

# TRAVELZOO INC

## FORM 10-K (Annual Report)

Filed 03/15/17 for the Period Ending 12/31/16

Address	590 MADISON AVENUE 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10022
Telephone	2124844900
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Industry	Leisure & Recreation
Sector	Consumer Cyclical
Fiscal Year	12/31

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**Form 10-K**

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(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, 2016  
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 No.: 000-50171

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**TRAVELZOO INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**DELAWARE**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**590 Madison Avenue, 37th Floor  
New York, New York**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**36-4415727**

(I.R.S. employer  
identification no.)

**10022**

(Zip code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 484-4900**

**SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:  
NONE**

**SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT:  
Common Stock, \$0.01 Par Value  
(Title of Class)**

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 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 website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T 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 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. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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, 2016, the aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant, based upon the closing sales price for the Registrant's common stock, as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, was \$ 51,797,780.

The number of shares of the Registrant's common stock outstanding as of March 3, 2017 was 13,407,235 shares.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Registrant's Proxy Statement for its 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference in this Form 10-K in response to



**TRAVELZOO INC.**

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## PART I

### Forward-Looking Statements

The information in this Report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such statements are based upon current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about Travelzoo Inc. and our industry. These forward-looking statements are subject to the many risks and uncertainties that exist in our operations and business environment that may cause actual results, performance or achievements of Travelzoo to be different from those expected or anticipated in the forward-looking statements. Any statements contained herein that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. For example, words such as “may”, “will”, “should”, “estimates”, “predicts”, “potential”, “continue”, “strategy”, “believes”, “anticipates”, “plans”, “expects”, “intends”, and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Travelzoo's actual results and the timing of certain events could differ significantly from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause or contribute to such a discrepancy include, but are not limited to, those discussed in this Report in Part I Item 1A and the risks discussed in our other Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) filings. The forward-looking statements included in this Report reflect the beliefs of our management on the date of this Report. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason, even if new information becomes available or other events or circumstances occur in the future.

### Item 1. Business

#### Overview

Travelzoo Inc. (the “Company” or “Travelzoo”) is a global publisher of travel and entertainment offers. We inform over 28 million members in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America, as well as millions of website users, about the best travel, entertainment and local deals available from thousands of companies. Our deal experts source, research and test-book offers, recommending only those that meet Travelzoo's rigorous quality standards. We provide travel, entertainment, and local businesses with a fast, flexible, and cost effective way to reach millions of consumers. Our revenues are generated primarily from advertising fees.

We attract a high-quality audience of travel and leisure enthusiasts across multiple digital platforms, including e-mail, web, social media and mobile applications. Our e-mail newsletters are published in 11 countries worldwide. Travelzoo's website is visited by 8.0 million unique visitors each month. We reach an audience of millions of Internet users each month via the Travelzoo Network, a network of websites that syndicate our deal content, including The Los Angeles Times and The Chicago Tribune. We have over 3.6 million followers on Facebook and Twitter. Our mobile applications have been downloaded 5.3 million times.

Our publications and products include the *Travelzoo* websites (travelzoo.com, travelzoo.ca, travelzoo.co.uk, travelzoo.de, travelzoo.es, travelzoo.fr, cn.travelzoo.com, travelzoo.co.jp, travelzoo.com.au, travelzoo.com.hk, travelzoo.com.tw, among others), the *Travelzoo* iPhone and Android applications, the *Travelzoo Top 20* e-mail newsletter, and the *Newsflash* e-mail alert service. We operate *SuperSearch*, a pay-per-click travel search tool, and the *Travelzoo Network*, a network of third-party websites that list deals published by Travelzoo. Our *Travelzoo* websites include *Local Deals* and *Getaway* listings that allow our members to purchase vouchers for deals from local businesses such as spas, hotels and restaurants. We receive a percentage of the face value of the voucher from the local businesses. We also operate *Fly.com*, a travel search engine that allows users to quickly and easily find the best prices on flights from hundreds of airlines and online travel agencies.

More than 2,000 companies use our services, including Air France, Air New Zealand, British Airways, Cathay Pacific Airways, Ctrip, Emirates, Etihad, Expedia, Fairmont Hotels and Resorts, Hawaiian Airlines, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, InterContinental Hotels Group, JTB Corporation, Lufthansa, Key Tours International, Princess Cruises, Royal Caribbean, Singapore Airlines, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Travelocity, United Airlines and Virgin America.

Our revenues are advertising revenues, consisting primarily of listing fees paid by travel, entertainment and local businesses to advertise their offers on Travelzoo's media properties. Listing fees are based on audience reach, placement, number of listings, number of impressions, number of click-throughs, number of referrals, or percentage of the face value of vouchers sold. Insertion orders are typically for periods between one month and twelve months and are not automatically renewed. Merchant agreements for *Local Deals* and *Getaway* advertisers are typically for twelve months and are not automatically renewed.

We have three operating segments based on geographic regions: Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Asia Pacific consists of our operations in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. Europe consists of our operations in France, Germany, Spain, and the U.K. North America consists of our operations in Canada and the U.S. For the year ended December 31, 2016, Asia Pacific operations were 8% of revenues, European operations were 30% of revenues and North American operations were 62% of our total revenues. Financial information with respect to our business segments and certain financial information about geographic areas appears in Note 10 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

Our principal business office is located at 590 Madison Avenue, 37th Floor, New York, New York 10022.

Ralph Bartel, who founded Travelzoo and who is a Director of the Company, is the sole beneficiary of the Ralph Bartel 2005 Trust, which is the controlling shareholder of Azzurro Capital Inc. ("Azzurro"). As of December 31, 2016, Azzurro is the Company's largest stockholder, holding approximately 55.2% of the Company's outstanding shares.

As of December 31, 2016, there were 13,461,553 shares of common stock outstanding.

Travelzoo is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "TZOO."

## **Our Industry**

Our mission is to provide our audience with the highest quality information about the best travel, entertainment and local deals. We believe there is a sizable travel and entertainment industry in which we participate in that provides an opportunity to find high quality deals for our members and users. According to the World Trade & Tourism Council, global Travel & Tourism produced \$7.2 trillion in value (9.8% of global GDP) for the global economy in 2015 and direct spending on leisure travel in the United States by domestic and international travelers is expected to rise by 4.2% per year to \$5,645.8 billion in 2026. In addition, 79% of the domestic trips were taken for leisure purposes, according to the U.S. Travel Association. Based upon this outlook for the travel industry, we believe that we are well positioned with our operations in Asia, Europe and North America to capture high quality deals for our members and users.

While our mission is to provide our audience with the highest quality information about the best travel, entertainment and local deals, our revenues are generated from advertising fees. According to the Kelsey Group's (BIA/Kelsey) new U.S. Local Media Forecast 2017, BIA/Kelsey forecasts total local media revenues to reach \$148.8 billion in 2017. Online/digital will grow to \$50.2 billion or 33.7 % of total local media revenues in 2017. We believe that traditional media outlets such as newspapers, television and radio continue to be another medium for travel, entertainment and local businesses to advertise their offers, though the percentage spent on advertising in these traditional media outlets is decreasing. In addition, the continued rise in smart phones has changed the business rules for online marketing, with the consumption of online advertising rapidly moving to mobile devices. BIA/Kelsey anticipates that location-targeted mobile advertising revenues will grow from \$12.4 billion in 2016 to \$16.0 billion in 2017.

We believe that several factors are causing and will continue to cause travel, entertainment and local businesses to increase their spending on Internet and mobile advertising of offers:

*The Internet Is Consumers' Preferred Information Source.* Market research shows that the Internet has become consumers' preferred information source for travel.

*Benefits of Internet Advertising vs. Print, TV and Radio Advertising.* Internet advertising provides advertisers advantages compared to traditional advertising. These advantages include real-time listings, real-time updates, and performance tracking. See "Benefits to Travel, Entertainment and Local Businesses" below.

*New Advertising Opportunities.* The Internet allows advertisers to advertise their sales and specials in a fast, flexible, and cost-effective manner that has not been possible before.

*Suppliers Selling Directly.* We believe that many travel suppliers prefer to sell directly to consumers through suppliers' websites versus selling through travel agents. Internet advertising attracts consumers to suppliers' websites.

Mobile advertising extends our products and services by providing mobile-specific features to mobile device users. Mobile advertising is still in its early stage, though mobile devices are quickly becoming the world's newest gateway for information. We are focused on developing easy-to-use mobile applications to help advertisers extend their reach, help create revenue opportunities for our advertisers, and deliver relevant and useful ads to users on the go. We continue to invest in improving users' access to our services through such devices.

## **Problems Travel, Entertainment and Local Businesses Face and Limitations of Newspaper, TV and Radio Advertising**

We believe that travel, entertainment and local businesses often face the challenge of being able to effectively and quickly market and sell their excess inventory (i.e. airline seats, hotel rooms, cruise cabins, theater seats, spa appointments or restaurant

seats that are likely to be unfilled). The success of marketing excess inventory can have a substantial impact on a company's profitability. Almost all costs of these services are fixed. That is, the costs do not vary significantly with sales. A relatively small amount of unsold inventory can have a significant impact on the profitability of a company.

We believe that travel, entertainment and local businesses need a fast, flexible, and cost-effective solution for marketing excess inventory. The solution must be fast, because services are a quickly expiring commodity. The period between the time when a company realizes that there is excess inventory and the time when the service has become worthless is very short. The solution must be flexible, because the demand for excess inventory is difficult to forecast. It is difficult for travel, entertainment and local businesses to price excess inventory and to forecast the marketing effort needed to sell excess inventory. The marketing must be cost-effective, because excess inventory is often sold at highly discounted prices, which lowers margins.

We believe that newspaper, TV and radio advertising, with respect to advertising excess inventory, suffers from a number of limitations which do not apply to the Internet:

- typically, ads must be submitted 2 to 5 days prior to the publication or airing date, which makes it difficult to advertise last-minute inventory;
- once an ad is published, it cannot be updated or deleted when an offer is sold out;
- once an ad is published, the company cannot change a price or offer;
- in many markets, the small number of newspapers, television companies, radio stations and other print media reduces competition, resulting in high rates for traditional advertising;
- offline advertising does not allow for detailed performance tracking; and
- creative content can be very expensive to develop.

### **Our Products and Services**

We provide airlines, hotels, cruise lines, vacation packagers, other travel suppliers, entertainment and local businesses with a fast, flexible, and cost-effective way to reach millions of Internet users. Our publications include the *Travelzoo* websites, the *Travelzoo Top 20* e-mail newsletter, the *Newsflash* e-mail alert service, and the *Local Deals* and *Getaway* e-mail alert services. We operate *SuperSearch*, a pay-per-click travel search tool and the *Travelzoo Network*, a network of third-party websites that list deals published by Travelzoo. We also operate *Fly.com*, a travel search engine that enables users to find and compare the best flight options from multiple sources, including airline and online travel agency websites. While our products provide advertising opportunities for travel, entertainment and local businesses, they also provide Internet users with a free source of information on current sales and specials from thousands of travel, entertainment and local businesses.

As travel, entertainment and local businesses increasingly utilize the Internet to promote their offers, we believe that our products will enable them to take advantage of the lower cost and real-time communication enabled by the Internet. Our listing management software allows our advertisers to add, update, and delete special offer listings on a real-time basis. Our software also provides our advertisers with real-time performance tracking, enabling them to optimize their marketing campaigns. Mobile advertising extends our products and services by providing mobile-specific features to mobile device users. We are focused on developing easy-to-use mobile applications to help advertisers extend their reach, help create revenue opportunities for our customers, and deliver relevant and useful ads to users on the go. We continue to invest in improving users' access to our services through such devices. In addition, we continue to develop our hotel booking platform, which enables our users to more easily book hotel stays using our hotel deals presented on our website and mobile devices.

The following table presents an overview of our products:

Product	Content	Publication Schedule	Reach/Usage*	Advertiser Benefits	Consumer Benefits
<i>Travelzoo websites</i>	Websites in the U.S., Canada, France, Germany, Spain, and the U.K. listing thousands of outstanding sales and specials from more than 2,000 travel, entertainment and local businesses	24/7	8.0 million unique visitors per month	Broad reach, sustained exposure, targeted placements by destination and travel segment	24/7 access to deals, ability to search and browse by destination or keyword
<i>Travelzoo Top 20</i>	Popular e-mail newsletter listing 20 of the week's most outstanding deals	Weekly	28.0 million members	Mass "push" advertising vehicle to quickly stimulate incremental travel and entertainment purchases	Weekly access to 20 outstanding, handpicked deals chosen from among thousands
<i>Newsflash</i>	Regionally-targeted e-mail alert service with a single time-sensitive and newsworthy travel and entertainment offer	Within two hours of an offer being identified	26.0 million members	Regional targeting, 100% share of voice for advertiser, flexible publication schedule	Breaking news offers delivered just-in-time
<i>Local Deals and Getaway</i>	Locally-targeted e-mail alert service with a single time-sensitive and newsworthy offer from local merchants such as spas and restaurants	Twice per week in active markets	178 local markets	Local targeting by zip code, 100% share of voice for the local businesses, flexible publication schedule	Breaking news offers delivered just-in-time
<i>Travelzoo Network</i>	A network of third-party websites that list outstanding deals published by Travelzoo	24/7	Over 380 third-party websites	Drives qualified users with substantial distribution beyond the Travelzoo audience	Contextually relevant travel deals that have been handpicked and professionally reviewed
<i>Travelzoo Mobile Applications</i>	iPhone and Android applications that allow users to discover the best Travel, Entertainment and Local Deals.	On-demand	5.3 million downloads	Allows travel, entertainment and local deals advertisers to reach our audience that is on the go.	24/7 access to travel, entertainment and local deals for consumers that are on the go.
<i>SuperSearch</i>	Travel search tool using a proprietary algorithm to recommend sites and enable one-click searching	On-demand	2.9 million monthly searches	Drives qualified traffic directly to advertiser site on a pay-per-click basis	Saves time and money by recommending the sites most likely to have great rates for a specific itinerary
<i>Fly.com</i>	Travel search engine that enables users to find and compare the best flight, hotel and rental car options from multiple sources	On-demand	1.7 million monthly searches	Provides advertisers a low cost distribution channel and retention of the user engagement on the advertiser's website	Free access to real-time price comparisons from airlines and online travel agencies

\* For *Travelzoo* websites, reach information is based on data from Google Analytics. For *Top 20*, *Newsflash*, *Local Deals and Getaway*, *Travelzoo Network*, *SuperSearch*, *Fly.com* and *Travelzoo* mobile applications, reach/usage information is based on internal Travelzoo statistics as of December 31, 2016 .

## Our Audience

We attract a high-quality audience of travel and leisure enthusiasts across multiple digital platforms, including e-mail, web, social media and mobile apps. We inform our audience about travel, entertainment and local deals available at over 2,000 companies. Our e-mail newsletters are published in 11 countries worldwide. Travelzoo's website is visited by 8.0 million unique visitors each month. We reach an audience of millions of Internet users each month via the Travelzoo Network, a network of websites that syndicate our deal content, including The Los Angeles Times and The Chicago Tribune. We have over 3.2 million followers on Facebook and Twitter. Our mobile applications have been downloaded 5.3 million times.

## Benefits to Travel, Entertainment and Local Businesses

Our advertisers benefit from accessing our large high-quality audience. Due to the nature of our content, we attract an older, wealthier demographic who have a strong interest in travel and leisure.

Key features of our solution for travel and entertainment companies include:

- *Real-Time Listings of Special Offers.* Our technology allows travel and entertainment companies to advertise special offers on a real-time basis.
- *Real-Time Updates.* Our technology allows travel and entertainment companies to update their listings on a real-time basis.
- *Real-Time Performance Reports.* We provide travel and entertainment companies with real-time tracking of the performance of their advertising campaigns. Our solution enables travel and entertainment companies to optimize their campaigns by removing or updating unsuccessful listings and further promote successful listings.
- *Access to Millions of Consumers.* We provide travel and entertainment companies fast access to over 28 million travel shoppers.
- *Global Reach.* We offer access to Internet users in Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Southeast Asia, Spain, Taiwan, the U.K and U.S.

Key features of our solution for local businesses include:

- *Real-Time Listings of Special Offers.* Our technology allows local businesses to advertise special offers on a real-time basis.
- *Real-Time Performance Reports.* We provide local businesses with real-time tracking of the performance of their advertising campaigns.
- *Access to Local Consumers.* Travelzoo members submit their zip code to Travelzoo when they join Travelzoo. As a result, we are able to send *Local Deals* to members who live or work near the local businesses.

## Benefits to Consumers

Our *Travelzoo* websites, *Travelzoo Top 20* e-mail newsletter, *Newsflash*, *Local Deals*, *Getaway*, the *Travelzoo Network*, *SuperSearch* search tool, and *Fly.com* search engine provide consumers information on current offers at no cost to the consumer. Key features of our products include:

- *Aggregation of Offers from Many Companies.* Our *Travelzoo* websites and our *Travelzoo Top 20* e-mail newsletter aggregate information on current offers from more than 2,000 travel, entertainment and local businesses. This saves the consumer time when searching for travel, entertainment and local deals, sales and specials.
- *Current Information.* Compared to newspaper, TV or radio advertisements, we provide consumers more current information, since our technology enables travel, entertainment and local businesses to update their listings on a real-time basis.
- *Reliable Information.* We operate a Test Booking Center to check the availability of travel, entertainment and local deals before publishing.
- *Search Tools.* We provide consumers with the ability to search for specific offers.

## Growth Strategy

Our growth strategy relies on building a travel and lifestyle brand with a large, high-quality user base and offering our users products that keep pace with consumer preference and technology, such as the trend towards mobile usage by consumers.

- *Building a travel and lifestyle brand with a large, high-quality user base.* We believe that it is essential to establish a strong brand with a large, high-quality user base within the travel, entertainment and local industries we serve. We currently utilize online marketing and direct marketing to promote our brand to consumers. We utilize sponsorships at industry conferences and public relations to promote our brand. We believe that high-quality content attracts a high-quality user base.
- *Offering products that keep pace with consumer preference and technology.* We believe it is important to grow engagement of our user base, by offering products that deliver high-quality deals with exceptional value and expanding our product offering over time to address frequent travel and leisure needs, including the desire to access our content via mobile devices and to search and book hotels via a hotel booking platform.

## Advertisers

As of December 31, 2016, our advertiser base included more than 2,000 travel, entertainment and local businesses, including airlines, hotels, cruise lines, vacations packagers, tour operators, destinations, car rental companies, travel agents, theater and performing arts groups, restaurants, spas, and activity companies. Some of our advertisers are:

Air France	InterContinental Hotels Group
Air New Zealand	JPB Corporation
British Airways	Key Tours International
Cathay Pacific Airways	Lufthansa
Ctrip	Princess Cruises
Emirates	Royal Caribbean
Etihad	Singapore Airlines
Expedia	Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide
Fairmont Hotels and Resorts	Travelocity
Hawaiian Airlines	United Airlines
Hilton Hotels & Resorts	Virgin America

As discussed in Note 10 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, we did not have any advertisers that accounted for 10% or more of our total revenues during the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014. The agreements with certain advertisers are in the form of multiple insertion orders and merchant agreements from groups of entities under common control.

In 2016, 8% of our total revenues were generated from our Asia Pacific operations, 30% of our total revenues were generated from our European operations and 62% of our total revenues were generated from our North American operations. See Note 10 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

## Sales and Marketing

As of December 31, 2016, our advertising sales force and sales support staff consisted of 143 employees worldwide. We intend to grow our advertiser base by expanding over time the size of our sales force.

We currently utilize online marketing and direct marketing to promote our brand to consumers. In addition, we utilize an online marketing program to acquire new members for our e-mail publications. We believe that we build brand awareness by product excellence that is promoted by word-of-mouth. We utilize sponsorships at industry conferences and public relations to promote our brands.

## Technology

We have designed our technology to serve a large volume of Web traffic and send a large volume of e-mails in an efficient and scalable manner.

We co-locate our production servers with Equinix, Inc. ("Equinix"), a global provider of hosting, network, and application services. Equinix's facilities include features such as power redundancy, multiple egress and peering to other ISPs, fire suppression and access to our own separate physical space. We believe our arrangements with Equinix will allow us to grow without being limited by our own physical and technological capacity, and will also provide us with sufficient bandwidth for our anticipated needs. Because of the design of our websites, our users are not required to download or upload large files from or to our websites, which allows us to continue increasing the number of our visitors and page views without adversely affecting our performance or requiring us to make significant additional capital expenditures.

## Competition

We compete for advertising dollars with large Internet portal sites such as MSN and Yahoo! that offer listings or other advertising opportunities to travel, entertainment and local businesses. We compete with search engines like Google and Bing that offer pay-per-click listings. We compete with travel meta-search engines like Kayak and online travel and entertainment deal publishers. We compete with large online travel agencies like Expedia, Priceline and TripAdvisor that also offer advertising placements, airline travel comparisons, hotel booking and capture consumer interest. We compete with companies like Groupon, Amazon, and Gilt City that sell vouchers for deals from local businesses such as spas, hotels, restaurants and activity companies. We expect to face increased competition from other Internet and technology-based businesses such as Google and Amazon, each of which has launched initiatives which are directly competitive to our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* products. In addition, we compete with newspapers, magazines and other traditional media companies that operate websites which provide advertising opportunities. We expect to face additional competition as other established and emerging companies, including print media companies, enter our market. We believe that the primary competitive factors are price, performance and audience quality.

Many of our current and potential competitors have longer operating histories, significantly greater financial, technical, marketing and other resources and larger advertiser bases than we do. In addition, current and potential competitors may make strategic acquisitions or establish cooperative relationships to expand their businesses or to offer more comprehensive solutions.

New technologies could increase the competitive pressures that we face. The development of competing technologies by market participants or the emergence of new industry standards may adversely affect our competitive position. Competition could result in reduced margins on our services, loss of market share or less use of our products by our advertisers and consumers. If we are not able to compete effectively with current or future competitors as a result of these and other factors, our business could be materially adversely affected.

## Government Regulation and Legal Uncertainties

There are increasing numbers of laws and regulations pertaining to the Internet, including laws and regulations relating to user privacy, liability for information retrieved from or transmitted over the Internet, online content regulation, and domain name registration. Moreover, the applicability to the Internet of existing laws governing issues such as intellectual property ownership and infringement, copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret, obscenity, libel and personal privacy is uncertain and developing.

*Privacy Concerns.* We are subject to a number of privacy and similar laws and regulations in the countries in which we operate and these laws and regulations will likely continue to evolve over time, both through regulatory and legislative action and judicial decisions. Complying with these varying national requirements could cause us to incur substantial costs or require us to change our business practices in a manner adverse to our business and violations of privacy-related laws can result in significant penalties. We post on our websites our privacy policies and practices concerning the collection, use and disclosure of user data. Any failure, or perceived failure, by us to comply with our posted privacy policies or with any regulatory requirements or orders or other federal, state or international privacy laws and regulations could result in proceedings or actions against us by governmental entities or others, subject us to penalties and negative publicity, require us to change our business practices, and increase our costs and adversely affect our business.

*Anti-Spam Legislation.* The CAN-SPAM Act, a federal anti-spam law, pre-empts various state anti-spam laws and establishes a single standard for e-mail marketing and customer communications. We believe that this law, on an overall basis, benefits our business as we do not use spam techniques or practices and may benefit now that others are prohibited from doing so.

*Domain Names.* Domain names are the user's Internet "addresses." The current system for registering, allocating and managing domain names has been the subject of litigation and of proposed regulatory reform. We have registered travelzoo.com, travelzoo.ca, travelzoo.co.jp, travelzoo.com.au, travelzoo.com.tw, travelzoo.co.uk, travelzoo.de, travelzoo.fr, weekend.com, and weekends.com, among other domain names, and have registered "Travelzoo" as a trademark in the United States, Canada, and the European Union. In January 2009, we purchased the domain name *Fly.com*. Because of these protections, it is unlikely, yet possible, that third parties may bring claims for infringement against us for the use of our domain name and trademark. In the event such claims are successful, we could lose the ability to use our domain names. There can be no assurance that our domain names will not lose their value, or that we will not have to obtain entirely new domain names in addition to or in lieu of our current domain names if changes in overall Internet domain name rules result in a restructuring in the current system of using domain names which include ".com," ".net," ".gov," ".edu" and other extensions.

*Jurisdictions.* Due to the global nature of the Internet, it is possible that, although our transmissions over the Internet originate primarily in California, the governments of other states and foreign countries might attempt to regulate our business activities. In addition, because our service is available over the Internet in multiple states and foreign countries, these jurisdictions may require us to qualify to do business as a foreign corporation in each of these states or foreign countries, which could subject us to additional taxes and other regulations.

### **Intellectual Property**

Our success depends to a significant degree upon the protection of our brand names, including *Travelzoo* and *Top 20*. If we were unable to protect the *Travelzoo* and *Top 20* brand names, our business could be materially adversely affected. We rely upon a combination of copyright, trade secret and trademark laws to protect our intellectual property rights. We have registered the *Travelzoo* and *Top 20* trademarks, among others, with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. We have registered the *Travelzoo* and *Travelzoo Top 20* trademarks with the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market of the European Community. We have registered the *Travelzoo* trademark in Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. The steps we have taken to protect our proprietary rights, however, may not be adequate to deter misappropriation of proprietary information.

We may not be able to detect unauthorized use of our proprietary information or take appropriate steps to enforce our intellectual property rights. In addition, the validity, enforceability and scope of protection of intellectual property in Internet-related industries are uncertain and still evolving. The laws of other countries in which we may market our services in the future are uncertain and may afford little or no effective protection of our intellectual property.

### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2016, we had 444 employees in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. None of our employees are represented under collective bargaining agreements. We consider our relations with our employees to be good.

### **Internet Access to Other Information**

We make available free of charge, on or through our website (www.travelzoo.com), annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as well as proxy statements, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Information included on our website does not constitute part of this report.

