# UNITED STATES <br> SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION <br> WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 <br> FORM 10-Q 

(Mark One)
$\square$ QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2008
OR

## $\square$ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to
Commission file number 0-23827
PC CONNECTION, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)
DELAWARE

| (State or other jurisdiction of |
| :---: |
| incorporation or organization) |

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)
730 MILFORD ROAD, MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
(Address of principal executive offices)

02-0513618
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

03054
(Zip Code)
(603) 683-2000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report: N/A
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

YES $\square$ NO $\square$
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer $\square \quad$ Accelerated filer $\square$
Non-accelerated filer $\square \quad$ Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule $12 \mathrm{~b}-2$ of the Exchange Act).

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES <br> FORM 10-Q

TABLE OF CONTENTS

## PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Page
ITEM 1. Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements:
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm ..... 1
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets-September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 ..... 2
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income-Three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 ..... 3
Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity_-Nine months ended September 30, 2008 ..... 4
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows-Nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 ..... 5
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements ..... 6
ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. ..... 17
ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk ..... 31
ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures ..... 32
ITEM 1A. Risk Factors ..... 33
ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds ..... 39
ITEM 6. Exhibits ..... 40
SIGNATURES ..... 41

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
PC Connection, Inc.
Merrimack, New Hampshire
We have reviewed the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet of PC Connection, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of September 30, 2008, and the related condensed consolidated statements of income for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 , and the condensed consolidated statement of changes in stockholders’ equity for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008, and the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007. These interim financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management.

We conducted our review in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to such condensed consolidated interim financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have previously audited, in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheet of PC Connection, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the year then ended (not presented herein); and in our report dated March 14, 2008, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements (and included an explanatory paragraph regarding the Company's adoption of Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes - an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109, effective January 1, 2007.) In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2007 is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

DELOITTE \& TOUCHE LLP
Boston, Massachusetts
November 10, 2008

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES <br> PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (amounts in thousands)



See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1-Financial Statements

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Unaudited)
(amounts in thousands, except per share data)

|  | Three Months Ended <br> September 30, |  | Nine Months Ended <br> September 30, |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1-Financial Statements

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008
(Unaudited)
(amounts in thousands)

|  | Common Stock |  |  | Additional Paid-In Capital |  | Retained Earnings |  | Treasury Shares |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Shares |  | nount |  |  | Shares | Amount |  |  |
| Balance-January 1, 2008 | 27,252 | \$ | 273 | \$ | 94,132 |  |  |  | \$ 131,970 | (327) | \$ $(2,065)$ | \$ | 224,310 |
| Stock compensation expense | - |  | - |  | 1,096 |  | - | - | - |  | 1,096 |
| Issuance of common stock under stock incentive plans, including income tax benefit | 33 |  | - |  | 220 |  | - | - | - |  | 220 |
| Issuance of stock under Employee Stock Purchase Plan | 14 |  | - |  | 129 |  | - | - | - |  | 129 |
| Repurchase of common stock for Treasury | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | (128) | $(1,200)$ |  | $(1,200)$ |
| Nonvested stock awards | - |  | - |  | (187) |  | - | 26 | 187 |  | - |
| Net income | - |  | - |  | - |  | 13,075 | - | - |  | 13,075 |
| Balance-September 30, 2008 | $\underline{\underline{27,299}}$ | \$ | 273 | \$ | 95,390 |  | \$ 145,045 | (429) | \$ (3,078) | \$ | $\xrightarrow{\text { 237,630 }}$ |

[^0]
## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1-Financial Statements

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS <br> (Unaudited) <br> (amounts in thousands)

|  | Nine Months Ended September 30, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 |
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities: |  |  |
| Net income | \$ 13,075 | \$ 16,823 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | 5,234 | 5,158 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 1,396 | 1,482 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,318 | 512 |
| Stock compensation expense | 1,096 | 202 |
| Income tax benefit from exercise of stock options | 16 | 889 |
| Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock options | (3) | (359) |
| (Gain) loss on disposal of fixed assets | (13) | 53 |
| Changes in assets and liabilities: |  |  |
| Accounts receivable | 17,937 | $(18,280)$ |
| Inventories | 394 | $(6,130)$ |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | (599) | 256 |
| Other non-current assets | 15 | 91 |
| Accounts payable | 4,225 | 6,036 |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | $(1,149)$ | 2,182 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 42,942 | 8,915 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities: |  |  |
| Purchases of property and equipment | $(8,708)$ | $(5,184)$ |
| Proceeds from sale of property and equipment | 44 | - |
| Net cash used for investing activities | $(8,664)$ | $(5,184)$ |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities: |  |  |
| Proceeds from short-term borrowings | 37,343 | 3,313 |
| Repayment of short-term borrowings | $(37,343)$ | $(3,313)$ |
| Repayment of capital lease obligation | (383) | (665) |
| Purchase of treasury shares | $(1,200)$ | - |
| Exercise of stock options | 204 | 2,544 |
| Issuance of stock under Employee Stock Purchase Plan | 129 | 134 |
| Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock options | 3 | 359 |
| Net share settlement obligation | 55 | - |
| Net cash (used for) provided by financing activities | $(1,192)$ | 2,372 |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents | 33,086 | 6,103 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period | 13,741 | 17,582 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period | \$46,827 | \$ 23,685 |
| Noncash Financing Activity: |  |  |
| Issuance of nonvested stock from treasury | \$ 187 | \$ - |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

# PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES 

# PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (amounts in thousands, except per share data) 

## Note 1-Basis of Presentation

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements of PC Connection, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Company," "we," "us," or "our") have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Such principles were applied on a basis consistent with those of the financial statements contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K. In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations for the interim periods reported and of the Company's financial condition as of the date of the interim balance sheet. The operating results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 may not be indicative of the results expected for any succeeding quarter or the entire year ending December 31, 2008.

## Revenue Recognition

Revenue on product sales is recognized at the point in time when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, the price is fixed and final, delivery has occurred, and there is a reasonable assurance of collection of the sales proceeds. We generally obtain oral or written purchase authorizations from our customers for a specified amount of product at a specified price. Because we either (i) have a general practice of covering customer losses while products are in-transit despite title transferring at the point of shipment or (ii) have FOB-destination specifically set out in our arrangements with federal agencies and certain commercial customers, delivery is deemed to have occurred at the point in time when the product is received by the customer.

We provide our customers with a limited thirty-day right of return generally limited to defective merchandise. Revenue is recognized at delivery and a reserve for sales returns is recorded. We have demonstrated the ability to make reasonable and reliable estimates of product returns in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 48, "Revenue Recognition When Right of Return Exists," based on significant historical experience.

All amounts billed to a customer in a sale transaction related to shipping and handling, if any, represent revenues earned for the goods provided, and these amounts have been classified as "net sales." Costs related to such shipping and handling billings are classified as "cost of sales." Sales are reported net of sales, use, or other transaction taxes that are collected from customers and remitted to taxing authorities.

Revenue for third party service contracts is recorded on a net sales recognition basis because we do not assume the risks and rewards of ownership in these transactions. For such contracts, we evaluate whether the sales of such services should be recorded as gross sales or net sales as required under the guidelines described in Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 104, "Revenue Recognition" and Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue No. 99-19, "Reporting Revenue Gross as a Principal versus Net as an Agent." Under gross sales recognition, we are the primary obligor, and the entire selling process is recorded in sales with our cost to the third party service provider recorded as a cost of sales. Under net sales recognition, we are not the primary obligor, and the cost to the third party service provider is recorded as a reduction to sales, with no cost of goods sold, thus leaving the entire gross profit as the reported net sale for the transaction.

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Similarly, we recognize revenue from agency sales transactions on a net sales basis. In agency sales transactions, we facilitate product sales by equipment and software manufacturers directly to our customers and receive agency, or referral, fees for such transactions. We do not take title to the products or assume any maintenance or return obligations in these transactions; title is passed directly from the supplier to our customer.

Although service revenues represent a small percentage of our consolidated revenues, we offer a growing range of services, including installation, configuration, repair, and other services performed by our personnel and third-party providers. If a service is performed in conjunction with the delivery of hardware, software, or another service, then we determine whether an item included in such multiple-element arrangements constitutes a separate deliverable, in accordance with EITF 00-21, "Accounting for Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables."

In these arrangements, an element is separated as a deliverable only when the following three conditions are met:

- The delivered item(s) has value to the customer on a standalone basis;
- There is objective and reliable evidence of the fair value of the undelivered item; and
- If the arrangement includes a general right of return relative to the delivered item, delivery or performance of the undelivered item(s) is considered probable and substantially under our control.


