UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 7, 2018

COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO. CONSOLIDATED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 0-9286 (Commission File Number) 56-0950585 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

4100 Coca-Cola Plaza, Charlotte, North Carolina 28211 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

> (704) 557-4400 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On November 7, 2018, Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated (the "Company") issued a news release announcing its financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2018 and the first three quarters of fiscal 2018. A copy of the news release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

		Incorporated By Reference
Exhibit No.	Description	То
99.1	News release issued on November 7, 2018, reporting the Company's financial results for the third	Filed herewith.
	quarter ended September 30, 2018 and the first three quarters of fiscal 2018.	

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit attached hereto, is being furnished and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed to be incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in any such filing.

SIGNATURE

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 hereunto duly authorized.

COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO. CONSOLIDATED (REGISTRANT)

Date: November 7, 2018

By:

/s/ David M. Katz David M. Katz

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer



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Third Quarter 2018 Highlights

Q3 net sales growth of 4.2%, including organic(a) net sales growth of 4.3%.

Q3 sales volume decrease of 0.1%, including organic^(a) volume decrease of 0.4%.

Reported basic EPS of \$2.69 in Q3 2018, as compared to \$1.86 in Q3 2017.

Gross margin decline of 60 basis points from Q3 2017 driven by higher commodity and transportation costs, a higher contribution of sales from lower-margin acquired territories, and shifting product mix.

Pricing and productivity actions implemented in Q3 2018 to drive margin improvement and additional cost savings.

"Although commodities and transportation remain challenges in our industry, we are pleased with the progress we have made in pricing, operating expense management and capital spending. The sequential improvements we see in gross margin trends so far this year are very encouraging. We remain focused on making strategic fiscal decisions and investing for the long-term benefit of our teammates, brands, communities, stockholders and other stakeholders."

Frank Harrison Chairman & CEO Coca-Cola Consolidated

Key Results

(in millions, except	Third Quarter							 First Three	Qu	arters			
per share data)		2018		2017	C	hange	% Change	2018		2017	С	hange	% Change
Physical case volume		86.7		86.8		(0.1)	(0.1)%	254.8		240.5		14.3	5.9%
Net sales	\$	1,211.7	\$	1,162.5	\$	49.2	4.2%	\$ 3,511.0	\$	3,197.5	\$	313.5	9.8%
Gross profit	\$	420.4	\$	410.3	\$	10.1	2.5%	\$ 1,197.3	\$	1,157.5	\$	39.8	3.4%
Gross margin		34.7%		35.3%				34.1%		36.2%			
Income from operations	\$	44.4	\$	37.5	\$	6.9	N/M	\$ 45.1	\$	101.1	\$	(56.0)	N/M
Basic net income per share	\$	2.69	\$	1.86	\$	0.83	N/M	\$ 0.75	\$	2.00	\$	(1.25)	N/M

Bottle/Can Sales	Third Quarter							 First Three	e Qu	arters			
(in millions)		2018		2017	Cł	nange	% Change	2018		2017	С	hange	% Change
Sparkling beverages	\$	605.6	\$	582.7	\$	22.9	3.9%	\$ 1,787.4	\$	1,670.1	\$	117.3	7.0%
Still beverages	\$	413.3	\$	384.5	\$	28.8	7.5%	\$ 1,142.8	\$	1,009.5	\$	133.3	13.2%

(a) The discussion of the results for the third quarter and first three quarters includes selected non-GAAP financial information, such as "organic" results. Organic net sales and organic sales volume include results from our distribution territories not impacted by acquisition or divestiture activity during 2017. The schedules in this press release reconcile such non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures.

Third Quarter 2018 Review

CHARLOTTE, November 7, 2018 – Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated (NASDAQ:COKE) today reported operating results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2018 and the first three quarters of fiscal 2018.

During the third quarter, our Company made meaningful progress towards the strategic priorities we set during the second quarter, even in the midst of continued challenges in the commodities and transportation markets. Our pricing actions delivered over 4% revenue growth versus Q3 2017 on relatively flat volume of almost 87 million physical cases. Our Q3 2018 performance brings our year-to-date volume growth to 5.9% and our year-to-date revenue growth to 9.8%. Our organic case volume decline in Q3 2018 was 0.4% versus Q3 2017, and our year-to-date organic case volume growth was 0.3% versus the prior year period. Beginning in Q4 2018, we will have cycled all of the transactions completed during our system transformation initiative, and results should be comparable on a year-over-year basis. As discussed last quarter, the mid-week July 4th holiday resulted in volume being split between the second and third quarters in 2018. Additionally, Hurricane Florence impacted our operations in much of our coastal territory in September, although identified incremental costs due to the storm were immaterial.

