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Franchised Units:	81	In Business Since:	2000	Royalty:	5%
Company-Owned Units:	0	Average Franchise Fee:	\$30K	IFA Member:	Yes
Total Operating Units:	81	Total Investment Range:	\$371-710.1K	Term of Initial Contract:	10 Years

COMPANY'S DESCRIPTION HERE
(MAX. 600 WORDS & 2 IMAGES)

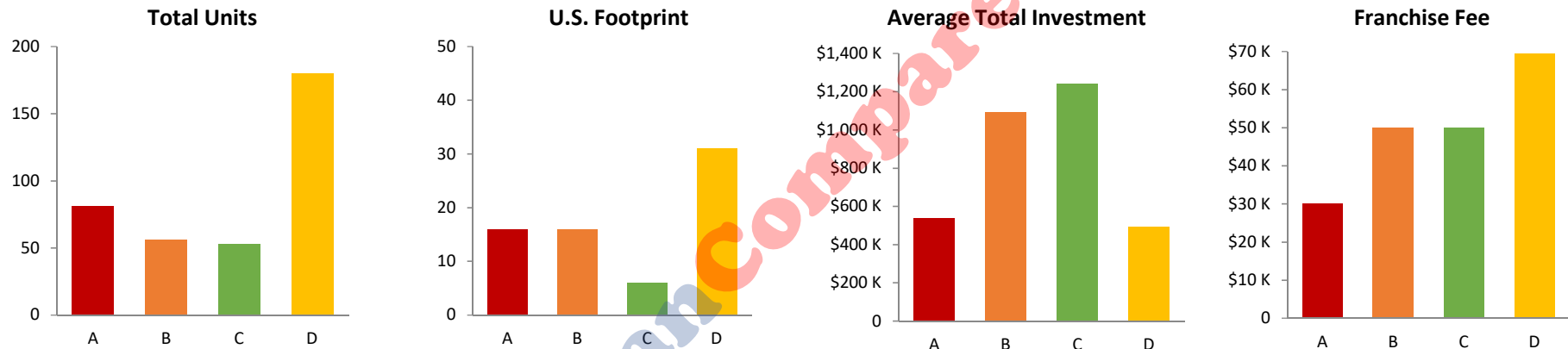
FranCompare™ Franchise Recognition Program 2019

Dry Cleaning & Laundry Services Industry

	Company Name (DBA)	Legal Name	Final Score
A	Lapels (Full Service Plant)	Next Step Franchising, LLC	675
B	Tide Dry Cleaners (Plant Store)	Agile Pursuits Franchising, Inc.	670
C	ZIPS Dry Cleaners	ZIPS Franchising, LLC	614
D	Martinizing Dry Cleaning (Conversion Plant)	Martinizing International, LLC	568

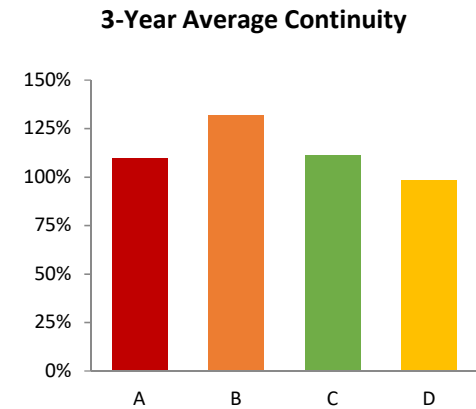
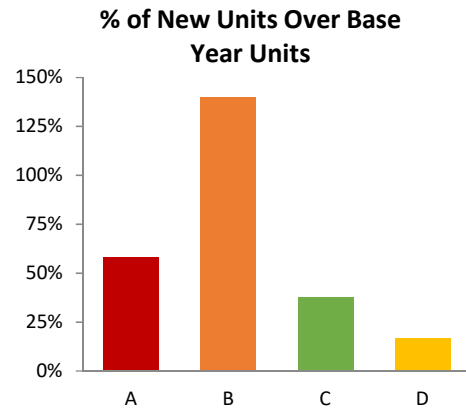
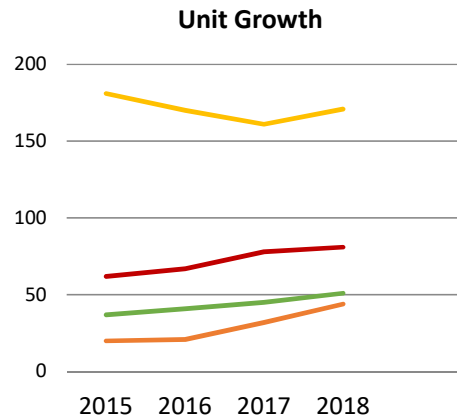
Key Unit Investment Variables