## Cost of Sales and Certain Other Costs

Cost of sales includes the invoice cost of the product, direct costs of packaging, inbound and outbound freight, and provisions for inventory obsolescence, adjusted for discounts, rebates, and other vendor allowances, including those pursuant to EITF Issue No. 02-16, "Accounting by a Customer (Including a Reseller) for Certain Consideration Received from a Vendor." Direct operating expenses relating to our purchasing function and receiving, inspection, internal transfer, warehousing, packing and shipping, and other operating expenses of our distribution center are included in selling, general and administrative ("SG\&A") expenses. Total direct operating expenses relating to these functions included in SG\&A expenses for the periods reported are shown below:

|  | Three Months Ended |  | Nine Months |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| September 30, 2008 | \$ | 3,018 | \$ | 9,134 |
| September 30, 2007 |  | 2,862 |  | 8,378 |

## Accounts Receivable

We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers and adjust credit limits based on payment history and customer creditworthiness. We maintain an allowance for estimated doubtful accounts based on our historical experience and the customer credit issues identified. We monitor collections regularly and adjust the allowance for doubtful accounts as necessary to recognize any changes in credit exposure.

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

## Inventories-Merchandise

Inventories (all finished goods) consisting of software packages, computer systems, and peripheral equipment, are stated at cost (determined under a weighted-average cost method which approximates the first-in, first-out method) or market, whichever is lower. Inventory quantities on hand are reviewed regularly, and allowances are maintained for obsolete, slow moving, and nonsalable inventory.

## Vendor Allowances

We receive allowances from merchandise vendors for price protections, discounts, product rebates, and other programs. These allowances are treated as a reduction of the vendor's prices and are recorded as adjustments to cost of sales or inventory, as applicable. Allowances for product rebates that require certain volumes of product sales or purchases are recorded only after the related milestones are met.

## Advertising Costs and Allowances

Costs of producing and distributing catalogs are charged to expense in the period in which the catalogs are first issued. Other advertising costs are expensed as incurred.

Vendors have the ability to place advertisements in our catalogs or fund other advertising activities for which we receive advertising allowances. These vendor allowances, to the extent that they represent specific reimbursements of the underlying incremental and identifiable costs, are offset against SG\&A expenses. Advertising allowances that cannot be associated with a specific program funded by an individual vendor or that exceed the fair value of advertising expense associated with that program are classified as offsets to cost of sales or inventory in accordance with EITF 02-16. Our vendor partners generally consolidate their funding of advertising and other marketing programs, and as a result, we classify substantially all vendor consideration as a reduction of cost of inventory purchases rather than a reduction of advertising expense.

## Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

We have designated January 1 of each year as the date we perform our annual impairment tests relative to goodwill. We completed the impairment review in January 2008 and determined that our goodwill and trademarks were not impaired. Additionally, in view of the recent decline in the economy and in the market value of our common stock, we performed an interim impairment test as of September 30, 2008. As a result of this interim test, we determined that our goodwill and trademarks were not impaired.

|  | September 30, 2008 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Goodwill | $\$ 86,867$ |
| Trademarks | 1,190 |

Intangible assets subject to amortization at September 30, 2008 consisted of customer lists of $\$ 1,179$ and a licensing agreement of $\$ 119$ (net of accumulated amortization of $\$ 4,041$ and $\$ 356$, respectively). Intangible assets subject to amortization at December 31, 2007 consisted of customer lists of $\$ 1,893$ and a licensing agreement of $\$ 208$ (net of accumulated amortization of $\$ 3,326$ and $\$ 267$, respectively). For each of the three-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, we recorded amortization expenses of $\$ 268$. For each of the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, we recorded amortization expenses of $\$ 804$.

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

The estimated amortization expense for each of the three succeeding years and thereafter is as follows:

| For the Year Ended December 31, | \$268(*) |
| :--- | :---: |
| $\left.\begin{array}{ll}2008 & 942 \\ 2009 & 88 \\ 2010 & -\end{array}\right]$ |  |
| 2011 and thereafter | - |

(*) Represents estimated amortization expense for the three months ending December 31, 2008.

## Share-Based Compensation

In accordance with SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment," ("SFAS 123(R)"), we measure the grant date fair value of equity awards given to employees and recognize that cost on a straight-line basis, adjusted for estimated forfeitures, over the periods that such services are performed in our condensed consolidated financial statements. We use the Black-Scholes option valuation model and apply the single-option valuation approach to assess the grant-date fair value of stock option awards. We determine the fair value of nonvested stock awards using the end-of-day market value of our common stock on the grant date.

## Income Taxes

We recognize deferred income tax assets and liabilities for the differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities that will result in taxable or deductible amounts in the future, based on enacted tax laws and rates anticipated to be applicable to the periods in which the differences are expected to affect taxable income. On January 1, 2007, we adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes-an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109," ("FIN 48"). We account for uncertain tax positions in accordance with FIN 48. Accordingly, we report a liability for unrecognized tax benefits resulting from uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. We recognize interest and penalties, if any, related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense. During the nine months ended September 30, 2008, there were no material changes in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits. We do not currently expect that our unrecognized tax benefits will change significantly within the next twelve months.

## Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the amounts reported in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Share Repurchase Authorization

On March 28, 2001, our Board of Directors authorized the spending of up to $\$ 15,000$ to repurchase our common stock. Share purchases will be made in the open market from time to time depending on market conditions. Our current bank line of credit, however, limits repurchases made after June 2005 to $\$ 10,000$ without bank approval of higher amounts.

## Table of Contents

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

During the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we repurchased an aggregate of 119,752 shares for $\$ 1,145$. As of September 30, 2008, we have repurchased an aggregate of 482,169 shares for $\$ 3,430$. The maximum approximate dollar value of shares that may yet be purchased under the program without further bank approval is $\$ 8,855$. We have issued nonvested shares from treasury stock and have reflected upon vesting the net remaining balance of treasury stock on the condensed consolidated balance sheet. In addition, we withheld 8,239 shares upon the vesting of nonvested stock to satisfy related employee tax obligations during the nine months ended September 30, 2008. Such transactions were recognized as a repurchase of common stock and returned to treasury but do not apply against authorized repurchase limits under our bank line agreement and Board of Directors' authorization.

## Note 2—Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per common share is computed using the weighted average number of shares outstanding. Diluted earnings per share is computed using the weighted average number of shares outstanding adjusted for the incremental shares attributed to outstanding equity awards, if dilutive, under the treasury stock method.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share:

|  | Three Months Ended |  | Nine Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| September 30, | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| Numerator: |  |  |  |  |
| Net income | \$ 3,214 | \$ 7,685 | \$13,075 | \$ 16,823 |
| Denominator: |  |  |  |  |
| Denominator for basic earnings per share | 26,835 | 26,814 | 26,834 | 26,765 |
| Dilutive effect of employee equity awards | 57 | 203 | 107 | 244 |
| Denominator for diluted earnings per share | 26,892 | 27,017 | 26,941 | 27,009 |
| Earnings per share: |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ . 12 | \$ . 29 | \$ . 49 | \$ . 63 |
| Diluted | \$ . 12 | \$ . 28 | \$ . 49 | \$ . 62 |

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, the following weighted average unexercised stock options and other common stock equivalents were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share because the effect would have been anti-dilutive:

| September 30, | Three Months Ended |  | Nine Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| Anti-dilutive equity awards | 1,007 | 296 | 612 | 238 |

## Note 3—Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("SFAS 157"). This Statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 does not require any new fair value measurements but rather applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. 157-2

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

("FSP 157-2"). FSP 157-2 delays the effective date of SFAS 157 for all nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis (at least annually), until fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. These nonfinancial items include assets and liabilities such as reporting units measured at a fair value in a goodwill impairment test and nonfinancial assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination. Effective January 1, 2008, we adopted SFAS 157 for financial assets and liabilities, and such adoption did not have a significant effect on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

In October 2008, the FASB issued FSP 157-3 "Determining the Fair Value of a Financial Asset When the Market for That Asset Is Not Active" ("FSP 1573"). FSP 157-3 clarifies the application of SFAS 157 in a market that is not active, and addresses application issues such as the use of internal assumptions when relevant observable data does not exist, the use of observable market information when the market is not active, and the use of market quotes when assessing the relevance of observable and unobservable data. FSP 157-3 is effective for all periods presented in accordance with SFAS 157. The adoption of FSP 157-3 did not have a significant impact on our consolidated financial statements or the fair values of our financial assets and liabilities.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities" ("SFAS 159"), which permits companies to voluntarily choose to measure specified financial instruments and other items at fair value on a contract-by-contract basis. If the fair value option is elected, subsequent changes in fair value will be required to be reported in earnings each reporting period. This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. We have elected not to measure any eligible items at fair value. Accordingly, the adoption of SFAS 159 did not have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), "Business Combinations" ("SFAS No. 141(R)"). Under SFAS 141(R), an entity is required to recognize the assets acquired, liabilities assumed, contractual contingencies, and contingent consideration at their fair value on the acquisition date. It further requires that acquisition-related costs be recognized separately from the acquisition and expensed as incurred; that restructuring costs generally be expensed in periods subsequent to the acquisition date; and that changes in accounting for deferred tax asset valuation allowances and acquired income tax uncertainties after the measurement period be recognized as a component of provision for taxes. This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and is to be applied prospectively. We are currently assessing the potential impact SFAS 141(R) will have on our financial statements.

