TAL International Group, Inc. Form 425 April 28, 2016

Filed by TAL International Group, Inc. pursuant to Rule 425 under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended Subject Company: TAL International Group, Inc. Commission File No. 001-32638 Date: April 27, 2016 TAL INTERNATIONAL GROUP, INC. REPORTS FIRST QUARTER 2016 RESULTS

Purchase, New York, April 27, 2016 – TAL International Group, Inc. (NYSE: TAL), one of the world's largest lessors of intermodal freight containers and chassis, today reported results for the first quarter ended March 31, 2016.

### Highlights:

TAL reported Adjusted pre-tax income per fully diluted common share of \$0.44 for the first quarter of 2016, a decrease of 64.2% from the first quarter of 2015.

TAL reported leasing revenues of \$149.2 million for the first quarter of 2016, an increase of 0.1% from the first quarter of 2015.

- TAL's equipment utilization averaged 92.2% for the first quarter of 2016. Through April 27, 2016, TAL has invested approximately \$134 million in new and sale-leaseback containers for delivery in 2016.
- TAL announced a quarterly dividend of \$0.45 per share. The dividend is payable on May 26, 2016 to shareholders of record as of May 12, 2016.

TAL continues to make progress on its announced merger with Triton Container International Limited. All required anti-trust approvals have been received and the SEC review process of the S-4 registration statement filed by Triton International Limited is progressing. Detailed integration planning is well underway, and the merger is expected to close in the second quarter of 2016.

# Financial Results

The following table depicts TAL's selected key financial information for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 (dollars in millions, except per share data):

	Three Months Ended			
	March 31,			
	2016	2015	% Change	
Adjusted pre-tax income(1)	\$14.6	\$40.7	(64.1%)	
Adjusted pre-tax income(1) per share	\$0.44	\$1.23	(64.2%)	
Leasing revenues	\$149.2	2\$149.0	0.1%	
Adjusted EBITDA(1)	\$117.4	\$138.8	8(15.4%)	
Adjusted net income(1)	\$8.4	\$26.4	(68.2%)	
Adjusted net income(1) per share	\$0.25	\$0.80	(68.8%)	
Net income	\$6.4	\$25.8	(75.2%)	
Net income per share	\$0.19	\$0.78	(75.6%)	
Note: All per share data is per fully diluted common share.				

TAL considers Adjusted pre-tax results as the best measure of its operating performance since it considers gains and losses on interest rate swaps, the write-off of deferred financing costs, and transaction costs related to the pending merger with Triton Container International Limited ("Triton") to be unrelated to operating performance and since it does not expect to pay any significant income taxes for a number of years due to the availability of accelerated tax depreciation on its existing container fleet and anticipated future equipment purchases. TAL's effective tax rate for the first quarter of 2016 was 42.5% up from the typical 35.3% recorded in the prior year quarter due to the recognition of a one-time discrete item related to the January 1, 2016 vesting of restricted share grants.

## **Operating Performance**

"TAL's financial results in the first quarter of 2016 continued to be impacted by very challenging market conditions," commented Brian M. Sondey, President and CEO of TAL International. "We generated \$14.6 million of Adjusted pre-tax income, representing \$0.44 of Adjusted pre-tax income per share. Leasing revenues were flat compared to the first quarter of 2015, and our annualized Adjusted pre-tax return on tangible equity(1) was 5.5%."

"The first quarter is typically our weakest quarter of the year since it traditionally represents the slow season for dry container leasing and disposals. This year, the typical seasonal weakness combined with difficult global economic conditions to create a very weak market environment. New container prices, market leasing rates and used container sale prices all decreased further during the first quarter, and leasing demand remained limited. The further decrease in used container selling prices had a particularly large impact since the lower sale prices led to larger losses on units sold plus resulted in mark-to-market losses on our inventory of equipment held for sale. This mark-to-market effect increased our loss on disposal by \$8.0 million in the first quarter, though the impact will shrink once used container sale prices stabilize."

"This market environment is also challenging for our shipping line customers. The low rate of trade growth in 2015 has combined with ongoing deliveries of mega vessels to result in a large amount of excess vessel capacity and weak freight rates. The financial performance of the container shipping lines has generally been weak since the first quarter of 2015, and several shipping lines are under heavy financial pressure. TAL's credit performance remains strong, but we are concerned about elevated credit risks."

"While down, our utilization remains solid and continues to support our strong cash flow. Our utilization averaged 92.2% in the first quarter of 2016, and finished the quarter at 91.4%. Our utilization currently stands at 91.1%. The resiliency of our utilization reflects the underlying strength of our lease portfolio. As of March 31, 2016, 76.4% of our containers on-hire were covered by long-term or finance leases, and these leases have an average remaining duration of 42 months assuming no leases are renewed. Our lease portfolio is also protected by our lease structuring discipline, especially in ensuring the vast majority of our containers on lease must be returned to strong export locations."