30%



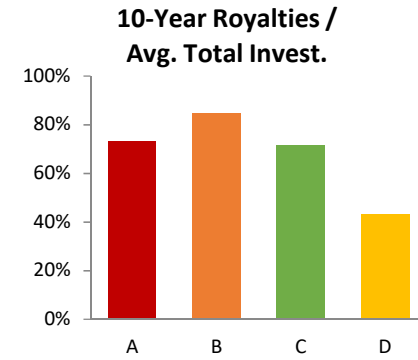
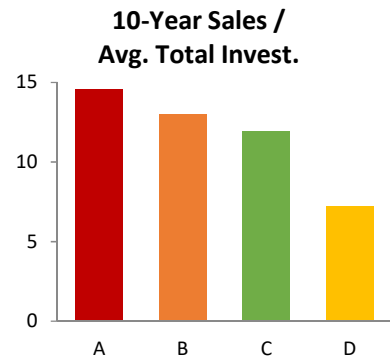
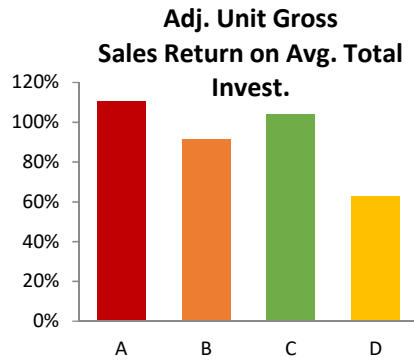
- **Total Units** is a valuable measure if recent growth was accompanied by proper support. Meteoric growth, however, with the help of third parties, frequently means franchisees are left to fend for themselves while management focuses on growth for its own sake.
- The greater the **Footprint/Geographical Coverage**, the better all franchisees are served. Only U.S. states are included.
- For the purpose of the Franchise Matrix™ analysis, the **Average Total Investment** is used in all cases.
- The **Franchise Fee** should not significantly exceed the franchise fee of its primary competitors.

Weighting for Primary FDD Variables (300 Points)	Lapels (Full Service Plant)		Tide Dry Cleaners (Plant Store)		ZIPS Dry Cleaners		Martinizing Dry Cleaning (Conversion Plant)		Max. Score
	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	
Year-End Total Franchised Units	81		44		51		179		
Year-End Total Company-Owned Units	0		12		2		1		
Year-End Total Units	81	35	56	30	53	30	180	45	50
% of Franchised Units	100.0%		78.6%		96.2%		99.4%		
% of Company-Owned Units	0.0%	0	21.4%	10	3.8%	7	0.6%	3	10
U.S. Footprint (# of U.S. States)	16	26	16	26	6	15	31	35	35
Total Low Investment	\$371,031		\$640,350		\$1,015,700		\$414,450		
Total High Investment	\$710,122		\$1,541,900		\$1,470,000		\$577,342		
Average Total Investment Per Unit	\$540,577		\$1,091,125		\$1,242,850		\$495,896		
Low Unit Size Estimate (Square Feet)	1,700		2,800		3,000		1,700		
High Unit Size Estimate (Square Feet)	2,200		3,000		4,000		3,500		
Average Unit Size (Square Feet)	1,950		2,900		3,500		2,600		
Average Total Investment Per Square Feet	\$277		\$376		\$355		\$191		
Average Franchise Fee (Single Unit)	\$30,000	30	\$50,000	12	\$50,000	12	\$69,500	8	40
Average Annual Royalty Fee (On-Going After Trial Period)	5.0%	85	6.5%	70	6.0%	80	6.0%	80	90
Term of Initial Contract (Years)	10	20	10	20	10	20	10	20	35
Term of First Contract Renewal (Years)	10	11	10	11	5 + 5	11	10	11	20
Average Transfer Fee (Single Unit)	\$5,000	10	\$7,500	9	\$10,000	8	\$34,750	1	10
Year Incorporated	2000	9	1905	10	2002	9	1949	10	10
Franchising Since	2000		2006		2006		1978		
Issuance Date of FDD (Issue Date)	3/31/2018		1/3/2018		3/28/2018		4/27/2018		



- **3-Year Compound Annual Unit Growth** measures the unit growth from base year to end of 2017. Assuming proper support on the part of the franchisor, higher growth is rewarded. Steady and controlled **Unit Growth** are preferred over meteoric growth. Negative unit growth raises red flags.
- **% of New Units Over Base Year Units** is the Total End of 2017 Units divided by Base Year Beginning Units.
- **3-Year Average Continuity Rate** is an important and commonly used metric within the franchising industry that measures the success of a franchise system over its most recent past. Continuity rate is determined for each year by dividing end-of-year total units by beginning-of-year total units and dividing the 3 annual rates by 3 to arrive at an average. If there are a high number of closures or non-renewals within a franchise, the continuity rate will generally result in a rate of less than 100%, as will a system that cannot support its growth and, accordingly, its franchisees are failing. A high continuity rate is evidence of strong support systems. Continuity rates of over 100% were rewarded and ones with less than 100% were penalized.

