KEMET CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

The components of deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows (amounts in thousands):

| | Ma | March 31, | |
|--|-----------|------------|--|
| | 2019 | 2018 | |
| Deferred tax assets: | | | |
| Net operating loss carry forwards | \$ 78,986 | \$ 115,064 | |
| Sales allowances and inventory reserves | 10,967 | 9,675 | |
| Medical and employee benefits | 35,298 | 38,572 | |
| Depreciation and differences in basis | 5,318 | 6,241 | |
| Accrued restructuring | 469 | 2,551 | |
| Anti-trust fines and settlements | 910 | 16,575 | |
| Tax credits | 3,394 | 4,208 | |
| Stock-based compensation | 5,589 | 1,765 | |
| Other ⁽¹⁾ | 1,342 | 2,812 | |
| Total deferred tax assets before valuation allowance | 142,273 | 197,463 | |
| Less valuation allowance | (58,658 | (171,401) | |
| Total deferred tax assets | 83,615 | 26,062 | |
| Deferred tax liabilities: | | | |
| Unremitted earnings of subsidiaries | (21,850 | (11,678) | |
| Amortization of intangibles and debt discounts | (11,996 | (14,054) | |
| Non-amortized intangibles | (1,551 | (1,551) | |
| Total deferred tax liabilities | (35,397 | (27,283) | |
| Net deferred tax assets (liabilities) | \$ 48,218 | \$ (1,221) | |
| | | | |

⁽¹⁾ March 31, 2018 adjusted due to the adoption of ASC 606.

The following table presents the annual activities included in the deferred tax valuation allowance (amounts in thousands):

| | Valuation Allowance for Deferred Tax Assets |
|--|--|
| Balance at March 31, 2016 | \$ 170,917 |
| Charge (benefit) to costs and expenses | (2,094) |
| Deductions | (4,925) |
| Balance at March 31, 2017 | 163,898 |
| Charge to costs and expenses | 8,647 |
| Deductions | (1,144) |
| Balance at March 31, 2018 | 171,401 |
| Charge (benefit) to costs and expenses | (112,080) |
| Deductions | (663) |
| Balance at March 31, 2019 | \$ 58,658 |

In fiscal year 2019, the valuation allowance decreased \$112.7 million, of which \$44.9 million related to a valuation allowance decrease for the foreign group and \$67.8 million related to a valuation allowance decrease for the U.S. group. The \$44.9 million decrease in valuation allowance related to the foreign group primarily is comprised of a \$35.5 million decrease related to changes in temporary differences and net operating utilizations and a \$5.5 million release in valuation allowance. The \$67.8 million decrease in the valuation allowance related to the U.S. group primarily is comprised of a \$26.9 million decrease related to utilization of net operating loss carryforwards and a \$44.2 million release in valuation allowance.