

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K  
CURRENT REPORT  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 23, 2026



**Ascent Industries Co.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<b>Delaware</b> <i>(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)</i>	<b>0-19687</b> (Commission File Number)	<b>57-0426694</b> <i>(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)</i>
<b>20 N. Martingale Rd, Suite 430, Schaumburg, Illinois</b> <i>(Address of principal executive offices)</i>	<b>(630) 884-9181</b> <i>(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)</i>	<b>60173</b> <i>(Zip Code)</i>
<b>Inapplicable</b> (Former name or former address if changed since last report)		

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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

<b><u>Title of each class</u></b>	<b><u>Trading Symbol</u></b>	<b><u>Name of exchange on which registered</u></b>
Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share	ACNT	NASDAQ Global Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

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

**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On March 23, 2026, representatives of the Company will make a presentation to investors using slides containing the information attached to this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.1 (the “Investor Presentation”) and incorporated herein by reference.

The Investor Presentation includes financial information not prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (“Non-GAAP Financial Measures”). A reconciliation of the Non-GAAP Financial Measures to financial information prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”), as required by Regulation G, is included within Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K. The Company is providing disclosure of the reconciliation of reported Non-GAAP Financial Measures used in the Investor Presentation, among other places, to its comparable financial measures on a GAAP basis. The Company believes that the Non-GAAP Financial Measures provide investors additional ways to view our operations, when considered with both our GAAP results and the reconciliation to net income and net cash provided by operating activities, which we believe provide a more complete understanding of our business than could be obtained absent this disclosure. We believe the Non-GAAP Financial Measures also provide investors a useful tool to assess shareholder value.

By filing this Current Report on Form 8-K and furnishing the information contained herein, the Company makes no admission as to the materiality of any information in this report that is required to be disclosed solely by reason of Regulation FD.

The information contained in the Investor Presentation is summary information that is intended to be considered in the context of the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) filings and other public announcements that the Company may make, by press release or otherwise, from time to time. The Company undertakes no duty or obligation to publicly update or revise the information contained in this report, although it may do so from time to time as its management believes is warranted. Any such updating may be made through the filing of other reports or documents with the SEC, through press releases or through other public disclosure.

The information presented in Item 7.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K and Exhibit 99.1 shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, unless the Company specifically states that the information is to be considered “filed” under the Exchange Act or specifically incorporates it by reference into a filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description of Exhibit</u>
<a href="#">99.1</a>	<a href="#">Investor Presentation dated March 23, 2026</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

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**SIGNATURES**

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

Dated: March 23, 2026

**Ascent Industries Co.**

By: /s/ Ryan Kavalauskas  
Ryan Kavalauskas  
Chief Financial Officer



NASDAQ ACNT



# Forward Looking Statement Safe Harbor and Non-GAAP Information

## Forward-Looking Statements

This presentation includes "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and other applicable federal securities laws. All statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. Forward looking statements can be identified through the use of words such as "estimate," "project," "intend," "expect," "believe," "should," "anticipate," "hope," "optimistic," "plan," "outlook," "should," "could," "may" and similar expressions. The forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, including without limitation those identified below, which could cause actual results to differ materially from historical results or those anticipated. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The following factors could cause actual results to differ materially from historical results or those anticipated: adverse economic conditions, including risks relating to the impact and spread of and the government's response to pandemics; inability to weather an economic downturn; the impact of competitive products and pricing; product demand and acceptance risks; raw material and other increased costs, including the impact of tariffs; raw material availability; financial stability of the Company's customers; customer delays or difficulties in the production of products; loss of consumer or investor confidence; employee relations; ability to maintain workforce by hiring trained employees; labor efficiencies; risks associated with acquisitions; environmental issues; negative or unexpected results from tax law changes; inability to comply with covenants and ratios required by the Company's debt financing arrangements; and other risks detailed from time-to-time in Ascent Industries Co.'s Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K, which filings are available from the SEC. Ascent Industries Co. assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking information included in this release.