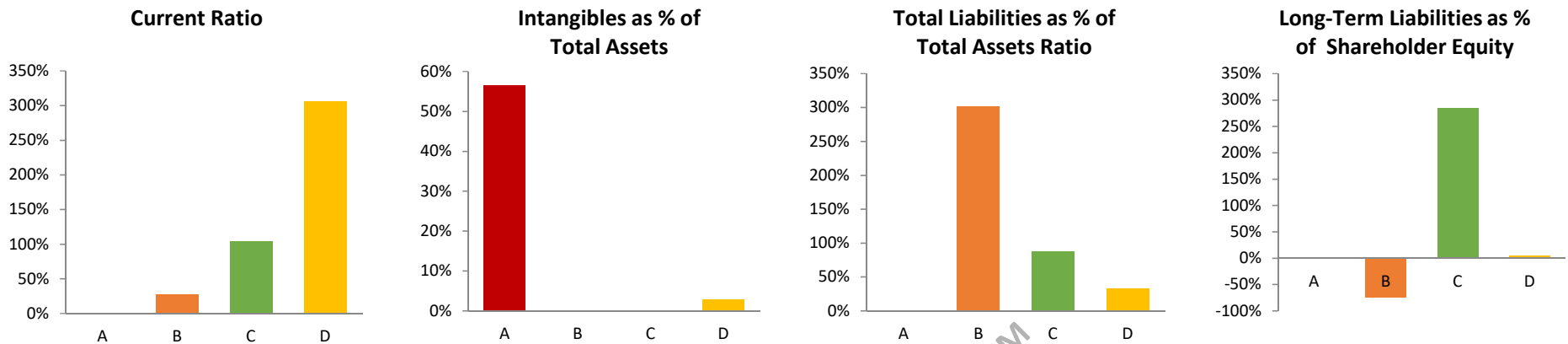
Weighting for Primary FDD Variables (250 Points)	Lapels (Full Service Plant)		Tide Dry Cleaners (Plant Store)		ZIPS Dry Cleaners		Martinizing Dry Cleaning (Conversion Plant)		Max. Score
	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	
Base-Year Beginning Franchised Units	62		20		37		181		
New Franchised Units Over Following 3 Years	36		28		14		30		
Total Franchised Units at the End of Year 3	81		44		51		171		
% of New Units Over Base Year Units	58.1%	27	140.0%	40	37.8%	17	16.6%	8	40
3-Year Compound Annual Unit Growth	9.3%	28	30.1%	50	11.3%	30	-1.9%	0	70
3-Year Average Continuity Rate	109.4%	120	131.6%	140	111.3%	125	98.3%	100	140



- Adjusted Unit Gross Sales by itself is not as important as **Adjusted Unit Gross Sales as percentage of the Average Total Investment**. Sales and profits must be evaluated as a function of the total investment.
- Whereas a modest difference in year 1 sales as a function of the average investment might be considered of minor importance, a 10-year time horizon puts these differences into perspective.
- Similarly, while a modest difference in year 1 royalty rates between franchisors might be considered of minor importance, cumulative **Royalty** payments over a 10-year time frame as a percentage of Average Total Investment put these differences into perspective.

Weighting for Primary FDD Variables (350 Points)	Lapels (Full Service Plant)		Tide Dry Cleaners (Plant Store)		ZIPS Dry Cleaners		Martinizing Dry Cleaning (Conversion Plant)		Max. Score
	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	
Company-Wide Average Gross Sales or Revenue	\$597,832		\$1,076,953		\$1,124,384		\$271,305		
Period Operated	Over 2 Years		Avg. 3.5 Years		12 Month		12 Months		
Calculation Based on # of Units Evaluated	2 of 81		16 of 44		43 of 51		32 of 181		
Calculation Based on Franchised or Company-Owned Units	Franchised		Franchised		Franchised		Franchised		
% Adjustment*	100%		93%		115%		115%		
Adjusted Average Gross Sales or Revenue	\$597,832		\$996,182		\$1,293,042		\$312,000		
Adjusted Unit Gross Sales Return on Avg. Total Investment	110.6%	100	91.3%	90	104.0%	100	62.9%	60	175
Cum.10-Year Gross Sales (Compounded at 5% Growth / Year)	\$7,895,440		\$14,223,089		\$14,849,500		\$3,583,062		
10-Year Sales / Average Total Investment	14.6	35	13.0	35	11.9	25	7.2	15	75
10-Year Total Royalty Payments	\$394,772		\$924,501		\$890,970		\$214,984		
10-Year Royalties / Average Total Investment	73.0%	50	84.7%	50	71.7%	50	43.4%	50	50
Detailed Income Statement (EBITDA All Units Optimal)	10%	5	90%	45	70%	35	50%	25	50