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

*Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Any or all of the risks listed below as well as other variables affecting our operating results could have a material adverse effect on our business, our quarterly and annual operating results or financial condition, which could cause the market price of our stock to decline or cause substantial volatility in our stock price, in which event the value of your common stock could decline. You should also keep these risk factors in mind when you read forward-looking statements.*

### **Risks Related to Our Financial Condition and Business Model**

*We cannot assure you that we will be profitable.*

In the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, we generated net income of \$6.6 million, \$10.9 million and \$13.1 million, respectively. Although we were profitable in 2016, 2015 and 2014, there is no assurance that we will be profitable in the future. We forecast our future expense levels based on our operating plans and our estimates of future revenues. We may find it necessary to significantly accelerate expenditures relating to our sales and marketing efforts or otherwise increase our financial commitment to creating and maintaining brand awareness among Internet users and advertisers. We may also make investments in our products, discontinue underperforming products, as well as develop new products that may impact our profitability. If our revenues grow at a slower rate than we anticipate or decline, or if our spending levels exceed our expectations or cannot be adjusted to reflect slower revenue growth, we may not generate sufficient revenues to be profitable. Any of these developments could result in a significant decrease in the trading price of our common stock.

*Fluctuations in our operating results may negatively impact our stock price.*

Our quarterly and annual operating results may fluctuate significantly in the future due to a variety of factors that could affect our revenues or our expenses in any particular period. You should not rely on quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our results of operations as an indication of future performance. Factors that may affect our quarterly results include:

- mismatches between resource allocation and client demand due to difficulties in predicting client demand in a new market;
- changes in general economic conditions that could affect marketing efforts generally and online marketing efforts in particular;
- the magnitude and timing of marketing initiatives, including our acquisition of new members and our expansion efforts in other regions;
- the introduction, development, timing, competitive pricing and market acceptance of our products and services and those of our competitors;
- our ability to attract and retain key personnel;
- our ability to manage our planned growth;
- our ability to attract users to our websites, which may be adversely affected by the audience shift to mobile devices;
- technical difficulties or system downtime affecting the Internet generally or the operation of our products and services specifically; and
- volatility of our operating results in new markets.

We may significantly increase our operating expenses related to advertising campaigns, as well as our hotel booking platform, for a certain period if we see a unique opportunity for a brand marketing campaign, if we find it necessary to respond to increased brand marketing by a competitor, or if we decide to accelerate our acquisition of new members.

If revenues fall below our expectations in any quarter and we are unable to quickly reduce our operating expenses in response, our operating results would be lower than expected and our stock price may fall.

***Our expansion of our product offering to include the addition of a hotel booking platform may result in additional costs that exceed revenue and may trigger additional stock volatility.***

We have been in the process of expanding our hotel booking platform which may result in an increase in costs to further develop the platform in the near-term and an increase in cost structure in the long-term, which may be in excess of incremental revenue. If our hotel booking platform is not embraced by our users or our advertising partners, our business and financial results could be adversely affected. To the extent that our room rates on our hotel booking platform are not competitive (i.e., versus the websites of other online travel companies or hotel company websites), we may not be able to attract members. If we cannot attract members to the hotel booking platform to make bookings, our financial results could be adversely affected. In addition, the hotel booking platform will be sensitive to fluctuations in hotel supply, occupancy and average daily rates and a fluctuation in any of these factors could negatively impact our hotel booking revenue. We can give no assurances that the hotel booking platform will yield the benefits we expect and will not result in additional costs or have adverse impacts on our business.

***Our Local Deals business may be adversely impacted by competition and decreased consumer demand for vouchers.***

Our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* formats of advertising include the sale of vouchers directly to consumers to advertise promotional deals provided by merchants.

For example, a consumer could buy a voucher for \$99 for a dinner for two at a merchant's restaurant that would normally be valued at \$199, representing a promotional value of \$100 to the consumer. This format may require investments to maintain and grow the business including additional sales force hiring and additional spend on customer service, marketing, technology tracking systems and payment processing. The rate at which our existing customers purchase vouchers has declined, and may continue to decline, given, among other things, increased competition in the marketplace and the decrease in demand of consumers for voucher deals. Historically, our customers often purchased a voucher when they received our emails, even though they may not have intended to use the voucher in the near term. The growth in recent periods of competition and the marketplaces of deals has enabled customers to wait until they are ready to use the related vouchers before making purchases. This shift in purchasing behavior may adversely impact revenues. While we are continuing to evolve our strategy to address the changing market dynamics, we may not always be successful in doing so.

***Our business could be negatively affected by changes in search engine algorithms and dynamics or other traffic-generating arrangements.***

We utilize Internet search engines such as Google, principally through the purchase of travel-related keywords, to generate additional traffic to our websites. Search engines, including Google, frequently update and change the logic that determines the placement and display of results of a user's search, such that the purchased or algorithmic placement of links to our websites can be negatively affected. In addition, a significant amount of traffic is directed to our websites through our participation in pay-per-click and display advertising campaigns on search engines, including Google, travel metasearch engines, including Kayak, and Internet media properties, including TripAdvisor. Pricing and operating dynamics for these traffic sources can experience rapid change, both technically and competitively. Moreover, a search or metasearch engine could, for competitive or other purposes, alter its search algorithms or results causing a website to place lower in search query results. If a major search engine changes its algorithms or results in a manner that negatively affects the search engine ranking, paid or unpaid, of our websites or that of our third-party distribution partners, or if competitive dynamics impact the costs or effectiveness of search engine optimization, search engine marketing or other traffic-generating arrangements in a negative manner, our business and financial performance would be adversely affected, potentially to a material extent.

***Recent trends in consumer adoption and use of mobile devices create new challenges.***

Widespread adoption of mobile devices, such as the iPhone, Android-enabled smart phones, and tablets such as the iPad, coupled with the improved web browsing functionality and development of thousands of useful "apps" available on these devices, is driving substantial traffic and commerce activity to mobile platforms. We have experienced a significant shift of business to mobile platforms and our advertising partners are also seeing a rapid shift of traffic to mobile platforms. Our major competitors and certain new market entrants are offering mobile applications for travel products and other functionality, including proprietary last-minute discounts for hotel bookings. Advertising and distribution opportunities may be more limited on mobile devices given their smaller screen sizes. The gross profit earned on a mobile transaction may be less than that earned from a typical desktop transaction due to different consumer purchasing patterns. For example, hotel reservations made on a mobile device typically are for shorter lengths of stay and are not made as far in advance as hotel reservations made on a desktop. Further, given the device sizes and technical limitations of tablets and smartphones, mobile consumers may not be willing to download multiple applications from multiple travel service providers and instead prefer to use one or a limited number of applications for their mobile travel activity. As a result, the consumer experience with mobile applications, as well as brand recognition and loyalty, are likely to become increasingly important. We have made progress creating mobile offerings which have received strong reviews and have shown solid download trends. We believe that mobile bookings present an opportunity for growth. Further development of our mobile offerings is necessary to maintain and grow our business as consumers increasingly turn to mobile devices instead of a personal computer and to mobile applications instead of a web browser. Further, many consumers use a mobile device based web browser instead of an application. As a result, it is increasingly important for us to develop and maintain effective mobile websites optimized for mobile devices to provide customers with appealing easy-to-use mobile website functionality. If we are unable to continue to rapidly innovate and create new, user-friendly and differentiated mobile offerings and efficiently and effectively advertise and distribute on these platforms, or if our mobile applications are not downloaded and used by travel consumers, we could lose market share to existing competitors or new entrants and our future growth and results of operations could be adversely affected.

***We may have exposure to additional tax liabilities .***

As a global company, we are subject to income taxes as well as non-income based tax, in both the U.S. and various foreign jurisdictions. Significant judgment is required in determining our worldwide provision for income taxes and other tax liabilities. Although we believe that our tax estimates are reasonable, there is no assurance that the final determination of tax audits or tax disputes will not be different from what is reflected in our historical income tax provisions and accruals. Changes in tax laws or tax rulings may have a significantly adverse impact on our effective tax rate.

We are also subject to non-income based taxes, such as value-added, payroll, sales, use, net worth, property and goods and services taxes, in both the U.S. and various foreign jurisdictions. From time to time, we are under audit by tax authorities with respect to these non-income based taxes and may have exposure to additional non-income based tax liabilities. These examinations may lead to ordinary course adjustments or proposed adjustments to our taxes or our net operating income. The Company's 2009 federal income tax returns are currently under examination, including a review of the impact of the sale of Asia Pacific business segment in 2009. In connection with this examination, we have received a Revenue Agent's Report (RAR) generally issued at the conclusion of an IRS examination, which was consistent with the Notice of Proposed Adjustment we received earlier from the IRS for the 2009 calendar year related to the sale of our Asia Pacific business segment with the addition of penalties. The RAR proposes an increase to our U.S. taxable income which would result in additional federal tax expense, federal penalty and state tax expense totaling approximately \$31 million, excluding interest and state penalties, if any. The proposed adjustment is primarily driven by IRS's view that the Asia Pacific business segment assets sold by the Company had a significantly higher valuation than the sales proceeds the Company received upon the sale. The Company disagrees with the proposed adjustments and intends to vigorously contest them. The Company did not make any adjustments to its liabilities for uncertain tax positions related to the RAR as of December 31, 2016 because the Company does not believe the IRS's valuation of Asia Pacific business segment assets is appropriate. If we are not able to resolve these proposed adjustments at the IRS examination level, we plan to pursue all available administrative and, if necessary, judicial remedies. The Company is not able to predict the ultimate amount or outcome of this tax audit and we may incur additional costs in defending any claims that may arise, even if we ultimately are not liable for any additional taxes.

***Adverse application of state and local tax laws could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operation.***

Our expansion of our product offering to include a hotel booking platform may subject us to state and local tax laws and result in additional tax liabilities. A number of jurisdictions in the U.S. have initiated lawsuits against other online travel companies, related to, among other things, the payment of hotel occupancy and other taxes (i.e., state and local sales tax). In addition, a number of municipalities have initiated audit proceedings, issued proposed tax assessments or started inquiries relating to the payment of hotel occupancy and other taxes.

Given that we intend for our hotel booking platform to consist of an agency model whereby we will facilitate reservations on behalf of a hotel, the payment of hotel occupancy taxes and other taxes should be the responsibility of the merchant. The intended business practice for our hotel booking platform will primarily be for the merchant to be responsible for remitting applicable taxes to the various tax authorities. Nevertheless, to the extent that any tax authority succeeds in asserting that we have a tax collection responsibility, or we determine that we have one, with respect to future transactions, we may collect any such additional tax obligation from our customers, which would have the effect of increasing the cost of hotel room reservations to our customers and, consequently, could make our hotel service less competitive (i.e., versus the websites of other online travel companies or hotel company websites) and reduce hotel reservation transactions. Either step could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations. We will continue to assess the risks of the potential financial impact of additional tax exposure.

***Our business model may not be adaptable to a changing market.***

Our current revenue model depends primarily on advertising fees paid by travel and entertainment companies. If current clients decide not to continue advertising their offers with us and we are unable to replace them with new clients, our business may be adversely affected. To be successful, we must provide online marketing solutions that achieve broad market acceptance by travel and entertainment companies. In addition, we must attract sufficient Internet users with attractive demographic characteristics to our products. It is possible that we will be required to further adapt our business model and products in response to changes in the online advertising market or if our current business model is not successful. For example, the trend toward mobile online traffic will require us to adapt our product offering to facilitate consumers' use of our products. If we do not adapt to this trend fully or quickly enough, we may lose advertising revenue as consumer usage may decline from our non-mobile traffic. If we are not able to anticipate changes in the online advertising market or if our business model is not successful, our business could be materially adversely affected.

***If we fail to retain existing advertisers or add new advertisers, our revenue and business will be harmed.***

We depend on our ability to attract and retain advertisers (hotels, spas, restaurants, vacation packagers, airlines, etc.) that are prepared to offer products or services on compelling terms to our members. We do not have long-term arrangements to guarantee the availability of deals that offer attractive quality, value and variety to consumers or favorable payment terms to us. We must continue to attract and retain advertisers in order to increase revenue and maintain profitability. If new advertisers do not find our marketing and promotional services effective, or if existing advertisers do not believe that utilizing our products provides them with a long-term increase in customers, revenue or profit, they may stop making offers through our marketplace. In addition, we may experience attrition in our advertisers in the ordinary course of business resulting from several factors, including losses to competitors, change of ownership, and advertiser closures or bankruptcies. If we are unable to attract new advertisers in numbers sufficient to grow our business, or if too many advertisers are unwilling to offer products or services with compelling terms to our members or offer favorable payment terms to us, we may sell less advertising, and our operating results will be adversely affected. For example, we may lose advertisers due to market conditions or performance, such as our recent loss of revenue from certain online booking engines, airlines and vacation packagers. We may not add enough additional revenue, such as hotel revenue from *Getaway* or the hotel booking platform, in order to replace the lost revenue. Furthermore, the new revenue may cost more to generate compared to the costs that the lost revenue required to generate, thereby adversely impacting our operating results.

***Our existing advertisers may shift from one advertising service to another, which may adversely affect our revenue.***

Existing advertisers may shift from one advertising service (e.g. *Top 20*) to another (e.g. *Local Deals*, *Getaway* or the hotel booking platform). These shifts between advertising services by advertisers could result in no incremental revenue or less revenue than in previous periods depending on the amount purchased by the advertisers, and in particular with *Local Deals*, *Getaway* and hotel platform, depending on how many vouchers are purchased by members and how many hotel bookings are made. In addition, we are anticipating a shift from our existing hotel revenue to commission-based revenue in connection with the continued expansion of our hotel platform, which may result in lower revenue depending on volume of hotel bookings.

***An increase in our refund rates related to our Local Deals and Getaway could reduce our liquidity and profitability.***

We provide refunds related to our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* voucher sales. As we increase our revenue, our refund rates may exceed our historical levels. A downturn in general economic conditions may also increase our refund rates. An increase in our refund rates could significantly reduce our liquidity and profitability.

As we do not have control over our merchants and the quality of products or services they deliver, we rely on a combination of our historical experience with our merchants over time and the type of refunds provided for development of our estimate for refund claims. Our actual level of refund claims could prove to be greater than the level of refund claims we estimate. If our refund reserves are not adequate to cover future refund claims, this inadequacy could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity and profitability.

Our standard agreements with our merchants generally limit the time period during which we may seek reimbursement for member refunds or claims. Our members may make claims for refunds with respect to which we are unable to seek reimbursement from our merchants. Our members could also make false or fraudulent refund claims. Our inability to seek reimbursement from our merchants for refund claims could have an adverse effect on our liquidity and profitability.

***If our advertisers do not meet the needs and expectations of our members, our business could suffer.***

Our business depends on our reputation for providing high-quality deals, and our brand and reputation may be harmed by actions taken by advertisers or merchants that are outside our control. For our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* merchants, since we are selling vouchers on behalf of the merchants directly to our members, we face exposures should merchants not fully honor the deals. As for our travel business, we are only collecting an advertising fee from the advertiser and the members are booking the deal directly with the advertiser. Although the advertiser is responsible to the consumer to provide the consumer the deal it advertised, our business can be adversely affected should an advertiser fail to comply with the terms of the advertised deal. Any shortcomings of one or more of our merchants, particularly with respect to an issue affecting the quality of the deal offered or the products or services sold, may be attributed by our members to us, thus damaging our reputation and brand value and potentially affecting our results of operations. In addition, negative publicity and member sentiment generated as a result of fraudulent or deceptive conduct by our merchants could damage our reputation, reduce our ability to attract new members or retain our current members, and diminish the value of our brand.

***Our business relies heavily on e-mail and other messaging services, and any restrictions on the sending of e-mails or messages or a decrease in member willingness to receive messages could adversely affect our revenue and business.***

Our business is highly dependent upon e-mail and other messaging services. Deals offered through e-mails and other messages sent by us, or on our behalf by our affiliates, generate a substantial portion of our revenue. Because of the importance of e-mail and other messaging services to our businesses, if we are unable to successfully deliver e-mails or messages to our members or potential members, or if members decline to open our e-mails or messages, our revenue and profitability would be adversely affected. New laws and regulations regulating the sending of commercial e-mails, including those enacted in foreign jurisdictions (such as Canada), may affect our ability to deliver e-mails or messages to our members or potential members and may also result in increased compliance costs. Further, actions by third parties to block, impose restrictions on, or charge for the delivery of, e-mails or other messages could also materially and adversely impact our business. From time to time, Internet service providers block bulk e-mail transmissions or otherwise experience technical difficulties that result in our inability to successfully deliver e-mails or other messages to third parties. In addition, our use of e-mail and other messaging services to send communications about our website or other matters may result in legal claims against us, which if successful might limit or prohibit our ability to send e-mails or other messages. Any disruption or restriction on the distribution of e-mails or other messages or any increase in the associated costs would materially and adversely affect our revenue and profitability. In addition, the shift in our website traffic originating from mobile devices accessing our services may decrease our members' willingness to use our services if they are not satisfied with our mobile user experience and could decrease their willingness to be an e-mail member, which could adversely affect our revenue and profitability.

***Changes to our technology and user interface for our website and mobile applications used to present our deals could adversely affect our revenue and business.***

Our business depends on website and mobile technology interface in order to present deals to our members and generate revenue from our advertisers. Changes to our website and mobile technology and user interface intended to enhance the user experience may have an adverse impact on our member activity and may reduce revenue from advertisers. In October 2016, we recently launched our fully responsive website that adjusts to different screen sizes and allows our members to more readily search our deals, which we believe will improve the user experience on our site; however, this may lead to unforeseen issues that could adversely affect our revenue and business. In addition, our new website will no longer feature our *SuperSearch* product in order to simplify the overall search experience and this is expected to result in lower revenue for *SuperSearch* in the future. As the Company previously disclosed, the Company is evaluating the discontinuance of its *SuperSearch* product. Should the Company discontinue its *SuperSearch* product, this could result in loss of revenues and adversely impact our business and financial results.

***Our reported total number of members may be higher than the number of our actual individual members and may not be representative of the number of persons who are active potential customers.***

The total number of members we report may be higher than the number of our actual individual members because some members have multiple registrations, other members have died or become incapacitated and others may have registered under fictitious names. Given the challenges inherent in identifying these members, we do not have a reliable system to accurately identify the number of actual individual members, and thus we rely on the number of total members shown on our records as our measure of the size of our member base. In addition, the number of members we report includes the total number of individuals that have completed registration through a specific date, less individuals who have unsubscribed. Those numbers of members may include individuals who do not receive our e-mails because our e-mails have been blocked or are otherwise undeliverable. As a result, the reported number of members should not be considered as representative of the number of persons who continue to actively consider our deals by reviewing our e-mail offers.

***We may not be able to obtain sufficient funds to grow our business and any additional financing may be on terms adverse to your interests.***

For the year ended December 31, 2016, our cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$8.3 million to \$26.8 million, of which \$14.3 million was held outside the U.S. in certain of our foreign operations. We intend to continue to grow our business and fund our current operations using cash on hand. However, this may not be sufficient to meet our needs, including the payments required to settle various commitments and contingencies, as described under Note 4 and 5 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements. We may not be able to obtain financing on commercially reasonable terms, or at all.

If additional financing is not available when required or is not available on acceptable terms, we may be unable to fund our expansion, successfully promote our brand name, develop or enhance our products and services, take advantage of business opportunities, or respond to competitive pressures, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

If we choose to raise additional funds through the issuance of equity securities, existing stockholders may experience significant dilution of their ownership interest and holders of the additional equity securities may have rights senior to existing

stockholders of our common stock. If we obtain additional financing by issuing debt securities or bank borrowings, the terms of these arrangements could restrict or prevent us from paying dividends and could limit our flexibility in making business decisions.

***Our business may be sensitive to recessions.***

The demand for online advertising may be linked to the level of economic activity and employment in the U.S. and abroad. Specifically, our business is primarily dependent on the demand for online advertising from travel and entertainment companies. The most recent recession decreased consumer travel and caused travel and entertainment companies to reduce or postpone their marketing spending generally, and their online marketing spending in particular. Continued or future recessions could have a material adverse effect on our business and financial condition. Moreover, declines or disruptions in the travel industry could adversely affect the hotel booking platform and financial performance.

***Our operations could be significantly hindered by the occurrence of a natural disaster or other catastrophic event.***

Our operations are susceptible to outages due to fire, floods, power loss, telecommunications failures, unexpected technical problems in the systems that power our websites and distribute our e-mail newsletters, break-ins and similar events. In addition, a significant portion of our network infrastructure is located in Northern California, an area susceptible to earthquakes. We do not have multiple site capacity to protect us against any such occurrence. Outages could cause significant interruptions of our service. In addition, despite our implementation of network security measures, our servers are vulnerable to computer viruses, physical and electronic break-ins, and similar disruptions from unauthorized tampering with our computer systems. We do not carry business interruption insurance to compensate us for losses that may occur as a result of any of these events.

***Technological or other assaults on our service could harm our business.***

We are vulnerable to coordinated attempts to overload our systems with data, which could result in denial or reduction of service to some or all of our users for a period of time. We have experienced denial of service attacks in the past, and may experience such attempts in the future. Any such event could reduce our revenue and harm our operating results and financial condition. We do not carry business interruption insurance to compensate us for losses that may occur as a result of any of these events.

***We are subject to payments-related risks.***

We accept payments for the sale of vouchers using a variety of methods, including credit cards and debit cards. We pay interchange and other fees, which may increase over time and raise our operating expenses and lower profitability. We rely on third parties to provide payment processing services, including the processing of credit cards and debit cards, and it could disrupt our business if these companies become unwilling or unable to provide these services to us. We are also subject to payment card association operating rules, certification requirements and rules governing electronic funds transfers, which could change or be reinterpreted to make it difficult or impossible for us to comply. In addition, our results can be negatively impacted by purchases made using fraudulent credit cards. Because we act as the merchant of record for certain hotel booking and voucher transactions, we may be held liable for accepting fraudulent credit cards on our websites as well as other payment disputes with our customers. If we have an increase of charge-backs due to the use of fraudulent credit cards on our websites, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected. Moreover, under payment card rules and our contracts with our card processors, if there is a security breach of payment card information that we store, we could be liable to the payment card issuing banks for their cost of issuing new cards and related expenses. If we fail to comply with these rules or requirements, we may be subject to fines and higher transaction fees and lose our ability to accept credit and debit card payments, process electronic funds transfers, or facilitate other types of online payments, and our business and results of operations could be adversely affected. If one or more of these contracts are terminated and we are unable to replace them on similar terms, or at all, it could adversely affect our results of operations.

***Our reported financial results may be adversely affected by changes in United States generally accepted accounting principles, and we may incur significant costs to adjust our accounting systems and processes to comply with significant changes.***

United States generally accepted accounting principles are subject to interpretation by the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the SEC and various bodies formed to promulgate and interpret appropriate accounting principles. In 2014, the FASB issued a new accounting standard related to revenue recognition which could change the way we account for certain of our sales transactions. The adoption of this standard and changes in other principles or interpretations could have a significant effect on our reported financial results and could affect the reporting of transactions completed before the effective dates of the standard. Such change could have a significant effect on our reported financial results. In addition, we may need to change our accounting systems and processes if we are

required to adopt future or proposed changes in accounting principles noted above. The cost of these changes may negatively impact our results of operations during the periods of transition.

### **Risks Related to Our Markets and Strategy**

#### ***Our international expansion may result in operating losses, and is subject to other material risks.***

In May 2005, we began operations in the U.K. In 2006, we began operations in Canada, Germany, and Spain. In 2007, we began operations in France. In addition, from 2007 through 2009, we began operations in Asia Pacific, including in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia.

Our revenues in Asia decreased 9% in 2016 compared to 2015, and our operations in Asia generated an operating loss before tax of \$3.9 million and \$2.4 million in 2016 and 2015, respectively. Our revenues in Europe decreased 10% in 2016 compared to 2015, and our operations in Europe generated an operating income before tax of \$6.1 million and \$3.9 million in 2016 and 2015, respectively. We intend to continue adding members in selected countries in which we operate as we believe this is one of the factors that will allow us to increase our advertising rates and increase our revenues in Europe.

In our effort to expand our business internationally we may continue to invest in marketing as well as additional employees to support the business expansion, which may generate operating losses. Furthermore, operating losses in certain jurisdictions may not have any recognizable tax benefit, which is the case for the Asia Pacific business. These factors could have a material negative impact on our consolidated net income and cash flows, which could result in a significant decrease in the trading price of our common stock. In addition to uncertainty about our ability to generate net income from our foreign operations and expand our international market position, there are certain risks inherent in doing business internationally, including:

- uncertainties and instability in economic and market conditions caused by the United Kingdom's vote to exit the European Union;
- uncertainty regarding how the United Kingdom's access to the European Union Single Market and the wider trading, legal, regulatory and labor environments, especially in the United Kingdom and European Union, will be impacted by the United Kingdom's vote to exit the European Union, including the resulting impact on our business and that of our clients;
- trade barriers and changes in trade regulations;
- difficulties in developing, staffing and simultaneously managing foreign operations as a result of distance, language and cultural differences;
- stringent local labor laws and regulations;
- risks related to government regulation; and
- potentially adverse tax consequences.

Moreover, fluctuations in currency exchange rates can impact our revenues. For example, foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar have negatively impacted our revenues from our operations in Europe. The uncertainty and volatility in foreign exchange rates, which may differ across regions, makes it more difficult to forecast industry and consumer trends and the timing and degree of their impact on our markets and business, which in turn could adversely affect our ability to effectively manage our business and adversely affect our results of operations.

In addition, we face risks related to the growth rate and expansion of our international business, including our recent expansion in Asia Pacific. A decline in the growth rates of our international businesses could have a negative impact on our gross profit and earnings per share growth rates and, as a consequence, our stock price. Many of these regions have different customs, currencies, levels of consumer acceptance and use of the Internet for commerce, legislation, regulatory environments, tax laws and levels of political stability. International markets may have strong local competitors with an established brand that may make expansion in that market difficult and costly and take more time than anticipated. In addition, compliance with legal, regulatory or tax requirements in multiple jurisdictions places demands on our time and resources, and we may nonetheless experience unforeseen and potentially adverse legal, regulatory or tax consequences.

#### ***Investment in new business strategies and acquisitions could disrupt our ongoing business and present risks not originally contemplated.***

We have invested, and in the future may invest, in new business strategies and acquisitions. For example, we recently acquired businesses in Asia Pacific, including Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. If the businesses we have acquired do not perform as expected or we are unable to effectively integrate acquired businesses, our operating results and prospects could be harmed. Expansions into foreign markets involve risks and uncertainties, including, among other things, potential distraction of management from operations in North America and Europe, greater than expected liabilities and expenses, inadequate return on capital, and unidentified issues not discovered in our investigations and evaluations of those strategies and acquisitions. It may take us longer than expected to fully realize the anticipated benefits of the Asia Pacific transaction, and those benefits may ultimately be smaller than anticipated, which could adversely affect our business. If we are unsuccessful in expanding in new and existing international markets and effectively managing the increased costs of the expansion, our business, results of operations and financial condition will be adversely affected. We are also subject to risks typical of international businesses, including differing economic conditions, differing customs, languages and consumer expectations, changes in political climate, differing tax structures and other regulations and restrictions, including labor laws, and foreign exchange rate volatility.