## Non-GAAP Financial Information

Financial statement information included in this earnings release includes non-GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) measures and should be read along with the accompanying tables which provide a reconciliation of non-GAAP measures to GAAP measures.

Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure that the Company believes is useful to investors in evaluating its results to determine the value of a company. An item is excluded in the measure if its periodic value is inconsistent and sufficiently material that not identifying the item would render period comparability less meaningful to the reader or if including the item provides a clearer representation of normalized periodic earnings. The Company excludes in Adjusted EBITDA two categories of items: 1) Base EBITDA components, including: interest expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, and 2) Material transaction costs including: goodwill impairment, asset impairment, gain on lease modification, stock-based compensation, non-cash lease cost, acquisition costs and other fees, shelf registration costs, loss on extinguishment of debt, retention costs and restructuring & severance costs from net income.

Management believes that these non-GAAP measures are useful because they are key measures used by our management team to evaluate our operating performance, generate future operating plans and make strategic decisions as well as allow readers to compare the financial results between periods. Non-GAAP measures should not be considered as an alternative to any measure of performance or financial condition as promulgated under GAAP, and investors should consider the Company's performance and financial condition as reported under GAAP and all other relevant information when assessing the performance or financial condition of the Company. Non-GAAP measures have limitations as analytical tools, and investors should not consider them in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of the Company's results or financial condition as reported under GAAP.

# CEO & CFO Have a **Proven Track Record** of Making Good Specialty Chemical Companies Great

*Kitchen, Kavalauskas, and many of their management team counterparts have previously worked together, a synergy that has had an undeniable impact on Ascent's operational and financial performance since assuming their roles in early 2024*



**Bryan Kitchen**  
President & Chief Executive Officer

- Bryan joined Ascent in September 2023 to lead the specialty chemicals segment; promoted to president & CEO in February 2024
- Prior to joining Ascent, Bryan led the stabilization, turnaround and successful sale of Clearon Corp to Solenis

**Previous experience:**



**Ryan Kavalauskas**  
Chief Financial Officer

- Ryan joined Ascent as CFO in February 2024
- Prior to joining Ascent, Ryan was the CFO at Clearon and played an instrumental role in the stabilization, turnaround and successful sale of Clearon Corp to Solenis

**Previous Experience:**



Built to deliver durable shareholder value.  
**Led by those who've done it before, together.**

# After 75 years, we are going back to our roots as a Specialty Chemical Company



# Highlights Since Management Team Installed in 2024

**61%** Increase in TTM Gross Profit  
TTM Increase / \$6.5M; Gross Margin from 13.2% to 23%

Continuing Operations Performance Through 2025

**88%** Increase in TTM Adj. EBITDA  
TTM Increase / \$4.1M; Adj. EBITDA Margin from -5.8% to -.8%

Continuing Operations Performance Through 2025

**\$54M** Proceeds Generated  
Bristol & ASTI Asset Sale

PR dated 4/7/2025 and 6/30/2025

**\$2.1M** Annualized Cash  
Liberated via Munhall Lease Assignment

PR dated 11/17/2025

**7.4%** Outstanding Shares Repurchased in  
2025 | 745K Shares

% Based on OS as of 12/31/2024

**\$10M** Growth Program Win in Q42025 for  
2026 Impact

PR dated 12/1/2025

2026  
**Pure-Play**  
Specialty Chemicals Company

# Who We Are, What We Do & How We Operate



We deliver ***tailored specialty-chemistry solutions*** at scale across an array of high-value segments

HI&I

Agriculture

Personal Care

**Life Sciences**

Pulp & Paper

CASE

Oil & Gas

Textiles

Water Treatment

**Performance Materials**

Where We Participate

## Our Strategy & Operating Model

*OUTCOMES OVER EVERYTHING.*

We're building a platform that solves real problems across the value chain, not just by providing products or capacity, but by offering a full suite of services: formulation development, reaction capabilities, blending, packaging, logistics, regulatory support and reliable delivery.