## Note 4—Related-Party Transactions

We lease our corporate headquarters under a fifteen-year lease from G\&H Post, LLC, an affiliated company related to us through common ownership. Lease payments for the facility commenced in December 1998, and we have the option to renew the lease for two additional terms of five years each. Our subsidiary Merrimack Services Corporation also leases from G\&H Post, LLC a facility adjacent to our corporate headquarters under a ten-year lease agreement and has the option to renew the lease for two additional two-year terms. A copy of the lease was filed as Exhibit 10.1 to our Quarterly Report Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2008.

## Note 5—Segment and Related Disclosures

SFAS No. 131, "Disclosures About Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information," requires that public companies report profits and losses and certain other information on their "reportable operating segments"

## Table of Contents

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements <br> NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

in their annual and interim financial statements. Our Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM") evaluates our operations based on a measure of operating income. The internal organization used by our CODM to assess performance and allocate resources determines the basis for our reportable operating segments. Our CODM is our Chief Executive Officer.

Our operations are organized under three reportable operating segments-the "SMB" segment, which serves small- and medium-sized businesses, as well as consumers; the "Large Account" segment, which serves medium-to-large corporations; and the "Public Sector" segment, which serves federal, state, and local government and educational institutions-together with our Headquarters/Other group that provide services in areas such as finance, human resources, information technology, legal, communications, and marketing. Most of the operating costs associated with the Headquarters/Other group functions are charged to the reportable operating segments based on their estimated usage of the underlying functions. We report these charges to the operating segments as "Allocations." Certain of the headquarters costs relating to executive oversight functions that are not allocated to the operating segments are included under the heading of "Headquarters/Other" in the tables below.

Net sales represent net sales to external customers as our CODM does not review inter-segment product revenues. Segment information applicable to our reportable operating segments for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 is shown below:

|  | Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SMB Segment | Large Account Segment |  | Public Sector Segment |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Headquarters/ } \\ \text { Other } \end{gathered}$ |  | Consolidated |  |
| Net sales | \$217,463 | - | 117,300 | \$ | 106,681 |  |  | \$ | 41,444 |
| Operating income (loss) before allocations | \$ 14,874 | \$ | 6,168 | \$ | 3,967 | \$ | $(19,989)$ | \$ | 5,020 |
| Allocations | $(10,821)$ |  | (782) |  | $(3,936)$ |  | 15,539 |  | - |
| Operating income (loss) | \$ 4,053 | \$ | 5,386 | \$ | 31 | \$ | $(4,450)$ | \$ | 5,020 |
| Selected Operating Expense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | \$ 72 | \$ | 337 | \$ | 33 | \$ | 1,288 | \$ | 1,730 |
| Special charges | 13 |  | - |  | 42 |  | 1,376 |  | 1,431 |


|  | Three Months Ended September 30, 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { SMB } \\ \text { Segment } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Large Account Segment |  | Public Sector Segment |  | Headquarters/$\qquad$ |  | Consolidated |  |
| Net sales | \$234,850 | \$ | 130,027 | \$ | 91,593 |  |  | \$ | 456,470 |
| Operating income (loss) before allocations | \$ 17,764 | \$ | 7,821 | \$ | 4,028 | \$ | $(17,655)$ | \$ | 11,958 |
| Allocations | $(9,403)$ |  | (439) |  | $(3,080)$ |  | 12,922 |  |  |
| Operating income (loss) | \$ 8,361 | \$ | 7,382 | \$ | 948 | \$ | $(4,733)$ | \$ | 11,958 |
| Selected Operating Expense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | \$ 77 | \$ | 308 | \$ | 28 | \$ | 1,273 | \$ | 1,686 |
| Special charges | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |

## Table of Contents

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements <br> \section*{NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued)} (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

|  | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SMB Segment | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Large Account } \\ \text { Segment } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Public SectorSegment |  | Headquarters/Other |  | Consolidated |  |
| Net sales | \$693,987 |  | 361,876 | \$ | 258,704 |  |  |  | ,314,567 |
| Operating income (loss) before allocations | \$ 49,505 | \$ | 19,825 | \$ | 9,432 | \$ | $(57,724)$ | \$ | 21,038 |
| Allocations | $(32,694)$ |  | $(2,370)$ |  | $(10,780)$ |  | 45,844 |  | - |
| Operating income (loss) | \$ 16,811 | \$ | $\underline{\text { 17,455 }}$ | \$ | $(1,348)$ | \$ | $(11,880)$ | \$ | $\underline{ }$ 21,038 |
| Selected Operating Expense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | \$ 215 | \$ | 985 | \$ | 128 | \$ | 3,906 | \$ | 5,234 |
| Special Charges | 13 |  | - |  | 42 |  | 1,376 |  | 1,431 |
| Balance Sheet Data: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total assets | \$149,660 | \$ | 156,686 | \$ | 63,009 | \$ | 28,843 | \$ | 398,198 |
| Goodwill | 1,173 |  | 48,060 |  | 7,634 |  | - |  | 56,867 |


|  | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SMB Segment | Large AccountSegment |  | Public Sector Segment |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Headquarters/ } \\ & \text { Other } \end{aligned}$ |  | Consolidated |  |
| Net sales | \$700,718 | \$ | 373,944 | \$ | 221,110 |  |  |  | ,295,772 |
| Operating income (loss) before allocations | \$ 48,123 | \$ | 21,170 | \$ | 8,826 | \$ | $(51,404)$ | \$ | 26,715 |
| Allocations | $(30,356)$ |  | (669) |  | $(8,775)$ |  | 39,800 |  | - |
| Operating income (loss) | \$ 17,767 | \$ | 20,501 | \$ | 51 | \$ | $(11,604)$ | \$ | $\underline{ }$ 26,715 |
| Selected Operating Expense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | \$ 230 | \$ | 993 | \$ | 85 | \$ | 3,850 | \$ | 5,158 |
| Special charges | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Balance Sheet Data: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total assets | \$151,690 | \$ | 159,754 | \$ | 48,097 | \$ | 16,366 | \$ | 375,907 |
| Goodwill | 1,173 |  | 48,060 |  | 7,634 |  | - |  | 56,867 |

Our operating segments' assets presented above are primarily accounts receivables, intercompany receivables, and goodwill and other intangibles. Assets for the Headquarters/Other group are managed by corporate headquarters, including cash, inventory, and property and equipment. Total assets for the Headquarters/Other group are presented net of intercompany balances eliminations of $\$ 52,403$ and $\$ 72,299$ for September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Our capital expenditures are largely comprised of IT hardware and software purchased and software developed internally, to maintain or upgrade our management information systems. These systems serve all of our subsidiaries, to varying degrees, and as a result, our CODM does not evaluate capital expenditures on a segment basis.

## Table of Contents

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1-Financial Statements

## NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Net sales by business segment and product mix are presented below:

| September 30, | Three Months Ended |  |  |  | Nine Months Ended |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2008 |  | 2007 |  | 2008 |  | 2007 |
| Segment (excludes transfers between segments) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMB |  | 217,463 | \$ | 234,850 | \$ | 693,987 | \$ | 700,718 |
| Large Account |  | 117,300 |  | 130,027 |  | 361,876 |  | 373,944 |
| Public Sector |  | 106,681 |  | 91,593 |  | 258,704 |  | 221,110 |
| Total |  | 441,444 | \$ | 456,470 | \$ | 1,314,567 | \$ | 1,295,772 |
| Product Mix |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Notebooks and PDAs | \$ | 70,215 | \$ | 71,730 | \$ | 204,255 | \$ | 217,747 |
| Video, Imaging and Sound |  | 65,776 |  | 65,236 |  | 192,588 |  | 172,483 |
| Desktop/Servers |  | 59,169 |  | 65,776 |  | 179,613 |  | 185,783 |
| Software |  | 56,039 |  | 58,104 |  | 169,195 |  | 162,595 |
| Net/Com Products |  | 46,140 |  | 37,924 |  | 132,980 |  | 103,373 |
| Printers and Printer Supplies |  | 41,557 |  | 43,449 |  | 122,701 |  | 126,845 |
| Storage Devices |  | 35,565 |  | 41,233 |  | 114,710 |  | 115,690 |
| Memory and System Enhancements |  | 13,716 |  | 20,460 |  | 46,697 |  | 64,441 |
| Accessories/Other |  | 53,267 |  | 52,558 |  | 151,828 |  | 146,815 |
| Total |  | $\underline{441,444}$ |  | $\xrightarrow{456,470}$ | \$ | $\xrightarrow{1,314,567}$ | \$ | 1,295,772 |

Substantially all of our net sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 were made to customers located in the United States. Shipments to customers located in foreign countries aggregated less than $1 \%$ in each of those respective periods. All of our assets at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 were located in the United States. Our primary target customers are small- and medium-sized businesses with 20 to 1,000 employees, federal, state, and local government agencies, educational institutions, and medium-to-large corporate accounts. No single customer accounted for $10 \%$ or more of our total net sales for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007.

## Note 6-Special Charges

In the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we recorded a charge of $\$ 1,431$ related to workforce reduction and management restructuring costs, classified as workforce reductions in the table below. We did not record any special charges in the nine months ended September 30, 2007.

