

Columbus Castings Vendor/Supplier FAQ

1. What happened?

Columbus Castings (“Columbus”) has filed to restructure under Chapter 11. So you understand how we arrived here, Columbus is one of four operating subsidiaries of Constellation Enterprises LLC (“Constellation”). On May 16, 2016, Constellation announced that it was voluntarily restructuring its debt obligations under the protection of Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Since Constellation’s subsidiaries are all guarantors and borrowers of the debt with cross-collateralized assets, Columbus Castings is included in the filing. (See the Press Releases for more detail).

Please note, certain petitions were filed prior to 11:59 pm on May 16, 2016 and the balance were filed after 12:01 am on May 17, 2016. As a result, depending upon the legal entity, the petition date may be either May 16, 2016 or May 17, 2016. Importantly, because the Chapter 11 filings all occurred after normal business hours for all of the companies, May 16, 2016 is considered a “pre-petition” date and May 17, 2016 is considered a “post-petition” date.

2. Does this mean you are going out of business?

While we have halted operations, we continue to progress with Columbus’ sale process. We have received a Letter of Intent from an interested third party to purchase the business. If consummated, the buyer intends to preserve Columbus’ continuing ability to service its customer base as well as infuse significant capital into the Company. We believe that being acquired by a new investor provides the most viable path to future success.

To facilitate completing the sale and restarting halted operations, we will maintain an active and visible 24/7 presence for maintenance and security activities. We are trying to move through the restructuring and sale processes quickly so that a new buyer may re-engage the operations and provide necessary capital investments.

3. When will we get paid?

You will be paid for goods and services received post-petition – on or after May 17, 2016 – in a timely fashion as required under the Bankruptcy Code. This means that **you will receive payment** for post-petition goods and you may request CIA or COD terms. Unfortunately, federal law prohibits payment for goods and services received on or before May 16, 2016, unless a Court order allows such payment.

4. Is it true that suppliers with outstanding pre-petition claims only get a few cents on the dollar for unpaid invoices?

At this time we are not able to make payments for pre-petition – on or before May 16, 2016 – claims and we do not know how much, if anything will be paid for each claim. We sincerely regret the hardship or inconvenience that this may cause your company.

5. When will I receive payment for goods and services delivered after the bankruptcy date?

All goods and services received on or after May 17, 2016, will be paid according to established terms.

6. What if I only want to be paid cash on delivery?

The Company will continue to pay supplier invoices for goods and services received on or after May 17, 2016. You may request CIA or COD terms.

7. Can I take back my goods?

No. We understand your frustration, but the Bankruptcy Code prohibits a seller from repossessing goods after a purchaser has filed. Goods are cross-collateralized and all inventory is included in the bankruptcy filing. The Company recommends that you consult with your legal counsel before taking any such action.

8. Someone called me and offered to pay me for part of my invoice. Who are they? What happens if I agree?

There are companies who specialize in buying pre-petition invoices (for goods and services received on or before May 16, 2016), or claims. These companies are not affiliated with us in any way. Because our liabilities are public record, they are able to gather to whom we owe money to and the amounts. If you sell your claim to them, any Court approved monetary recovery for your claim would go to them and not you. We cannot advise in this regard.

9. Why should I sell you goods and services now?

While our need for goods and services will be small during the period leading up to a sale, it has been obvious that our relationship has been mutually beneficial in many ways. We'd ask that you base your decision on those facts. Your support and cooperation will be major contributors to our mutual success during this period. Please remember that you will get paid for any post-petition goods and services in the normal course of business.

10. How much cash do you have on hand? Is the company in a position to meet its operating expenses?

Yes. We have received commitments for the financing necessary to support the scaled-down operations during this process.

11. Do you anticipate any facilities closing as a result of the filing?

No, there are no plans to close the property or administrative or production facilities at this time while negotiating the sale.

12. Will current management remain in place?

No, the new owners will put their own senior person in charge, but we expect will look to the existing operating personnel to carry the company forward.

13. How long before you come out of Chapter 11?

That's hard to say, but we hope to move through the process in as short a period of time as possible.

14. Where should I submit invoices going forward?

You should continue to submit them as before.

15. I have unpaid invoices dated before the filing dates (i.e., pre-petition invoices). What should I do?

Once the Bankruptcy Court has confirmed the procedures and deadlines for filing claims, you will receive a proof-of-claim form and instructions on how to file the form. If you need assistance filling out the proof-of-claim, you should seek legal counsel.

16. Will I need a claim form, or will I automatically be paid for the outstanding, pre-petition amount owed to me?

Early in the bankruptcy case, the Company will file a schedule of all known creditors and the amount the Company believes each creditor is owed. If you appear on the schedules and agree with the scheduled claim amount, and such claim is not listed as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated, you do not need to submit a claim. If you do not appear on the schedules, you are scheduled with a disputed, unliquidated or contingent claim, or if you disagree with the scheduled amount of your claim, then you **must** submit a claim. The Company recommends that you consult with your legal counsel before taking any such action.

You will receive a claim form in the mail in the coming weeks with instructions from the Court about how to submit a claim. The Court will eventually set a deadline for all claims to be filed. This deadline is known as the “Claims Bar Date.” You will receive notice of this deadline once it is set.

Detailed information about the proceeding, including proof of claim form materials, access to court documents, and public announcements, can be found by visiting <http://dm.epiq11.com/COE>. You can also find this link on our company website.

17. Why can't the Company pay me now for past invoices?

Federal bankruptcy laws generally prohibit the payment of all unpaid invoices for products and services that we received on or before May 16, 2016. This means that payments for such pre-petition claims will not be made as of this time. Plus, any payment on such pre-petition claims will be subject to the approval of the Court.

18. What if I wait to submit an invoice until after the filing dates?

Services or products received on or before May 16, 2016, will be considered pre-petition claims and are subject to the “Automatic Stay” that is triggered by the Chapter 11 petition regardless of when you submit your invoice. Waiting to submit an invoice until after this date will not allow you to be paid for products or services that we received from you on or before May 16, 2016.

19. Can a supplier re-submit past invoices and get paid for them now?

No, the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code prohibit that, and filing for protection under Chapter 11 automatically triggers a halt or “Automatic Stay.” This bars, among other things, all collection actions against the Company for monies past due.