Integral to the strategic priorities we set during Q2 2018, we implemented numerous pricing actions throughout our territory in Q3 2018 to address our increased input costs. Gross margin in Q3 2018 was 60 basis points lower than Q3 2017 (34.7% in Q3 2018 versus 35.3% in Q3 2017), which reflects significant and sequential improvement over the gross margin declines we experienced in the first half of 2018. The primary drivers of the year-over-year margin decline remain (in order of significance): (i) rising commodity costs, (ii) the volume shift to lower-margin still products, and (iii) newly acquired territories generally experiencing margins lower than our legacy territories. We continue to refine our pricing strategies and focus on driving operating efficiencies in our supply chain to improve margin performance and address the rising input costs across the consumer products landscape.

Selling, delivery and administrative ("S,D&A") expenses in Q3 2018 increased approximately \$3.0 million, or 0.8%, as compared to Q3 2017. Notably, our S,D&A expenses as a percent of revenue declined to 31.0% in Q3 2018 from 32.1% in Q3 2017. We believe this leveraging of operating expenses was the result of our actions taken during Q2 2018 and our strong revenue performance in Q3 2018. These improvements were partially offset by the expenses associated with our continuing territory integration efforts. While we are pleased with our operating expense performance in the third quarter, we will continue to refine and optimize our operating model across our Company to drive improvements in efficiency and profitability.

Income from operations was \$44.4 million in Q3 2018, increasing from \$37.5 million in Q3 2017. We have completed our system transformation transactions and are nearing steady state from an IT system perspective. As such, we incurred \$2.7 million less in system transformation expenses in Q3 2018, as compared to Q3 2017. We are encouraged with our progress in operating income performance and recognize we have additional improvement opportunities.

During Q3 2018, we spent \$10.4 million on system transformation expenses, which primarily related to the implementation of our integrated CONA information systems platform. We anticipate spending between \$6 million and \$8 million on system transformation expenses in Q4 2018 and expect to see these expenses continue to decrease over the next few quarters.

Capital spending for the third quarter was approximately \$27.8 million, bringing our year-to-date total capital investments to \$113.1 million. We anticipate capital spending in the range of \$25 million to \$35 million in Q4 2018. Diligent capital management processes have been put in place to continue our focus on debt reduction, while investing in the highest impact projects. In addition to our capital spending, the Company contributed \$20 million to fund our pension plans during Q3 2018.

We expect to begin distribution of the fast-growing premium sports drink, BodyArmor, in a portion of our territories in Q4 2018. We are excited about the addition of BodyArmor to our powerful portfolio of brands, and, while we do not expect the impact on our 2018 results to be material, we do anticipate our BodyArmor distribution rights will provide ongoing benefits and round out our sports drink portfolio.

About Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated

Coca-Cola Consolidated is the largest Coca-Cola bottler in the United States. Our Purpose is to honor God, serve others, pursue excellence and grow profitably. For more than 116 years, we have been deeply committed to the consumers, customers, and communities we serve and passionate about the broad portfolio of beverages and services we offer. We make, sell, and deliver beverages of The Coca-Cola Company and other partner companies in more than 300 brands and flavors to 65 million consumers in territories spanning 14 states and the District of Columbia.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Coca-Cola Consolidated is traded on the NASDAQ under the symbol COKE. More information about the company is available at <u>www.cokeconsolidated.com</u>. Follow Coca-Cola Consolidated on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