A roll forward of special charges for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 is shown below.

|  | Workforce <br> Reductions |
| :--- | :--- |
| Balance December 31, 2007 | 541 |
| $\quad$ Charges | 1,431 |
| $\quad$ Cash payments | $(221)$ |
| Liabilities at September 30, 2008 | $\boxed{\$ 1,751}$ |

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Liabilities at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 are included in accrued expenses and other liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.

## Note 7-Commitments and Contingencies

We are subject to various legal proceedings and claims which have arisen during the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the outcome of such matters is not expected to have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

We are subject to audits by states on sales and income taxes, unclaimed property, and other assessments. A multi-state unclaimed property audit is in progress, and certain sales tax audits may be imminent. While management believes that known liabilities have been adequately provided for, it is too early to determine the ultimate outcomes of such audits. Such outcomes could have a material impact on our results of operations and financial condition.

## Note 8-Income Taxes

We file one consolidated U.S. federal income tax return that includes all of our subsidiaries as well as several consolidated, combined, and separate company returns in many U.S. state tax jurisdictions. The tax years 2005-2007 remain open to examination by the major state taxing jurisdictions in which we file. In September 2008, we settled an Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") audit of the 2005 tax year with an adjustment that increased taxable income in 2006 by $\$ 325$; the IRS asserted that $\$ 325$ was the non-deductible portion of a General Services Administration ("GSA") settlement, of which $\$ 1,510$ was accrued and deducted in 2006. We paid $\$ 2,550$ to the GSA in 2006 to settle all claims made after a GSA contract administration review. The tax and interest on the $\$ 325$ adjustment totaled $\$ 127$ and was paid in September 2008. Additionally during the quarter, $\$ 440$ of state tax loss and credit carryforwards were recognized.

## Note 9—Bank Borrowing and Trade Credit Arrangements

We have a $\$ 50,000$ credit facility collateralized by substantially all of our business assets. This facility can be increased, at our option, to $\$ 80,000$ for approved acquisitions or other uses authorized by the bank at substantially the same terms. Amounts outstanding under this facility bear interest at the prime rate ( $5.00 \%$ at September 30, 2008). The facility also gives us the option of obtaining Eurodollar Rate Loans in multiples of $\$ 1,000$ for various short-term durations. The credit facility includes various customary financial ratios and operating covenants, including minimum net worth and maximum funded debt ratio requirements, and restrictions on the payment of dividends to shareholders, repurchase of our common stock, and default acceleration provisions, none of which we believe significantly restricts our operations. Funded debt ratio is the ratio of average outstanding advances under the credit facility to EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest Expense, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization). The maximum allowable funded debt ratio under the agreement is 2.0 to 1.0 ; our actual funded debt ratio at September 30, 2008 was less than 0.1 to 1.0.

No borrowings were outstanding under this credit facility at September 30, 2008 or December 31, 2007. The credit facility matures on October 15, 2012, at which time amounts outstanding become due.

At September 30, 2008, we had security agreements with two financial institutions to facilitate the purchase of inventory from various suppliers under certain terms and conditions. The agreements allow a collateralized first position in certain branded products inventory financed by these financial institutions up to an aggregate

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 1-Financial Statements <br> \section*{NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(Continued)} (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

amount of $\$ 45,000$. The cost of such financing under these agreements is borne by the suppliers by discounting their invoices to the financial institutions as an incentive for us to purchase their products. We do not pay any interest or discount fees on such inventory financing. At September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, accounts payable included $\$ 16,811$ and $\$ 12,197$, respectively, owed to these financial institutions.

## Note 10—Fair Value

SFAS 157 establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. Observable inputs are obtained from independent sources and can be validated by a third party, whereas unobservable inputs reflect assumptions regarding what a third party would use in pricing an asset or liability. A financial instrument's categorization within the fair value hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. SFAS No. 157 establishes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

Level 1—Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
Level 2-Include other inputs that are directly or indirectly observable in the marketplace.
Level 3-Unobservable inputs which are supported by little or no market activity.
In accordance with SFAS 157, we measure our cash equivalents at fair value and are classified within Level 1 or Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The classification has been determined based on the manner in which we value our cash equivalents, primarily using quoted market prices or alternative pricing sources. Assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis consisted of the following types of instruments and were reported as cash equivalents as of September 30, 2008:

|  | Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Total } \\ \text { Balance } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Prices in Martical entical el 1) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Significant } \\ \text { Other } \\ \text { Observable } \\ \text { Inputs (Level 2) } \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Significant } \\ \text { Unobservable } \\ \text { Inputs (Level 3) } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash Equivalents: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bank time deposits | \$ | - | \$ | 15,079 | \$ | - | \$15,079 |
| Money market fund deposits |  | 31,748 |  | - |  | - | 31,748 |
| Total assets measured at fair value |  | 31,748 | \$ | 15,079 |  | - | $\underline{\underline{\$ 46,827}}$ |

## Table of Contents

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION
Item 2-MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Our management's discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations include the identification of certain trends and other statements that may predict or anticipate future business or financial results that are subject to important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated. See Item 1A"Risk Factors" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

## OVERVIEW

We are a leading direct marketer of a wide range of information technology, or IT, products and services-including computer systems, software and peripheral equipment, networking communications, and other products and accessories that we purchase from manufacturers, distributors, and other suppliers. We also offer a growing range of installation, configuration, repair, and other services performed by our personnel and third-party providers. We operate through three primary business segments: (a) consumers and small- to medium-sized businesses, or SMBs, through our PC Connection Sales subsidiaries, (b) large corporate accounts, or Large Account, through our MoreDirect subsidiary, and (c) federal, state, and local government and educational institutions, or Public Sector, through our GovConnection subsidiary.

We generate sales through (i) outbound telemarketing and field sales contacts by account managers focused on the business, education, and government markets, (ii) our websites, and (iii) inbound calls from customers responding to our catalogs and other advertising media.

As a value added reseller in the IT supply chain, we do not manufacture IT hardware or software. We are dependent on our suppliers that consist of manufacturers and distributors that historically have sold only to resellers rather than directly to end users. Certain manufacturers have on many occasions attempted to sell directly to our customers, thereby eliminating our role. Consolidation in this industry is more evident than ever, as further streamlining of our supply chain occurs. If more of our suppliers were to succeed in selling to our customers directly, including the electronic distribution of software products, our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows could be negatively affected.

Market conditions and technology advances significantly affect the demand for our products and services. Virtual delivery of software products and advanced Internet technology providing customers enhanced functionality have substantially increased customer expectations, requiring us to invest more heavily in our own IT development to meet these new demands. As buying trends change and electronic commerce continues to grow, customers become more sophisticated and have more choices than ever before. Customers are also better able to make price comparisons through the Internet, thereby increasing price competition. These conditions could have a negative effect on our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows.

The primary challenges we face in effectively managing our business are (1) increasing our revenues in the face of a weak economic environment while also improving our gross profit margins in all three business segments, (2) recruiting, retaining, and improving the productivity of our sales personnel, and (3) effectively managing and leveraging our selling, general and administrative, or SG\&A, expenses over a higher sales base. With modest growth projected, at best, in the overall IT industry, any significant sales growth for us must come through increased market share. Competition is expected to be even more intense in the future, which could put more pressure on margins. Given the softness in customer demand, management implemented cost reductions in the third quarter of 2008 to reduce expenses to be in line with lower sales volumes. We lowered headcount in sales support areas and implemented various cost reduction programs that are expected to result in annualized savings of $\$ 6$ million beginning in the fourth quarter of 2008.

## Table of Contents

We believe that our customers are increasingly seeking total IT solutions, rather than simply specific IT products. Through the formation of our services subsidiary, ProConnection, Inc., we are able to provide customers complete IT solutions, from identifying their needs, to designing, developing, and managing the integration of products and services to implement their IT projects. Such service offerings carry much higher margins than traditional product sales. Additionally, the technical certifications of our service engineers permit us to offer higher-end, more complex products that also carry higher gross margins. We expect these service offerings and technical certifications to continue to play a role in sales generation and gross margins in this competitive environment.

We seek to recruit, retain, and increase the productivity of our sales personnel through training, mentoring, financial incentives based on performance, and updating and streamlining our information systems to make our operations more efficient. We are currently undertaking a major modification and upgrade of our sales order processing and customer management system that are expected to improve sales productivity in the second half of 2009. In addition, as stated above, we actively monitor and manage our expense structure in order to obtain better leverage of our operating costs.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth information derived from our statements of income expressed as a percentage of net sales for the periods indicated:

| September 30, | Three Months Ended |  | Nine Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| Net sales (in millions) | \$ 441.4 | \$456.5 | \$1,314.6 | \$1,295.8 |
| Net sales | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% |
| Gross margin | 12.1 | 12.6 | 12.4 | 12.5 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 10.6 | 10.0 | 10.7 | 10.4 |
| Special charges | 0.4 | - | 0.1 | - |
| Income from operations | 1.1\% | 2.6\% | 1.6\% | 2.1\% |

Net sales decreased year over year in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 as revenue declines in the SMB and Large Account segments were only partially offset by increased Public Sector revenues. Operating margins decreased year over year in the three- and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 as we experienced higher operating costs and lower gross profit margins, compared to the three- and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007. Gross profit margins decreased year over year for both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 due to competitive pricing pressure associated with the recent softening in IT spending. Operating costs increased in dollars and as a percentage of net sales in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008. The dollar increases were attributable to increased IT investments in sales support systems and additional sales representatives; the rate increases were attributable to the weaker demand environment that adversely affected such expenses as a percentage of net sales.