***We may not be able to continue developing awareness of our brand names.***

We believe that continuing to build awareness of the *Travelzoo* brand name is critical to achieving widespread acceptance of our business. Brand recognition is a key differentiating factor among providers of online advertising opportunities, and we believe it could become more important as competition in our industry increases. In order to maintain and build brand awareness, we must succeed in our marketing efforts. If we fail to successfully promote and maintain our brands, incur significant expenses in promoting our brands and fail to generate a corresponding increase in revenue as a result of our branding efforts, or encounter legal obstacles which prevent our continued use of our brand names, our business could be materially adversely affected.

***If we fail to retain our existing members or acquire new members, our revenue and business will be harmed.***

We spent \$8.0 million, \$9.5 million and \$7.9 million on online marketing initiatives relating to member acquisition for years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 and expect to continue to spend significant amounts to acquire additional members. We must continue to retain and acquire members in order to maintain or increase revenue. We cannot assure you that the revenue from members we acquire will ultimately exceed the cost of acquiring new members. If members do not perceive our offers to be of high value and quality or if we fail to introduce new and more relevant deals, we may not be able to acquire or retain members. If we reduce our member acquisition costs, we cannot assure you that this will not adversely impact our ability to acquire new members. If we are unable to acquire new members who purchase our deals directly or indirectly in numbers sufficient to grow our business, or if members cease to purchase our deals directly or indirectly through our advertisers, the revenue we generate may decrease and our operating results will be adversely affected. If the level of usage by our member base declines or does not grow as expected, we may suffer a decline in member growth or revenue. A significant decrease in the level of usage or member growth would have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, a shift of our audience to mobile devices and social media channels without corresponding updates of our offerings or marketing activities to address this audience could result in lower revenues.

***Our business may be sensitive to events affecting the travel industry in general.***

Events like the Middle East conflicts, the global financial crisis of 2008 or the recent terrorist attacks in France, Turkey, Belgium and Germany have a negative impact on the travel industry and affect travelers' behavior. In addition, advertisers may choose to limit advertising spend on certain destinations given the recent terror attacks, which can adversely impact our business. We are not in a position to evaluate the net effect of these circumstances on our business; however, we believe there has been negative impact to our business by such events. Furthermore, in the longer term, our business might be negatively affected by financial pressures on the travel industry. If such events result in a long-term negative impact on the travel industry, such impact could have a material adverse effect on our business.

In addition, the United Kingdom's vote to exit from the European Union could lead to economic uncertainty and have a negative impact on the travel industry and our European business. The United Kingdom could lose access to the single European Union market, travel between the United Kingdom and European Union countries could be restricted, and we could face new regulatory costs and challenges, the scope of which are presently unknown.

***We may not be able to attract travel and entertainment companies or Internet users if we do not continually enhance and develop the content and features of our products and services.***

To remain competitive, we must continually improve the responsiveness, functionality, and features of our products and services. We may not succeed in developing features, functions, products, or services that travel and entertainment companies and Internet users find attractive. This could reduce the number of travel and entertainment companies and Internet users using

our products and materially adversely affect our business. We also recently launched a new and simpler design for our website. We cannot guarantee that our recently launched products will be embraced by our members. While we are striving to improve functionality, usability and design in our products, the recent enhancements on web and mobile may not achieve the desired results we anticipate, and if unsuccessful, could result in a decline in revenues and a negative impact on our business.

***We may lose business if we fail to keep pace with rapidly changing technologies and client needs.***

Our success is dependent on our ability to develop new and enhanced software, services, and related products to meet rapidly evolving technological requirements for online advertising. Our current technology may not meet the future technical requirements of travel and entertainment companies. Trends that could have a critical impact on our success include:

- rapidly changing technology in online advertising, including a significant shift of business to mobile platforms;
- evolving industry standards, including both formal and *de facto* standards relating to online advertising;
- developments and changes relating to the Internet;
- competing products and services that offer increased functionality; and
- changes in travel company, entertainment company, and Internet user requirements.

If we are unable to timely and successfully develop and introduce new products and enhancements to existing products in response to our industry's changing technological requirements, our business could be materially adversely affected.

***Our business and growth will suffer if we are unable to hire and retain highly skilled personnel.***

Our future success depends on our ability to attract, train, motivate, and retain highly skilled employees. We may be unable to retain our skilled employees, or attract, assimilate, and retain other highly skilled employees in the future. We have from time to time in the past experienced, and we expect to continue to experience in the future, difficulty in hiring and retaining highly skilled employees with appropriate qualifications. If we are unable to hire and retain skilled personnel, our growth may be restricted, which could adversely affect our future success.

***We may not be able to effectively manage our expanding operations.***

Since the commencement of our operations, we have experienced periods of rapid growth. In order to execute our business plan, we must continue to grow significantly. This growth has placed, and our anticipated future growth will continue to place, a significant strain on our management, systems, and resources. We expect that we will need to continue to improve our financial and managerial controls and reporting systems and procedures. We will also need to continue to expand and maintain close coordination among our sales, production, marketing, IT, and finance departments. We may not succeed in these efforts. Our inability to expand our operations in an efficient manner could cause our expenses to grow disproportionately to revenues, our revenues to decline or grow more slowly than expected and could otherwise have a material adverse effect on our business.

***Intense competition may adversely affect our ability to achieve or maintain market share and operate profitably.***

We compete for advertising dollars with large Internet portal sites, such as MSN and Yahoo!, that offer listings or other advertising opportunities to travel, entertainment and local businesses. These companies have significantly greater financial, technical, marketing and other resources and larger advertiser bases. We compete with search engines like Google and Bing that offer pay-per-click listings. We compete with travel metasearch engines like Kayak Software Corp. and online travel and entertainment deal publishers. We compete with large online travel agencies like Expedia, TripAdvisor, and Priceline that also offer advertising placements and hotel booking platforms and capture consumer interest. As a result of our acquisition of Travelzoo Asia Pacific, we now compete or may compete in the future with large online travel service providers, like Ctrip and eLong. There has been substantial consolidation of the global travel industry and we believe this trend will continue. Some of our competitors are large companies that have significant resources and substantial international operations. These large companies have recently announced acquisitions to further consolidate the online travel industry. For example, Ctrip announced that it was acquiring Skyscanner and Priceline announced it was acquiring Momondo. The continued consolidation of the global travel market may impact our ability to compete in certain areas.

We also compete with companies like Groupon that sell vouchers for deals from local businesses such as spas, hotels and restaurants. Recently, Groupon announced that it is purchasing LivingSocial. It is difficult to predict at this time what affect the business combination will have on the *Local Deals* and *Getaway* market. We expect to face increased competition from other Internet and technology-based businesses such as Google and Microsoft, each of which has launched initiatives which are directly competitive to our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* products. Google has introduced its hotel search product, which negatively impacted our ability to efficiently purchase Google hotel search traffic to drive our Search product revenues. In addition, we compete for traffic acquisition with many companies and we are subject to higher prices to acquire this traffic, which drives our Search revenue in particular. We regularly reduce our traffic acquisition for our Search products if we believe the acquisition costs are too high for us to remain profitable. When we reduce our traffic acquisition spending it negatively impacts our Search revenue. The Company is also evaluating the discontinuance of its *SuperSearch* product, which could negatively impact revenues. To the extent that Google, or other leading search or metasearch engines that have a significant presence in our key markets, offer comprehensive travel planning or shopping capabilities, or refer those leads to suppliers directly, or to other favored partners, there could be an adverse impact on our business and financial performance. We also have seen that some competitors will accept lower margins, or negative margins, to attract attention and acquire new members. If competitors engage in group buying initiatives in which merchants receive a higher percentage of the face value than we currently offer, we may be forced to pay a higher percentage of the face value than we currently offer, which may reduce our revenue. In addition, we compete with newspapers, magazines and other traditional media companies that operate websites which provide online advertising opportunities. We expect to face additional competition as other established and emerging companies, including print media companies, enter the online advertising market. Competition could result in reduced margins on our services, loss of market share or less use of *Travelzoo* by advertisers and consumers. If we are not able to compete effectively with current or future competitors as a result of these and other factors, our business could be materially adversely affected.

***Loss of any of our key management personnel could negatively impact our business.***

Our future success depends to a significant extent on the continued service and coordination of our management team. The loss or departure of any of our officers or key employees could materially adversely affect our ability to implement our business plan. We do not maintain key person life insurance for any member of our management team. In addition, we expect new members to join our management team in the future. These individuals will not previously have worked together and will be required to become integrated into our management team. If our key management personnel are not able to work together effectively or successfully, our business could be materially adversely affected. During 2015, there were several changes in executive management, as further described in previously filed 2015 Form 8-Ks, including the resignation of our CEO, Mr. Christopher Loughlin, who was replaced in January 2016 by Mr. Holger Bartel as Chairman and Global CEO, the departure of Simon Talling-Smith who served as President, Products and Emerging Businesses and the promotion of Mr. Michael Stitt to the position of President, North America.

***We may not be able to access third party technology upon which we depend.***

We use data technology and software products from third parties including Microsoft and ITA Software. Technology from our current or other vendors may not continue to be available to us on commercially reasonable terms, or at all. Moreover, to the extent an airline does not provide content to ITA Software or third party data providers, or to us, and we cannot obtain the content, we may face additional costs (including legal costs) and the financial results of *Fly.com* could be negatively affected. If we are unable to continue to display travel data from multiple airline carriers, it would reduce the breadth of our query results on *Fly.com* and the number of travelers using our services could decline, resulting in a loss of revenues and a decline in our operating results. *Fly.com* depends on access to information related to airline schedules and fares and, to the extent our travel service providers no longer provide such information, *Fly.com*'s business and results of operations could be harmed. Our business will suffer if we are unable to access this technology, to gain access to additional products or to integrate new technology with our existing systems. This could cause delays in our development and introduction of new services and related products or enhancements of existing products until equivalent or replacement technology can be accessed, if available, or developed internally, if feasible. If we experience these delays, our business could be materially adversely affected. Moreover, as previously disclosed, the Company's management is discussing with third parties a possible sale of its *Fly.com* product. No assurances can be given that the Company will identify a suitable buyer, that an agreement will be reached or that the terms of such sale will not result in a financial loss to the Company.

We also rely on certain third party computer systems and third party service providers, including GDSs and computerized central reservation systems, in connection with providing certain of our hotel booking services. Any interruption in these third party services and systems or deterioration in their performance could prevent us from utilizing certain booking services and have an adverse effect on our business, brands and results of operations. Our agreements with some third party service providers are terminable upon short notice and often do not provide recourse for service interruptions.

***Acquisitions, investments and joint ventures could result in operating difficulties, dilution, and other harmful consequences that may adversely impact our business and results of operations.***

We may evaluate and consider a wide array of potential strategic transactions as part of our overall business strategy, including business combinations, acquisitions and dispositions of businesses, technologies, services, and other assets, as well as strategic investments and joint ventures. At any given time we may be engaged in discussions or negotiations with respect to one or more of these types of transactions. Any of these transactions could be material to our financial condition and results of operations.

These transactions involve significant challenges and risks. Some of the areas where we may face risks or difficulties include:

- Diversion of management time and focus from operating our business to acquisition integration challenges.
- Implementation or remediation of controls, procedures, and policies at the acquired company.
- Integration of the acquired company's accounting, human resource, and other administrative systems, and coordination of product, engineering, and sales and marketing functions.
- Transition of operations, users, and customers onto our existing platforms.
- Failure to obtain required approvals on a timely basis, if at all, from governmental authorities, or conditions placed upon approval, under competition and antitrust laws which could, among other things, delay or prevent us from completing a transaction, or otherwise restrict our ability to realize the expected financial or strategic goals of an acquisition.
- In the case of foreign acquisitions, the need to integrate operations across different cultures and languages and to address the particular economic, currency, political, and regulatory risks associated with specific countries.
- Failure to successfully further develop the acquired business or technology.
- Cultural challenges associated with integrating employees from the acquired company into our organization, and retention of employees from the businesses we acquire.
- Liability for activities of the acquired company before the acquisition, including patent and trademark infringement claims, violations of laws, commercial disputes, tax liabilities, and other known and unknown liabilities.
- Litigation or other claims in connection with the acquired company, including claims from terminated employees, customers, former stockholders, or other third parties.
- Challenges relating to the structure of an investment, such as governance, accountability and decision-making conflicts that may arise in the context of a joint venture.
- Expected and unexpected costs incurred in pursuing acquisitions, including identifying and performing due diligence on potential acquisition targets that may or may not be successful.
- Entrance into markets in which we have no direct prior experience and increased complexity in our business.

- Inability to sell disposed assets.
- Impairment of goodwill and other assets acquired or divested.
- Our failure to address these risks or other problems encountered in connection with our past or future acquisitions and investments could cause us to fail to realize the anticipated benefits of such acquisitions or investments, incur unanticipated liabilities, and harm our business generally.
- Future acquisitions may also require us to issue additional equity securities, spend our cash, or incur debt (and increased interest expense), liabilities and amortization expenses related to intangible assets or write-offs of goodwill, which could adversely affect our results of operations and dilute the economic and voting rights of our stockholders. Also, the anticipated benefit of many of our acquisitions may not materialize.

### **Risks Related to the Market for our Shares**

***Our stock price has been volatile historically and may continue to be volatile.***

The trading price of our common stock has been and may continue to be subject to wide fluctuations. During the twelve months ended March 3, 2017, the closing price of our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market ranged from \$6.71 to \$13.16. Our stock price may fluctuate in response to a number of events and factors, such as quarterly variations in operating results; announcements of technological innovations or new products by us or our competitors; changes in financial estimates and recommendations by securities analysts; the operating and stock price performance of other companies that investors may deem comparable to us; and news reports relating to trends in our markets or general economic conditions. Our stock price may be volatile given that operating results may vary from the expectations of securities analysts and investors, which are beyond our control. In the event that our operating results fall below the expectations of securities analysts or investors, the trading price of our common shares may decline significantly. Moreover, fluctuations in our stock price and our price-to-earnings multiple may have made our stock attractive to hedge or day-trading investors who often shift funds into and out of stocks rapidly, exacerbating price fluctuations in either direction, particularly when viewed on a quarterly basis.

In addition, the stock market in general, and the market prices for Internet-related companies in particular, have experienced volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of such companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the price of our stock, regardless of our operating performance.

***We have a principal stockholder.***

Ralph Bartel, who founded Travelzoo and who is a Director of the Company is the sole beneficiary of the Ralph Bartel 2005 Trust, which is the controlling shareholder of Azzurro Capital Inc. As of December 31, 2016, Azzurro is the Company's largest stockholder, holding approximately 55.2% of the Company's outstanding shares.

### **Risks Related to Legal Uncertainty**

***We may become subject to shareholder lawsuits over securities violations due to volatile stock price and this can be burdensome to management and costly to defend.***

Shareholder lawsuits for securities violations are often launched against companies whose stock price is volatile. Such lawsuits involving the Company would require management's attention to defend, which may distract attention from operating the Company. In addition, even if the lawsuit is meritless, the Company may incur substantial costs to defend itself and/or settle such claims, to minimize the distraction and costs of defense. Such lawsuits could result in judgments against the Company requiring substantial payments to claimants. Such costs may materially impact our results of operations and financial condition.

***We may become subject to burdensome government regulations and legal uncertainties affecting the Internet which could adversely affect our business.***

To date, governmental regulations have not materially restricted use of the Internet in our markets. However, the legal and regulatory environment that pertains to the Internet is uncertain and may change. Uncertainty and new regulations, including those enacted in foreign jurisdictions, could increase our costs of doing business, prevent us from delivering our products and services over the Internet, or slow the growth of the Internet. For example, new laws and regulations regulating online advertisements, including those enacted in foreign jurisdictions, may affect our advertising revenue and may also result in decreased traffic to our websites. In addition to new laws and regulations being adopted, existing laws may be applied to the Internet. New and existing laws may cover issues which include:

- user privacy;
- anti-spam legislation;
- consumer protection;
- copyright, trademark and patent infringement;
- pricing controls;
- characteristics and quality of products and services;
- sales and other taxes; and
- other claims based on the nature and content of Internet materials.

***We are subject to laws and regulations worldwide, changes to which could increase the Company's costs and individually or in the aggregate adversely affect the Company's business.***

The Company is subject to laws and regulations affecting its domestic and international operations in a number of areas. These U.S. and foreign laws and regulations affect the Company's activities including, but not limited to, in areas of employment related laws and regulations, advertising, digital content, consumer protection, real estate, billing, e-commerce, promotions, intellectual property ownership and infringement, tax, anti-corruption, foreign exchange controls and cash repatriation restrictions, data privacy requirements, anti-competition, health, and safety.

Compliance with these laws, regulations and similar requirements may be onerous and expensive, and they may be inconsistent from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, further increasing the cost of compliance and doing business. Any such costs, which may rise in the future as a result of changes in these laws and regulations or in their interpretation, could individually or in the aggregate make the Company's services less attractive to the Company's customers, delay the introduction of new products in one or more regions, or cause the Company to change or limit its business practices or incur more costs to comply or defend itself. The Company has implemented policies and procedures designed to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations, but there can be no assurance that the Company's employees, contractors, or agents will not violate such laws and regulations or the Company's policies and procedures.

***The implementation of the CARD Act and similar state and foreign laws may harm our Local Deals business.***

Vouchers which are issued under our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* may be considered gift cards, gift certificates, stored value cards or prepaid cards and therefore governed by, among other laws, the Credit CARD Act of 2009 (the "CARD Act"), and state laws governing gift cards, stored value cards and coupons. Other foreign jurisdictions have similar laws in place, in particular European jurisdictions where the European E-Money Directive regulates the business of electronic money institutions. Many of these laws contain provisions governing the use of gift cards, gift certificates, stored value cards or prepaid cards, including specific disclosure requirements and prohibitions or limitations on the use of expiration dates and the imposition of certain fees. For example, if the vouchers are subject to the CARD Act and are not included in the exemption for promotional programs, it is possible that the purchase value, which is the amount equal to the price paid for the voucher, or the promotional value, which is the add-on value of the voucher in excess of the price paid, or both, may not expire before the later of (i) five years after the date on which the voucher was issued; (ii) the voucher's stated expiration date (if any); or (iii) a later date provided by applicable state law. Purported class actions against other companies have been filed in federal and state court claiming that coupons similar to the vouchers are subject to the CARD Act and various state laws governing gift cards and that the defendants have violated these laws by issuing the coupons with expiration dates and other restrictions. In addition, investigations by certain state attorney general offices have been launched against other companies with regards to similar issues. If similar claims are asserted against the Company in respect of the *Local Deals* and *Getaway* vouchers and are successful, we may become subject to fines and penalties and incur additional costs. In addition, if federal or state laws require that the face value of our vouchers have a minimum expiration period beyond the period desired by a merchant for its promotional program, or no expiration period, this may affect the willingness of merchants to issue vouchers in jurisdictions where these laws apply. For unredeemed vouchers, similar laws in other jurisdictions require us or merchants to honor the face value of vouchers sold, after the redemption period. For example, in Germany, certain consumer protection laws require us to refund consumers for approximately four years after the purchase date for the amount of the face value of purchased vouchers which remains unredeemed at the end of the redemption period. Therefore, we do not recognize the unredeemed amounts as revenue until after we are not subject to these laws. There may be similar laws in other countries or provinces that require similar practices. Such developments may materially and adversely affect the profitability or viability of our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* .

***If we are required to materially increase the estimated liability recorded in our financial statements with respect to unredeemed Local Deals and Getaway vouchers due to application of certain gift card laws, our net income could be materially and adversely affected.***

In certain states and foreign jurisdictions, our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* vouchers may be considered a gift card. Some of these states and foreign jurisdictions include gift cards under their unclaimed and abandoned property laws which require companies to remit to the government the value of the unredeemed balance on the gift cards after a specified period of time (generally between one and five years) and impose certain reporting and recordkeeping obligations. The analysis of the potential application of the unclaimed and abandoned property laws to our vouchers is complex, involving an analysis of constitutional and statutory provisions and factual issues, including our relationship with members and merchants and our role as it relates to the issuance and delivery of a voucher. In the event that one or more states or foreign jurisdictions successfully challenges our position on the application of its unclaimed and abandoned property laws to vouchers, or if the estimates that we use in projecting the likelihood of vouchers being redeemed prove to be inaccurate, our liabilities with respect to unredeemed vouchers may be materially higher than the amounts shown in our financial statements. If we are required to materially increase the estimated liability recorded in our financial statements with respect to unredeemed gift cards, our net income could be materially and adversely affected. Moreover, a successful challenge to our position could subject us to penalties or interest on unreported and unremitted sums, and any such penalties or interest would have a further material adverse impact on our net income.

***New tax treatment of companies engaged in Internet commerce may adversely affect the commercial use of our services and our financial results.***

Due to the global nature of the Internet, it is possible that various states or foreign countries might attempt to regulate our transmissions or levy sales, income or other taxes relating to our activities. Tax authorities at the international, federal, state and local levels are currently reviewing the appropriate treatment of companies engaged in Internet commerce. New or revised international, federal, state or local tax regulations may subject us or our members to additional sales, income and other taxes. We cannot predict the effect of current attempts to impose sales, income or other taxes on commerce over the Internet. New or revised taxes and, in particular, sales taxes, VAT and similar taxes would likely increase the cost of doing business online and decrease the attractiveness of advertising and selling goods and services over the Internet. New taxes could also create significant increases in internal costs necessary to capture data, and collect and remit taxes. Any of these events could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

***We may suffer liability as a result of information retrieved from or transmitted over the Internet and claims related to our service offerings.***

We may be sued for defamation, civil rights infringement, negligence, patent, copyright or trademark infringement, invasion of privacy, personal injury, product liability, breach of contract, unfair competition, discrimination, antitrust or other legal claims relating to information that is published or made available on our websites or service offerings we make available (including provision of an application programming interface platform for third parties to access our website, mobile device services and geolocation applications). These types of claims have been brought, sometimes successfully, against online services in the past. The fact that we distribute information via e-mail or text message may subject us to potential risks, such as liabilities or claims resulting from unsolicited e-mail or spamming, lost or misdirected messages, security breaches, illegal or fraudulent use of e-mail or interruptions or delays in e-mail or mobile service. These risks are enhanced in certain jurisdictions outside the U.S., where our liability for such third-party actions may be less clear and we may be less protected. In addition, we could incur significant costs in investigating and defending such claims, even if we ultimately are not found liable. If any of these events occurs, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

We are subject to risks associated with information disseminated through our websites and applications, including consumer data, content that is produced by our editorial staff and errors or omissions related to our product offerings. Such information, whether accurate or inaccurate, may result in our being sued by our advertisers, merchants, members or third parties and as a result our revenue and reputation could be materially and adversely affected.

In addition, we may acquire personal or confidential information, including credit card information, from users of our websites and mobile applications, related to our *Local Deals* and hotel booking platform. Our existing security measures may not be successful in preventing security breaches. For example, outside parties may attempt to fraudulently induce employees, merchants or customers to disclose sensitive information in order to gain access to our secure systems and networks. A party (whether internal, external, an affiliate or unrelated third party) that is able to circumvent our security systems could steal consumer information or transaction data or other proprietary information. In the last few years, several major companies, such as Yahoo!, Target, Home Depot, Zappos, LinkedIn and Sony, have experienced high-profile security breaches that exposed their customers' personal information. While we strive to use commercially acceptable means to protect customer personal

information, no method of transmission over the Internet, or method of electronic storage, is 100% secure. Further, because the techniques used to obtain unauthorized access, disable or degrade service, or sabotage systems change frequently and often are not recognized until launched against a target, we may be unable to anticipate these techniques or to implement adequate preventative measures. These issues are likely to become more difficult to manage as we expand the number of places where we operate and as the tools and techniques used in such attacks become more advanced. Security breaches or the unauthorized disclosure of customer personal information could result in negative publicity, damage our reputation, expose us to risk of loss or litigation and possible liability and subject us to regulatory penalties and sanctions. Any failure or perceived failure by us, or our service providers, to comply with the privacy policies, privacy-related obligations to users or other third parties, or privacy related legal obligations, or any compromise of security that results in the unauthorized release or transfer of personally identifiable information or other user data, may result in governmental enforcement actions, litigation or public statements against the company by consumer advocacy groups or others and could cause our customers and members to lose trust in the Company, which could have an adverse effect on our business. If our security measures are breached, or if our services are subject to attacks that degrade or deny the ability of users to access our products and services, our products and services may be perceived as not being secure, users and customers may curtail or stop using our products and services, and we may incur significant legal and financial exposure.

We could also be adversely affected if legislation or regulations are expanded to require changes in our business practices or if governing jurisdictions interpret or implement their legislation or regulations in ways that negatively affect our business, results of operations or financial condition. For example, we, like many online companies, have been utilizing the U.S. - E.U. Safe Harbor framework and relying on this method to ensure the appropriate transfer of data between the U.S. and Europe. However, on October 6, 2015, the European Court of Justice ruled that this 15-year old Safe Harbor pact is no longer valid. While we are evaluating and implementing alternatives, it is difficult at this point to know whether this ruling will have an impact on our business. To the extent that European regulatory authorities impose fines on the Company or require changes to the Company's business practices, the Company's business and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. We also could be adversely affected if legislation or regulations are expanded to require changes in our business practices or if governing jurisdictions interpret or implement their legislation or regulations in ways that negatively affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***Claims have been asserted against us relating to shares not issued in our 2002 merger.***

The Company was formed as a result of a combination and merger of entities founded by the Company's principal stockholder, Ralph Bartel. In 2002, Travelzoo.com Corporation was merged into Travelzoo Inc. Under and subject to the terms of the merger agreement, holders of promotional shares of Travelzoo.com Corporation ("Netsurfers") who established that they had satisfied certain prerequisite qualifications were allowed a period of 2 years following the effective date of the merger to receive one share of Travelzoo Inc. in exchange for each share of common stock of Travelzoo.com Corporation. In 2004, two years following the effective date of the merger, certain promotional shares remained unexchanged. As the right to exchange these promotional shares expired, no additional shares were reserved for issuance. Thereafter, the Company began to offer a voluntary cash program for those who established that they had satisfied certain prerequisite qualifications for Netsurfer promotional shares as further described below.