Cautionary Information Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this news release are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. The words "believe," "expect," "project," "will," "should," "could" and similar expressions are intended to identify those forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause Coca-Cola Consolidated's actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in forwardlooking statements include, but are not limited to: our inability to integrate the operations and employees acquired in system transformation transactions; lower than expected selling pricing resulting from increased marketplace competition; changes in how significant customers market or promote our products; changes in our top customer relationships; changes in public and consumer preferences related to nonalcoholic beverages, including concerns related to obesity and health concerns; unfavorable changes in the general economy; miscalculation of our need for infrastructure investment; our inability to meet requirements under beverage agreements; material changes in the performance requirements for marketing funding support or our inability to meet such requirements; decreases from historic levels of marketing funding support; changes in The Coca-Cola Company's and other beverage companies' levels of advertising, marketing and spending on brand innovation; the inability of our aluminum can or plastic bottle suppliers to meet our purchase requirements; our inability to offset higher raw material costs with higher selling prices, increased bottle/can sales volume or reduced expenses; consolidation of raw material suppliers; incremental risks resulting from increased purchases of finished goods; sustained increases in fuel costs or our inability to secure adequate supplies of fuel; sustained increases in the cost of labor and employment matters, product liability claims or product recalls; technology failures or cyberattacks; changes in interest rates; the impact of debt levels on operating flexibility and access to capital and credit markets; adverse changes in our credit rating (whether as a result of our operations or prospects or as a result of those of The Coca-Cola Company or other bottlers in the Coca-Cola system); changes in legal contingencies; legislative changes affecting our distribution and packaging; adoption of significant product labeling or warning requirements; additional taxes resulting from tax audits; natural disasters and unfavorable weather; global climate change or legal or regulatory responses to such change; issues surrounding labor relations with unionized employees; bottler system disputes; our use of estimates and assumptions; changes in accounting standards; the impact of volatility in the financial markets on access to the credit markets; the impact of acquisitions or dispositions of bottlers by their franchisors; changes in the inputs used to calculate our acquisition related contingent consideration liability; and the concentration of our capital stock ownership. These and other factors are discussed in the Company's regulatory filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including those in the Company's fiscal 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K, Item 1A. Risk Factors. The forward-looking statements contained in this news release speak only as of this date, and the Company does not assume any obligation to update them except as required by law.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED)

	Third Quarter					First Three	arters	
(in thousands, except per share data)		2018		2017		2018		2017
Net sales	\$	1,211,661	\$	1,162,526	\$	3,510,997	\$	3,197,519
Cost of sales		791,317		752,202		2,313,728		2,039,996
Gross profit		420,344		410,324		1,197,269		1,157,523
Selling, delivery and administrative expenses		375,940		372,852		1,152,183		1,056,446
Income from operations		44,404		37,472		45,086		101,077
Interest expense, net		12,827		10,697		37,617		30,607
Other income (expense), net		1,696		3,884		(3,612)		(36,595)
Gain on exchange transactions		10,170		-		10,170		-
Income before income taxes		43,443		30,659		14,027		33,875
Income tax expense		16,493		11,748		3,387		11,800
Net income		26,950		18,911		10,640		22,075
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest		1,786		1,595		3,594		3,462
Net income attributable to Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated	\$	25,164	\$	17,316	\$	7,046	\$	18,613
Basic net income per share based on net income attributable to Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated: Common Stock Weighted average number of Common Stock shares outstanding	\$	2.69	\$	<u>1.86</u> 7.141	\$	0.75	\$	2.00
Class B Common Stock	\$	2.69	\$	1.86	\$	0.75	\$	2.00
Weighted average number of Class B Common Stock shares outstanding	Ψ	2,213	Ψ	2,193	Ψ	2,208	Ψ	2,188
Diluted net income per share based on net income attributable to Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated:								
Common Stock	\$	2.69	\$	1.85	\$	0.75	\$	1.99
Weighted average number of Common Stock shares outstanding – assuming dilution		9,405		9,374		9,400		9,369
Class B Common Stock	\$	2.68	\$	1.84	\$	0.74	\$	1.97
Weighted average number of Class B Common Stock shares outstanding – assuming dilution		2,264		2,233		2,259		2,228



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS (UNAUDITED)