## Table of Contents

## Net Sales Distribution

The following table sets forth our percentage of net sales by business segment and product mix:

| September 30, | Three Months Ended |  | Nine Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| Business Segment |  |  |  |  |
| SMB | 49\% | 51\% | 53\% | 54\% |
| Large Account | 27 | 29 | 27 | 29 |
| Public Sector | 24 | 20 | 20 | 17 |
| Total | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% |
| Product Mix |  |  |  |  |
| Notebooks and PDAs | 16\% | 16\% | 15\% | 17\% |
| Videos, Imaging and Sound | 15 | 14 | 15 | 13 |
| Desktop/Servers | 13 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Software | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| Net/Com Products | 11 | 8 | 10 | 8 |
| Printers and Printer Supplies | 9 | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| Storage Devices | 8 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Memory and System Enhancements | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Accessories/Other | 12 | 12 | 11 | 11 |
| Total | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% |

Our highest year-over-year growth category was Net/Com Products, which grew 22\% in the third quarter of 2008 compared to the prior year period, reflecting industry demand for total IT solutions products in all three-business segments. Sales of Video, Imaging and Sound and Accessories/Other were level year over year despite the overall decrease in net sales, primarily due to increased sales of Apple digital music products, consumer electronics, and power management products.

## Gross Profit Margins

The following table summarizes our overall gross profit margins, as a percentage of net sales, over the periods indicated:

| September 30, | Three Months Ended |  | Nine Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| Business Segment |  |  |  |  |
| SMB | 14.2\% | 14.3\% | 14.0\% | 13.7\% |
| Large Account | 11.1 | 11.5 | 11.2 | 11.2 |
| Public Sector | 8.9 | 9.8 | 9.6 | 10.6 |
| Total | 12.1\% | 12.6\% | 12.4\% | 12.5\% |

Consolidated gross profit margins decreased year over year due to lower invoice profit margins and larger Public Sector revenues as a percentage of total net sales in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008. Public Sector revenues have the lowest margin rates of the three business segments. Invoice profit margins were adversely impacted by pricing pressure associated with softening demand. Gross margin improvement initiatives partly offset such pricing pressure. These include increasing vendor consideration, reducing freight discounting to our customers, and increasing the level of services sales.

## Table of Contents

## Cost of Sales and Certain Other Costs

Cost of sales includes the invoice cost of the product, direct costs of packaging, inbound and outbound freight, and provisions for inventory obsolescence, adjusted for discounts, rebates, and other vendor allowances. Direct operating expenses relating to our purchasing function and receiving, inspection, internal transfer, warehousing, packing and shipping, and other expenses of our distribution center are included in SG\&A expenses. Accordingly, our gross margins may not be comparable to those of other entities who include all of the costs related to their distribution network in cost of goods sold. Such costs, as a percentage of net sales for the periods reported, are as follows:

| September 30, |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Purchasing/Distribution Center | $\frac{\text { Three Months Ended }}{\frac{2008}{0.68 \%}} \frac{\frac{2007}{0.63 \%}}{\frac{\text { Nine Months Ended }}{\frac{2008}{0.69 \%}} \frac{2007}{0.65 \%}} 10$ |

## Operating Expenses

The following table breaks out our more significant operating expenses for the periods indicated (dollars in millions):

| September 30, | Three Months Ended |  | Nine Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| Personnel costs | \$ 30.8 | \$ 30.6 | \$ 94.0 | \$ 90.2 |
| Advertising, net | 4.8 | 4.8 | 14.5 | 14.5 |
| Facilities operations | 2.4 | 2.3 | 7.2 | 6.8 |
| Credit card fees | 1.8 | 2.0 | 5.7 | 5.9 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 1.7 | 1.7 | 5.2 | 5.2 |
| Bad debts | 0.1 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Other, net | 5.3 | 3.7 | 12.7 | 11.1 |
| Total | \$ 46.9 | \$ 45.6 | \$140.4 | \$134.8 |
| Percentage of net sales | 10.6\% | 10.0\% | 10.7\% | 10.4\% |

Personnel costs represent the majority of our operating expenses, with sales personnel representing the largest portion of these costs. Personnel costs increased year over year as additional investments in sales representatives offset a decline in variable compensation associated with lower operating results. We ended the third quarter 2008 with 666 sales representatives, or $3 \%$ more than at September 30, 2007. Other expenses increased year over year in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 primarily due to investments in sales system enhancements which we expect to improve sales productivity beginning in the second half of 2009. Given the softness in customer demand, management implemented cost reductions in the third quarter of 2008 to reduce expenses in line with lower sales volumes. We reduced headcount in sales support areas and implemented various cost reduction programs that are expected to result in annualized savings of $\$ 6$ million beginning in the fourth quarter of 2008.

## Table of Contents

## Year-Over-Year Comparisons

Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2007
Changes in net sales and gross profit by business segment are shown in the following table (dollars in millions):

|  | Three Months Ended September 30, |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 |  | 2007 |  | $\begin{gathered} \% \\ \text { Change } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | Amount | $\begin{gathered} \hline \% \text { of Net } \\ \text { Sales } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Amount | $\begin{gathered} \hline \% \text { of Net } \\ \text { Sales } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| Sales: |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMB | \$217.4 | 49.2\% | \$234.9 | 51.4\% | (7.4)\% |
| Large Account | 117.3 | 26.6 | 130.0 | 28.5 | (9.8) |
| Public Sector | 106.7 | 24.2 | 91.6 | 20.1 | 16.5 |
| Total | \$441.4 | 100.0\% | \$456.5 | 100.0\% | (3.3)\% |
| Gross Profit: |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMB | \$ 30.8 | 14.2\% | \$ 33.6 | 14.3\% | (8.3)\% |
| Large Account | 13.0 | 11.1 | 15.0 | 11.5 | (13.3) |
| Public Sector | 9.5 | 8.9 | 8.9 | 9.8 | 6.7 |
| Total | \$ 53.3 | 12.1\% | \$ 57.5 | 12.6\% | (7.3)\% |

Net sales for the third quarter of 2008 decreased compared to the third quarter of 2007 as higher sales levels achieved by the Public Sector segment only partially offset declines in SMB and Large Account segments, as explained below:

- Net sales for the SMB segment decreased in the third quarter of 2008 across most product and customer sectors. Corporate sales declined year over year, reflecting the industry-wide slow-down in purchasing patterns of our business customers. Consumer sales continued to decline, reflecting our focus on more diverse marketing programs designed to reach our business customers and the general decline in consumer spending. Average annualized sales productivity decreased $11 \%$ year over year in the third quarter of 2008 in part due to the hiring of new sales representatives. Sales representatives for our SMB segment totaled 453 at September 30, 2008, an increase from 436 at September 30, 2007.
- Net sales for the Large Account segment decreased year over year, reflecting the industry-wide decline in IT spending by large corporate customers. As a result, average annualized sales productivity decreased year over year by $4 \%$ in the third quarter of 2008 . Sales representatives for our Large Account segment totaled 92 at September 30, 2008, a decrease from 97 at September 30, 2007, partly as a result of reductions implemented during the third quarter of 2008.
- Net sales for the Public Sector segment in the third quarter of 2008 increased year over year primarily due to increased federal government sales made under federal government contracts. Average annualized sales productivity in the third quarter of 2008 increased by $10 \%$ year over year primarily due to the success of our federal sales representatives. Sales representatives for our Public Sector segment totaled 121 at September 30, 2008, an increase from 112 at September 30, 2007.

Gross profit for the third quarter of 2008 decreased compared to the third quarter of 2007 in dollars and as a percentage of net sales, as explained below:

- Gross profit for the SMB segment decreased year over year primarily due to decreased net sales, as gross profit margins were largely unchanged. Increased vendor consideration and reduced freight discounting by our sales representatives offset increased competitive pricing pressures in the third quarter of 2008 compared to the prior year period.


## Table of Contents

- Gross profit for the Large Account segment decreased year over year in both dollars and as a percentage of net sales. The decline in gross profit margins was attributable to competitive pricing pressure as large corporate customers increasingly curtailed IT spending in the third quarter of 2008. Increased freight margins and additional vendor consideration partly offset such pricing pressure.
- Gross profit for the Public Sector segment in the third quarter of 2008 increased in dollars but decreased as a percentage of net sales compared to the third quarter of 2007. Lower net agency fee revenues in the third quarter of 2008 adversely impacted gross profit margins compared to the prior year.