Beginning in 2010, the Company became subject to unclaimed property audits of various states in the United States related to the above unexchanged promotional shares. The Company recorded charges for the estimated settlements with these states of \$20.0 million, \$3.0 million and \$22.0 million in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively. In 2014, the Company released \$7.6 million of the reserve related to the completion of settlements with the states.

Although the Company has settled the states' unclaimed property claims with all states, the Company may still receive inquiries from certain potential Netsurfer promotional stockholders that had not provided their state of residence to the Company by April 25, 2004. Therefore, the Company is continuing its voluntary program under which it makes cash payments to individuals related to the promotional shares for individuals whose residence was unknown by the Company and who establish that they satisfy the original conditions required for them to receive shares of Travelzoo.com Corporation, and who failed to submit requests to convert their shares into shares of Travelzoo Inc. within the required time period. This voluntary program is not available for individuals whose promotional shares have been escheated to a state by the Company, except those individuals for which their residence was unknown to the Company. The accompanying consolidated financial statements include a charge for payments under this voluntary program in general and administrative expenses of \$2,000 and \$1,000 for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

The total cost of this voluntary program is not reliably estimable because it is based on the ultimate number of valid requests received and future levels of the Company's common stock price. The Company's common stock price affects the potential liability because the amount of cash payments under the program is based in part on the recent level of the stock price

at the date valid requests are received. The Company does not know how many of the requests for shares originally received by Travelzoo.com Corporation in 1998 were valid, but the Company believes that only a portion of such requests were valid. In order to receive payment under this voluntary program, a person is required to establish that such person validly held shares in Travelzoo.com Corporation.

***Federal laws and regulations, such as the Bank Secrecy Act and the USA PATRIOT Act and similar foreign laws, could be expanded to include Local Deals and Getaway vouchers.***

Various federal laws, such as the Bank Secrecy Act and the USA PATRIOT Act and foreign laws and regulations, such as the European Directive on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purpose of money laundering and terrorist financing, impose certain anti-money laundering requirements on companies that are financial institutions or that provide financial products and services. For these purposes, financial institutions are broadly defined to include money services businesses such as money transmitters, check cashers and providers of prepaid access cards. Examples of anti-money laundering requirements imposed on financial institutions include customer identification and verification programs, suspicious activity monitoring and reporting, record retention policies and procedures and transaction reporting. We do not believe that we are a financial institution subject to these laws and regulations based, in part, upon the closed loop nature and other characteristics of vouchers and our role with respect to the distribution of vouchers to members. However, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, a division of the U.S. Department of the Treasury tasked with implementing the requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act, recently issued final rules regarding the scope and requirements for non-bank parties involved in stored value or prepaid access cards, including obligations on sellers or providers of “prepaid access”. Under the final rule, providers or sellers of closed loop vouchers, such as those offered through the *Local Deals* and *Getaway* programs, would only be subject to registration if the voucher exceed \$2,000 in total value or if they are sold in aggregate amounts exceeding \$10,000 to any single person in one day. Should the \$2,000 limit be exceeded or should more than \$10,000 in aggregate vouchers be sold to any individual person (sales to businesses for resale or distribution are excluded) then we may be deemed either a seller or provider of prepaid access subject to regulation. In the event that we become subject to the requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act or any other anti-money laundering law or regulation imposing obligations on us as a money services business, our regulatory compliance costs to meet these obligations would likely increase which could reduce our net income. In addition, the costs for third parties to sell vouchers would increase, which may restrict our ability to enlist third parties to issue vouchers.

***Our internal control over financial reporting may not be effective, and our independent registered public accounting firm may not be able to attest as to the effectiveness of such internal controls, which could have a significant and adverse effect on our business.***

We are obligated to evaluate our internal control over financial reporting in order to allow management to report on, and our independent auditors to opine on, our internal control over financial reporting, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules and regulations of the SEC, which we collectively refer to as Section 404. In our Section 404 evaluation, we may identify areas of internal control that may need improvement and may require remediation efforts where necessary. Currently, none of our identified areas that need improvement has been categorized as material weaknesses. We may identify conditions that may result in significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the future.

***We may be unable to protect our registered trademark or other proprietary intellectual property rights.***

Our success depends to a significant degree upon the protection of the *Travelzoo* brand name. We rely upon a combination of copyright, trade secret and trademark laws, as well as non-disclosure and other contractual arrangements to protect our intellectual property rights. The steps we have taken to protect our proprietary rights, however, may not always succeed in deterring misappropriation of proprietary information.

We have registered the *Travelzoo* trademark in the U.S., Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the European Union and the U.K. If we are unable to protect our rights in the mark in North America, Europe, and Asia Pacific, where we have licensed the trademark as described above under “overview”, a key element of our strategy of promoting *Travelzoo* as a brand could be disrupted and our business could be adversely affected. We may not always be able to detect unauthorized use of our proprietary information or take appropriate steps to enforce our intellectual property rights. In addition, the validity, enforceability, and scope of protection of intellectual property in Internet-related industries are uncertain and still evolving. The laws of countries in which we may market our services in the future are uncertain and may afford little or no effective protection of our intellectual property. The unauthorized reproduction or other misappropriation of our proprietary technology could enable third parties to benefit from our technology and brand name without paying us for them. If this were to occur, our business could be materially adversely affected.

***We may face liability from intellectual property litigation that could be costly to prosecute or defend and distract management's attention with no assurance of success.***

We cannot be certain that our products, content and brand names do not or will not infringe valid patents, copyrights or other intellectual property rights held by third parties. We expect that infringement claims in our markets will increase in number as more participants enter the markets. We may be subject to legal proceedings and claims from time to time relating to the intellectual property of others in the ordinary course of our business. We may incur substantial expenses in defending against these third party infringement claims, regardless of their merit, and such claims could result in a significant diversion of the efforts of our management personnel. Successful infringement claims against us may result in monetary liability or a material disruption in the conduct of our business. We endeavor to defend our intellectual property rights diligently, but intellectual property litigation is extremely expensive and time consuming, and has and is likely to continue to divert managerial attention and resources from our business objectives. Successful infringement claims against us could result in monetary liability and resolution of claims may require us to obtain licenses to use intellectual property rights belonging to third parties, which may be expensive to procure.

**Item 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments***

None.

**Item 2. *Properties***

We are headquartered in New York, New York, where we occupy approximately 13,500 square feet of leased office space. We have leased offices in Asia Pacific for operations in China, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, and Taiwan, including offices in Beijing, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Taipei, and Tokyo. We also have leased offices for our Europe operations in France, Germany, Spain, and the U.K., including offices in Barcelona, Berlin, Hamburg, London, Manchester, Munich, and Paris. In addition to our New York office, we have several leased offices throughout the U.S. and Canada for our North America operations, including offices in Chicago, Illinois; Austin, Texas; Los Angeles, California; Miami, Florida; Mountain View, California; San Diego, California; San Francisco, California; Toronto, Ontario; and Vancouver, British Columbia.

We believe that our leased facilities are adequate to meet our current needs; however, we intend to expand our operations and therefore may require additional facilities in the future. We believe that such additional facilities are available.

**Item 3. *Legal Proceedings***

The information set forth under "Note 4 - Commitments and Contingencies" to the accompanying consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this report is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 4. *Mine Safety Disclosure***

Not applicable.

## PART II

### Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

#### Market Information

Since August 18, 2004, our common stock has been trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "TZOO." The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sales prices per share of our common stock as reported by NASDAQ.

	High	Low
<b>2016:</b>		
Fourth Quarter	\$12.77	\$9.15
Third Quarter	\$13.16	\$7.72
Second Quarter	\$8.23	\$7.56
First Quarter	\$8.55	\$6.71
<b>2015:</b>		
Fourth Quarter	\$10.1	\$7.65
Third Quarter	\$12.53	\$8.07
Second Quarter	\$13.96	\$9.39
First Quarter	\$12.16	\$8.58

On March 3, 2017, the last reported sales price of our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$9.20 per share.

As of March 3, 2017, there were approximately 198 stockholders of record of our shares.

#### Dividend Policy

Travelzoo has not declared or paid any cash dividends since inception and does not expect to pay cash dividends for the foreseeable future. The payment of dividends will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend upon factors such as future earnings, capital requirements, our financial condition and general business conditions.

#### Sales of Unregistered Securities

There were no unregistered sales of equity securities during fiscal year 2016.

## Repurchases of Equity Securities

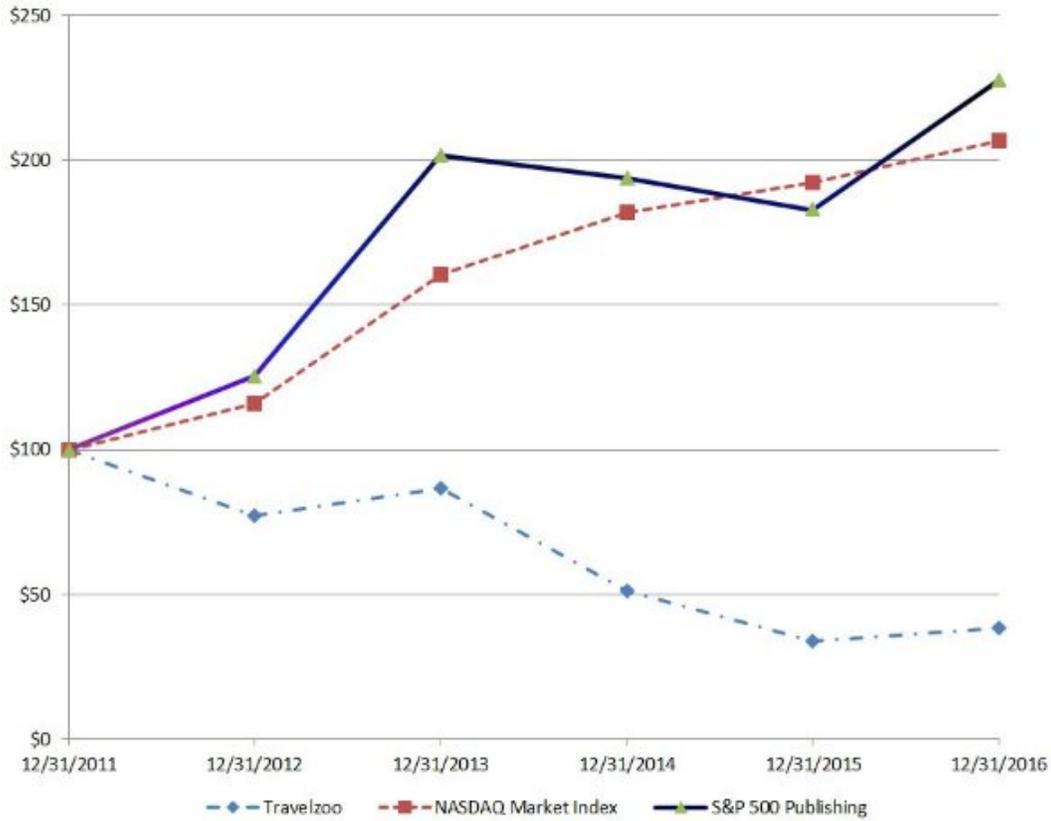
We repurchased 364,000 shares of our equity securities during the three months ended December 31, 2016 .

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Programs	Maximum Shares that May Yet be Purchased Under the Programs (1)
October 1, 2016 - October 31, 2016	52,000	\$ 11.40	52,000	312,000
November 1, 2016 - November 30, 2016	184,000	\$ 10.34	184,000	128,000
December 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016	128,000	\$ 11.27	128,000	—
	<u>364,000</u>		<u>364,000</u>	

- (1) In July 2012, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock. As of December 31, 2013, 971,000 shares were repurchased and therefore there were 29,000 shares remaining to be repurchased under this program. In January 2014, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 500,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock. During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company repurchased 261,000 shares of common stock, and therefore there were 268,000 shares remaining to be repurchased under this program as of December 31, 2014. During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company repurchased 212,000 shares of common stock and therefore there were 56,000 shares remaining to be repurchased under this program as of December 31, 2015. In February 2016, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock. During the year ended December 31, 2016, the Company repurchased 1,056,000 shares of common stock and therefore there were no shares remaining to be repurchased under the repurchase programs authorized in January 2014 and January 2016 as of December 31, 2016. During the three months ended December 31, 2016, the Company repurchased 364,000 shares of common stock. In February 2017, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock.

## Performance Graph

The following graph compares, for the dates specified, the cumulative total stockholder return for Travelzoo, the NASDAQ Stock Market (U.S. companies) Index (the “NASDAQ Market Index”), and the Standard & Poor’s 500 Publishing Index (the “S&P 500 Publishing”). Measurement points are the last trading day of each of the Company’s fiscal years ended December 31, 2012, December 31, 2013, December 31, 2014, December 31, 2015, and December 31, 2016. The graph assumes that \$100 was invested on December 31, 2011 in the Common Stock of the Company, the NASDAQ Market Index and the S&P 500 Publishing and assumes reinvestment of any dividends. The stock price performance on the following graph is not indicative of future stock price performance.



Measurement Point	12/31/2011	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2014	12/31/2015	12/31/2016
Travelzoo Inc.	\$ 100.00	\$ 77.26	\$ 86.74	\$ 51.34	\$ 34.05	\$ 38.24
NASDAQ Market Index	\$ 100.00	\$ 115.91	\$ 160.32	\$ 181.8	\$ 192.21	\$ 206.63
S&P 500 Publishing	\$ 100.00	\$ 125.44	\$ 201.9	\$ 193.81	\$ 183.05	\$ 227.81

**Item 6. Selected Consolidated Financial Data**

The selected consolidated financial data set forth below for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements. The selected consolidated financial data set forth below for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012 represent unaudited consolidated financial statements presented on a basis consistent with those for years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014. The financial results for Travelzoo Inc. have been retrospectively adjusted to include the financial results of Asia Pacific in the current and prior periods as though the transaction occurred at the beginning of each period presented. See Note 11 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further information related to the acquisition of the Travelzoo Asia Pacific business. The following selected consolidated financial data is qualified in its entirety by, and should be read in conjunction with, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere herein.

**Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:**

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands, except per share data)				
Revenues	\$ 128,552	\$ 141,716	\$ 153,240	\$ 170,633	\$ 162,159
Income from operations	\$ 11,068	\$ 7,146	\$ 17,810	\$ 1,161	\$ 21,843
Net income (loss)	\$ 6,631	\$ 10,864	\$ 13,062	\$ (6,582)	\$ 14,456
Net income (loss) per share - basic	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.88	\$ (0.43)	\$ 0.91
Net income (loss) per share - diluted	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.88	\$ (0.43)	\$ 0.91
Shares used in per share calculation - basic	13,997	14,722	14,768	15,269	15,866
Shares used in per share calculation - diluted	13,997	14,722	14,809	15,269	15,901

**Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:**

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
	(In thousands)				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 26,838	\$ 35,128	\$ 55,417	\$ 68,668	\$ 65,005
Working capital	\$ 14,643	\$ 16,046	\$ 36,259	\$ 29,194	\$ 42,358
Total assets	\$ 53,530	\$ 68,579	\$ 93,307	\$ 119,440	\$ 103,722
Stockholders' equity	\$ 18,064	\$ 21,387	\$ 35,827	\$ 30,096	\$ 43,583

**Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

The information in this report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such statements are based upon current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about Travelzoo and our industry. These forward-looking statements are subject to the many risks and uncertainties that exist in our operations and business environment that may cause actual results, performance or achievements of Travelzoo to be different from those expected or anticipated in the forward-looking statements. Any statements contained herein that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. For example, words such as "may", "will", "should", "estimates", "predicts", "potential", "continue", "strategy", "believes", "anticipates", "plans", "expects", "intends", and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Travelzoo's actual results and the timing of certain events could differ significantly from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause or contribute to such a discrepancy include, but are not limited to, those discussed elsewhere in this report in the section entitled "Risk Factors" and the risks discussed in our other SEC filings. The forward-looking statements included in this report reflect the beliefs of our management on the date of this report. Travelzoo undertakes no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason, even if new information becomes available or other circumstances occur in the future.

## Overview

Travelzoo Inc. (the “Company”, or “Travelzoo”) is a global publisher of travel and entertainment offers. We inform over 28 million members in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America, as well as millions of website users, about the best travel and entertainment deals available from thousands of companies. Our deal experts source, research and test-book offers, recommending only those that meet Travelzoo’s rigorous quality standards. We provide travel, entertainment and local businesses with a fast, flexible, and cost-effective way to reach millions of consumers. Our revenues are generated primarily from advertising fees.

Our publications and products include the *Travelzoo* websites (travelzoo.com, travelzoo.ca, travelzoo.co.uk, travelzoo.de, travelzoo.es, travelzoo.fr, cn.travelzoo.com, travelzoo.co.jp, travelzoo.com.au, travelzoo.com.hk, travelzoo.com.tw, among others), the *Travelzoo Top 20* e-mail newsletter, and the *Newsflash* e-mail alert service. We operate *SuperSearch*, a pay-per-click travel search tool, and the *Travelzoo Network*, a network of third-party websites that list deals published by Travelzoo. Our *Travelzoo* websites include our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* listings that allow our members to purchase vouchers for deals from local businesses such as spas, hotels and restaurants. We receive a percentage of the face value of the voucher from the local businesses. We also operate *Fly.com*, a travel search engine that allows users to quickly and easily find the best prices on flights from hundreds of airlines and online travel agencies.

More than 2,000 companies use our services, including Air France, Air New Zealand, British Airways, Cathay Pacific Airways, Ctrip, Emirates, Etihad, Expedia, Fairmont Hotels and Resorts, Hawaiian Airlines, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, InterContinental Hotels Group, JTB Corporation, Lufthansa, Key Tours International, Princess Cruises, Royal Caribbean, Singapore Airlines, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Travelocity, United Airlines and Virgin America.

We have three operating segments based on geographic regions: Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Asia Pacific consists of our operations in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. Europe consists of our operations in France, Germany, Spain, and the U.K. North America consists of our operations in Canada and the U.S. For the year ended December 31, 2016, Asia Pacific operations were 8% of revenues, European operations were 30% of revenues and North American operations were 62% of our total revenues. Financial information with respect to our business segments and certain financial information about geographic areas appears in Note 10 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

When evaluating the financial condition and operating performance of the Company, management focuses on financial and non-financial indicators such as growth in the number of members to the Company’s newsletters, operating margin, growth in revenues in the absolute and relative to the growth in reach of the Company’s publications measured as revenue per member and revenue per employee as a measure of productivity.

## How We Generate Revenues

Our revenues are advertising revenues, consisting primarily of listing fees paid by travel, entertainment and local businesses to advertise their offers on Travelzoo’s media properties. Listing fees are based on audience reach, placement, number of listings, number of impressions, number of clicks, number of referrals, or percentage of the face value of vouchers sold. Insertion orders are typically for periods between one month and twelve months and are not automatically renewed. Merchant agreements for *Local Deals* and *Getaway* advertisers are typically for twelve months and are not automatically renewed. We have three separate groups of our advertising products: Travel, Search and Local.

Our Travel category of revenue includes the publishing revenue for negotiated high-quality deals from travel companies, such as hotels, airlines, cruises or car rentals and includes products such as *Top 20*, *Website*, *Newsflash*, *Travelzoo Network* as well as *Getaway* vouchers. The revenues generated from these products are based upon a fee for number of e-mails delivered to our audience, a fee for clicks delivered to the advertisers, a fee for placement of the advertising on our website or a fee based on a percentage of the face value of vouchers sold, hotel booking stays or other items sold. We recognize revenue upon delivery of the e-mails, delivery of the clicks, over the period of placement of the advertising, upon hotel booking stays and upon the sale of the vouchers or other items sold.

Our Search category of revenue includes comparison shopping tools for consumers to quickly and easily compare airfares, hotel and car rental prices and includes *SuperSearch* and *Fly.com* products. The revenues generated from these products are based upon a fee for clicks delivered to the advertisers or a fee for clicks delivered to advertisers that resulted in revenue for advertisers (i.e. successful clicks). We recognize revenue upon delivery of the clicks or successful clicks.

Our Local category of revenue includes the publishing revenue for negotiated high-quality deals from local businesses, such as restaurants, spas, shows, and other activities and includes *Local Deals* vouchers and entertainment offers (vouchers and

direct bookings). The revenues generated from these products are based upon a percentage of the face value of vouchers or items sold or a fee for clicks delivered to the advertisers. We recognize revenue upon the sale of the vouchers, when we receive notification of the direct bookings or upon delivery of the clicks. The Company earns a fee for acting as an agent in these transactions, which is recorded on a net basis and is included in revenue upon completion of the voucher sale. Certain merchant contracts in foreign locations allow us to retain fees related to vouchers sold that are not redeemed by purchasers upon expiration, which we recognize as revenue after the expiration of the redemption period and after there are no further obligations to provide funds to merchants, members or others.

### Trends in Our Business

Our ability to generate revenues in the future depends on numerous factors such as our ability to sell more advertising to existing and new advertisers, our ability to increase our audience reach and advertising rates, our ability to have sufficient supply of hotels offered at competitive rates, and our ability to develop and launch new products.

Our current revenue model primarily depends on advertising fees paid primarily by travel, entertainment and local businesses. A number of factors can influence whether current and new advertisers decide to advertise their offers with us. We have been impacted and expect to continue to be impacted by external factors such as the shift from offline to online advertising, the relative condition of the economy, competition and the introduction of new methods of advertising, and the decline in consumer demand for vouchers. The introduction of competing services and changing search algorithms by search engines such as Google, Yahoo! and Microsoft which may reduce the level or quality of Internet traffic to our services, in particular our Search products, *SuperSearch* and *Fly.com*, the competitive market pricing of voucher-based offerings may lead to us reducing our take rate (i.e., our commission) in order to maintain or grow the number of quality deals and merchants we are seeking. For example, the consolidation of the airline industry reduced our revenues generated from this sector, the reduction of capacity in the airline industry reduced demand to advertise for excess capacity, and the introduction of new voucher-based products offered by competitors impacted our ability to sell our existing advertising products. A number of factors will have impact on our revenue, such as the reduction in spending by travel intermediaries due to their focus on improving profitability, the trend towards mobile usage by consumers, the willingness of consumers to purchase the deals we advertise, and the willingness of certain competitors to grow their business unprofitably. In addition, we have been impacted and expect to continue to be impacted by internal factors such as introduction of new advertising products, hiring and relying on key employees for the continued maintenance and growth of our business and ensuring our advertising products continue to attract the audience that advertisers desire. In response to declining Search product revenue, which includes *SuperSearch* and *Fly.com* products, the Company is continuously reviewing the performance of these products, which has and will result in reduced traffic acquisition spend for these products and may result in merging the products, discontinuing or replacing one or both of them. Challenges with traffic acquisition from search engines and poor monetization on mobile devices have led to continued declines in Search revenue. Given these factors impacting our Search products, revenue from our Search products are expected to decline. The Company's management is discussing with third parties a possible sale of its *Fly.com* product. Furthermore, the Company is evaluating the discontinuance of its *SuperSearch* product. These initiatives support the Company's strategy to focus on its global Travelzoo® brand.

Existing advertisers may shift from one advertising service (e.g. *Top 20*) to another (e.g. *Local Deals* and *Getaway*). These shifts between advertising services by advertisers could result in no incremental revenue or less revenue than in previous periods depending on the amount purchased by the advertisers, and in particular, with *Local Deals* and *Getaway*, depending on how many vouchers are purchased by members. In addition, we are anticipating a shift from our existing hotel revenue to commission-based hotel revenue as we expand the use of our hotel platform, which may result in lower revenue depending on volume of hotel bookings.

Local revenues have been and may continue to decline over time due to market conditions driven by competition and declines in consumer demand. In the last several years, we have seen a decline in the number of vouchers sold and a decrease in the average take rate earned by us from the merchants for vouchers sold.

Our ability to continue to generate advertising revenue depends heavily upon our ability to maintain and grow an attractive audience for our publications. We monitor our members to assess our efforts to maintain and grow our audience reach. We obtain additional members and activity on our websites by acquiring traffic from Internet search companies. The costs to grow our audience have had, and we expect will to continue to have, a significant impact on our financial results and can vary from period to period. We may have to increase our expenditures on acquiring traffic to continue to grow or maintain our reach of our publications due to competition. We continue to see a shift in the audience to accessing our services through mobile devices and social media. We are addressing this growing channel of our audience through development of our mobile applications and through marketing on social media channels. However, we will need to keep pace with technological change and this trend to further address this shift in the audience behavior in order to offset any related declines in revenue.

We believe that we can increase our advertising rates only if the reach of our publications increases. We do not know if we will be able to increase the reach of our publications. If we are able to increase the reach of our publications, we still may not be able to or want to increase rates given market conditions such as intense competition in our industry. We have not had any significant rate increase in recent years due to intense competition in our industry. Even if we increase our rates, the increased price may reduce the amount of advertisers willing to advertise with us and, therefore, decrease our revenue. We may need to decrease our rates based on competitive market conditions and the performance of our audience in order to maintain or grow our revenue.

We do not know what our cost of revenues as a percentage of revenues will be in future periods. Our cost of revenues will increase if the number of searches performed on *Fly.com* increases because we pay a fee based on the number of searches performed on *Fly.com*. Our cost of revenues may increase if the face value of vouchers that we sell for *Local Deals* and *Getaway* increases or the total number of vouchers sold increases because we have credit card fees based upon face value of vouchers sold, due to customer service costs related to vouchers sold and due to member refunds on vouchers sold. Our cost of revenues are expected to increase due to our effort to develop our hotel booking platform as well. We expect fluctuations in cost of revenues as a percentage of revenues from quarter to quarter. Some of the fluctuations may be significant and have a material impact on our results of operations.

