Employee agrees that Employee will not directly or indirectly use for the Company's benefit any confidential or trade secret information of any other entity, including former employers. Employee understands that any disclosure by him/her of another's confidential or trade secret information to the Company is strictly prohibited and will be grounds for disciplinary action including, but not limited to, termination. Employee understands that the prohibition in this section does not apply if the Company has acquired the right to use such information.

11. Communications to Third Parties. Both during and after Employee's employment with the Company, Employee agrees not to make any oral or written statement at any time to any third party that disparages, defames, or reflects adversely upon the Company, any affiliate of the Company, or any employee of the Company.

12. Cooperation. Following the termination of Employee's employment for any reason, Employee agrees to cooperate with and assist the Company in any manner the Company reasonably may request, including, but not limited to, meeting with and fully and truthfully answering the questions of the Company or its counsel in connection with any actual or potential litigation or other legal matter, and testifying and preparing to testify at any deposition or trial.

13. Employee Disputes. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any controversy or claim between Employee and the Company arising out of or relating to Employee's employment or termination of employment or any other dispute between the parties, whether arising in tort, contract, or pursuant to a statute, regulation, or ordinance now in existence or which may in the future be enacted or recognized, will be settled and determined by a single arbitrator whose award will be accepted as final and binding upon the parties. The arbitration will be conducted within the district of the federal district court with jurisdiction over Employee's most recent place of employment with the Company (for outside sales employees, this would be Employee's most recent residence during his/her employment) and in accordance with the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") Employment Arbitration Rules in effect at the time such arbitration is properly initiated, except in the event of any conflict with applicable law or the terms of this section, in which case applicable law will take precedence under all circumstances and the terms of this Agreement will take precedence over the AAA rules. The arbitrator will render a written decision to the parties setting forth the rationale for any award. The costs of the arbitration, including administrative fees and fees charged by the arbitrator, will be allocated pursuant to the AAA rules or, in the absence of any rules covering such costs, will be shared equally between the parties. Each party will bear its or his/her own travel expenses and attorneys' fees. A judgment may be entered upon the arbitrator's decision and the decision will be enforceable by any court having jurisdiction thereof. In any situation in which emergency injunctive relief may be necessary, either party may seek such relief from a court until such time as the arbitrator is able to address the matter covered by this section.

14. Waiver of Jury Trial. If notwithstanding the preceding section, either party files, and is allowed by the courts to prosecute, a court action on a dispute between Employee and the Company, the plaintiff in such an action agrees not to request, and hereby waives his/her or its right to, a trial by jury.

15. Law. This Agreement and any disputes arising between the Company and Employee shall be interpreted and governed by the law of the State of Illinois.

16. Entire Agreement; Waiver. This Agreement supersedes any and all prior agreements that Employee has entered into with the Company relating to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may not be amended, modified, superseded, canceled, or waived on behalf of the Company except by a written instrument signed by a properly authorized representative of the Company. No waiver by the Company of the breach of any provision of this Agreement in any one or more instances shall be deemed to be or construed as a further or continuing waiver of any such breach or as a waiver of any breach of any other provisions of this Agreement. The failure of the Company at any time or times to require performance of any provision of this Agreement shall in no manner affect the Company's right to enforce the same at a later time. This Agreement shall not limit in any way any rights or remedies the Company may have under the common law or any statute to protect the Company's trade secrets and other Confidential Information.

17. Severability. If a court determines that any provision contained in this Agreement is unenforceable in any respect, then the effect of such provision will be limited and restricted so as to permit the provision to be enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by law or, if that is not possible, such provision will be removed from this Agreement. In either case, this Agreement should be interpreted, even if modified, to achieve the full intent expressed, and the other provisions of this Agreement will remain in force and unmodified and will be enforced as written.

18. Injunctive Relief. Because money damages for the breach or threatened breach of Employee's obligations under this Agreement may be inadequate to compensate the Company fully for the harm it has suffered or will suffer, the Company may seek injunctive relief (a court order preventing Employee from doing something) or specific performance (a court order compelling Employee to do something) or other remedies "in equity" for such a breach or threatened breach, without first being obligated to post any bond or to show actual damages. In addition, the Company may obtain any other remedies available at law, in equity or under this Agreement. In connection with any claim based on a breach or threatened breach of this

Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to payment of its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs by the non-prevailing party.

19. Survival of Obligations; Successors and Assigns. Employee further agrees that termination of his/her employment by the Company for any reason whatsoever, with or without cause, shall not affect his/her obligations under this Agreement, and that the undertakings and obligations set forth in this Agreement shall be an obligation of Employee's executors, administrators, or other legal representatives. This Agreement may be assigned by the Company to, and is intended for the benefit of, any successor to all or part of the Company's business as well as any affiliate of the Company for which the Employee may become employed or render services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have signed this four page Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

/s/ James M. Pach  
Employee

/s/ Bradley W. Johnson  
Witness

Bradley W. Johnson  
Name (Please print or type)

FUEL TECH, INC.

By: /s/ Vincent J. Arnone  
Vincent J. Arnone, CEO