(in thousands)	Septer	nber 30, 2018	December 31, 2017		
ASSETS					
Current Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	9,337	\$	16,902	
Trade accounts receivable, net		423,315		388,416	
Accounts receivable, other		91,173		104,956	
Inventories		229,892		183,618	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		91,514		100,646	
Total current assets		845,231		794,538	
Property, plant and equipment, net		998,117		1,031,388	
Leased property under capital leases, net		25,208		29,837	
Other assets		119,193		116,209	
Goodwill		165,903		169,316	
Other identifiable intangible assets, net		918,772		931,672	
Total assets	\$	3,072,424	\$	3,072,960	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY					
Current Liabilities:					
Current portion of obligations under capital leases	\$	8,438	\$	8,221	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		550,178		631,231	
Total current liabilities		558,616		639,452	
Deferred income taxes		123,248		112,364	
Pension and postretirement benefit obligations and other liabilities		699,048		738,971	
Long-term debt and obligations under capital leases		1,222,949		1,123,266	
Total liabilities		2,603,861		2,614,053	
Equity:					
Stockholders' equity		372,764		366,702	
Noncontrolling interest		95,799		92,205	
Total liabilities and equity	\$	3,072,424	\$	3,072,960	



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)

		First Three	e Qua	rters
(in thousands)		2018		2017
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:				
Net income	\$	10,640	\$	22,075
Depreciation expense and amortization of intangible assets and deferred proceeds, net		140,496		120,293
Deferred income taxes		9,903		(24,741)
Gain on exchange transactions		(10,170)		
Proceeds from bottling agreements conversion		-		87,066
Fair value adjustment of acquisition related contingent consideration		1,584		23,140
Stock compensation expense		4,494		6,473
Change in assets and liabilities (exclusive of acquisitions)		(138,459)		(36,173)
Other		7,542		4,292
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	26,030	\$	202,425
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:				
Acquisition of distribution territories and regional manufacturing facilities related investing activities	\$	5,600	\$	(291,465)
Additions to property, plant and equipment (exclusive of acquisitions)		(113,104)		(114,953)
Other		1,457		(1,483)
Net cash used in investing activities	\$	(106,047)	\$	(407,901)
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Cash Flows from Financing Activities:				
Borrowings under Revolving Credit Facility and proceeds from issuance of Senior Notes	\$	435,000	\$	458,000
Payments on Revolving Credit Facility and Term Loan Facility		(329,500)		(238,000)
Cash dividends paid		(7,014)		(6,995)
Payment of acquisition related contingent consideration		(18,312)		(11,650)
Principal payments on capital lease obligations		(6,191)		(5,594)
Debt issuance fees		(1,531)		(213)
Net cash provided by financing activities	\$	72,452	\$	195,548
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Net decrease in cash during period	\$	(7,565)	\$	(9,928)
Cash at beginning of period		16,902		21,850
Cash at end of period	\$	9,337	\$	11,922
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NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES⁽¹⁾ The following tables reconcile reported GAAP results to organic/adjusted results (non-GAAP):

		Third C	Quar	ter		First Thre	e Quarters		
(in thousands)		2018		2017		2018		2017	
Total bottle/can sales	\$	1,018,896	\$	967,205	\$	2,930,215	\$	2,679,601	
Total other sales		192,765		195,321		580,782		517,918	
Total net sales	\$	1,211,661	\$	1,162,526	\$	3,510,997	\$	3,197,519	
	_								
Total bottle/can sales	\$	1,018,896	\$	967,205	\$	2,930,215	\$	2,679,601	
Less: Acquisition/divestiture related sales		117,684		103,171		546,284		370,992	
Organic net bottle/can sales (non-GAAP)	\$	901,212	\$	864,034	\$	2,383,931	\$	2,308,609	
Increase in organic net bottle/can sales	4.3%				3.3%				

	Third Qu	arter	First Three C	Quarters
(in millions)	2018	2017	2018	2017
Physical case volume	86.7	86.8	254.8	240.5
Less: Acquisition/divestiture related physical case volume	10.6	10.4	48.7	35.1
Organic physical case volume	76.1	76.4	206.1	205.4
Increase (decrease) in organic physical case volume	(0.4)%		0.3%	

			Third Q	uarter	2018		
(in thousands, except per share data)	Net sales	Gross profit	 ome from erations	Income before income taxes		Net income	 c net ne per are
Reported results (GAAP)	\$ 1,211,661	\$ 420,344	\$ 44,404	\$	43,443	\$ 25,164	\$ 2.69
System transformation transactions expenses	-	112	10,417		10,417	7,834	0.83
Gain on exchange transactions	-	-	-		(10,170)	(7,648)	(0.82)
Fair value adjustment of acquisition related contingent consideration	-	-	-		(2,373)	(1,785)	(0.19)
Fair value adjustments for commodity hedges	-	260	469		469	353	0.04
Other tax adjustment	-	-	-		-	3,534	0.38
Total reconciling items	-	372	 10,886		(1,657)	2,288	0.24
Adjusted results (non-GAAP)	\$ 1,211,661	\$ 420,716	\$ 55,290	\$	41,786	\$ 27,452	\$ 2.93