We do not know what our sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenue will be in future periods. Increased competition in our industry may require us to increase advertising for our brand and for our products. In order to increase the reach of our publications, we have to acquire a significant number of new members in every quarter and continue to promote our brand. One significant factor that impacts our advertising expenses is the average cost per acquisition of a new member. Increases in the average cost of acquiring new members may result in an increase of sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenue. We believe that the average cost per acquisition depends mainly on the advertising rates which we pay for media buys, our ability to manage our member acquisition efforts successfully, the regions we choose to acquire new members and the relative costs for that region, and the degree of competition in our industry. We may decide to accelerate our member acquisition for various strategic and tactical reasons and, as a result, increase our marketing expenses. We expect the average cost per acquisition to increase with our increased expectations for the quality of the members we acquire. We may see an unique opportunity for a brand marketing campaign that will result in an increase of marketing expenses. In addition, there may be a significant number of members that cancel or we may cancel their subscription for various reasons, which may drive us to spend more on member acquisition in order to replace the lost members. Further, we expect to continue our strategy over time to replicate our business model in selected foreign markets to result in a significant increase in our sales and marketing expenses and have a material adverse impact on our results of operations. For example, we recently acquired our Asia Pacific business, which we intend on increasing our investment in audience in this region. Due to the continued desire to grow our business in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America, we expect relatively high level of sales and marketing expenses in the foreseeable future. We expect fluctuations in sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenue from year to year and from quarter to quarter. Some of the fluctuations may be significant and have a material impact on our results of operations. We expect increased marketing expense to spur continued growth in members and revenue in future periods; however, we cannot be assured of this due to the many factors that impact our growth in members and revenue. We expect to adjust the level of such incremental spending during any given quarter based upon market conditions as well as our performance in each quarter. We have increased and may continue to increase our spending on sales and marketing to increase the number of our members and address the growing audience from mobile and social media channels, as well as to increase our analytic capabilities to continuously improve the presentation of our offerings to our audience.

We do not know what our product development expenses as a percentage of revenue will be in future periods. There may be fluctuations that have a material impact on our results of operations. Product development changes may lead to reductions of revenue based on changes in the presentation of our offerings to our audience. We expect our efforts on developing our product and services will continue to be a focus in the future, which may lead to increased product development expenses. This increase in expense may be the result of an increase in headcount, the compensation related to existing headcount and the increased use of professional services. We expect our continued expansion into foreign markets and development of new advertising formats to result in a significant additional increase in our product development expenses. We expect to incur additional costs related to the development of our hotel platform capabilities, which we are developing, in part, to address the shift to mobile devices. We also may increase our investment in product development to ensure our products are suited for different regions such as Asia Pacific. In addition, we expect to incur additional costs related to the development of our search capabilities of our website and mobile applications.

We do not know what our general and administrative expenses as a percentage of revenue will be in future periods. There may be fluctuations that have a material impact on our results of operations. We expect our headcount to continue to increase in the future. The Company's headcount is one of the main drivers of general and administrative expenses. Therefore, we expect our absolute general and administrative expenses to continue to increase. We expect our continued expansion into foreign markets to result in an increase in our general and administrative expenses. Our general and administrative expenses as a percentage of revenue may also fluctuate depending on the number of requests received related to a program under which the Company intends to make cash payments to people who establish that they were former stockholders of Travelzoo.com Corporation, whose claims were not escheated to states and who failed to submit requests to convert shares into Travelzoo Inc. within the required time period. We expect an increase in professional fees for various initiatives.

We do not know what our income taxes will be in future periods. There may be fluctuations that have a material impact on our results of operations. Our income taxes are dependent on numerous factors such as the geographic mix of our taxable income, federal and state and foreign country tax law and regulations and changes thereto, the determination of whether valuation allowances for certain tax assets are required or not, audits of prior years' tax returns resulting in adjustments, resolution of uncertain tax positions and different treatment for certain items for tax versus books such as the disposition of our Asia Pacific business in 2009 and the acquisition of our Asia Pacific business in 2015. We expect fluctuations in our income taxes from year to year and from quarter to quarter. Some of the fluctuations may be significant and have a material impact on our results of operations.

The key elements of our growth strategy include building a travel and lifestyle brand with a large, high-quality user base and offering our users products that keep pace with consumer preference and technology, such as the trend toward mobile usage by consumers. We expect to continue our efforts to grow; however, we may not grow or we may experience slower growth. Some examples of our efforts to expand our business internationally since our inception in the U.S. have been expansion to the U.K. in 2005, Canada in 2006, Germany in 2006, France in 2007, Spain in 2008. In addition, from 2007 through 2009 we began operations in Asia Pacific, including in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. We also have launched new products to grow our revenue such as the introduction of Fly.com in 2009, *Local Deals* in 2010, *Getaway* in 2011 as well as our mobile application launches in 2011 and 2012. In late 2012, we bought an online hotel platform to assist in our development of a product to better serve hotels and to facilitate the development of our hotel platform. We have also increased our spending on addressing the shift of our audience to mobile devices and social media.

We believe that we can sell more advertising if the market for online advertising continues to grow and if we can maintain or increase our market share. We believe that the market for advertising continues to shift from offline to online. We do not know if we will be able to maintain or increase our market share. We do not know if we will be able to increase the number of our advertisers in the future. We do not know if we will have market acceptance of our new products or whether the market will continue to accept our existing products.

## Results of Operations

The following table sets forth, as a percentage of total revenues, the results from our operations for the periods indicated.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of revenues	11.1	13.3	12.5
Gross profit	88.9	86.7	87.5
Operating expenses:			
Sales and marketing	55.3	55.8	54.5
Product development	7.3	8.8	7.4
General and administrative	17.7	17.1	18.9
Unexchanged promotional shares	—	—	(4.9)
Total operating expenses	80.3	81.7	75.9
Income from operations	8.6	5.0	11.6
Other income (loss), net	(0.1)	(0.9)	0.1
Income before income taxes	8.5	4.1	11.7
Income tax expense (benefit)	3.3	(3.5)	3.2
Net income	5.2%	7.6%	8.5%

## Operating Metrics

The following table sets forth operating metrics in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
<b>Asia Pacific</b>			
Total members	3,598,000	3,484,000	3,533,000
Average cost per acquisition of a new member	\$ 3.28	\$ 2.46	\$ 0.64
Revenue per member (2)	\$ 2.70	\$ 3.02	\$ 3.08
Revenue per employee (3)	\$ 108	\$ 114	\$ 92
Mobile application downloads	662,000	563,000	355,000
Social media followers	531,000	383,000	366,000
<b>Europe</b>			
Total members	8,153,000	7,860,000	7,347,000
Average cost per acquisition of a new member	\$ 2.85	\$ 3.43	\$ 3.53
Revenue per member (2)	\$ 4.65	\$ 5.73	\$ 6.93
Revenue per employee (3)	\$ 253	\$ 287	\$ 297
Mobile application downloads	1,595,000	1,419,000	1,192,000
Social media followers	637,000	595,000	494,000
<b>North America</b>			
Total members	17,223,000	17,184,000	16,843,000
Average cost per acquisition of a new member	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.16	\$ 2.09
Revenue per member (2)	\$ 5.28	\$ 5.28	\$ 5.77
Revenue per employee (3)	\$ 397	\$ 383	\$ 340
Mobile application downloads	3,049,000	2,734,000	2,312,000
Social media followers	2,507,000	2,250,000	1,809,000
<b>Consolidated</b>			
Total members (1)	28,838,000	28,390,000	27,667,000
Average cost per acquisition of a new member	\$ 2.51	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.55
Revenue per member (2)	\$ 4.46	\$ 5.12	\$ 5.71
Revenue per employee (3)	\$ 290	\$ 300	\$ 275
Mobile application downloads	5,306,000	4,716,000	3,859,000
Social media followers	3,675,000	3,228,000	2,669,000

- (1) Members represent individuals who are signed up to receive one or more of our free email publications that present our travel, entertainment and local deals.
- (2) Annual revenue divided by number of members at the beginning of the year.
- (3) Annual revenue divided by number of employees at the end of the year (in thousands).

## Revenues

The following table sets forth the breakdown of revenues (in thousands) by category and segment. Travel revenue includes travel publications ( *Top 20* , *Website* , *Newsflash* , *Travelzoo Network* ), *Getaway* vouchers and hotel platform. Search revenue includes *SuperSearch* and *Fly.com* . Local revenue includes *Local Deals* vouchers and entertainment offers (vouchers and direct bookings).

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
<b>Asia Pacific</b>			
Travel	\$ 8,845	\$ 9,355	\$ 9,308
Search	24	34	100
Local	853	1,294	1,667
<b>Total Asia Pacific revenues</b>	<b>\$ 9,722</b>	<b>\$ 10,683</b>	<b>\$ 11,075</b>
<b>Europe</b>			
Travel	\$ 31,086	\$ 33,603	\$ 35,847
Search	1,030	2,396	3,009
Local	5,820	6,133	7,119
<b>Total Europe revenues</b>	<b>\$ 37,936</b>	<b>\$ 42,132</b>	<b>\$ 45,975</b>
<b>North America</b>			
Travel	\$ 54,249	\$ 56,054	\$ 59,104
Search	13,235	15,427	15,888
Local	13,410	17,420	21,198
<b>Total North America revenues</b>	<b>\$ 80,894</b>	<b>\$ 88,901</b>	<b>\$ 96,190</b>
<b>Consolidated</b>			
Travel	\$ 94,180	\$ 99,012	\$ 104,259
Search	14,289	17,857	18,997
Local	20,083	24,847	29,984
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>\$ 128,552</b>	<b>\$ 141,716</b>	<b>\$ 153,240</b>

### *Asia Pacific*

Asia Pacific revenues decreased \$961,000 or 9% in 2016 compared to 2015. This decrease was primarily due to the decrease in Travel revenues and decrease in Local revenues offset partially by a \$207,000 positive impact from foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar. The decrease in Travel revenues of \$718,000 was primarily due to the decreased number of e-mails sent. The decrease in Local revenues of \$441,000 was primarily due to the decreased number of *Local Deals* vouchers sold.

Asia Pacific revenues decreased \$392,000 or 4% in 2015 compared to 2014. This decrease was primarily due to a \$758,000 negative impact from foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar and the decrease in Local revenues offset by the increase in Travel revenues. The decrease in Local revenues of \$285,000 was primarily due to the decreased number of *Local Deals* vouchers sold. The increase in Travel revenues of \$700,000 was primarily due to the increased number of e-mails sent.

### *Europe*

Europe revenues decreased \$4.2 million or 10% in 2016 compared to 2015 . This decrease was primarily due to the \$2.9 million negative impact from foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar and the decrease in Search revenues. The decrease in Search revenues of \$1.3 million was primarily due to the decreased number of clicks that generate revenue as a result of decreased spending on traffic acquisition.

Europe revenues decreased \$3.8 million or 8% in 2015 compared to 2014. This decrease was primarily due to the \$4.9 million negative impact from foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar and the decrease in Local revenues offset by the increase in Travel revenues. The decrease in Local revenues of \$371,000 was primarily due to the decreased number of *Local Deals* vouchers sold. The increase in Travel revenue of \$1.7 million was primarily due to the increased number of emails sent and paid clicks.

#### *North America*

North America revenues decreased \$8.0 million or 9% in 2016 compared to 2015 . The decrease in Travel revenues of \$1.8 million was primarily due to the decreased number of emails sent. The decrease in Search revenues of \$2.2 million was primarily due to the decreased revenue per search. The decrease in Local revenues of \$4.0 million was primarily due to the decreased number of *Local Deals* vouchers sold.

North America revenues decreased \$7.3 million or 8% in 2015 compared to 2014. This decrease was primarily due to the decrease in Local and Travel revenues. The decrease in Local revenues of \$3.8 million was primarily due to the decreased number of *Local Deals* vouchers sold. The decrease in Travel revenue of \$3.1 million was primarily due to the decreased number of *Getaway* vouchers sold and paid clicks. The North America revenue decrease includes a \$871,000 negative impact from foreign currency movement relative to the U.S. dollar.

For 2016 , 2015 and 2014 , none of our customers accounted for 10% or more of our revenue.

#### **Cost of Revenues**

Cost of revenues consists primarily of network expenses, including fees we pay for co-location services and depreciation and maintenance of network equipment, payments made to third-party partners of the *Travelzoo Network* , fees we pay related to user searches on *Fly.com* , amortization of capitalized website development costs, credit card fees, certain estimated member refunds and customer service costs associated with vouchers we sell and hotel bookings, and salary expenses associated with network operations and customer service staff. Cost of revenues was \$14.3 million, \$18.8 million and \$19.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 , respectively.

Cost of revenue decreased \$4.5 million in 2016 compared to 2015 . This decrease was primarily due to a \$2.9 million decrease in payments made to third-party partners of the *Travelzoo Network*, a \$771,000 decrease in *Local Deals and Getaway* costs, a \$563,000 decrease in employee compensation and benefits and a \$255,000 decrease in professional services.

Cost of revenue decreased \$350,000 in 2015 compared to 2014 . This decrease was primarily due to a \$892,000 decrease in *Local Deals and Getaway* costs including a \$335,000 decrease in member refunds, a \$217,000 decrease in fees we paid related to user searches on *Fly.com* offset by a \$830,000 increase in payments made to third-party partners of the *Travelzoo Network*.

## ***Operating Expenses***

### *Sales and Marketing*

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of advertising and promotional expenses, salary expenses associated with sales, marketing and production staff, expenses related to our participation in industry conferences, and public relations expenses. Sales and marketing expenses were \$71.0 million, \$79.0 million and \$83.5 million for 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Advertising expenses accounted for 31%, 33% and 26%, respectively, of total sales and marketing expenses and consisted primarily of online advertising, which we refer to as traffic acquisition cost and member acquisition costs. The goal of our advertising was to acquire new members for our e-mail products, increase the traffic to our websites and increase brand awareness.

Sales and marketing expenses decreased \$8.0 million in 2016 compared to 2015. The decrease was primarily due to a \$4.3 million decrease in salary and employee related expenses due in part to a decrease in headcount, a \$1.9 million decrease in trade and brand marketing expenses, \$0.7 million decrease in member acquisition costs, a \$0.5 million decrease in Search traffic acquisition costs and a \$0.3 million decrease in professional service expenses.

Sales and marketing expenses decreased \$4.5 million in 2015 compared to 2014. The decrease was primarily due to a \$4.6 million decrease in salary and employee related expenses due in part to a decrease in headcount, a \$1.0 million planned decrease in Search traffic acquisition costs offset by a \$1.7 million increase in member acquisition costs. The increase in member acquisition cost was intended to drive future growth, increase the reach of our audience, both in terms of the size of our audience and from growing sources such as mobile devices and social media.

### *Product Development*

Product development expenses consist primarily of compensation for software development staff, fees for professional services, software maintenance and amortization and facilities costs. Product development expenses were \$9.4 million, \$12.5 million and \$11.3 million for 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Product development expenses decreased \$3.1 million in 2016 compared to 2015. The decrease was primarily due to a \$1.5 million decrease in salary and employee related expenses, a \$1.0 million decrease in professional service expenses and a \$0.3 million decrease in contractor expenses.

Product development expenses increased \$1.2 million in 2015 compared to 2014. The increase was primarily due to a \$1.0 million increase in professional service expenses due in part to the development of our hotel booking platform capabilities and enhancement to our website and mobile applications.

### *General and Administrative*

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of compensation for administrative, executive, fees for professional services, rent, bad debt expense, amortization of intangible assets, and general office expense. General and administrative expenses were \$22.7 million, \$24.2 million and \$29.0 million for 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

General and administrative expenses decreased \$1.5 million in 2016 compared to 2015. The decrease was primarily due to a \$2.2 million decrease in salary and employee related expenses due in part to a decrease in headcount, offset partially by a \$0.5 million increase in professional services expenses.

General and administrative expenses decreased \$4.8 million in 2015 compared to 2014. The decrease was primarily due to a \$3.7 million decrease in salary and employee related expenses due in part to a decrease in headcount and professional services costs.

### *Unexchanged Promotional Shares*

On April 21, 2011, the Company entered into an agreement with the State of Delaware resolving all claims relating to a previously-announced unclaimed property review. The primary issue raised in the preliminary findings from the review, received by the Company on April 12, 2011, concerned the shares of Travelzoo which have not been claimed by former shareholders of Travelzoo.com Corporation following a 2002 merger, as previously disclosed in the Company's report on Form 10-K. In the preliminary findings under the unclaimed property review, up to 3.0 million shares were identified as "demandable" under Delaware escheat laws. While the Company continues to take the position that such shares were a promotional incentive and were issuable only to persons who establish their eligibility as shareholders, the Company determined that it was in its best interest to promptly resolve all claims relating to the unclaimed property review. Under the terms of the agreement, the Company made a \$20.0 million cash payment to the State of Delaware in April 2011 and received a complete release of those claims from the State of Delaware. The \$20.0 million payment was recorded as an expense in the three months ended March 31, 2011.

Since March 2012, the Company became subject to unclaimed property reviews by most of the other states in the U.S. that relate primarily to the unexchanged promotional shares, which were not covered by the settlement and release by the State of Delaware. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, the Company recorded a \$3.0 million charge related to this unexchanged promotional merger shares contingency.

In October 2013, the Company entered into settlement agreements with 35 additional states to resolve those states' claims related to similar unclaimed property audits. The multi-state settlement relates to approximately 700,000 additional shares of the Company that were not claimed by residents of those states following the merger, which those states claimed were subject to escheat. While the Company disputes the states' claims, the Company determined that it was in its best interest to resolve the disputes and settle with 35 of the states. The remaining states, which were not included in the multi-state settlement as of October 2013, had potential claims on approximately 400,000 additional shares that were not claimed by residents in those states following the merger. During the three months ended September 30, 2013, the Company recorded a \$22.0 million charge related to the settlements it entered into and for potential future settlements with the remaining states. During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company released a \$7.6 million of the reserve related to the completion of settlements with certain states for unclaimed property disputes in connection with unexchanged promotional shares. During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company settled with the remaining states and made cash payments of \$3.7 million to the settled states after completion of the required due diligence. See Note 4 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further information on the unexchanged promotional shares contingency.

### ***Other Income (loss)***

Other income (loss) consisted primarily of foreign exchange transactions gains and losses, interest income earned on cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash as well as interest expense. Other income (loss) was \$(187,000), \$(1.2) million and \$91,000 for 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Other income (loss) increased \$1.1 million from 2015 to 2016 primarily due to the foreign exchange transaction losses in 2015. Other income (loss) decreased \$1.3 million from 2014 to 2015 primarily due to foreign exchange transaction losses in 2015.

### ***Income Taxes***

Our income is generally taxed in the U.S., Canada and U.K. Our income tax provision reflects federal, state and country statutory rates applicable to our worldwide income, adjusted to take into account expenses that are treated as having no recognizable tax benefit. Income tax expense (benefit) was \$4.3 million, \$(5.0) million and \$4.8 million for 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Our effective tax rate was 39%, (84)% and 27% for 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Our effective tax rate increased for the year ended December 31, 2016 compared to the year ended December 31, 2015, primarily due to the recognition of an \$8.4 million tax benefit related to the unexchanged promotional shares after a lapse of certain statute of limitations in 2015. Our effective tax rate decreased for the year ended December 31, 2015 compared to the year ended December 31, 2014 primarily due to the recognition of an \$8.4 million tax benefit related to the unexchanged promotional shares after a lapse of certain statute of limitations in 2015. We expect that our effective tax rate in future periods may fluctuate depending on the geographic mix of our worldwide taxable income, total amount of expenses representing payments to former stockholders, income or losses incurred by our operations in Asia Pacific, Canada and Europe, statutory tax rate changes that may occur and the need for valuation allowances on certain tax assets, if any.

As of December 31, 2016, we have a valuation allowance of approximately \$7.2 million related to foreign net operating loss carryforwards ("NOL") of approximately \$31.2 million for which it is more likely than not that the tax benefit will not be

realized. If not utilized, the foreign net operating loss carryforwards begin to expire in 2017. The amount of the valuation allowance represented an increase of approximately \$228,000 over the amount recorded as of December 31, 2016, and was due to the increase in foreign operating losses.

U.S. income and foreign withholding taxes have not been provided on undistributed earnings for certain non-U.S. subsidiaries. The undistributed earnings on a book basis for the non-U.S. subsidiaries are approximately \$ 11.8 million. The Company intends to reinvest these earnings indefinitely in its operations outside the U.S. If the undistributed earnings are remitted to the U.S. these amounts would be taxable in the U.S. at the current federal and state tax rates net of foreign tax credits. Also, depending on the jurisdiction any distribution may be subject to withholding taxes at rates applicable for that jurisdiction. The estimated amount of the unrecognized deferred tax liability attributed to future dividend distributions of undistributed earnings is approximately \$1.3 million at December 31, 2016. The Company's federal income tax provision includes U.S. income taxes on certain foreign-based income.

We file income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various states and foreign jurisdictions. We are subject to U.S. federal and certain state tax examinations for years after 2008 and are subject to California tax examinations for years after 2005. These examinations may lead to ordinary course adjustments or proposed adjustments to our taxes or our net operating income. Our 2009 federal income tax return is currently under examination, including a review of the impact of the sale of Asia Pacific business segment in 2009. In connection with this examination, we have received a Revenue Agent's Report (RAR) from the IRS, generally issued at the conclusion of an IRS examination. The RAR proposes an increase to our U.S. taxable income which would result in additional federal tax, federal penalty and state tax expense totaling approximately \$31 million, excluding interest and state penalties, if any. See Note 5 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further information.

## Segment Information

### Asia Pacific

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
	(In thousands)		
Revenues	\$ 9,722	\$ 10,683	\$ 11,075
Income (loss) from operations	\$ (3,866)	\$ (2,435)	\$ (3,378)
Income (loss) from operations as a % of revenues	(40)%	(23)%	(31)%

Asia Pacific net revenues decreased \$961,000 in 2016 compared to 2015 (see "Revenues" above). Asia Pacific expenses increased \$470,000 from 2015 to 2016. This increase was primarily due to a \$666,000 increase in member acquisition costs, a \$251,000 increase in trade and brand marketing expenses, offset partially by a \$620,000 decrease of salary and employee related expense due primarily to a decrease in headcount.

Asia Pacific net revenues decreased \$392,000 in 2015 compared to 2014 (see "Revenues" above). Asia Pacific expenses decreased \$1.1 million from 2014 to 2015. This decrease was primarily due to a \$813,000 decrease in salary and employee related expense due primarily to a decrease in headcount.

Foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar negatively impacted our local currency loss from our operations in Asia Pacific by approximately \$191,000, \$16,000 and \$9,000 for fiscal years 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

### Europe

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
	(In thousands)		
Revenues	\$ 37,936	\$ 42,132	\$ 45,975
Income from operations	\$ 6,085	\$ 3,871	\$ 5,818
Income from operations as a % of revenues	16%	9%	13%

Europe net revenues decreased \$4.2 million in 2016 compared to 2015 (see "Revenues" above). Europe expenses decreased \$6.4 million from 2015 to 2016. The decrease was primarily due to a \$1.7 million decrease in salary and employee

related expenses, a \$1.5 million decrease in trade and brand marketing expenses, a \$1.0 million decrease in member acquisition costs and a \$0.6 million decrease in Search traffic acquisition costs.

Europe net revenues decreased \$3.8 million in 2015 compared to 2014 (see “Revenues” above). Europe expenses decreased \$1.9 million from 2014 to 2015. This decrease was primarily due to a \$2.1 million decrease in salary and employee related expense due in part to a decrease in headcount, a \$1.1 million decrease in search traffic acquisition costs offset by a \$1.9 million increase in member acquisition and marketing costs.

Foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar negatively impacted our local currency income from our operations in Europe by approximately \$675,000 and \$41,000 for 2016 and 2015, respectively. Foreign currency movements relative to the U.S. dollar positively impacted our local currency income from our operations in Europe by approximately \$325,000 for 2014 .

### *North America*

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
	(In thousands)		
Revenues	\$ 80,894	\$ 88,901	\$ 96,191
Income from operations	\$ 8,849	\$ 5,710	\$ 7,787
Income from operations as a % of revenues	11%	6%	8%

North America net revenues decreased \$8.0 million in 2016 compared to 2015 (see “Revenues” above). North America expenses decreased \$11.1 million from 2015 to 2016 . This decrease was primarily due to a \$6.2 million decrease in salary and employee related expense due in part to a decrease in headcount and a \$2.9 million decrease in payments made to third-party partners of the Travelzoo Network.

North America net revenues decreased \$7.3 million in 2015 compared to 2014 (see “Revenues” above). North America expenses decreased \$5.2 million from 2014 to 2015. This decrease was primarily due to a \$5.5 million decrease in salary and employee related expense due in part to a decrease in headcount offset by a \$1.0 million increase in member acquisition costs.

### *Liquidity and Capital Resources*

As of December 31, 2016 , we had \$26.8 million in cash and cash equivalents, of which \$15.9 million was held outside the U.S. in certain of our foreign operations. If these assets are distributed to the U.S., we may be subject to additional U.S. taxes in certain circumstances. Cash and cash equivalents decreased from \$35.1 million as of December 31, 2015 primarily as a result of the payment of the related party loan and cash used in repurchases of our common stock. We expect that cash on hand will be sufficient to provide for working capital needs for at least the next twelve months.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
	( In thousands)		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$ 8,722	\$ 4,192	\$ (1,587)
Net cash used in investing activities	(909)	(1,218)	(3,587)
Net cash used in financing activities	(15,262)	(20,012)	(4,693)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(841)	(3,251)	(3,384)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	\$ (8,290)	\$ (20,289)	\$ (13,251)

Net cash provided by operating activities is net income adjusted for certain non-cash items and changes in assets and liabilities. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$8.7 million for 2016 , which consisted of a net income of \$6.6 million, adjustments for non-cash items of \$3.0 million and a \$958,000 decrease in cash from changes in operating assets and liabilities. A dj ustments for non-cash items primarily consisted of \$2.5 million of depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment and \$933,000 of stock-based compensation expense. The decrease in cash from changes in operating assets and

liabilities primarily consisted of \$2.5 million decrease in accounts payable offset partially by \$1.3 million decrease in accounts receivable.

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$4.2 million for 2015, which consisted of a net income of \$10.9 million, adjustments for non-cash items of \$4.0 million and a \$10.6 million decrease in cash from changes in operating assets and liabilities. Adjustments for non-cash items primarily consisted of \$2.8 million of depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment and \$401,000 of stock-based compensation expense. In addition, the decrease in cash from changes in operating assets and liabilities primarily consisted of \$7.9 million in other non-current liabilities, \$1.4 million in accrued expenses for unexchanged promotional shares, \$3.0 million in accounts payable and accrued expenses offset by \$2.4 million in income tax receivable.