Selling, general and administrative expenses in the third quarter of 2008 increased in dollars and as a percentage of sales compared to the third quarter of 2007.

SG\&A expenses attributable to our operating segments and Headquarters/Other group are summarized below (dollars in millions):

|  | Three Months Ended September 30, |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 |  | 2007 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Change } \\ \hline \text { Chang } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | Amount | $\begin{gathered} \hline \begin{array}{c} \text { \% of Net } \\ \text { Sales } \end{array} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Amount | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { \% of Net } \\ & \text { Sales } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |
| SMB | \$ 26.8 | 12.3\% | \$ 25.2 | 10.7\% | 6.3\% |
| Large Account | 7.6 | 6.5 | 7.6 | 5.8 | - |
| Public Sector | 9.4 | 8.8 | 8.0 | 8.7 | 17.5 |
| Headquarters/Other | 3.1 |  | 4.8 |  | (35.4) |
| Total | \$ 46.9 | 10.6\% | \$ 45.6 | 10.0\% | 2.9\% |

- SG\&A expenses for the SMB segment increased year over year in both dollars and as a percentage of net sales. Increased personnel costs and additional allocation expense of centralized headquarter services led to larger operating expenses in the third quarter of 2008. Despite a decrease in variable compensation resulting from lower gross margins, personnel expense increased due to the hiring of sales representatives. The operating costs of corporate headquarters and other support functions are charged to the reportable operating segments based on their estimated usage of the underlying functions.
- SG\&A expenses for the Large Account segment were unchanged in dollars but increased as a percentage of net sales compared to the prior year period as a result of lower net sales. An increase in allocation expense of centralized headquarter services was offset by lower variable compensation that resulted from lower gross margins in the third quarter of 2008 compared to the prior year period.
- SG\&A expenses for the Public Sector segment increased in dollars but were largely unchanged as a percentage of net sales in the third quarter of 2008. The year-over-year dollar increase was attributable to increases in personnel expense and allocation expense of centralized headquarter services in the third quarter of 2008. Incremental variable compensation associated with higher gross profit dollars contributed to the year-over-year personnel expense increase.
- SG\&A expenses for the Headquarters/Other group decreased in dollars year over year as increased allocations to the operating segments offset increased investments in information technology systems.


## Table of Contents

In the three months ended September 30, 2008, we recorded a charge of $\$ 1.4$ million related to workforce reduction and management restructuring costs, classified as workforce reductions in the table below. We did not record any special charges in the three months ended September 30, 2007. A roll forward of special charges for the period presented is shown below (in thousands of dollars).

|  | Workforce Reductions |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance December 31, 2007 | \$ | 541 |
| Charges |  | 1,431 |
| Cash payments |  | (221) |
| Liabilities at September 30, 2008 | \$ | 1,751 |

Liabilities related to special charges are included in accrued expenses and other liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.
Income from operations for the third quarter of 2008 decreased by $\$ 6.9$ million from the third quarter of 2007 to $\$ 5.0$ million. Income from operations as a percentage of net sales decreased to $1.1 \%$ for the third quarter of 2008 compared to $2.6 \%$ for the third quarter of 2007 . Our operating income decreased year over year in both dollars and as a percentage of net sales in the third quarter of 2008 primarily due to the decrease in gross profits discussed above and the $\$ 1.4$ million of special charges incurred in the third quarter of 2008.

Interest expense for the third quarter of 2008 decreased due to lower interest incurred for our capital lease compared to the third quarter of 2007.
Our effective tax rate was $36.7 \%$ for the third quarter of 2008 compared to $35.6 \%$ for the third quarter of 2007. The higher effective tax rate in 2008 was generally due to increased state tax expense associated with filing in additional states as a result of our business expansion. Offsetting this expense was the release of a valuation allowance relating primarily to the effect of recently enacted state tax legislation. Our low tax rate in the third quarter of 2007 was due primarily to a prior year income tax settlement. We expect our effective tax rate to approximate $40 \%$ in future periods.

Net income for the third quarter of 2008 decreased to $\$ 3.2$ million, compared to $\$ 7.7$ million for the third quarter of 2007, as a result of the decrease in income from operations.

## Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008 Compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007

Changes in net sales and gross profit by business segment are shown in the following table (dollars in millions):

|  | Nine Months Ended September 30, |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 |  | 2007 |  | $\begin{gathered} \% \\ \text { Change } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | Amount | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { \% of Net } \\ & \text { Sales } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Amount | $\begin{gathered} \hline \% \text { of Net } \\ \text { Sales } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| Sales: |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMB | \$ 694.0 | 52.8\% | \$ 700.7 | 54.1\% | (1.0)\% |
| Large Account | 361.9 | 27.5 | 374.0 | 28.9 | (3.2) |
| Public Sector | 258.7 | 19.7 | 221.1 | 17.0 | 17.0 |
| Total | \$1,314.6 | 100.0\% | \$1,295.8 | 100.0\% | 1.5\% |
| Gross Profit: |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMB | \$ 97.4 | 14.0\% | \$ 96.0 | 13.7\% | 1.5\% |
| Large Account | 40.7 | 11.2 | 42.0 | 11.2 | (3.1) |
| Public Sector | 24.8 | 9.6 | 23.5 | 10.6 | 5.5 |
| Total | \$ 162.9 | 12.4\% | \$ 161.5 | 12.5\% | 0.9\% |

## Table of Contents

Net sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 increased compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2007, as higher sales levels achieved by the Public Sector segment offset modest declines in our SMB and Large Account segments, as explained below:

- Net sales for the SMB segment decreased year over year as a decline in consumer spending offset a modest increase in corporate sales. SMB's outbound sales representatives increased corporate sales by $2 \%$ year over year by adding new business customers and acquiring a greater share of existing customers' IT purchases. The decrease in consumer sales was attributable to the general decline in consumer spending and our focus on more diverse marketing programs designed to reach our business customers.
- Net sales for the Large Account segment decreased year over year in the nine months ended September 30, 2008, reflecting softened demand for IT solutions from large corporate customers.
- Net sales for the Public Sector segment in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 increased 17\% from the prior year period due to higher education sales and additional sales made under federal government contracts in 2008. Federal sales increased by $44 \%$ year over year and sales to state, local, and education customers increased by $7 \%$ year over year compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2007.

Gross profit for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 increased compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2007 in dollars but decreased as a percentage of net sales, as explained below:

- Gross profit for the SMB segment increased slightly year over year due to improved gross profit margins. Gross profit margins benefited from additional vendor allowances realized in the nine months ended September 30, 2008. Our 2008 gross margin initiatives have emphasized increased utilization of vendor consideration, reduced freight discounting, and growth in the level of services sales.
- Gross profit for the Large Account segment decreased year over year due to the decline in net sales, as gross profit margins were unchanged. Gross profit margins were level year over year as increased vendor consideration offset lower invoice product margins.
- Gross profit for the Public Sector segment increased year over year in dollars but decreased as a percentage of net sales. Lower net agency fee revenues and lower invoice product margins in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 adversely impacted gross profit margins compared to the prior year.

Selling, general and administrative expenses in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 increased in dollars and as a percentage of net sales compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2007.

SG\&A expenses attributable to our operating segments and Headquarters/Other group are summarized below (dollars in millions):

|  | Nine Months Ended September 30, |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 |  | 2007 |  | $\begin{gathered} \% \\ \text { Change } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | Amount | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { \% of Net } \\ \text { Sales } \end{gathered}$ | Amount | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { \% of Net } \\ \text { Sales } \end{gathered}$ |  |
| SMB | \$ 80.5 | 11.6\% | \$ 78.2 | 11.2\% | 2.9\% |
| Large Account | 23.3 | 6.4 | 21.5 | 5.8 | 8.4 |
| Public Sector | 26.1 | 10.1 | 23.5 | 10.6 | 11.1 |
| Headquarters/Other | 10.5 |  | 11.6 |  | (9.5) |
| Total | \$140.4 | 10.7\% | \$134.8 | 10.4\% | 4.2\% |

- SG\&A expenses for the SMB segment increased year over year in dollars and as a percentage of net sales as increased allocation expense of Headquarter/Other services offset lower net advertising expense during the nine months ended September 30, 2008. The operating costs of the Headquarters/


## Table of Contents

Other group are charged to operating segments based on their estimated usage of the underlying functions. Incremental variable compensation associated with higher gross profit dollars also contributed to the year-over-year increase.

- SG\&A expenses for the Large Account segment increased in dollars and as a percentage of net sales compared to the prior year period. Increased allocation expense of centralized headquarter services was partially offset by lower personnel expense. The operating costs of the Headquarters/Other group are charged to operating segments based on their estimated usage of the underlying functions. Personnel expense decreased year over year largely due to the transfer of service personnel in the third quarter of 2007 from the Large Account segment to Headquarters/Other group.
- SG\&A expenses for the Public Sector segment increased in dollars but declined as a percentage of net sales in the nine months ended September 30, 2008. The year-over-year dollar increase was attributable to an increase in allocation expense of centralized headquarter services, higher variable compensation, and greater net advertising expense. Improved operating expense leverage resulted in the year-over-year decrease in SG\&A expenses as a percentage of net sales.
- SG\&A expenses for the Headquarters/Other group decreased year over year in dollars as increased allocations to the operating segments offset increased personnel expense and incremental investments in our information technology systems. Despite a decrease in bonus expense associated with lower operating margins, personnel expense increased year over year due to the transfer of service personnel discussed above.