# Chemicals -as-a-Service

*It's not a tagline, it's a strategic roadmap.*

WE WIN ACROSS THE

## Moments that Matter

Moments where loyalty is earned, and retained:

DISCOVERY & DEVELOPMENT

MANUFACTURING & FULFILLMENT

COMMERCIAL & CONTRACTING

SERVICE & LIFECYCLE SUPPORT

# Rapid Reformulation for Drilling Fluid Additive

## Customized Product Development

### THE CHALLENGE

Unexpected supply disruption surfaced when a critical additive was discontinued. With no immediate replacement available, their drilling fluid system risked operational downtime and performance instability across active field operations.

### THE PROCESS

1. Research Conducted
2. Product Development in Lab
3. Customer Lab Qualification
4. Customer Field Qualification
5. Supply Agreement Executed

### WE DELIVERED

- › **CUSTOM FORMULATION DEVELOPMENT**  
Developed and evaluated three tailored formulation options optimized for the customer's mud system, improving handling characteristics and blending compatibility.
- › **ACCELERATE SAMPLE DELIVERY**  
Delivered qualified lab samples within three week, enabling rapid field evaluation.
- › **PILOT & COMMERCIAL VALIDATION**  
Completed piloting and commercial validation of the selected formulation in just 30 days.
- › **RAPID COMMERCIAL LAUNCH**  
Shipped the first commercial truckload within two months of the initial inquiry; qualified at (2) of Ascent's manufacturing sites

CASE STUDY  
PRODUCT SALES

Chemicals  
-as-a-Service

### WE SECURED

+\$7M

Annualized  
Revenue  
Growth at  
Full Run-  
Rate

in 2 mos.

From Initial  
Inquiry to  
First  
Purchase  
Order

Became a top 5 customer in 2025

# Accelerated Multi-Site Technology Transfer

Complex Portfolio Transition Under Supply Risk

## THE CHALLENGE

A global leader lost reliable manufacturing across 10+ heritage products with incomplete technical documentation and minimal transition pathways, creating immediate business risk.

MAIN EQUIPMENT USED

Multiple 4,000 Gal Reactors  
REACTIONS & POLYMERIZATIONS

Overheads w/ Receivers  
DISTILLATION

Multiple Heated Storage Tanks  
STORAGE

CASE STUDY  
CUSTOM MANUFACTURING

Chemicals  
-as-a-Service

## WE DELIVERED

- › **RAPID CROSS-FUNCTION MOBILIZATION**  
Aligned R&D, Engineering, Operations, and Commercial teams immediately to stabilize supply under compressed timelines.
- › **FORMULATION RECONSTRUCTION & VALIDATION**  
Rebuilt technical documentation, developed parallel formulation pathways, and executed accelerated lab and end-user testing.
- › **CONCURRENT MULTI-SITE SCALE-UP**  
Executed parallel trial campaigns across VA and SC, advancing structured batch validation and SOP development to accelerate commercialization.
- › **EXECUTION DISCIPLINE & SUPPLY RELIABILITY**  
Achieved 100% OTIF performance while shortening lead times and restoring predictable supply to end users.

## WE SECURED

Will Become a Top 5 Customer in 2026

+\$10M

Annualized Revenue Growth at Full Run-Rate

in 6 mos.

From Initial Inquiry to First Purchase Order

# Chemicals -as-a-Service

Integrated Capabilities and Agile Business Models for **Superior Customer Outcomes** backed by 75 Years of **Chemical Manufacturing Expertise**

	SOLUTIONS								BUSINESS MODEL			
	Primary Development	Formulation Customization	Scale-Up	Reaction & Drying	Blending, Milling & Dispersing	Warehousing	Logistics	Regulatory	Products	Toll Manufacturing	Custom Manufacturing	Buy, Build & Operate
ASCENT (CaaS Model)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chemical Manufacturers	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			
Toll Manufacturers			✓	✓	✓					✓		
Custom Manufacturers		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	
Distributors					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