Net cash used in operating activities was \$1.6 million for 2014, which consisted of a net income of \$13.1 million, adjustments for non-cash items of \$4.5 million and a \$19.2 million decrease in cash from changes in operating assets and liabilities. Adjustments for non-cash items primarily consisted of \$982,000 of stock-based compensation expense and \$3.0 million of depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment. In addition, the decrease in cash from changes in operating assets and liabilities primarily consisted of \$11.3 million in accrued expenses for unexchanged promotional shares, \$7.9 million in accounts payable and \$1.1 million in income taxes receivable.

Cash paid for income tax net of refunds received in 2016, 2015 and 2014 was \$3.3 million, \$801,000 and \$4.6 million, respectively.

Net cash used in investing activities for 2016, 2015 and 2014 was \$909,000, \$1.2 million and \$3.6 million, respectively. The cash used in investing activities in 2016 was due primarily to \$909,000 in purchases of property and equipment. The cash used in investing activities in 2015 was due primarily to \$1.3 million in purchases of property and equipment offset by \$64,000 release of restricted cash. The cash used in investing activities in 2014 was due primarily to \$3.8 million in purchases of property and equipment offset by \$226,000 release of restricted cash.

Net cash used in financing activities for 2016, 2015 and 2014 was \$15.3 million, \$20.0 million and \$4.7 million, respectively. Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2016 was primarily due to \$5.7 million payment of related party loan and \$9.7 million cash used in repurchases of our common stock. Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2015 was primarily due to cash used in acquiring the Travelzoo Asia Pacific business and repurchases of our common stock. Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2014 was primarily to repurchases of our common stock.

See Note 4 to the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for information on the unexchanged promotional share settlements and related cash program.

Although the Company has settled the states unclaimed property claims with all states, the Company may still receive inquiries from certain potential Netsurfer promotional stockholders that had not provided their state of residence to the Company by April 25, 2004. Therefore, the Company is continuing its voluntary program under which it makes cash payments to individuals related to the promotional shares for individuals whose residence was unknown by the Company and who establish that they satisfied the conditions to receive shares of Travelzoo.com Corporation, and who failed to submit requests to convert their shares into shares of Travelzoo Inc. within the required time period. This voluntary program is not available for individuals whose promotional shares have been escheated to a state by the Company.

Our capital requirements depend on a number of factors, including market acceptance of our products and services, the amount of our resources we devote to the development of new products, cash payments related to former stockholders of Travelzoo.com Corporation, expansion of our operations, and the amount of resources we devote to promoting awareness of our *Travelzoo* and *Fly.com* brands. Since the inception of the program under which we make cash payments to people who establish that they were former stockholders of Travelzoo.com Corporation, and who failed to submit requests to convert their shares into shares of Travelzoo Inc. within the required time period, we have incurred expenses of \$2.9 million. While future payments for this program are expected to decrease, the total cost of this program is still undeterminable because it is dependent on our stock price and on the number of valid requests ultimately received.

Consistent with our growth, we have experienced fluctuations in our cost of revenues, sales and marketing expenses and our general and administrative expenses, including increases in product development costs, and we anticipate that these increases will continue for the foreseeable future. We believe cash on hand will be sufficient to pay such costs for at least the next twelve months. In addition, we will continue to evaluate possible investments in businesses, products and technologies, the consummation of any of which would increase our capital requirements.

Although we currently believe that we have sufficient capital resources to meet our anticipated working capital and capital expenditure requirements for at least the next twelve months, unanticipated events and opportunities or a less favorable than expected development of our business with one or more of advertising formats may require us to sell additional equity or debt securities or establish new credit facilities to raise capital in order to meet our capital requirements.

If we sell additional equity or convertible debt securities, the sale could dilute the ownership of our existing stockholders. If we issue debt securities or establish a new credit facility, our fixed obligations could increase, and we may be required to agree to operating covenants that would restrict our operations. We cannot be sure that any such financing will be available in amounts or on terms acceptable to us.

If the development of our business is less favorable than expected, we may decide to significantly reduce the size of our operations and marketing expenses in certain markets with the objective of reducing cash outflow.

The information set forth under “Note 4 — Commitments and Contingencies” to the accompanying consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this report is incorporated herein by reference. Litigation and claims against the Company may result in legal defense costs, settlements or judgments that could have a material impact on our financial condition.

The following summarizes our principal contractual commitments as of December 31, 2016 (in thousands):

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Thereafter	Total
Operating leases	\$ 5,519	\$ 4,584	\$ 4,032	\$ 3,582	\$ 3,003	\$ 5,503	\$ 26,223
Purchase obligations	733	508	—	—	—	—	1,241
Total commitments	\$ 6,252	\$ 5,092	\$ 4,032	\$ 3,582	\$ 3,003	\$ 5,503	\$ 27,464

We also have contingencies related to net unrecognized tax benefits, including interest, of approximately \$2.9 million as of December 31, 2016. In addition, the Company received a Revenue Agents' Report from the IRS for the 2009 calendar year related to the sale of our Asia Pacific business segment, which would result in additional federal tax, federal penalty and state tax expense totaling approximately \$31 million, excluding interest and state penalties, if any. We are unable to make reasonably reliable estimates on the timing of the cash settlements with the respective taxing authorities, if any. See Note 5 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further information.

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

We believe that there are a number of accounting policies that are critical to understanding our historical and future performance, as these policies affect the reported amounts of revenue and the more significant areas involving management’s judgments and estimates. These significant accounting policies relate to revenue recognition, reserve for member refunds, allowance for doubtful accounts, income taxes and loss contingencies. These policies, and our procedures related to these policies, are described in detail below.

#### *Revenue Recognition*

We recognize advertising revenues in the period in which the advertisement is displayed, or the voucher sale has been completed, provided that evidence of an arrangement exists, the fees are fixed or determinable and collection of the resulting receivable is reasonably assured. If fixed-fee advertising is displayed over a term greater than one month, revenues are recognized ratably over the period as described below. The majority of insertion orders have terms that begin and end in a quarterly reporting period. In the cases where at the end of a quarterly reporting period the term of an insertion order is not complete, the Company allocates the total arrangement fee to each element based on the relative estimated selling price of each element. The Company uses prices stated on its internal rate card, which represents stand-alone sales prices, to establish estimated selling prices. The stand-alone price is the price that would be charged if the advertiser purchased only the individual insertion. Fees for variable-fee advertising arrangements are recognized based on the number of impressions displayed, number of clicks delivered, or number of referrals generated during the period.

Under these policies, the Company evaluates each of these criteria as follows:

- *Evidence of an arrangement.* We consider an insertion order signed by the advertiser or its agency to be evidence of an arrangement.

- *Delivery.* Delivery is considered to occur when the advertising has been displayed, the click-throughs have been delivered, the voucher sale has been completed, cancelable hotel booking reservation stays have occurred or non-cancelable hotel booking reservations have been booked, as applicable.
- *Fixed or determinable fee.* Our arrangements with our customers specifies the price paid for advertising services.
- *Collection is deemed reasonably assured.* We conduct a credit review for all advertising transactions at the time of the arrangement to determine the creditworthiness of the advertiser. Collection is deemed reasonably assured if we expect that the advertiser will be able to pay amounts under the arrangement as payments become due. Collection is deemed not reasonably assured when an advertiser is perceived to be in financial distress, which may be evidenced by weak industry conditions, a bankruptcy filing, or previously billed amounts that are past due. If we determine that collection is not reasonably assured, then we defer the revenue and recognize the revenue upon cash collection. Collection is deemed reasonably assured for our voucher sales to consumers as these transactions require the use of credit cards subject to authorization.

Revenues from advertising sold to advertisers through agencies are reported at the amount billed to the agency.

For *Local Deals* and *Getaway* products, the Company earns a fee for acting as an agent in these transactions which is recorded on a net basis and is included in revenue upon completion of the voucher sale. Certain merchant contracts in foreign locations allow us to retain fees related to vouchers sold that are not redeemed by purchasers upon expiration, which we recognize as revenue after the expiration of the redemption period and after there are no further obligations to provide funds to merchants, members or others.

Commission revenues generated through provision of hotel booking reservations to hotels are recognized upon the estimated date the stay occurs at the hotel, which includes estimates of cancellations of the hotel bookings based upon historical patterns. If the hotel booking cannot be canceled or the hotel advertiser has agreed to pay for booking regardless of potential future cancellations then revenue is recognized upon booking.

#### *Reserve for Member Refunds*

We record an estimated reserve for member refunds based on our historical experience at the time revenue is recorded for *Local Deals* and *Getaway* voucher sales. We accrue costs associated with refunds in accrued expenses on the consolidated balance sheets. We consider many key factors such as the historical refunds based upon the time lag since the sale, historical reasons for refunds, time period that remains until the deal expiration date, any changes in refund procedures and estimates of redemptions and breakage. Should any of these factors change, the estimates made by management will also change, which could impact the level of our future reserves for member refunds. Specifically, if the financial condition of our advertisers, the businesses that are providing the vouchered services, were to deteriorate, affecting their ability to provide the services to our members, additional reserves for member refunds may be required.

Estimated member refunds that are determined to be recoverable from the merchant and the portion of which represents our fee from the merchant are recorded in the consolidated statements of operations as a reduction to revenue. Estimated member refunds that are determined not to be recoverable from the merchant are presented as a cost of revenue. If our judgments regarding estimated member refunds are inaccurate, reported results of operations could differ from the amount we previously accrued.

#### *Allowance for Doubtful Accounts*

We record a provision for doubtful accounts based on our historical experience of write-offs and a detailed assessment of our accounts receivable and allowance for doubtful accounts. In estimating the provision for doubtful accounts, management considers the age of the accounts receivable, our historical write-offs, the creditworthiness of the advertiser, the economic conditions of the advertiser's industry, and general economic conditions, among other factors. Should any of these factors change, the estimates made by management will also change, which could impact the level of our future provision for doubtful accounts. Specifically, if the financial condition of our advertisers were to deteriorate, affecting their ability to make payments, additional provision for doubtful accounts may be required.

### *Income Taxes*

We are subject to income taxes in the U.S. and numerous foreign jurisdictions. Significant judgment is required in evaluating our uncertain tax positions and determining our provision for income taxes. Although we believe we have adequately reserved for our uncertain tax positions, no assurance can be given that the final tax outcome of these matters will not be different. We adjust these reserves in light of changing facts and circumstances, such as the progress or closing of a tax audit or the refinement of an estimate. To the extent that the final tax outcome of these matters is different than the amounts recorded, such differences will impact the provision for income taxes in the period in which such determination is made. The provision for income taxes includes the impact of reserve provisions and changes to reserves that are considered appropriate, as well as the related net interest.

Our effective tax rates have differed from the statutory rate primarily due to the tax impact of foreign operations, state taxes, certain benefits realized related to stock option activities, credits, the extent that our earnings are indefinitely reinvested outside the U.S. and tax asset valuation allowance determinations, including on certain loss carryforwards. For the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, our effective tax rates were 39%, (84)% and 27%, respectively. Our future effective tax rates could be materially impacted by earnings being lower than anticipated in countries where we have lower statutory rates and higher than anticipated in countries where we have higher statutory rates, changes in the deferred tax assets or liabilities, existing or new uncertain tax matters that may arise and require changes in tax reserves, changes in tax asset valuation allowance determinations, changes in our judgment about whether certain foreign earnings are indefinitely reinvested outside the U.S., or changes in tax laws, regulations, and accounting principles. In addition, we are subject to the continuous examination of our income tax returns by the IRS and other tax authorities. We regularly assess the likelihood of adverse outcomes resulting from these examinations to determine the adequacy of our provision for income taxes. See Note 5 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further information.

### *Loss Contingencies*

We are involved in claims, suits, and proceedings arising from the ordinary course of our business. We record a provision for a liability when we believe that it is both probable that a liability has been incurred, and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Significant judgment is required to determine both probability and the estimated amount. Such claim proceedings are inherently unpredictable and subject to significant uncertainties, some of which are beyond our control. Should any of these estimates and assumptions change or prove to have been incorrect, it could have a material impact on our results of operations, financial position and cash flows. Please refer to Note 4 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further information regarding our loss contingencies.

### *Recent Accounting Pronouncements*

See “Note 1 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies” to the accompanying consolidated financial statements included in this report, regarding our significant accounting policies and any impact of certain recent accounting pronouncements on our consolidated financial statements.

### **Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

We believe that our potential exposure to changes in market interest rates is not material. The Company is not a party to any derivative transactions. We invest in highly liquid investments with short maturities. Accordingly, we do not expect any material loss from these investments.

Our operations in Canada expose us to foreign currency risk associated with agreements being denominated in Canadian Dollars. Our operations in Europe expose us to foreign currency risk associated with agreements being denominated in British Pound Sterling and Euros. Our operations in Asia Pacific expose us to foreign currency risk associated with agreements being denominated in Australian dollars, Chinese Yuan, Hong Kong dollar, Japanese Yen and Taiwanese Yuan. We are exposed to foreign currency risk associated with fluctuations of these currencies as the financial position and operating results of our operations in Asia Pacific, Canada and Europe are translated into U.S. dollars for consolidation purposes. We do not use derivative instruments to hedge these exposures. We have performed a sensitivity analysis as of December 31, 2016, using a modeling technique that measures the change in the fair values arising from a hypothetical 10% adverse movement in the levels of foreign currency exchange rates relative to the U.S. dollar with all other variables held constant. The foreign currency exchange rates we used were based on market rates in effect at December 31, 2016. The sensitivity analysis indicated that a hypothetical 10% adverse movement in foreign currency exchange rates would result in an incremental \$964,000 foreign exchange loss for the year ended December 31, 2016.

**Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data**

**TRAVELZOO INC.  
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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Travelzoo Inc.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2016 and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the year then ended present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Travelzoo Inc. and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2016, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting appearing under Item 9A. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements and on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our integrated audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process 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. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

San Jose, California  
March 15, 2017

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors and Stockholders  
Travelzoo Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Travelzoo Inc. and subsidiaries (Travelzoo) as of December 31, 2015, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2015. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of Travelzoo's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Travelzoo Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2015, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2015, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Santa Clara, California  
March 11, 2016

**TRAVELZOO INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(In thousands, except par value)

	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 26,838	\$ 35,128
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$295 and \$384 as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively	14,415	16,398
Income tax receivable	542	1,356
Deferred tax assets	793	1,230
Deposits	105	782
Prepaid expenses and other	1,773	2,167
Total current assets	44,466	57,061
Deposits and other	702	516
Deferred tax assets	1,052	1,769
Restricted cash	1,152	1,328
Property and equipment, net	6,158	7,905
Total assets	\$ 53,530	\$ 68,579
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 19,714	\$ 23,655
Accrued expenses and other	8,699	10,140
Deferred revenue	719	1,085
Income tax payable	691	477
Note payable to related party	—	5,658
Total current liabilities	29,823	41,015
Long-term tax liabilities	2,879	3,000
Long-term deferred rent and other	2,764	3,177
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share (5,000 shares authorized; none issued)	—	—
Common stock, \$0.01 par value (40,000 shares authorized; 13,462 shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2016 and 14,518 shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2015)	135	150
Additional paid-in capital	—	7,759
Retained earnings	21,716	17,386
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(3,787)	(3,908)
Total stockholders' equity	18,064	21,387
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 53,530	\$ 68,579

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**TRAVELZOO INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Revenues	\$ 128,552	\$ 141,716	\$ 153,240
Cost of revenues	14,313	18,824	19,174
Gross profit	114,239	122,892	134,066
Operating expenses:			
Sales and marketing	71,029	79,042	83,511
Product development	9,445	12,528	11,326
General and administrative	22,697	24,176	29,002
Unexchanged promotional shares	—	—	(7,583)
Total operating expenses	103,171	115,746	116,256
Income from operations	11,068	7,146	17,810
Other income (loss), net	(187)	(1,242)	91
Income before income taxes	10,881	5,904	17,901
Income tax expense (benefit)	4,250	(4,960)	4,839
Net income	\$ 6,631	\$ 10,864	\$ 13,062
Basic net income per share	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.88
Diluted net income per share	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.88
Shares used in computing basic net income per share	13,997	14,722	14,768
Shares used in computing diluted net income per share	13,997	14,722	14,809

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**TRAVELZOO INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**(In thousands)**

	<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>		
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Net income	\$ 6,631	\$ 10,864	\$ 13,062
Other comprehensive income (loss):			
Foreign currency translation adjustment	121	(1,306)	(2,228)
Total comprehensive income	<u>\$ 6,752</u>	<u>\$ 9,558</u>	<u>\$ 10,834</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**TRAVELZOO INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
(In thousands)

	Common Stock		Treasury Stock	Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount					
Balances, January 1, 2014	14,991	\$ 163	\$ (15,662)	\$ 29,490	\$ 16,479	\$ (374)	\$ 30,096
Stock-based compensation expense	—	—	—	982	—	—	982
Tax benefit shortfall from forfeiture/cancellation of stock options	—	—	—	(186)	—	—	(186)
Repurchase of common stock, net	(261)	—	(5,855)	300	—	—	(5,555)
Proceeds from sale of shares fractionalized from reverse/forward stock split, including transaction costs	—	—	—	—	(344)	—	(344)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	—	(2,228)	(2,228)
Net Income	—	—	—	—	13,062	—	13,062
Balances, December 31, 2014	14,730	163	(21,517)	30,586	29,197	(2,602)	35,827
Stock-based compensation expense	—	—	—	401	—	—	401
Retirement of treasury stock	—	(13)	23,241	(23,228)	—	—	—
Repurchase of common stock, net	(212)	—	(1,724)	—	—	—	(1,724)
Proceeds from sale of shares fractionalized from reverse/forward stock split, including transaction costs	—	—	—	—	(102)	—	(102)
Acquisition of Asia Pacific Business	—	—	—	—	(22,573)	—	(22,573)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	—	(1,306)	(1,306)
Net income	—	—	—	—	10,864	—	10,864
Balances, December 31, 2015	14,518	150	—	7,759	17,386	(3,908)	21,387
Stock-based compensation expense	—	—	—	933	—	—	933
Repurchase and retirement of common stock, net	(1,056)	(15)	—	(7,189)	(2,301)	—	(9,505)
Tax benefit shortfall from forfeiture/cancellation of stock options	—	—	—	(1,503)	—	—	(1,503)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	—	121	121
Net income	—	—	—	—	6,631	—	6,631
Balances, December 31, 2016	13,462	\$ 135	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 21,716	\$ (3,787)	\$ 18,064

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**TRAVELZOO INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(In thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Net income	\$ 6,631	\$ 10,864	\$ 13,062
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	2,530	2,788	2,986
Provision for losses on accounts receivable	100	(20)	35
Stock-based compensation	933	401	982
Deferred income tax	(199)	(269)	303
Impairment of software	—	—	249
Net foreign currency effect	(315)	480	(16)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	1,313	(789)	(830)
Income tax receivable	816	2,371	(1,114)
Prepaid expenses and other	957	675	822
Accounts payable	(2,463)	(1,139)	(7,893)
Reserve for unexchanged promotional shares	—	(1,393)	(11,333)
Accrued expenses and other	(1,747)	(1,681)	52
Income tax payable	287	(161)	608
Other non-current liabilities	(121)	(7,935)	500
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>8,722</u>	<u>4,192</u>	<u>(1,587)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchases of property and equipment	(909)	(1,282)	(3,813)
Release of restricted cash	—	64	226
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(909)</u>	<u>(1,218)</u>	<u>(3,587)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>			
Acquisition of the Asia Pacific business	58	(16,974)	—
Payment of loan to related party	(5,658)	(3,250)	—
Proceeds from loan from related party	—	2,224	1,000
Increase in bank overdraft	—	44	341
Decrease in bank overdraft	—	(385)	—
Repurchase of common stock	(9,662)	(1,569)	(5,555)
Reverse/forward stock split, including transaction costs	—	(102)	(479)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(15,262)</u>	<u>(20,012)</u>	<u>(4,693)</u>
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(841)	(3,251)	(3,384)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(8,290)	(20,289)	(13,251)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	35,128	55,417	68,668
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 26,838</u>	<u>\$ 35,128</u>	<u>\$ 55,417</u>
<b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:</b>			
Cash paid for income taxes, net	\$ 3,309	\$ 801	\$ 4,606
Cash paid for interest	\$ 88	\$ 128	—
Note payable for the acquisition of the Asia Pacific business	—	\$ 5,658	—
Leasehold improvements funded by landlord	—	—	\$ 624

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**TRAVELZOO INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**(a) The Company and Basis of Presentation**

Travelzoo Inc. (the “Company” or “Travelzoo”) is a global publisher of travel and entertainment offers. We inform our members in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America, as well as website users, about the best travel, entertainment and local deals available from thousands of companies. Our deal experts source, research and test-book offers, recommending only those that meet Travelzoo’s rigorous quality standards. We provide travel, entertainment, and local businesses with a fast, flexible, and cost effective way to reach consumers. Our revenues are generated primarily from advertising fees.

Our publications and products include the *Travelzoo* websites (travelzoo.com, travelzoo.ca, travelzoo.co.uk, travelzoo.de, travelzoo.es, travelzoo.fr, cn.travelzoo.com, travelzoo.co.jp, travelzoo.com.au, travelzoo.com.hk, travelzoo.com.tw, among others), the *Travelzoo Top 20* e-mail newsletter, the *Newsflash* e-mail alert service, the *SuperSearch* pay-per-click travel search tool, and the *Travelzoo Network*, a network of third-party websites that list travel deals published by Travelzoo. Our *Travelzoo* websites include *Local Deals* and *Getaway* listings that allow our members to purchase vouchers for deals from local businesses such as spas, hotels and restaurants. We receive a percentage of the face value of the voucher from the local businesses. We also operate *Fly.com*, a travel search engine that allows users to quickly and easily find the best prices on flights from hundreds of airlines and online travel agencies.

Ralph Bartel, who founded Travelzoo and who is a Director of the Company is the sole beneficiary of the Ralph Bartel 2005 Trust, which is the controlling shareholder of Azzurro Capital Inc. (“Azzurro”). As of December 31, 2016, Azzurro is the Company’s largest stockholder, holding approximately 55.2% of the outstanding shares.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) in the United States (“U.S.”). The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation.

Management of the Company has made a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities to prepare these financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Significant estimates included in the consolidated financial statements and related notes include revenue recognition, valuation allowances for deferred tax assets, uncertainties in income taxes, stock-based compensation, loss contingencies, and useful lives of property, plant and equipment. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

**(b) Revenue Recognition**

The Company’s revenue consists primarily of advertising sales. Advertising revenues are principally derived from the sale of advertising in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America on the *Travelzoo* website, in the *Travelzoo Top 20* e-mail newsletter, in *Newsflash*, from *SuperSearch*, from the *Travelzoo Network*, and from *Fly.com*. The Company also generates revenue from the sale of vouchers through our *Local Deals* and *Getaway* e-mail alert services and providing hotel bookings.

Advertising revenues are recognized in the period in which the advertisement is displayed or the voucher sale has been completed, provided that evidence of an arrangement exists, the fees are fixed or determinable and collection of the resulting receivable is reasonably assured. The Company evaluates each of these criteria as follows:

- *Evidence of an arrangement.* The Company considers an insertion order signed by the advertiser or its agency to be evidence of an arrangement.
- *Delivery.* Delivery is considered to occur when the advertising has been displayed, the click-throughs have been delivered or the voucher sale has been completed, as applicable.
- *Fixed or determinable fee.* The Company’s arrangements with its customers specifies the price paid for advertising services.
- *Collection is deemed reasonably assured.* The Company conducts a credit review for all advertising transactions at the time of the arrangement to determine the creditworthiness of the advertiser. Collection is deemed reasonably assured if it is expected that the advertiser will be able to pay amounts under the arrangement as payments become due. Collection is deemed not reasonably assured when an advertiser is perceived to be in financial distress, which may be evidenced by weak industry condition, bankruptcy filing, or previously billed amounts that are past due. If it is determined that collection is not reasonably assured, then revenue is deferred and recognized upon cash collection.

Collection is deemed reasonably assured for our voucher sales to consumers as these transactions require the use of credit cards subject to authorization.

The Company recognizes revenue for fixed-fee advertising arrangements ratably over the term of the insertion order as described below, with the exception of *Travelzoo Top 20* or *Newsflash* insertions, which are recognized upon delivery. The majority of insertion orders have terms that begin and end in a quarterly reporting period. In the cases where at the end of a quarterly reporting period the term of an insertion order is not complete, the Company allocates the total arrangement fee to each element based on the relative estimated selling price of each element. The Company recognizes revenue for the period based on elements delivered during the period. The Company uses prices stated on its internal rate card, which represents stand-alone sales prices, to establish estimated selling prices. The stand-alone price is the price that would be charged if the advertiser purchased only the individual insertion. Fees for variable-fee advertising arrangements are recognized based on the number of impressions displayed, number of clicks delivered, number of emails sent or number of referrals generated during the period.

Insertion orders that include fixed-fee advertising are invoiced upon acceptance of the insertion order and on the first day of each month over the term of the insertion order, with the exception of *Travelzoo Top 20* or *Newsflash* listings, which are invoiced upon delivery. Insertion orders that include variable-fee advertising are invoiced at the end of the month. The Company's standard terms state that in the event that Travelzoo fails to publish advertisements as specified in the insertion order, the liability of Travelzoo to the advertiser shall be limited to, at Travelzoo's sole discretion, a pro rata refund of the advertising fee, the placement of the advertisements at a later time in a comparable position, or the extension of the term of the insertion order until the advertising is fully delivered. The Company believes that no significant obligations exist after the full delivery of advertising.

Revenues from advertising sold to advertisers through agencies are reported at the net amount billed to the agency. Costs incurred for our affiliate traffic from our *Travelzoo Network* are classified as cost of revenues in our consolidated statements of operations.

For *Local Deals* and *Getaway* products, the Company earns a fee for acting as an agent in these transactions which is recorded on a net basis and is included in revenue upon completion of the voucher sale. Certain merchant contracts in foreign locations allow us to retain fees related to vouchers sold that are not redeemed by purchasers upon expiration, which we recognize as revenue after the expiration of the redemption period and after there are no further obligations to provide funds to merchants, members or others.

Commission revenues generated through provision of hotel booking reservations to hotels are recognized upon the estimated date the stay occurs at the hotel, which includes estimates of cancellations of the hotel bookings based upon historical patterns. If the hotel booking cannot be canceled then revenue is recognized upon booking.

