

is fair market value. Certain customer agreements include variable consideration in the form of rebates, discounts, or incentives. The expected value method is used to estimate variable consideration and is allocated to the applicable performance obligation and is recognized when the related performance obligation is satisfied. Additionally, the Company offers published rates for services through public tariff agreements in which a customer can request service, triggering a performance obligation the Company must satisfy. Railway freight revenues are recognized over time as services are provided based on the percentage of completed service method. Volume rebates to customers are accrued as a reduction of freight revenues based on estimated volumes and contract terms as freight service is provided. Freight revenues also include certain ancillary and other services provided in association with the performance of rail freight movements. Revenues from these activities are not material and therefore have been aggregated with the freight revenues from customer contracts with which they are associated.

Non-freight revenues, including passenger revenues, switching fees, and revenues from logistics services, are recognized at the point in time the services are provided or when the performance obligations are satisfied. Non-freight revenues also include leasing revenues.

Payment by customers is due upon satisfaction of performance obligations. Payment terms are such that amounts outstanding at the period end are expected to be collected within one reporting period. The Company invoices customers at the time the bill of lading or service request is processed and therefore the Company has no material unbilled receivables and no contract assets. All performance obligations not fully satisfied at period end are expected to be satisfied within the reporting period immediately following. Contracted customer incentives are amortized to income over the term of the related revenue contract.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash with original maturities of three months or less, but exclude cash and cash equivalents subject to restrictions.

Restricted cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents that are restricted as to withdrawal or usage, in accordance with specific agreements, are presented as restricted cash and cash equivalents on the balance sheets when applicable. In the Company's Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, these balances, if any, are included with cash and cash equivalents.

Foreign currency translation

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies, other than those held through foreign subsidiaries, are translated into Canadian dollars at the year-end exchange rate for monetary items and at the historical exchange rates for non-monetary items. Foreign currency revenues and expenses are translated at the exchange rates in effect on the dates of the related transactions. Foreign exchange ("FX") gains and losses, other than those arising from the translation of the Company's net investment in foreign subsidiaries, are included in income.

The accounts of the Company's foreign subsidiaries are translated into Canadian dollars using the year-end exchange rate for assets and liabilities and the average exchange rates during the year for revenues, expenses, gains and losses. FX gains and losses arising from the translation of the foreign subsidiaries' assets and liabilities are included in "Other comprehensive (loss) income". A portion of U.S. dollar-denominated long-term debt has been designated as a hedge of the net investment in foreign subsidiaries. As a result, unrealized FX gains and losses on U.S. dollar-denominated long-term debt, designated as a hedge, are offset against FX gains and losses arising from the translation of foreign subsidiaries' accounts in "Other comprehensive (loss) income".

Pensions and other benefits

Pension costs are actuarially determined using the projected-benefit method pro-rated over the credited service periods of employees. This method incorporates management's best estimates of expected plan investment performance, salary escalation and retirement ages of employees. The expected return on fund assets is calculated using market-related asset values developed from a five-year average of market values for the fund's public equity securities and absolute return strategies (with each prior year's market value adjusted to the current date for assumed investment income during the intervening period) plus the market value of the fund's fixed income, real estate, infrastructure and private debt securities, subject to the market-related asset value not being greater than 120% of the market value nor being less than 80% of the market value. The discount rate used to determine the projected-benefit obligation is based on blended market interest rates on high-quality corporate debt instruments with matching cash flows. Unrecognized actuarial gains and losses in excess of 10% of the greater of the benefit obligation and the market-related value of plan assets are amortized over the expected average remaining service period of active employees expected to receive benefits under the plan (approximately 12 years). Prior service costs arising from collectively bargained amendments to pension plan benefit provisions are amortized over the term of the applicable union agreement. Prior service costs arising from all other sources are amortized over the expected average remaining service period of active employees who are expected to receive benefits under the plan at the date of amendment.

Costs for post-retirement and post-employment benefits other than pensions, including post-retirement health care and life insurance and some workers' compensation and long-term disability benefits in Canada, are actuarially determined on a basis similar to pension costs.

The over or under funded status of defined benefit pension and other post-retirement benefit plans are measured as the difference between the fair value of the plan assets and the benefit obligation, and are recognized on the balance sheets. In addition, any unrecognized actuarial gains and losses and prior service costs and credits that arise during the period are recognized as a component of "Other comprehensive (loss) income", net of tax.