## What We Do

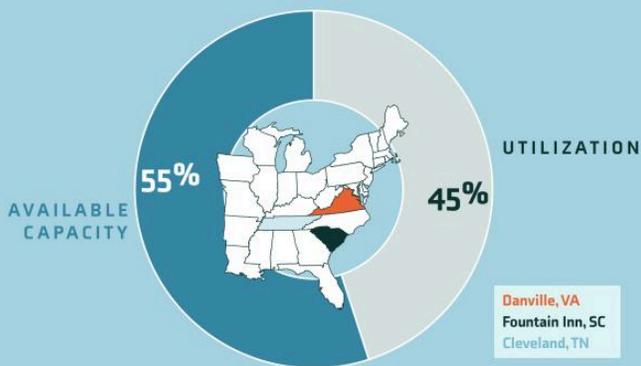
Execute a customer-centric chemical supply chain model that fuses development, scale-up, manufacturing (small batch & continuous), compliance and distribution into a unified offering

## How We Win

We connect with customers the way they want; when, where, and how they choose. We win across the Moments that Matter [Development, Contracting, Manufacturing & Fulfillment and Service]

# Within an asset base capable of supporting **significant growth** with **minimal capital reinvestment**

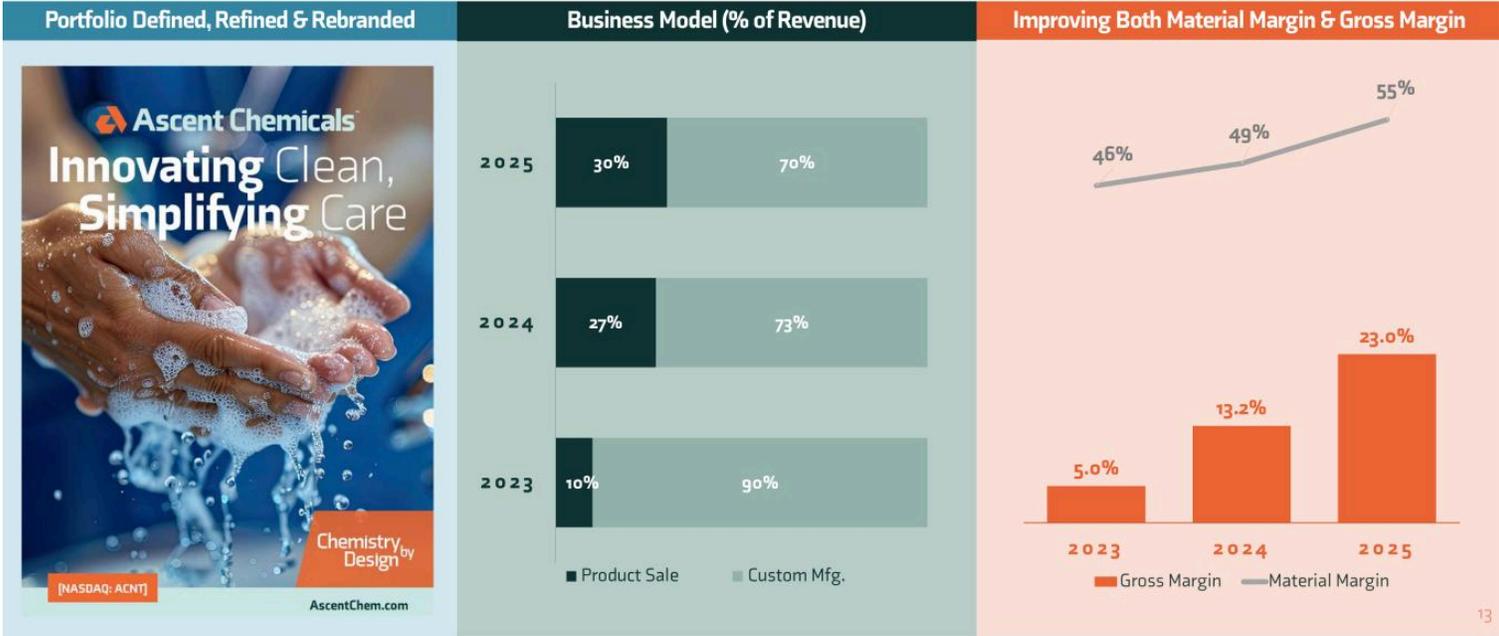
Ample, **underutilized capacity** provides a **capital-light**, low-risk foundation for outsized growth