**(c) Reserve for Member Refunds**

The Company records an estimated reserve for member refunds based on our historical experience at the time revenue is recorded for *Local Deals* and *Getaway* voucher sales. We accrue costs associated with refunds in accrued expenses on the consolidated balance sheets. We consider many key factors such as the historical refunds based upon the time lag since the sale, historical reasons for refunds, time period that remains until the deal expiration date, any changes in refund procedures and estimates of redemptions and breakage. Should any of these factors change, the estimates made by management will also change, which could impact the level of our future reserves for member refunds. Specifically, if the financial condition of our advertisers, the business that is providing the vouchered service, were to deteriorate, affecting their ability to provide the services to our members, additional reserves for member refunds may be required.

Estimated member refunds that are determined to be recoverable from the merchant are recorded in the consolidated statements of operations as a reduction to revenue. We accrue costs associated with refunds in accrued expenses on the consolidated balance sheets. Estimated member refunds that are determined not to be recoverable from the merchant, are presented as a cost of revenue. If our judgments regarding estimated member refunds are inaccurate, reported results of operations could differ from the amount we previously accrued.

**(d) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

The Company records a provision for doubtful accounts based on its historical experience of write-offs and a detailed assessment of our accounts receivable and allowance for doubtful accounts. In estimating the provision for doubtful accounts, management considers the age of the accounts receivable, historical write-offs, the creditworthiness of the advertiser, the economic conditions of the advertiser's industry, and general economic conditions, among other factors. Should any of these factors change, the estimates made by management will also change, which could impact the level of the future provision for

doubtful accounts. Specifically, if the financial condition of our advertisers were to deteriorate, affecting their ability to make payments, additional provision for doubtful accounts may be required.

***(e) Advertising Costs***

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Online advertising is expensed as incurred over the period the advertising is displayed. Advertising costs amounted to \$22.0 million, \$25.6 million and \$20.8 million for years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

***(f) Operating Leases***

The Company leases facilities and equipment under various operating leases. These lease agreements generally include rent holidays rent escalation clauses and renewal periods at the Company's option. The Company recognizes expense for scheduled rent increases on a straight-line basis over the lease term beginning with the date it takes possession of the leased facilities and equipment. Leasehold improvements made either at the inception of the lease or during the lease term are amortized over the current lease term, or estimated life, if shorter.

***(g) Stock-Based Compensation***

The Company accounts for its employee stock options under the fair value method, which requires stock-based compensation to be estimated using the fair value on the date of grant using an option-pricing model. The value of the portion of the award that is expected to vest is recognized as expense over the related employees' requisite service periods in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. See Note 8 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for a further discussion on stock-based compensation.

***(h) Foreign Currency***

All foreign subsidiaries use the local currency of their respective countries as their functional currency. Assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at exchange rates prevailing at the balance sheet dates. Revenues, costs and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at average exchange rates for the period. Gains and losses resulting from translation are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). Realized gains and losses from foreign currency transactions are recognized as gain or loss on foreign currency in the consolidated statements of operations. Total foreign currency transaction net losses of \$211,000, \$1.1 million and \$105,000 for 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively, are included in Other income (loss), net in the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

***(i) Income Taxes***

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets are recognized for deductible temporary differences, along with net operating loss carryforwards and credit carryforwards, if it is more likely than not that the tax benefits will be realized. To the extent a deferred tax asset cannot be recognized under the preceding criteria, valuation allowances must be established. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled.

Significant judgment is required in evaluating the Company's uncertain tax positions and determining the Company's provision for income taxes. Although the Company believes it has adequately reserved for its uncertain tax positions, no assurance can be given that the final tax outcome of these matters will not be different. The Company adjusts these reserves in light of changing facts and circumstances, such as the progress or closing of a tax audit or the refinement of an estimate. To the extent that the final tax outcome of these matters is different than the amounts recorded, such differences will impact the provision for income taxes in the period in which such determination is made. The provision for income taxes includes the impact of reserve provisions and changes to reserves that are considered appropriate, as well as the related net interest.

***(j) Comprehensive Income (Loss)***

Comprehensive income (loss) consists of two components, net income (loss) and other comprehensive income (loss). Other comprehensive income (loss) refers to certain changes in equity that are excluded from net income (loss). For the Company, other comprehensive income (loss) includes foreign currency translation adjustments. Total comprehensive income (loss) for all periods presented has been disclosed in the consolidated statements of comprehensive loss.

***(k) Certain Risks and Uncertainties***

The Company's cash, cash equivalents and accounts receivable are potentially subject to concentration of credit risk. Cash and cash equivalents are placed with financial institutions that management believes are of high credit quality. The accounts receivable are derived from revenue earned from customers located in the U.S. and internationally. As of December 31, 2016 and 2015, the Company had one customer that accounted for 16% and 15%, respectively, of accounts receivable.

***(l) Cash and Cash Equivalents***

Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less on the date of purchase.

***(m) Property and Equipment***

Property and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Additions and improvements are capitalized. Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred. The Company also includes in fixed assets the capitalized cost of internal-use software and website development, including software used to upgrade and enhance its website and processes supporting the Company's business in accordance with the framework established by the FASB accounting guidance for accounting for the cost of computer software developed or obtained for internal use and accounting for website development costs. Costs incurred in the planning stage and operating stage are expensed as incurred while costs incurred in the application development stage and infrastructure development stage are capitalized, assuming such costs are deemed to be recoverable.

Depreciation is provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Estimated useful lives are 3 to 5 years for computer hardware and software, capitalized internal-use software and website development costs, and office equipment and office furniture. The Company depreciates leasehold improvements over the term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset, whichever is shorter.

***(n) Impairment of Long-Lived Assets***

The Company accounts for long-lived assets in accordance with the accounting standard relating to impairment of long-lived assets, which requires an impairment loss to be recognized on assets to be held and used if the carrying amount of a long-lived asset group is not recoverable from its undiscounted cash flows. The amount of the impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of the asset group. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell. The Company evaluates long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company recorded a charge to write down the value of certain internally developed software applications that were no longer determined to have alternative use for \$249,000. No impairment loss was recognized during years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

***(o) Recent Accounting Pronouncements***

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, which requires an entity to recognize the amount of revenue to which it expects to be entitled for the transfer of promised goods or services to customers. ASU 2014-09 will replace most of the existing revenue recognition guidance in U.S. GAAP when it becomes effective. This new accounting standard is effective for the Company for annual periods in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017 (as amended in August 2015 by ASU 2015-14, Deferral of the Effective Date). In December 27, 2016, FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2016-20, Technical Corrections and Improvements to Topic 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, addresses loan guarantee fees, impairment testing of contract costs, provisions for losses on construction-type and production-type contracts, and various disclosures. ASU 2016-20 will go into effect once ASU 2014-09 takes effect. The Company has not yet selected the transition method. The Company will implement the provisions of ASU 2014-09 as of January 1, 2018. The Company is currently in the process of evaluating the impact of the adoption on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In August 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-15, Presentation of Financial Statements - Going Concern, which requires management to perform interim and annual assessments of an entity's ability to continue as a going concern within one year of the date the financial statements are issued and provides guidance on determining when and how to disclose going concern uncertainties in the financial statements. Certain disclosures will be required if conditions give rise to substantial doubt about an entity's ability to continue as a going concern. This accounting standard update applies to all entities and was effective for the annual period ending after December 15, 2016, and for annual periods and interim periods thereafter, with early adoption permitted. The Company adopted this standard during fiscal year 2016. The adoption of this accounting standard update did not have a material impact on its consolidated results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-17, Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes, which simplifies the presentation of deferred income taxes by requiring deferred tax assets and liabilities be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet. The updated standard is effective for us beginning on January 1, 2017 with early application permitted as of the beginning of any interim or annual reporting period. The Company is currently in the process of evaluating the impact of the adoption on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In February 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update ASU 2016-02, Leases, which requires that lease arrangements longer than 12 months result in an entity recognizing an asset and liability. ASU 2016-02 is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and early adoption is permitted. This accounting standard update will be effective for the Company on January 1, 2019. The Company is currently in the process of evaluating the impact of the adoption on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation: Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting, which is intended to simplify several aspects of the accounting for employee share-based payment transactions, including the income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities, and classification on the statement of cash flows. This accounting standard update will be effective for the Company on January 1, 2017 with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently in the process of evaluating the impact of the adoption on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-15, Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments, which addresses eight classification issues related to the statement of cash flows. In November 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-18, Statement of Cash Flows: Restricted Cash, which addresses classification and presentation of changes in restricted cash on the statement of cash flows. The standard requires that restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents be included as components of total cash and cash equivalents as presented on the statement of cash flows. Both ASU 2016-15 and ASU 2016-18 are effective for public business entities for annual and interim periods in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017 and should apply using a retrospective transition method to each period presented. These accounting standard updates will be effective for the Company on January 1, 2018. The Company is currently in the process of evaluating the impact of the adoption on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In October 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-16, Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets Other Than Inventory, which requires immediate recognition of the income tax consequences of intercompany asset transfers other than inventory. This accounting standard update is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those annual periods. This accounting standard update will be effective for the Company on January 1, 2018 with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently in the process of evaluating the impact of the adoption on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

## **Note 2: Net Income Per Share**

Basic net income per share is computed using the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted net income per share is computed by adjusting the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the effect of dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period. Potential common shares included in the diluted calculation consist of incremental shares issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options calculated using the treasury stock method.

The following table sets forth the calculation of basic and diluted net income per share (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
<b>Basic net income per share:</b>			
Net income	\$ 6,631	\$ 10,864	\$ 13,062
Weighted average common shares	13,997	14,722	14,768
Basic net income per share	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.88
<b>Diluted net income per share:</b>			
Net income	\$ 6,631	\$ 10,864	\$ 13,062
Weighted average common shares	13,997	14,722	14,768
Effect of dilutive securities: stock options	—	—	41
Diluted weighted average common shares	13,997	14,722	14,809
Diluted net income per share	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.88

For the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, options to purchase 600,000, 775,000 and 125,000 shares of common stock, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted net income per share because the effect would have been anti-dilutive.

**Note 3: Balance Sheet Components**

Prepaid expenses and other consist of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Prepaid expenses	\$ 1,334	\$ 1,630
Other current assets	439	537
Total prepaid expenses and other	\$ 1,773	\$ 2,167

Property and equipment consist of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Computer hardware and software	\$ 4,969	\$ 4,811
Office equipment and office furniture	8,802	9,306
Capitalized internal-use software and website development	3,265	3,089
Leasehold improvements	6,259	6,064
	23,295	23,270
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(17,137)	(15,365)
Total	\$ 6,158	\$ 7,905

Depreciation expense was \$2.1 million , \$2.2 million , and \$2.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 , respectively.

Amortization of capitalized internal-use software and website development costs was \$460,000 , \$308,000 and \$192,000 for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 , respectively.

Changes to the allowance for doubtful accounts and reserve for member refunds are as follows (in thousands):

	Allowance for doubtful accounts	Reserve for member refunds
Balance at January 1, 2014	\$ 436	\$ 813
Additions — charged to costs and expenses, or contra revenue, net	170	1,299
Deductions — recoveries of amounts previously charged-off	(118)	—
Deductions — write-offs	(44)	(1,313)
Balance at December 31, 2014	444	799
Additions — charged to costs and expenses, or contra revenue, net	295	776
Deductions — recoveries of amounts previously charged-off	(179)	—
Deductions — write-offs	(176)	(1,045)
Balance at December 31, 2015	384	530
Additions — charged to costs and expenses, or contra revenue, net	107	507
Deductions — recoveries of amounts previously charged-off	(89)	—
Deductions — write-offs	(107)	(563)
Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ 295	\$ 474

*Local Deals* and *Getaway* merchant payable included in accounts payable was \$14.8 million and \$19.1 million, as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

Accrued expenses and other consist of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Accrued advertising expense	\$ 1,828	\$ 1,801
Accrued compensation expense	3,288	4,373
Reserve for member refunds	474	530
Other accrued expenses	2,678	2,963
Deferred rent	431	473
Total accrued expenses and other	\$ 8,699	\$ 10,140

At December 31, 2016 and 2015, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses are not measured at fair value; however, the Company believes that the carrying amounts of these assets and liabilities are a reasonable estimate of their fair value because of their relative short maturity.

At December 31, 2015, the notes payable to related party is not measured at fair value; however, the Company believes that the carrying amounts of these assets and liabilities are a reasonable estimate of their fair value because of their relatively short maturity and subsequent payment.

#### Note 4: Commitments and Contingencies

The Company was formed as a result of a combination and merger of entities founded by the Company's principal stockholder, Ralph Bartel. In 2002, Travelzoo.com Corporation was merged into Travelzoo Inc. Under and subject to the terms of the merger agreement, holders of promotional shares of Travelzoo.com Corporation ("Netsurfers") who established that they had satisfied certain prerequisite qualifications were allowed a period of 2 years following the effective date of the merger to receive one share of Travelzoo Inc. in exchange for each share of common stock of Travelzoo.com Corporation. In 2004, two years following the effective date of the merger, certain promotional shares remained unexchanged. As the right to exchange these promotional shares expired, no additional shares were reserved for issuance. Thereafter, the Company began to offer a voluntary cash program for those who established that they had satisfied certain prerequisite qualifications for Netsurfer promotional shares as further described below.

Beginning in 2010, the Company became subject to unclaimed property audits of various states in the United States related to the above unexchanged promotional shares. The Company recorded charges for the estimated settlements with these states of \$20.0 million, \$3.0 million and \$22.0 million in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively. In 2014, the Company released \$7.6 million of the reserve related to the completion of settlements with the states and in 2015 the Company paid the final settlements outstanding.

Although the Company has settled the states unclaimed property claims with all states, the Company may still receive inquiries from certain potential Netsurfer promotional stockholders that had not provided their state of residence to the Company by April 25, 2004. Therefore, the Company is continuing its voluntary program under which it makes cash payments to individuals related to the promotional shares for individuals whose residence was unknown by the Company and who establish that they satisfy the original conditions required for them to receive shares of Travelzoo.com Corporation, and who failed to submit requests to convert their shares into shares of Travelzoo Inc. within the required time period. This voluntary program is not available for individuals whose promotional shares have been escheated to a state by the Company, except those individuals for which their residence was unknown to the Company. The accompanying consolidated financial statements include a charge for payments under this voluntary program in general and administrative expenses of \$ 2,000, \$1,000 and \$6,000 for the year ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

The total cost of this voluntary program is not reliably estimable because it is based on the ultimate number of valid requests received and future levels of the Company's common stock price. The Company's common stock price affects the potential liability because the amount of cash payments under the program is based in part on the recent level of the stock price at the date valid requests are received. The Company does not know how many of the requests for shares originally received by Travelzoo.com Corporation in 1998 were valid, but the Company believes that only a portion of such requests were valid. In order to receive payment under this voluntary program, a person is required to establish that such person validly held shares in Travelzoo.com Corporation.

The Company leases office space in Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, the U.K., and the U.S. under operating leases which expire between March 31, 2017 and November 30, 2024. Rent expense was \$5.3 million, \$5.8 million and \$6.0 million for years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Some of these lease agreements have free or escalating rent payment provisions. We recognize rent expense under such arrangements on a straight line basis.

On August 20, 2015, as part of the Asia Pacific acquisition, Travelzoo (Europe) Limited issued a promissory note to Azzurro with a principal amount of \$5.7 million, with a maturity date of August 20, 2018 and the ability to pay off principal prior to this maturity date with no prepayment penalty and a stated interest rate of 7%. In January 2016, the full amount of the loan was paid off by Travelzoo (Europe) Limited.

The Company has purchase commitments which represent the minimum obligations the Company has under agreements with certain vendors. These minimum obligations are less than the Company's projected use for those periods. Payments may be more than the minimum obligations based on actual use.

The following summarizes the Company's principal contractual commitments as of December 31, 2016 (in thousands):

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Thereafter	Total
Operating leases	\$ 5,519	\$ 4,584	\$ 4,032	\$ 3,582	\$ 3,003	\$ 5,503	\$ 26,223
Purchase obligations	733	508	—	—	—	—	1,241
Total commitments	\$ 6,252	\$ 5,092	\$ 4,032	\$ 3,582	\$ 3,003	\$ 5,503	\$ 27,464

**Note 5: Income Taxes**

The components of income before income tax expense are as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
U.S.	\$ 7,902	\$ 5,334	\$ 14,363
Foreign	2,979	570	3,538
	<u>\$ 10,881</u>	<u>\$ 5,904</u>	<u>\$ 17,901</u>

Income tax expense consists of current and deferred components categorized by federal, state and foreign jurisdictions, as shown below. The current provision is generally that portion of income tax expense that is currently payable to the taxing authorities. The Company makes estimated payments of these amounts during the year. The deferred tax provision results from changes in the Company's deferred tax assets (future deductible amounts) and tax liabilities (future taxable amounts), which are presented in the table below:

	Current	Deferred	Total
	(In thousands)		
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2016</b>			
Federal	\$ 2,531	\$ (123)	\$ 2,408
State	406	23	429
Foreign	1,510	(97)	1,413
	<u>\$ 4,447</u>	<u>\$ (197)</u>	<u>\$ 4,250</u>
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2015</b>			
Federal	\$ (5,851)	\$ (238)	\$ (6,089)
State	337	51	388
Foreign	759	(18)	741
	<u>\$ (4,755)</u>	<u>\$ (205)</u>	<u>\$ (4,960)</u>
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2014</b>			
Federal	\$ 2,124	\$ 294	\$ 2,418
State	670	21	691
Foreign	1,725	5	1,730
	<u>\$ 4,519</u>	<u>\$ 320</u>	<u>\$ 4,839</u>

Income tax expense differed from the amounts computed by applying the U.S. federal statutory tax rate applicable to the Company's level of pretax income as a result of the following (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Federal tax at statutory rates	\$ 3,846	\$ 2,083	\$ 6,265
State taxes, net of federal income tax benefit	284	254	504
Expired capital loss carryforward	—	—	1,534
Change of valuation allowance	895	816	(586)
Unexchanged promotional shares	—	—	(2,654)
Non-deductible expenses and other	(38)	177	247
Uncertain tax positions	(132)	(7,935)	308
Foreign income taxed at different rates	(605)	(355)	(779)
<b>Total income tax expense</b>	<b>\$ 4,250</b>	<b>\$ (4,960)</b>	<b>\$ 4,839</b>

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss carryforwards	\$ 7,239	\$ 6,940
State income taxes	159	142
Accruals and allowances	447	783
Stock based compensation	771	1,932
Unrealized foreign exchange losses	149	—
Deferred revenue	113	292
Deferred rent	625	636
<b>Total deferred tax assets</b>	<b>9,503</b>	<b>10,725</b>
Valuation allowance	(7,168)	(6,940)
<b>Total deferred tax assets net of valuation allowance</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>3,785</b>
Deferred tax liabilities:		
U.S. tax on undistributed earnings	(173)	(247)
Property, equipment and intangible assets	(351)	(581)
<b>Total deferred tax liabilities</b>	<b>(524)</b>	<b>(828)</b>
<b>Net deferred tax assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,811</b>	<b>\$ 2,957</b>

Changes in the deferred tax assets valuation allowance for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2015 and 2016 are as follows (in thousands):

	Balance at the beginning of the year	Charged (Credited) to expenses	Charged (Credited) to other account (*)	Balance at end of year
Deferred tax assets valuation allowance				
2014	\$ 7,450	(586)	(433)	\$ 6,431
2015	\$ 6,431	816	(307)	\$ 6,940
2016	\$ 6,940	895	(667)	\$ 7,168

(\*) Amounts not charged (credited) to expenses are charged (credited) to stockholder's equity or deferred tax assets (liabilities).

As of December 31, 2016, the Company has a valuation allowance of approximately \$7.2 million related to foreign net operating loss carryforwards (“NOL”) of approximately \$31.2 million for which it is more likely than not that the tax benefit will not be realized. The amount of the valuation allowance represented an increase of approximately \$228,000 over the amount recorded as of December 31, 2015, and was due to the increase in foreign operating losses. If not utilized, foreign NOL of \$18.5 million may be carried forward indefinitely, and foreign NOL of \$12.7 million will expire at various times between 2017 and 2025.

United States income and foreign withholding taxes have not been provided on undistributed earnings for certain non-U.S. subsidiaries. The undistributed earnings on a book basis for the non-U.S. subsidiaries are approximately \$ 11.8 million. The Company intends to reinvest these earnings indefinitely in its operations outside the U.S. If the undistributed earnings are remitted to the U.S. these amounts would be taxable in the U.S at the current federal and state tax rates net of foreign tax credits. Also, depending on the jurisdiction any distribution may be subject to withholding taxes at rates applicable for that jurisdiction. The estimated amount of the unrecognized deferred tax liability attributed to future dividend distributions of undistributed earnings is approximately \$1.3 million at December 31, 2016.

The total amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits was \$2.4 million as of December 31, 2016, of which up to \$1.9 million would affect the Company’s effective tax rate if realized. A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits in 2014, 2015, and 2016 is as follows (in thousands):

Gross unrecognized tax benefits balance at January 1, 2014	\$	9,987
Increase related to prior year tax positions		—
Decrease related to prior year tax positions		—
Increase related to current year tax positions		38
Settlements		—
Lapse of statute of limitations		—
Gross unrecognized tax benefits balance at December 31, 2014		<u>10,025</u>
Increase related to prior year tax positions		898
Decrease related to prior year tax positions		—
Increase related to current year tax positions		11
Settlements		—
Lapse of statute of limitations		(8,264)
Gross unrecognized tax benefits balance at December 31, 2015		<u>2,670</u>
Increase related to prior year tax positions		10
Decrease related to prior year tax positions		—
Increase related to current year tax positions		—
Settlements		—
Lapse of statute of limitations		(323)
Gross unrecognized tax benefits balance at December 31, 2016	\$	<u><u>2,357</u></u>

The Company’s policy is to include interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax positions in income tax expense. To the extent accrued interest and penalties do not ultimately become payable, amounts accrued will be reduced and reflected as a reduction in the overall income tax provision in the period that such determination is made. At December 31, 2016, the Company had approximately \$911,000 in accrued interest, of which \$119,000 was a net increase in the amount accrued in 2016, and approximately \$40,000 in accrued penalties, of which none was accrued in 2016.

The Company is in various stages of multiple year examinations by federal taxing authorities. Although the timing of initiation, resolution and/or closure of audits is highly uncertain, it is reasonably possible that the balance of the gross unrecognized tax benefits related to the method of computing income taxes in certain jurisdictions and losses reported on certain income tax returns could significantly change in the next 12 months. These changes may occur through settlement with the taxing authorities or the expiration of the statute of limitations on the returns filed. The Company is unable to estimate the range of possible adjustments to the balance of the gross unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various states and foreign jurisdictions. The Company is subject to U.S. federal and certain state tax examinations for certain years after 2008 and is subject to California tax examinations for years after 2005. The material foreign jurisdictions where the Company is subject to potential examinations by tax authorities are the France, Germany, Spain and United Kingdom for tax years after 2009. The Company's 2009 federal income tax return is currently under examination, including a review of the impact of the sale of Asia Pacific business segment in 2009. These examinations may lead to ordinary course adjustments or proposed adjustments to our taxes or our net operating income. The Company has received a Revenue Agent's Report (RAR) generally issued at the conclusion of an IRS examination, which was consistent with the Notice of Proposed Adjustment it received earlier from the IRS for the 2009 calendar year related to the sale of our Asia Pacific business segment with additional penalties. The RAR proposes an increase to the Company's U.S. taxable income which would result in additional federal tax, federal penalty and state tax expense totaling approximately \$31 million, excluding interest and state penalties, if any. The proposed adjustment is primarily driven by IRS's view that the Asia Pacific business segment assets sold by the Company had a significantly higher valuation than the sales proceeds the Company received upon the sale. The Company disagrees with the proposed adjustments and intends to vigorously contest them. The Company did not make any adjustments to its liabilities for uncertain tax positions related to the RAR for the year ended December 31, 2016 because the Company does not believe the IRS's valuation of Asia Pacific business segment assets is appropriate. If we are not able to resolve these proposed adjustments at the IRS examination level, we plan to pursue all available administrative and, if necessary, judicial remedies.

**Note 6: Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss**

The following table summarizes the changes in accumulated balances of other comprehensive loss (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Beginning balance	\$ (3,908)	\$ (2,602)	\$ (374)
Other comprehensive income (loss) due to foreign currency translation, net of tax	121	(1,306)	(2,228)
Ending balance	<u>\$ (3,787)</u>	<u>\$ (3,908)</u>	<u>\$ (2,602)</u>

There were no amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014. Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) consists of foreign currency translation gain or loss.

**Note 7: Employee Benefit Plan**

The Company maintains a 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan & Trust (the "401(k) Plan") for its employees in the United States. The 401(k) Plan allows employees of the Company to contribute up to 80% of their eligible compensation, subject to certain limitations. Since 2006, the Company matches employee contributions up to \$1,500 per year. Employee contributions are fully vested upon contribution, whereas the Company's matching contributions are fully vested after the first year of service. The Company also has various defined contribution plans for its international employees. The Company's contributions to these benefit plans were approximately \$1.9 million, \$2.1 million and \$2.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Note 8: Stock-Based Compensation and Stock Options**

The Company accounts for its employee stock options under the fair value method, which requires stock-based compensation to be estimated using the fair value on the date of grant using an option-pricing model. The value of the portion of the award that is expected to vest is recognized on a straight-line basis as expense over the related employees' requisite service periods in the Company's consolidated statements of income. Cash flows resulting from tax deductions in excess of the compensation cost recognized for those options (excess tax benefits) are classified as financing cash flows. For the years ended years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, there were no stock option exercises and no excess tax benefits.

In January 2012, the Company granted certain executives stock options to purchase 100,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$28.98, of which 25,000 options vest and become exercisable annually starting on January 23, 2013. The options expire in January 2022. During 2014, 25,000 options were canceled and 25,000 options were forfeited upon the departure of an executive. As of December 31, 2016, 50,000 of the options are vested and outstanding.

In September 2015, the Company granted an executive stock options to purchase 400,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$8.07, of which 50,000 options became exercisable quarterly starting March 31, 2016. The options expire in September 2025. As of December 31, 2016, 400,000 options were outstanding, of which 200,000 options were vested.

