Empire at a glance

**Food Retailing**

Empire’s food retailing business is carried out through its wholly-owned subsidiary Sobeys Inc., which serves the food shopping needs of Canadians with 1,569 corporately owned and franchised retail locations in more than 800 communities across every province in Canada.

Sobeys’ food-focused strategy is targeted at delivering the best food shopping experience to shoppers in the right-format, right-sized stores, supported by superior customer service. Sobeys remains focused on improving the product, service and merchandising offering within each format through continuous investment in retail store and distribution networks, innovation in marketing and merchandising programs, optimization of business processes, and the engagement of its people.

**Investments and Other Operations**

This segment consists primarily of our 42.8 percent equity accounted interest in Crombie REIT, our equity interests in residential real estate through Genstar and wholly-owned Empire Theatres.

The strategic relationship between Sobeys and Crombie REIT gives Empire the means to realize the value of Sobeys’ real estate assets and accelerate the expansion of our food retailing business. In turn, Crombie REIT benefits from both preferred and steady access to new retail properties in Sobeys’ property development pipeline while retaining the opportunity to create value through accretive third party acquisitions.
Well Established, Differentiated Stores

Sobeys goes to market with differentiated stores and retail banners to meet the needs of its customers. These include: Full Service stores that serve total food shopping requirements with a broad product assortment and complete range of specialty departments supported with superior customer service; Fresh Service stores that meet the “fresh fill-in and today’s meal” needs with service and customized offerings; Community Service stores that serve the “routine and fill-in” food shopping occasions of customers in rural and one-store communities; Discount Service stores that deliver low prices every day in markets where price is the driving factor for store selection; and Convenience Service stores that serve our “on-the-go” customers.

To learn more about each of our retail banners, including where they are located, please visit http://www.sobeyscorporate.com/en/Our-Company/At-A-glance.aspx

*Includes the 236 retail gas locations and related convenience store operations acquired in fiscal 2012.