Requiring **minimal capital reinvestment** to support growth (M USD)



# While filling the plants with **higher margin business** that is more **predictable** and **reliable**



Driven by a  
**Strong & Growing**  
Selling Project  
Pipeline

Underwritten by customer needs

Designed entirely around  
the customer experience

Delivered through technical  
expertise;  
scaled with discipline

**...Outcomes  
Over Everything**

**2025 Pipeline Conversion**

**100** PROJECT COUNT      **2.87** SALES CYCLE (MONTHS)\*      **18%** CONVERSION RATE\*\*

\*Calculated from initial customer engagement to receipt of first purchase order

\*\*Calculated as wins divided by all closed projects (won & lost)

**By Business Model**

**33%** PRODUCT SALES      **67%** CUSTOM MANUFACTURING

**Growth With Current Customers**

**84%**

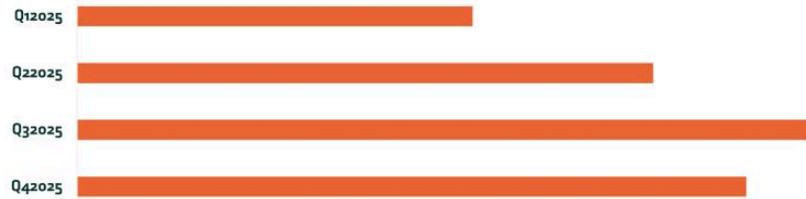
PROJECT WINS (REVENUE BASIS)

**Growth With New Customers**

**16%**

PROJECT WINS (REVENUE BASIS)

**2025 QoQ Selling Project Pipeline Growth (M USD)**



**102%  
CAGR**

2026-2030

# The Path Forward

Durable Earnings-Growth



# Simple and Clear EBITDA Drivers



## Management Turnaround

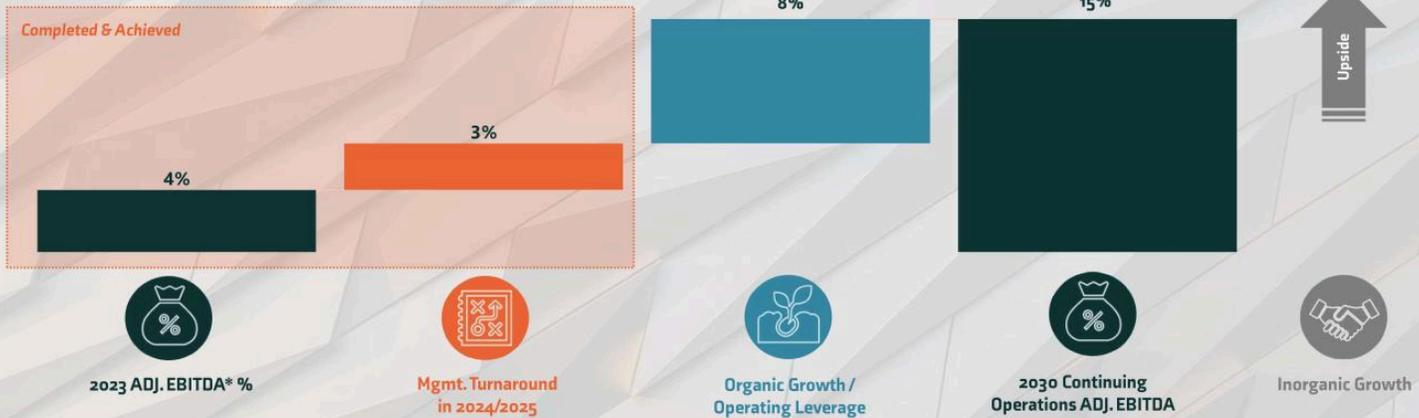
- Structural cost savings with emphasis on strategic sourcing
- Aggressive management of controllable spend
- Discipline execution of overall equipment effectiveness (OEE)
- Optimization of work processes & tools