#### Outlook

Mr. Sondey continued, "Market conditions remain soft at the start of the second quarter, but we believe many elements are in place for a meaningful improvement if trade growth returns to a more normal level as we move toward the traditional summer peak season. New container production has been low since the middle of last year, while disposal volumes have been high. As a result, increased trade volumes should quickly translate to improved leasing demand. In addition, steel prices in China have rebounded sharply over the last month, jumping most of the way back toward their level at the end of 2014. If this rebound is sustained, we expect that new container prices and market leasing rates will increase meaningfully once new container production and lease-out volumes return to more normal levels. An increase in new container prices would also increase leasing demand for our existing containers and add support for an improvement in used container sale prices."

"Expectations for 2016 trade growth vary among market forecasters and among our customers. Last year was one of the few years in our history where global containerized trade growth fell below the rate of global economic growth. If containerized trade growth recovers to a level that again exceeds global GDP growth in 2016, then we expect demand will be sufficient to drive higher utilization and we expect market lease rates will improve, assuming the rebound in steel prices is sustained. However, if we experience another year of little or no trade growth, a recovery in market conditions may take longer."

"Our key performance metrics such as our utilization and average used container selling prices decreased through the first quarter and are currently lower than they were at the beginning of the year. As a result, we expect our Adjusted pre-tax income will decrease from the first to the second quarter of 2016. After the second quarter, the trajectory of our earnings will depend on whether and how strongly trade growth and market conditions recover."

#### Dividend

TAL's Board of Directors has approved and declared a \$0.45 per share quarterly cash dividend on its issued and outstanding common stock, payable on May 26, 2016 to shareholders of record at the close of business on May 12, 2016. Based on the information available today, we believe this distribution will qualify as a return of capital rather than a taxable dividend for U.S. tax purposes. Investors should consult with a tax adviser to determine the proper tax treatment of this distribution.

#### Announced Merger with Triton Container International Limited

Mr. Sondey concluded, "We are making good progress on our announced merger with Triton Container International to create the world's largest, most efficient and most capable container leasing company. We have received all required anti-trust approvals and the SEC review process of the S-4 registration statement filed by Triton International Limited is progressing. We are also making good progress with integration planning. Much of the leadership and staffing plan for the combined company is completed, and our systems integration work is underway. We continue to believe we will be able to achieve roughly \$40 million of administrative cost savings once the anticipated merger benefits are fully realized, and we continue to expect the merger will be significantly accretive to Earnings per Share for TAL's shareholders."

#### Investors' Webcast

TAL will hold a Webcast at 9 a.m. (New York time) on Thursday, April 28, 2016 to discuss its first quarter results. An archive of the Webcast will be available one hour after the live call through Friday, June 10, 2016. To access the live Webcast or archive, please visit the Company's website at http://www.talinternational.com.

About TAL International Group, Inc.

TAL is one of the world's largest lessors of intermodal freight containers and chassis with 17 offices in 11 countries and approximately 230 third-party container depot facilities in 40 countries. TAL's global operations include the acquisition, leasing, re-leasing and subsequent sale of multiple types of intermodal containers and chassis. TAL's fleet consists of approximately 1,562,000 containers and related equipment representing approximately 2,570,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs). This places TAL among the world's largest independent lessors of intermodal containers and chassis as measured by fleet size.

Contact

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#### Important Cautionary Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements included in this communication are not historical facts but are forward-looking statements for purposes of the safe harbor provisions under The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements generally are accompanied by words such as "may", "should", "would", "plan", "intend", "anticipate", "believe", "o "predict", "potential", "seem", "seek", "continue", "future", "will", "expect", "outlook" or other similar words, phrases or expr These forward-looking statements include statements regarding our views, estimates, plans and outlook, industry, future events, the proposed transaction between Triton Container International Limited ("Triton") and TAL International Group, Inc. ("TAL International"), the estimated or anticipated future results and benefits of Triton and TAL International following the transaction, including estimated synergies, the likelihood and ability of the parties to successfully close the proposed transaction, future opportunities for the combined company, and other statements that are not historical facts. These statements are based on the current expectations of Triton and TAL International management and are not predictions of actual performance. These statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties regarding Triton's and TAL International's respective businesses and the transaction, and actual results may differ materially. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, changes in the business environment in which Triton and TAL International operate, including inflation and interest rates, and general financial, economic, regulatory and political conditions affecting the industry in which Triton and TAL International operate; changes in taxes, governmental laws, and regulations; competitive product and pricing activity; difficulties of managing growth profitably; the loss of one or more members of Triton's or TAL International's management team; the ability of the parties to successfully close the proposed transaction; failure to realize the anticipated benefits of the transaction, including as a result of a delay in completing the transaction or a delay or difficulty in integrating the businesses of Triton and TAL International; uncertainty as to the long-term value of Triton International Limited ("Holdco") common shares; the expected amount and timing of cost savings and operating synergies; failure to receive the approval of the stockholders of TAL International for the transaction, and those discussed in TAL International's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 under the heading "Risk Factors," as updated from time to time by TAL International's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and other documents of TAL International on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and in the registration statement on Form S-4 that was filed with the SEC by Holdco. There may be additional risks that neither Triton nor TAL International presently know or that Triton and TAL International currently believe are immaterial which could also cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. In addition, forward-looking statements provide Triton's and TAL International's expectations, plans or forecasts of future events and views as of the date of this communication. Triton and TAL International anticipate that subsequent events and developments will cause Triton's and TAL International's assessments to change. However, while Triton and TAL International may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, Triton and TAL International specifically disclaim any obligation to do so. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing Triton's and TAL International's assessments as of any date subsequent to the date of this communication.