In the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we recorded a charge of $\$ 1.4$ million related to workforce reduction and management restructuring costs, classified as workforce reductions in the table below. We did not record any special charges in the nine months ended September 30, 2007. A roll forward of special charges for the period presented is shown below (in thousands of dollars).

|  | Workforce Reductions |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance December 31, 2007 | \$ | 541 |
| Charges |  | 1,431 |
| Cash payments |  | (221) |
| Liabilities at September 30, 2008 | \$ | 1,751 |

Liabilities related to special charges are included in accrued expenses and other liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet.
Income from operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 decreased by $\$ 5.7$ million to $\$ 21.0$ million, compared to $\$ 26.7$ million in the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Income from operations as a percentage of net sales was $1.6 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2008, compared to $2.1 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Our operating income decreased year over year in dollars and as a percentage of net sales in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 primarily due to increased operating costs discussed above, in addition to the $\$ 1.4$ million of special charges incurred in the 2008 period.

Interest expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 decreased by $\$ 0.1$ million compared to the nine months ended September 30 , 2007 due to lower interest incurred for our capital lease.

Our effective tax rate was $38.0 \%$ for the nine months ended September 30, 2008, compared to the $37.0 \%$ rate we experienced for the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Our lower tax rate in the nine months ended September 30, 2007 was due primarily to a prior year income tax settlement. We expect our effective tax rate to approximate $40 \%$ in future periods.

## Table of Contents

Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 decreased by $\$ 3.7$ million to $\$ 13.1$ million, compared to the nine months ended September 30 , 2007, primarily because of the decrease in income from operations.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our primary sources of liquidity have historically been internally generated funds from operations and borrowings under our bank line of credit and inventory trade credit agreements. We have used those funds to meet our capital requirements, which consist primarily of working capital for operational needs, capital expenditures for computer equipment and software used in our business, and as opportunities arise, possible acquisitions of new businesses.

We believe that funds generated from operations, together with available credit under our bank line of credit and inventory trade credit agreements, will be sufficient to finance our working capital, capital expenditure, and other requirements for at least the next twelve months. We expect to meet our cash requirements for the next twelve months through a combination of cash on hand, cash generated from operations, and if necessary, borrowings on our bank line of credit, as follows:

- Cash on Hand. At September 30, 2008, we had approximately $\$ 46.8$ million in unrestricted accounts.
- Cash Generated from Operations. We expect to generate positive cash flows from operations in excess of operating cash needs by generating earnings and balancing net changes in inventories and receivables with compensating changes in payables. Historically, we have consistently generated net positive cash flows from operations.
- Credit Facilities. As of September 30, 2008, our $\$ 50.0$ million bank line of credit was available for borrowing. This line of credit can be increased, at our option, to $\$ 80.0$ million for approved acquisitions or other uses authorized by the bank. Borrowings are, however, limited by certain minimum collateral and earnings requirements, as described more fully below.

Our ability to continue funding our planned growth, both internally and externally, is dependent upon our ability to generate sufficient cash flow from operations or to obtain additional funds through equity or debt financing, or from other sources of financing, as may be required. While at this time we do not anticipate needing any additional sources of financing to fund our operations, if demand for information technology products declines, our cash flows from operations may be substantially affected. See also related risks listed below under Item 1A, "Risk Factors."

## Summary of Sources and Uses of Cash

The following table summarizes our sources and uses of cash over the periods indicated (in millions):

| September 30, | Nine Months Ended |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 |  |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$ 43.0 | \$ | 8.9 |
| Net cash used for investing activities | (8.7) |  | (5.2) |
| Net cash (used for) provided by financing activities | (1.2) |  | 2.4 |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents | \$ 33.1 | \$ | 6.1 |

Cash provided by operating activities increased by $\$ 34.1$ million in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Cash flow provided by operations in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 resulted primarily from net income before depreciation and amortization and a decrease in accounts receivable. Accounts receivable decreased by $\$ 19.3$ million from December 31, 2007 levels due a decrease in days sales outstanding, or DSOs, as well as decreased net sales in the third quarter of 2008 compared to the fourth quarter of 2007. DSOs improved to 43 days for the third quarter of 2008, compared to 45 days for the third quarter of 2007, because of improved collection efforts. Cash flow provided by operations in

## Table of Contents

the nine months ended September 30, 2007 resulted primarily from net income before depreciation and amortization offset in part by an increase in accounts receivables and inventories. Inventory was largely unchanged from the 2007 year-end balance as inventory turns was 22 turns for the third quarter of 2008 and 21 turns for the fourth quarter of 2007.

At September 30, 2008, we had $\$ 115.2$ million in outstanding accounts payable. Such accounts are generally paid within 30 days of incurrence, or earlier when favorable cash discounts are offered. This balance will be financed by cash flows from operations or short-term borrowings under the line of credit. This balance includes $\$ 16.8$ million payable to two financial institutions under inventory trade credit agreements we use to finance our purchase of certain inventory, secured by the inventory so financed. We believe we will be able to meet our obligations under our accounts payable with cash flows from operations and our existing line of credit.

Cash used for investing activities increased by $\$ 3.5$ million in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 compared to the prior year period. These activities include our capital expenditures, primarily for purchases of computer equipment and software and capitalization of internally-developed software. In the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we completed an extensive desktop upgrade and increased year over year our investments in sales system enhancements, that together accounted for the majority of this year-over-year increase. We expect total capital expenditures in 2008 to be between $\$ 11.0$ million and $\$ 12.0$ million.

Cash used for financing activities in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 was attributable largely to our purchase of treasury shares that totaled $\$ 1.2$ million in the nine months ended September 30, 2008. Cash provided by financing activities in the nine months ended September 30, 2007 benefited from proceeds of $\$ 2.5$ million from the exercise of common stock options under employee stock plans.

## Debt Instruments, Contractual Agreements, and Related Covenants

Below is a summary of certain provisions of our credit facilities and other contractual obligations. It is qualified in its entirety by the terms of the actual agreements, which are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. For more information about the restrictive covenants in our debt instruments and inventory financing agreements, see "Factors Affecting Sources of Liquidity." For more information about our obligations, commitments, and contingencies, see our condensed consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes included in this quarterly report.

Bank Line of Credit. Our bank line of credit provides us with a borrowing capacity of up to $\$ 50.0$ million at the prime rate ( $5.00 \%$ at September 30 , 2008). In addition, we have the option to increase the facility by an additional $\$ 30.0$ million, based on sufficient levels of trade receivables to meet borrowing base requirements, and depending on meeting minimum EBITDA (earnings before interest expense, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) and equity requirements, described below under "Factors Affecting Sources of Liquidity." The facility also gives us the option of obtaining Eurodollar Rate Loans in multiples of $\$ 1.0$ million for short-term durations. Substantially all of our assets are collateralized as security for this facility, and all of our subsidiaries are guarantors under the line of credit. The entire $\$ 50$ million facility was available for borrowing at September 30, 2008.

This facility, which matures in October 2012, operates under an automatic cash management program whereby disbursements in excess of available cash are added as borrowings at the time disbursement checks clear the bank, and available cash receipts are first applied against any outstanding borrowings and then invested in short-term qualified cash investments. Accordingly, borrowings under the line are classified as current.

Inventory Trade Credit Agreements. We have additional security agreements with two financial institutions to facilitate the purchase of inventory from various suppliers under certain terms and conditions. These agreements allow a collateralized first position in certain branded products inventory financed by these financial institutions. Although the agreements provide for up to $100 \%$ financing on the purchase price, up to an aggregate

## Table of Contents

of $\$ 45.0$ million, any outstanding financing must be fully secured by available inventory. We do not pay any interest or discount fees on such inventory financing; such costs are borne by the suppliers as an incentive for us to purchase their products. Amounts outstanding under such facilities, equal to $\$ 16.8$ million as of September 30, 2008, are recorded in accounts payable, and the inventory financed is classified as inventory on the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

Capital Leases. We have a 15 -year lease for our corporate headquarters with an affiliated company related through common ownership. We are required to make lease payments under this agreement aggregating approximately $\$ 1.1$ million per year. In addition to the rent payable under the facility lease, we are required to pay real estate taxes, insurance, and common area maintenance charges.

Operating Leases. We also lease facilities from our principal stockholders and facilities and equipment from third parties under non-cancelable operating leases.

Sports Marketing Commitments. We have multi-year sponsorship agreements with the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots that extend to 2010 and 2013, respectively. These agreements, which grant us various marketing rights and seating arrangements, require payments aggregating $\$ 0.3$ million to $\$ 1.6$ million per year.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements. We do not have any other off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have, a current or future material effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures, or capital resources.