* To adjust stated Average Gross Sales to a "standard" of greater than 2 years, the following adjustments were applied:
 Over 1 Year = 115%; Over 2 Years = 100%; Over 3 Years = 95%; Over 4 Years = 90%; Over 5 Years = 85%.



- The **Current Ratio (or Working Capital Ratio)** is a liquidity ratio that reflects the franchisor's ability to pay back its short-term liabilities. A ratio of less than 1 raises a red flag as to whether a franchisor can pay its short-term obligations when due.
- **Intangibles**, including **Goodwill**, are long-term assets represented by non-physical assets. Franchisors whose brands are household names may justify a higher value for intangibles than a relatively new brand with limited experience in the marketplace.
- **Total Liabilities as percentage of Total Assets Ratio** reflects the long-term strength of the franchisor's balance sheet. Over time, one would expect the percentage to decrease. A lower percentage is preferred over a higher percentage.
- **Long-term Liabilities as percentage of Shareholder Equity** reflects the franchisor's long-term capital structure. Over time, one would expect the percentage to decrease. A lower percentage is preferred over a higher percentage.

Balance Sheet Items (\$000)	Lapels (Full Service Plant)		Tide Dry Cleaners (Plant Store)		ZIPS Dry Cleaners		Martinizng Dry Cleaning (Conversion Plant)		Max. Score
	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	
Weighting for Primary FDD Variables (100 Points)									
Ending Date for Financials (Closing Date on Balance Sheet)	3/31/2018		6/30/2017		12/31/2017		12/31/2017		
Current Assets	\$1,000		\$394		\$1,305		\$643		
Intangibles & Goodwill	\$1,300		\$0		\$0		\$21		
Other Assets	\$0		\$519		\$1,092		\$55		
Total Assets	\$2,300		\$933		\$2,397		\$719		
Current Liabilities	\$0		\$1,418		\$1,261		\$210		
Long-Team Liabilities	\$0		\$1,397		\$841		\$26		
Total Liabilities	\$0		\$2,815		\$2,102		\$236		
Shareholders' Equity	\$2,300		-\$1,882		\$295		\$483		
Total Liabilities & Shareholders' Equity	\$2,300		\$933		\$2,397		\$719		

Key Financial Ratio (%)s	Lapels (Full Service Plant)		Tide Dry Cleaners (Plant Store)		ZIPS Dry Cleaners		Martinizing Dry Cleaning (Conversion Plant)		Max. Score
	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	Data	Score	
Weighting for Primary FDD Variables (100 Points)									
Current Ratio (or Working Capital Ratio)	N/A	25	27.8%	2	103.5%	10	306.2%	25	25
Intangibles & Goodwill as % of Total Assets	56.5%	4	0.0%	20	0.0%	20	2.9%	19	20
Total Liabilities as % of Total Assets Ratio	0.0%	35	301.7%	0	87.7%	10	32.8%	33	35
Long-Term Liabilities as % of Shareholders' Equity Ratio	0.0%	20	-74.2%	0	285.1%	0	5.4%	20	20

Total Score	675	670	614	568	/1000
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FranCompare™

FranCompare™ and the World Franchising Network have been in the franchising business for over 30 years. During that period, we have gained some meaningful insights into what separates great franchise systems from mediocre ones. The FranCompare™ Franchise Recognition Program is the result of those decades of experience. The underlying analysis relies upon a unique template called Franchise Matrix™. The Franchise Matrix™ allows a prospective investor, analyst or lender to prioritize which objective factors in each franchisor's FDD are most important in analyzing competing systems and to compare systems side-by-side. Keep in mind that the methodology and results of the Franchise Recognition Program are solely the opinions of FranCompare™ and are based solely on what we consider to be the key factors taken from each franchisor's 2018 FDD. If you want to modify the weighting of the variables or change the variables themselves, please [click here](#) for a customizable worksheet that can accommodate your personal priorities.

FranCompare™ also provides custom side-by-side analyses for clients. You can choose from over 2,100 2018 FDDs and over 2,300 2017 FDDs listed on www.FranchiseDisclosures.com. If you have an interest in a custom FranCompare™ analysis, please give us a call at (888) 612-9908. The minimum charge for 4 companies is \$600 and each additional company is \$150.

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