#### No Offer or Solicitation

This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offer of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

#### Additional Information

This communication is not a solicitation of a proxy from any stockholder of TAL International. In connection with the proposed transaction, Holdco has filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 that includes a preliminary prospectus of Holdco and also includes a preliminary proxy statement of TAL International. The SEC has not yet declared the registration statement effective. After it is declared effective, TAL International will mail the proxy statement/prospectus to its stockholders. INVESTORS ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS (INCLUDING ALL AMENDMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS THERETO) BECAUSE IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION. You are able to obtain the proxy statement/prospectus, as well as other filings containing information about TAL free of charge, at the website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov. Copies of the proxy statement/prospectus and the filings with the SEC that are incorporated by reference in the proxy statement/prospectus can also be obtained, free of charge, by directing a request to TAL International Group, Inc., 100 Manhattanville Road, Purchase, New York 10577, Attention: Secretary.

The respective directors and executive officers of Triton, TAL International and Triton International Limited ("Holdco") and other persons may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed transaction. Information regarding TAL International's directors and executive officers is available in the Amendment No. 1 on Form 10K/A filed with the SEC on April 22, 2016. Other information regarding the participants in the proxy solicitation and their respective interests are included in the proxy statement/prospectus and will be contained in other relevant materials to be filed with the SEC when they become available. These documents can be obtained free of charge from the sources indicated above.

(1) Adjusted pre-tax income, Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted net income, and Adjusted pre-tax return on tangible equity are non-GAAP measurements we believe are useful in evaluating our operating performance. TAL's definition and calculation of Adjusted pre-tax income, Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted net income, and Adjusted pre-tax return on tangible equity are outlined in the attached schedules.

Please see below for a detailed reconciliation of these financial measurements. -Financial Tables FollowTAL INTERNATIONAL GROUP, INC. Consolidated Balance Sheets

- (Dollars in thousands, except share data)
- (Unaudited)

	March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
ASSETS:		
Leasing equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and allowances of \$1,249,506 and \$1,218,826	\$3,899,376	\$3,908,292
Net investment in finance leases, net of allowances of \$710 and \$805	169,241	177,737
Equipment held for sale	84,971	74,899
Revenue earning assets	4,153,588	4,160,928
Unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	73,680	58,907
Restricted cash	28,987	30,302
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$1,062 and \$1,314	91,228	95,709
Goodwill	74,523	74,523
Other assets	19,513	13,620
Fair value of derivative instruments		87
Total assets	\$4,441,519	\$4,434,076
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:		
Equipment purchases payable	\$40,210	\$20,009
Fair value of derivative instruments	52,921	20,348
Accounts payable and other accrued expenses	53,006	56,096
Net deferred income tax liability	450,176	456,123
Debt, net of unamortized deferred financing costs of \$24,437 and \$25,245	3,208,409	3,216,488
Total liabilities	3,804,722	3,769,064
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value, 500,000 shares authorized, none issued		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 37,307,134 and 37,167,134 shares issued respectively	37	37
Treasury stock, at cost, 3,911,843 shares	(75,310	)(75,310)
Additional paid-in capital	512,052	511,297
Accumulated earnings	239,594	248,183
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss)	(39,576	)(19,195)
Total stockholders' equity	636,797	665,012
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$4,441,519	\$4,434,076

# TAL INTERNATIONAL GROUP, INC.

Consolidated Statements of Income

(Dollars and shares in thousands, except earnings per share)

(Unaudited)

(Onaudited)	Three Mor March 31, 2016	
Leasing revenues:	¢144.000	¢1445C0
Operating leases	\$144,898	\$144,568
Finance leases	3,107	4,024
Other revenues	1,218	383
Total leasing revenues	149,223	148,975
Equipment trading revenues	11,292	16,845
Equipment trading expenses	(11,265)	(15,431)
Trading margin	27	1,414
Net (loss) on sale of leasing equipment	(13,930)	(1,449 )
Operating expenses:		
Depreciation and amortization	63,226	58,384
Direct operating expenses	17,959	8,822
Administrative expenses	12,952	11,982
(Reversal) for doubtful accounts	(309)	(23)
Total operating expenses	93,828	79,165
Operating income	41,492	69,775
Other expenses:		
Interest and debt expense	29,151	29,243
Write-off of deferred financing costs	363	_
Net loss on interest rate swaps	813	716
Total other expenses	30,327	29,959
Income before income taxes	11,165	39,816
Income tax expense	4,743	14,059
Net income	\$6,422	\$25,757
Net income per common share—Basic	\$0.19	\$0.78
Net income per common share—Diluted	\$0.19	\$0.78
Cash dividends paid per common share	\$0.45	\$0.72
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding—Bas		32,861
Dilutive stock options and restricted stock	22	149
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