				Third Q	uarter 2017					
(in thousands, except per share data)	Net sales	Gross Income from Net sales profit operations			Income before income taxes		Net income	incor	isic net ome per share	
Reported results (GAAP)	\$ 1,162,526	\$ 410,324	\$	37,472	\$ 30,65	9 5	\$ 17,316	\$	1.86	
System transformation transactions expenses	-	113		13,148	13,14	В	9,265		0.99	
Fair value adjustment of acquisition related contingent consideration	-	-		-	(5,22	5)	(2,386)		(0.25)	
Fair value adjustments for commodity hedges	-	(2,042)		(3,401)	(3,40	1)	(2,187)		(0.24)	
Other tax adjustment	-		_	-		-	(1,690)		(0.18)	
Total reconciling items	-	(1,929)		9,747	4,52	2	3,002		0.32	
Adjusted results (non-GAAP)	\$ 1,162,526	\$ 408,395	\$	47,219	\$ 35,18	1 5	\$ 20,318	\$	2.18	

	First Three Quarters 2018										
(in thousands, except per share data)	Net sales	Gross profit	Income from operations		Income before income taxes		Net income	Basic net income per share			
Reported results (GAAP)	\$3,510,997	\$1,197,269	\$	45,086	\$	14,027	\$ 7,046	\$ 0.75			
System transformation transactions expenses	-	339		32,738		32,738	24,619	2.63			
Gain on exchange transactions	-	-		-		(10,170)	(7,648)	(0.82)			
Workforce optimization expenses	-	-		4,810		4,810	3,617	0.39			
Fair value adjustment of acquisition related contingent											
consideration	-	-		-		1,584	1,191	0.13			
Amortization of converted distribution rights, net	-	2,231		2,231		2,231	1,678	0.18			
Fair value adjustments for commodity hedges	-	2,776		3,139		3,139	2,361	0.25			
Other tax adjustment	-	-		-		-	(2,648)	(0.28)			
Total reconciling items	-	5,346		42,918		34,332	23,170	2.48			
Adjusted results (non-GAAP)	\$3,510,997	\$1,202,615	\$	88,004	\$	48,359	\$ 30,216	\$ 3.23			

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				First Three	Quarters 2017		
(in thousands, except per share data)	Gro Gro Net sales pro			ome from erations	Income before income taxes	Net income	Basic net income per share
Reported results (GAAP)	\$3,197,519	\$1,157,523	\$	101,077	\$ 33,875	\$ 18,613	\$ 2.00
System transformation transactions expenses	-	379		32,374	32,374	21,108	2.26
January 2016 system transformation transaction settlement	-	-		-	9,442	5,816	0.62
Fair value adjustment of acquisition related contingent							
consideration	-	-		-	23,140	15,087	1.62
Fair value adjustments for commodity hedges	-	(2,066)		(2,541)	(2,541) (1,657)	(0.18)
Other tax adjustment	-			-	-	(2,156)	(0.23)
Total reconciling items	-	(1,687)		29,833	62,415	38,198	4.09
Adjusted results (non-GAAP)	\$3,197,519	\$1,155,836	\$	130,910	\$ 96,290	\$ 56,811	\$ 6.09

(1) The Company reports its financial results in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). However, management believes that certain non-GAAP financial measures provide users with additional meaningful financial information that should be considered when assessing the Company's ongoing performance. Further, given the transformation of the Company's business through system transformation transactions with The Coca-Cola Company and the conversion of its information technology systems, the Company believes these non-GAAP financial measures allow users to better appreciate the impact of these transactions on the Company's performance. Management also uses these non-GAAP financial measures in making financial, operating and planning decisions and in evaluating the Company's performance. Non-GAAP financial measures should be viewed in addition to, and not as an alternative for, the Company's reported results prepared in accordance with GAAP. The Company's non-GAAP financial information does not represent a comprehensive basis of accounting.