In March 2016, the Company granted certain executives stock options to purchase 150,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$8.55 , of which 37,500 options vest and become exercisable annually starting on March 7, 2017. The options expire in March 2026. As of December 31, 2016 , 150,000 options were outstanding and none of these options were vested.

Total stock-based compensation for fiscal years 2016 , 2015 and 2014 was \$933,000 , \$401,000 and \$982,000 , respectively.

The Company utilized the Black-Scholes option pricing model to value the stock options granted in 2016, 2015 and 2012. The Company used an expected life as defined under the simplified method, which is using an average of the contractual term and vesting period of the stock options. The risk-free interest rate used for the award is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant. The historical volatility was calculated based upon implied volatility of the Company's historical stock prices. The Company used a forfeiture rate of 0% . To the extent the actual forfeiture rate is different from what we have anticipated, stock-based compensation related to these options will be different from our expectations.

The fair value of 2016, 2015 and 2012 stock options was estimated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions:

	2016	2015	2012
Weighted-average fair value of options granted per share	\$ 4.73	\$ 4.42	\$ 19.08
Historical volatility	58%	59%	74%
Risk-free interest rate	1.38%	1.73%	1.11%
Dividend yield	—	—	—
Expected life in years	6.25	5.75	6.25

As of December 31, 2016 , there was approximately \$783,000 of unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to outstanding 2015 stock options, expected to be recognized over 1 year, and approximately \$565,000 of unrecognized stock-based compensation expense relating to outstanding 2016 stock options. This amount is expected to be recognized over 3.2 years. There was no unrecognized stock-based compensation expense relating to 2012 stock options grants.

Option activities during the years ended December 31, 2014 , 2015 , and 2016 were as follows:

	Shares	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
				(In thousands)
Outstanding at January 1, 2014	475,000	\$ 20.23	6.93 years	\$ 1,905
Options forfeited and canceled	(50,000)	\$ 28.98		
Outstanding at December 31, 2014	425,000	\$ 19.20	5.79 years	\$ —
Option Granted	400,000	\$ 8.07		
Options forfeited and canceled	(50,000)	\$ 29.58		
Outstanding at December 31, 2015	775,000	\$ 12.78	5.53 years	\$ 120
Option Granted	150,000	\$ 8.55		
Options forfeited and canceled	(325,000)	\$ 16.09		
Outstanding at December 31, 2016	600,000	\$ 9.93	8.55 years	\$ —
Exercisable and fully vested at December 31, 2016	250,000	\$ 12.25	8.01 years	\$ —
Outstanding at December 31, 2016 and expected to vest thereafter	350,000	\$ 8.28	8.94 years	\$ 394

The aggregate intrinsic value in the table above represents the total pre-tax intrinsic value (the difference between the Company's closing stock price on the last trading day of years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 and the exercise price, multiplied by the number of in-the-money options) that would have been received by the option holders had all option holders exercised their options on December 31, 2016 , 2015 , and 2014 . This amount changes based on the fair value of the Company's stock. The Company's policy is to issue shares from the authorized shares to fulfill stock option exercises.

Outstanding options at December 31, 2016 were as follows:

Exercise Price	Shares Outstanding	Options Outstanding Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Shares Outstanding and Exercisable	Options Exercisable Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life
\$ 28.98	50,000	5.07 years	\$ 28.98	50,000	5.07 years
\$ 8.07	400,000	8.75 years	\$ 8.07	200,000	8.75 years
\$ 8.55	150,000	9.19 years	\$ 8.55	—	—

#### Note 9: Stock Repurchase Program

The Company's stock repurchase programs assist in offsetting the impact of dilution from employee equity compensation and for capital allocation purposes. Management is allowed discretion in the execution of the repurchase program based upon market conditions and consideration of capital allocation.

In July 2012, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock. There were 29,000 shares remaining to be repurchased under this program as of December 31, 2013, which were repurchased in 2014.

In January 2014, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 500,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock. During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company repurchased 261,000 shares of common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$5.9 million, which were recorded as part of treasury stock as of December 31, 2014. During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company repurchased 212,000 shares of common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$1.7 million, which were recorded as part of treasury stock as of December 31, 2015. There were 56,000 shares remaining to be repurchased under this program as of December 31, 2015. The shares repurchased were retired and reflected as a reduction of additional paid-in capital as of December 31, 2016.

In February 2016, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock. During the year ended December 31, 2016, the Company repurchased 1,056,000 shares of common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$9.5 million, which were retired and recorded as a reduction of additional paid-in capital until extinguished with the remaining amount reflected as a reduction of retained earnings.

In February 2017, the Company announced a stock repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock.

#### Note 10: Segment Reporting and Significant Customer Information

The Company manages its business geographically and has three reportable operating segments: Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Asia Pacific consists of the Company's operations in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. Europe consists of the Company's operations in France, Germany, Spain, and the U.K. North America consists of the Company's operations in Canada and the U.S.

Management relies on an internal management reporting process that provides revenue and segment operating income (loss) for making financial decisions and allocating resources. Management believes that segment revenues and operating income (loss) are appropriate measures of evaluating the operational performance of the Company's segments.

The following is a summary of operating results and assets (in thousands) by business segment:

Year Ended December 31, 2016	Asia Pacific	Europe	North America	Other	Consolidated
Revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 9,658	\$ 38,637	\$ 80,257	\$ —	\$ 128,552
Intersegment revenues	64	(701)	637	—	—
Total net revenues	\$ 9,722	\$ 37,936	\$ 80,894	—	\$ 128,552
Operating income (loss)	\$ (3,866)	\$ 6,085	\$ 8,849	\$ —	\$ 11,068

<b>Year Ended December 31, 2015</b>	<b>Asia Pacific</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>North America</b>	<b>Other (a)</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 10,746	\$ 42,588	\$ 88,382	\$ —	\$ 141,716
Intersegment revenues	(63)	(456)	519	—	—
<b>Total net revenues</b>	<b>\$ 10,683</b>	<b>\$ 42,132</b>	<b>\$ 88,901</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>\$ 141,716</b>
Operating income (loss)	\$ (2,435)	\$ 3,871	\$ 5,710	\$ —	\$ 7,146

<b>Year Ended December 31, 2014</b>	<b>Asia Pacific</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>North America</b>	<b>Other (a)</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 11,160	\$ 46,896	\$ 95,184	\$ —	\$ 153,240
Intersegment revenues	(85)	(921)	1,006	—	—
<b>Total net revenues</b>	<b>\$ 11,075</b>	<b>\$ 45,975</b>	<b>\$ 96,190</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>\$ 153,240</b>
Operating income (loss)	\$ (3,378)	\$ 5,818	\$ 7,787	\$ 7,583	\$ 17,810

(a) Amount related to unexchanged promotional shares that include a \$7.6 million release of reserve for the year ended December 31, 2014 .

<b>As of December 31, 2016</b>	<b>Asia Pacific</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>North America</b>	<b>Elimination</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Long-lived assets	\$ 209	\$ 763	\$ 5,186	\$ —	\$ 6,158
Total assets	\$ 5,295	\$ 49,125	\$ 65,961	\$ (66,851)	\$ 53,530

<b>As of December 31, 2015</b>	<b>Asia Pacific</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>North America</b>	<b>Elimination</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Long-lived assets	\$ 369	\$ 899	\$ 6,652	\$ —	\$ 7,920
Total assets	\$ 5,845	\$ 54,452	\$ 71,626	\$ (63,344)	\$ 68,579

Revenue for each segment is recognized based on the customer location within a designated geographic region. Property and equipment are attributed to the geographic region in which the assets are located.

For the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 , the Company did not have any customers that accounted for 10% or more of revenue. As of December 31, 2016 and 2015 , the Company had one customer that accounted for 16% and 15% , respectively, of accounts receivable. Accounts receivable representing 10% or more of total accounts receivable was related to an advertising technology company that assists us with our Search product traffic monetization by using a traffic auction platform.

The following table sets forth the breakdown of revenues (in thousands) by category and segment. Travel revenue includes travel publications ( *Top 20* , *Website* , *Newsflash* , *Travelzoo Network* ), *Getaway* vouchers and hotel booking platform. Search revenue includes *SuperSearch* and *Fly.com* . Local revenue includes *Local Deals* vouchers and entertainment offers (vouchers and direct bookings).

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
<b>Asia Pacific</b>			
Travel	\$ 8,845	\$ 9,355	\$ 9,308
Search	24	34	100
Local	853	1,294	1,667
<b>Total Asia Pacific revenues</b>	<b>\$ 9,722</b>	<b>\$ 10,683</b>	<b>\$ 11,075</b>
<b>Europe</b>			
Travel	\$ 31,086	\$ 33,603	\$ 35,847
Search	1,030	2,396	3,009
Local	5,820	6,133	7,119
<b>Total Europe revenues</b>	<b>\$ 37,936</b>	<b>\$ 42,132</b>	<b>\$ 45,975</b>
<b>North America</b>			
Travel	\$ 54,249	\$ 56,054	\$ 59,104
Search	13,235	15,427	15,888
Local	13,410	17,420	21,198
<b>Total North America revenues</b>	<b>\$ 80,894</b>	<b>\$ 88,901</b>	<b>\$ 96,190</b>
<b>Consolidated</b>			
Travel	\$ 94,180	\$ 99,012	\$ 104,259
Search	14,289	17,857	18,997
Local	20,083	24,847	29,984
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>\$ 128,552</b>	<b>\$ 141,716</b>	<b>\$ 153,240</b>

Revenue by geography is based on the billing address of the advertiser. Long-lived assets attributed to the U.S. and international geographies are based upon the country in which the asset is located or owned.

The following table sets forth revenue for individual countries that were 10% or more of total revenue (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
<b>Revenue</b>			
United States	\$ 75,486	\$ 83,469	\$ 89,311
United Kingdom	23,137	27,825	29,301
Rest of the world	29,929	30,422	34,628
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>\$ 128,552</b>	<b>\$ 141,716</b>	<b>\$ 153,240</b>

The following table sets forth long lived asset by geographic area (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2016	2015
United States	\$ 4,755	\$ 6,167
Rest of the world	1,403	1,753
<b>Total long lived assets</b>	<b>\$ 6,158</b>	<b>\$ 7,920</b>

## Note 11: Related Party Transactions

On August 20, 2015, Travelzoo acquired the Travelzoo Asia Pacific business ("Asia Pacific"), which includes the Travelzoo businesses in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. This business was independently operated by Azzurro Capital Inc. ("Azzurro") under a licensing agreement with Travelzoo Inc. The Company held an option right to acquire Asia Pacific at fair market value as determined by a third party valuation expert. Under the terms of the definitive acquisition agreement, Travelzoo (Europe) Limited, a United Kingdom subsidiary of the Company, was authorized by the Company to exercise the option right to acquire Asia Pacific for a fair market transaction value of \$22.6 million, subject to a working capital adjustment, using available cash of \$17.0 million and a promissory note of \$5.7 million with a maturity date of three years.

The Company's board of directors established a special committee (the "Special Committee"), consisting of independent and disinterested directors and provided it with the exclusive power and authority to determine whether any potential transaction to acquire Asia Pacific was advisable, fair to and in the best interests of the Company's stockholders other than Azzurro Capital Inc., the principal stockholder of Travelzoo Inc. The Special Committee engaged independent legal counsel and an independent financial advisor, Stout Risius Ross, Inc. ("SRR"). The Special Committee obtained the right to select its own independent financial advisor, SRR, to independently determine the fair market value of Asia Pacific to be used as the option exercise price and received an opinion from SRR regarding the fairness of the Asia Pacific transaction from a financial point of view. SRR determined that \$22.6 million represented the fair market value of Asia Pacific to be used as the option exercise price based upon the use of established valuation methodologies. The Special Committee, which was composed solely of independent and disinterested directors, unanimously approved the acquisition of Asia Pacific at the fair market value option exercise price with the assistance of its independent legal and financial advisors.

Ralph Bartel, who founded Travelzoo and who is a Director of the Company is the sole beneficiary of the Ralph Bartel 2005 Trust, which is the controlling shareholder of Azzurro Capital Inc. As of December 31, 2016, Azzurro is the Company's largest stockholder, holding approximately 55.2% of the Company's outstanding shares.

Since Azzurro Capital Inc. had a controlling interest in both Travelzoo Inc. and the Travelzoo Asia Pacific business at the time of the transaction and in prior periods, this transaction is accounted for as a common control transaction and a change in reporting entity for the Company. The financial results for Travelzoo Inc. were retrospectively adjusted to include the financial results of Asia Pacific in the 2015 and 2014 as though the transaction occurred at the beginning of each period presented, including the following adjustments:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2015	2014
Revenue	\$ 10,774	\$ 11,218
Operating Loss	\$ (2,436)	\$ (3,382)
Net Loss	\$ (3,096)	\$ (3,288)
Other Comprehensive Income	\$ 305	\$ 239
Basic and diluted earnings per share	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.22)

The Asia Pacific assets and liabilities have been combined with Travelzoo Inc. at their carrying values as though the transaction occurred at the beginning of each period presented. At December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, Asia Pacific net liabilities, total assets minus total liabilities, were \$6.8 million and \$4.0 million, respectively.

The Asia Pacific transaction proceeds of \$22.6 million were reflected as an equity transaction, included in retained earnings, during the period the transaction occurred, which was in the year ended December 31, 2015.

Travelzoo (Europe) Limited, a United Kingdom subsidiary of the Company, acquired the Asia Pacific business, which include certain customary seller indemnifications, through the acquisition of Travelzoo (Asia) Limited, including its wholly owned subsidiaries, and Travelzoo Japan KK. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions between Travelzoo Inc. and the acquired Asia Pacific entities have been eliminated for all periods presented.

In November 2014, Azzurro provided a loan to Asia Pacific of \$1.0 million with a stated interest rate of 8%. There were \$1.0 million loans and \$5,000 accrued interest due to Azzurro as of December 31, 2014. From January 1, 2015 to August 20, 2015, Azzurro provided loans to the Asia Pacific amounting to \$2.2 million with a stated interest rate of 10%. In September 2015, the Company paid the due and outstanding principal loan amount of \$3.3 million and accrued interest of \$128,000.

On August 20, 2015, as part of the transaction proceeds Travelzoo (Europe) Limited issued a promissory note to Azzurro with a principal amount of \$5.7 million, with a maturity date of August 20, 2018 and the ability to pay off principal prior to this maturity date with no prepayment penalty and a stated interest rate of 7%, which is due and payable on a quarterly basis. Accrued interest for the loans and promissory note outstanding was \$267,000 for the year ended December 31, 2015. In January 2016, the full amount of the loan was paid off by Travelzoo (Europe) Limited.

On September 28, 2015, Holger Bartel, Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Directors, was granted 400,000 stock options that vest through December 31, 2017 in connection with his appointment to the role of Global Chief Executive Officer. See Note 8 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further information.

**Note 12: Unaudited Quarterly Information**

The following represents unaudited quarterly financial data (in thousands, except per share amounts) for 2016 and 2015:

	Quarter Ended							
	Dec 31, 2016	Sep 30, 2016	Jun 30, 2016	Mar 31, 2016	Dec 31, 2015	Sep 30, 2015	Jun 30, 2015	Mar 31, 2015
Revenues	\$ 29,262	\$ 30,440	\$ 34,046	34,804	\$ 32,051	\$ 33,728	\$ 36,792	\$ 39,145
Cost of revenues	3,331	3,361	3,612	4,009	4,328	4,742	5,208	4,546
Gross profit	25,931	27,079	30,434	30,795	27,723	28,986	31,584	34,599
Operating expenses:								
Sales and marketing	15,751	17,184	19,135	18,959	17,161	19,089	20,715	22,077
General and administrative	6,077	5,373	5,434	5,813	6,270	6,120	5,335	6,451
Product Development	2,164	2,317	2,089	2,875	3,316	2,917	3,206	3,089
Total operating expenses	23,992	24,874	26,658	27,647	26,747	28,126	29,256	31,617
Income from operations	1,939	2,205	3,776	3,148	976	860	2,328	2,982
Other income (loss), net	(480)	251	(91)	133	(376)	(202)	(218)	(446)
Income before income tax	1,459	2,456	3,685	3,281	600	658	2,110	2,536
Income tax expense (benefit)	516	837	1,665	1,232	165	(8,199)	1,268	1,806
Net income	\$ 943	\$ 1,619	\$ 2,020	\$ 2,049	\$ 435	\$ 8,857	\$ 842	\$ 730
Basic net income per share	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.05
Diluted net income per share	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.05

**Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure**

None

**Item 9A. Controls and Procedures**

**Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Based on management's evaluation (with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO)), as of December 31, 2016, our CEO and CFO have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)), are effective to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including our CEO and CFO, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

**Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

During the quarter ended December 31, 2016, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls 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 defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016, the end of our fiscal year. Management based its assessment on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

Based on this assessment, management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2016 to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, audited the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016, as stated in the firm's audit report, which is included within Part II, Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

/s/ HOLGER BARTEL

Holger Bartel

*Chairman of the Board and Global CEO*

/s/ GLEN CEREMONY

Glen Ceremony

*Chief Financial Officer*

March 15, 2017

**Item 9B. Other Information**

Not applicable.

## PART III

### **Item 10. *Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance***

Information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Travelzoo's Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of Travelzoo's fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 and is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 11. *Executive Compensation***

Information regarding executive compensation and compensation committee interlocks is incorporated by reference to the information in the definitive Proxy Statement relating to our 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 12. *Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters***

Information regarding security ownership of certain beneficial owners and management and related stockholder matters is incorporated by reference to the information in the definitive Proxy Statement relating to our 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 13. *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence***

Information regarding certain relationships and related transactions, and director independence is incorporated by reference to the information set forth in the definitive Proxy Statement relating to our 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

Information regarding principal accountant fees and services is set forth in the definitive Proxy Statement relating to our 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**PART IV**

**Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules**

The following documents are filed as part of this report:

(1) *Our Consolidated Financial Statements are included in Part II, Item 8:*

	Page
Report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP - Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	<a href="#">50</a>
Report of KPMG LLP - Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	<a href="#">51</a>
Consolidated Balance Sheets	<a href="#">52</a>
Consolidated Statements of Operations	<a href="#">53</a>
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income	<a href="#">54</a>
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity	<a href="#">55</a>
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	<a href="#">56</a>
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	<a href="#">57</a>

(2) *Supplementary Consolidated Financial Statement Schedules:*

All schedules are omitted because of the absence of conditions under which they are required or because the required information is included in the consolidated financial statements or notes thereto.

(3) *Exhibits:*

See attached Exhibit Index

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

TRAVELZOO INC.

By:           /s/ GLEN CEREMONY  
Glen Ceremony  
*Chief Financial Officer*

Date: March 15, 2017

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Glen Ceremony as his or her attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, for him or her in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this Form 10-K, with all exhibits and any and all documents required to be filed with respect thereto, with the Securities and Exchange Commission or any regulatory authority, granting unto such attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in order to effectuate the same as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact and agent or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signatures</u>	<u>Title(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>          /s/ HOLGER BARTEL</u> Holger Bartel	Chairman of the Board of Directors and Global CEO	March 15, 2017
<u>          /s/ GLEN CEREMONY</u> Glen Ceremony	Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer	March 15, 2017
<u>          /s/ RALPH BARTEL</u> Ralph Bartel	Director	March 15, 2017
<u>          /s/ MICHAEL KARG</u> Michael Karg	Director	March 15, 2017
<u>          /s/ DONOVAN NEALE-MAY</u> Donovan Neale-May	Director	March 15, 2017
<u>          /s/ MARY REILLY</u> Mary Reilly	Director	March 15, 2017
<u>          /s/ BEATRICE TARKA</u> Beatrice Tarka	Director	March 15, 2017
<u>          /s/ CAROLINE TSAY</u> Caroline Tsay	Director	March 15, 2017

## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	— Certificate of Incorporation of Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to our Pre-Effective Amendment No. 6 to our Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-55026), filed February 14, 2002).
3.2	— Certificate of Incorporation of Travelzoo Inc. and Certificates of Amendment To the Certificate of Incorporation to Effect a Reverse Stock Split Followed by a Forward Stock Split Of Travelzoo's Common Stock. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 on Form 10-K (File No. 000-50171), filed February 12, 2014)
3.3	— By-laws of Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to our Pre-Effective Amendment No. 6 to our Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-55026), filed February 14, 2002).
10.1	— Form of Director and Officer Indemnification Agreement (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 10-Q (File No. 000-50171), filed November 9, 2007)
10.2	— Agreement of Lease, effective as of February 1, 2008, between Travelzoo Inc. and 590 Madison Avenue, LLC (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed February 7, 2008)
10.3	— Asset Purchase Agreement, dated September 30, 2009, by and among Travelzoo Inc., Travelzoo K.K., Azzurro Capital Inc. and a buyer entity to be designated by Azzurro Capital Inc., with Exhibits (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed October 5, 2009)
10.4	— Asset Purchase Agreement, dated September 30, 2009, by and among Travelzoo Inc., Travelzoo (Asia Pacific) Limited, Azzurro Capital Inc. and a buyer entity to be designated by Azzurro Capital Inc., with Exhibits (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed October 5, 2009)
10.5	— Option Agreement, dated September 30, 2009, between Travelzoo Inc. and Azzurro Capital Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed October 5, 2009)
10.6*	— Nonqualified Stock Option Agreement between Travelzoo Inc. and Glen Ceremony dated January 23, 2012 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed March 30, 2012)
10.7*	— Employment Agreement, dated May 9, 2011 between Glen Ceremony and Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed May 20, 2011)
10.8*	— Employment Agreement, dated September 28, 2015 between Holger Bartel and Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed October 1, 2015)

10.9*	—	Nonqualified Stock Option Agreement between Travelzoo Inc. and Holger Bartel dated September 28, 2015. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.24 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed October 1, 2015)
10.10*	—	Employment Agreement, amendment effective date January 1, 2013, between Glen Ceremony and Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.17 on Form 10-Q (File No. 000-50171), filed April 25, 2014)
10.11*	—	Employment Agreement, amendments effective dates July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, between Richard Singer and Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.19 on Form 10-Q (File No. 000-50171), filed April 25, 2014)
10.12	—	Security Purchase Agreement, dated August 20, 2015, by and among Travelzoo (Europe) Limited, and Travelzoo (Asia Pacific) Inc. with Exhibits (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 8-K (File No. 000-50171), filed August 26, 2015)
10.13*	—	Employment Agreement, dated September 30, 2015, between Michael Stitt and Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.24 on Form 10-K (File No. 000-50171), filed March 14, 2016)
10.14*	—	Employment Agreement, dated January 1, 2016, between Vivian Hong and Travelzoo Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.28 on Form 10-K (File No. 000-50171), filed March 14, 2016)
10.15*	—	Nonqualified Stock Option Agreement between Travelzoo Inc. and Mike Stitt dated March 7, 2016. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.29 on Form 10-K (File No. 000-50171), filed March 14, 2016)
10.16*	—	Nonqualified Stock Option Agreement between Travelzoo Inc. and Richard Singer dated March 7, 2016. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.30 on Form 10-K (File No. 000-50171), filed March 14, 2016)
21.1‡	—	Subsidiaries of Travelzoo Inc.
23.1‡	—	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
23.2‡	—	Consent of KPMG LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
24.1‡	—	Power of Attorney (included on signature page)
31.1‡	—	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2‡	—	Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1†	—	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.2†	—	Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
101.INS‡	—	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH‡	—	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL‡	—	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document

101.DEF†	—	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB†	—	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE†	—	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

\* This exhibit is a management contract or a compensatory plan or arrangement.

‡ Filed herewith

† Furnished herewith

## SUBSIDIARIES OF TRAVELZOO INC.

<b>Subsidiaries</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>
Beijing Travelzoo Travel Information Technology Limited	China
Travelzoo (Asia Pacific) Limited	Hong Kong
Travelzoo (Australia) Pty Limited	Australia
Travelzoo (Canada) Inc.	Canada
Travelzoo (China) Limited	Hong Kong
Travelzoo (Europe) Limited	United Kingdom
Travelzoo (Hong Kong) Limited	Hong Kong
Travelzoo (Singapore) Pty Limited	Singapore
Travelzoo Kabushiki Kaisha	Japan
Travelzoo Local Inc.	Delaware
Travelzoo Local (Australia) Pty Limited	Australia
Travelzoo Local (Hong Kong) Limited	Hong Kong

**Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements on Form S-3 (Nos. 333-121076 and No. 333-119700) and Form S-8 (Nos. 333-116093, No. 333-173175, and 333-182934) of Travelzoo Inc. of our report dated March 15, 2017 relating to the financial statements and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in this Form 10-K.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

San Jose, California  
March 15, 2017

**Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The Board of Directors  
Travelzoo Inc.:

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statements (No. 333-121076 and No. 333-119700) on Form S-3 and on Form S-8 (No. 333-116093, 333-173175, and 333-182934) of Travelzoo, Inc. and subsidiaries (Travelzoo) of our report dated March 11, 2016, with respect to the consolidated balance sheets of Travelzoo as of December 31, 2015, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2015, which report appears in the December 31, 2016 annual report on Form 10-K of Travelzoo.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Santa Clara, California  
March 15, 2017

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Holger Bartel, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Travelzoo 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 annual 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 officer 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 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 officer 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 the 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.

/s/ HOLGER BARTEL

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Holger Bartel

*Chairman of the board of directors  
and Global CEO*

Date: March 15, 2017

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Glen Ceremony, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Travelzoo 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 annual 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 officer 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 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 officer 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 the 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.

/s/ GLEN CEREMONY

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Glen Ceremony

*Chief Financial Officer*

Date: March 15, 2017

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the accompanying Annual Report on Form 10-K (the "Report") of Travelzoo Inc. for the period ended December 31, 2016, the undersigned certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to §906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to the best of his knowledge, that (1) this Report complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and (2) the information contained in this Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Registrant.

Date: March 15, 2017

By: /s/ HOLGER BARTEL

Holger Bartel

*Chairman of the board of directors  
and Global CEO*

The foregoing certification is being furnished solely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350 and is not being filed as part of this Report or as a separate disclosure document.

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the accompanying Annual Report on Form 10-K (the "Report") of Travelzoo Inc. for the period ended December 31, 2016, the undersigned certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to §906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to the best of his knowledge, that (1) this Report complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and (2) the information contained in this Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Registrant.

Date: March 15, 2017

By: /s/ GLEN CEREMONY

Glen Ceremony

*Chief Financial Officer*

The foregoing certification is being furnished solely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350 and is not being filed as part of this Report or as a separate disclosure document.