## Organic Growth / Operating Leverage

- Enhanced commercial strategy to grow share of higher-margin products
- Increase plant utilization
- Improve fixed cost absorption

## Inorganic Growth

- Searching for good businesses to make great
- Leverage market and operational experience to unlock growth
- Targeting \$5-150M revenue and \$0-\$25M EBITDA



\* Adj. EBITDA represents the standalone Chemical segment excluding Corporate Overhead

# And strong liquidity to support investor-friendly capital allocation priorities

Every internal investment and acquisition is about accelerating progress, creating synergies that make sense, and delivering real, sustainable value. It's not only about size, it's about **outcomes that matter**, both strategically and operationally.

Our goal is simple: to align every move with our mission and ensure it drives **maximum impact for our shareholders**.

$$\begin{matrix} \$0 & + & \$63M^* & + & \sim\$30M & = & \sim\$93M \\ \text{DEBT} & & \text{CASH} & & \text{DEBT CAPACITY} & & \text{CAPACITY TO INVEST} \end{matrix}$$

\*Inclusive of Escrow

Repurchased 7.4% of  
Outstanding Shares  
Q12025-Q42025

% Based on OS as of 12/31/2024

## Capital Allocation

1. **Fund high-ROIC organic growth (top priority).** We will underwrite projects where ROIC > WACC and where incremental FCF aligns with the DCF trajectory.
2. **Selective, discipline M&A.** Accretive on ROIC and FCF per share within a 3-5 year window; avoid growth that dilutes FCF/ROIC just to increase scale.
3. **Share repurchases as a flexible, valuation-sensitive tool.** Use when shares trade meaningfully below intrinsic value.

## M&A Investment Focus

### Active, but Disciplined

Financial Profile: \$5-150MM Revenue | \$0-\$25MM EBITDA

Investment Type: Private or Publicly Held

Asset Types: Specialty Chemicals Manufacturing, Distribution, Product Lines & Brands and Co-Packagers

Avoid growth that dilutes FCF/ROIC just to increase scale 17

# Why Invest in Ascent?

## Portfolio Optimized

Strategic clarity. Focus. Efficiency.

## Stabilized and Growth Ready

Predictability. Confidence. Credibility. Reduced risk.

## Growth Capacity In-Place

Optionality. Scale. Margin. Growth. Resilience.

## Near-Term Upside

Undervalued, leverage multiple upside.

## Strong Balance Sheet

Stability. Strategic firepower for earnings-accretive M&A.

## Under-covered & Under Valued

Early discovery can drive outsized investment returns when larger pools of capital follow.

.....the right people, proven together, trusted by each other, and aligned to win the next phase





Investor Relations

[investorrelations@ascentco.com](mailto:investorrelations@ascentco.com)





# Appendix

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# Financials

## Reconciliations of Non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDA



### Consolidated EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA from Continuing Operations:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2025	2024
<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>		
<b>Consolidated</b>		
Net loss from continuing operations	\$ (5,584)	\$ (12,577)
Adjustments:		
Interest (income) expense, net	(712)	417
Income taxes	22	1,806
Depreciation	3,576	3,884
Amortization	611	695
EBITDA	(2,087)	(5,775)
Acquisition costs and other	731	662
Asset impairments	1,622	—
Gain on lease modification	(2,278)	(67)
Stock-based compensation	1,070	193
Non-cash lease expense	128	112
Retention expense	—	3
Restructuring and severance costs	243	177
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ (571)	\$ (4,695)
% sales	(0.8)%	(5.8)%

### Specialty Chemicals EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2025	2024
<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>		
<b>Specialty Chemicals</b>		
Net income	\$ 3,700	\$ 1,093
Adjustments:		
Interest expense	52	75
Depreciation	3,481	3,809
Amortization	611	695
EBITDA	7,844	5,672
Acquisition costs and other	93	477
Stock-based compensation	126	7
Non-cash lease expense	45	66
Restructuring and severance costs	14	110
Specialty Chemicals Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 8,122	\$ 6,332
% of segment sales	10.8 %	7.8 %