Contractual Obligations. The disclosures relating to our contractual obligations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 have not materially changed since we filed that report.

## Factors Affecting Sources of Liquidity

Internally Generated Funds. The key factors affecting our internally generated funds are our ability to minimize costs and fully achieve our operating efficiencies, timely collection of our customer receivables, and management of our inventory levels.

Bank Line of Credit. Our credit facility contains certain financial ratios and operational covenants and other restrictions (including restrictions on additional debt, guarantees, stock repurchases, dividends and other distributions, investments, and liens) with which we and all of our subsidiaries must comply. Any failure to comply with these covenants would not only prevent us from borrowing additional funds under this line of credit, but would also constitute a default. This credit facility contains two financial tests:

- The funded debt ratio (defined as the average outstanding advances under the line for the quarter, divided by the consolidated EBITDA for the trailing four quarters) must not be more than 2.0 to 1.0. Our actual funded debt ratio at September 30, 2008 was less than 0.1 to 1.0, as average borrowings against our credit facility were minimal during the third quarter of 2008.
- Minimum Consolidated Net Worth must be at least $\$ 150.0$ million, plus $50 \%$ of consolidated net income for each quarter, beginning with the quarter ended September 30, 2006 (loss quarters not counted). Such amount was calculated at September 30, 2008 as $\$ 174.9$ million. Our actual consolidated stockholders' equity at September 30, 2008 was $\$ 237.6$ million.

The borrowing base under this facility is set at $80 \%$ of qualified commercial receivables, plus $50 \%$ of qualified government receivables. As of September 30, 2008, the entire $\$ 50.0$ million facility was available for borrowings.

Inventory Trade Credit Agreements. These agreements contain similar financial ratios and operational covenants and restrictions as those contained in our bank line of credit described above. Such agreements also

## Table of Contents

contain cross-default provisions whereby a default under the bank agreement would also constitute a default under these agreements. Financing under these agreements is limited to the purchase of specific branded products from authorized suppliers, and amounts outstanding must be fully collateralized by inventories of those products on hand.

Capital Markets. Our ability to raise additional funds in the capital market depends upon, among other things, general economic conditions, the condition of the information technology industry, our financial performance and stock price, and the state of the capital markets.

## RECENTLY ISSUED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements," or SFAS 157. This Statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 does not require any new fair value measurements but rather applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. 157-2, or FSP 157-2. FSP 157-2 delays the effective date of SFAS 157 for all nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis (at least annually), until fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. These nonfinancial items include assets and liabilities such as reporting units measured at a fair value in a goodwill impairment test and nonfinancial assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination. Effective January 1, 2008, we adopted SFAS 157 for financial assets and liabilities and such adoption did not have a significant effect on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

In October 2008, the FASB issued FSP 157-3 "Determining the Fair Value of a Financial Asset When the Market for That Asset Is Not Active" (FSP 1573). FSP 157-3 clarifies the application of SFAS 157 in a market that is not active, and addresses application issues such as the use of internal assumptions when relevant observable data does not exist, the use of observable market information when the market is not active, and the use of market quotes when assessing the relevance of observable and unobservable data. FSP 157-3 is effective for all periods presented in accordance with SFAS 157. The adoption of FSP 157-3 did not have a significant impact on our consolidated financial statements or the fair values of our financial assets and liabilities.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities," or SFAS 159, which permits companies to voluntarily choose to measure specified financial instruments and other items at fair value on a contract-by-contract basis. If the fair value option is elected, subsequent changes in fair value will be required to be reported in earnings each reporting period. This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. We have elected not to measure any eligible items at fair value. Accordingly, the adoption of SFAS 159 did not have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), "Business Combinations," or SFAS No. 141(R). Under SFAS 141(R), an entity is required to recognize the assets acquired, liabilities assumed, contractual contingencies, and contingent consideration at their fair value on the acquisition date. It further requires that acquisition-related costs be recognized separately from the acquisition and expensed as incurred; that restructuring costs generally be expensed in periods subsequent to the acquisition date; and that changes in accounting for deferred tax asset valuation allowances and acquired income tax uncertainties after the measurement period be recognized as a component of provision for taxes. This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15,2008 , and is to be applied prospectively. We are currently assessing the potential impact SFAS $141(\mathrm{R})$ will have on our financial statements.

## Table of Contents

## SUMMARY OF CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Our critical accounting policies have not materially changed from those discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

## INFLATION

We have historically offset any inflation in operating costs by a combination of increased productivity and price increases, where appropriate. We do not expect inflation to have a significant impact on our business in the foreseeable future.

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION
Item 3-QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK
Our market risk has not changed materially from that disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007.

## PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES <br> PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION <br> Item 4-CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2008. The term "disclosure controls and procedures," as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), means controls and other procedures of a company that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the company's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving their objectives and management necessarily applies its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Our disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance of achieving their objectives as described above. Based on the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of September 30, 2008, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level.

No change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) occurred during the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2008 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## Table of Contents

## PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

Statements contained or incorporated by reference in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q that are not based on historical fact are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. These forward-looking statements regarding future events and our future results are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts, and projections and the beliefs and assumptions of our management including, without limitation, our expectations with regard to the industry's rapid technological change and exposure to inventory obsolescence, availability and allocations of goods, reliance on vendor support and relationships, competitive risks, pricing risks, and the overall level of economic activity and the level of business investment in information technology products. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "could," "will," "expect," "estimate," "anticipate," "continue," or similar terms, variations of such terms, or the negative of those terms.

We cannot assure investors that our assumptions and expectations will prove to have been correct. Important factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated or implied by forward-looking statements. Such factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include those factors discussed below. We undertake no intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, or results of operations would likely suffer.

## We have experienced variability in sales, and there is no assurance that we will be able to maintain profitable operations.

Several factors have caused our sales and results of operations to fluctuate and we expect these fluctuations to continue on a quarterly basis. Causes of these fluctuations include:

- changes in the overall level of economic activity;
- the condition of the personal computer industry in general;
- changes in the level of business investment in information technology products;
- shifts in customer demand for hardware and software products;
- variations in levels of competition;
- industry shipments of new products or upgrades;
- the timing of new merchandise and catalog offerings;
- fluctuations in response rates;
- fluctuations in postage, paper, shipping, and printing costs and in merchandise returns;
- adverse weather conditions that affect response, distribution, or shipping;
- changes in our product offerings; and
- changes in vendor distribution of products.

Our results also may vary based on our ability to hire and retain sales representatives and other essential personnel, as well as our success in integrating acquisitions into our business, and their relative costs.

We base our operating expenditures on sales forecasts. If our revenues do not meet anticipated levels in the future, we may not be able to reduce our staffing levels and operating expenses in a timely manner to avoid significant losses from operations.

## Table of Contents

## We are exposed to inventory obsolescence due to the rapid technological changes occurring in the personal computer industry.

The market for personal computer products is characterized by rapid technological change and the frequent introduction of new products and product enhancements. Our success depends in large part on our ability to identify and market products that meet the needs of customers in that marketplace. In order to satisfy customer demand and to obtain favorable purchasing discounts, we have and may continue to carry increased inventory levels of certain products. By so doing, we are subject to the increased risk of inventory obsolescence. Also, in order to implement our business strategy, we intend to continue, among other things, placing larger than typical inventory stocking orders of selected products and increasing our participation in first-to-market purchase opportunities. We may also, from time to time, make large inventory purchases of certain end-of-life products and market products on a private-label basis, which would increase the risk of inventory obsolescence. In addition, we sometimes acquire special purchase products without return privileges. There can be no assurance that we will be able to avoid losses related to obsolete inventory. In addition, manufacturers are limiting return rights and are taking steps to reduce their inventory exposure by supporting "configure-to-order" programs authorizing distributors and resellers to assemble computer hardware under the manufacturers' brands. These trends reduce the costs to manufacturers and shift the burden of inventory risk to resellers like us, which could negatively impact our business.

## We acquire products for resale from a limited number of vendors. The loss of any one of these vendors could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We acquire products for resale both directly from manufacturers and indirectly through distributors and other sources. The five vendors supplying the greatest amount of goods to us constituted $70 \%$ and $66 \%$ of our total product purchases in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 , respectively. Among these five vendors, purchases from Ingram Micro Inc. represented $25 \%$ and $24 \%$ of our total product purchases in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Purchases from Tech Data Corporation comprised $18 \%$ and $13 \%$ of our total product purchases in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Purchases from Hewlett-Packard Company ("HP") represented $11 \%$ and $14 \%$ of our total product purchases in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. No other vendor supplied more than $10 \%$ of our total product purchases in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. If we were unable to acquire products from Ingram, HP, Tech Data, or other significant suppliers, we could experience a short-term disruption in the availability of products, and such disruption could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows.

Substantially all of our contracts and arrangements with our vendors that supply significant quantities of products are terminable by such vendors or us without notice or upon short notice. Most of our product vendors provide us with trade credit, of which the net amount outstanding at September 30, 2008 was $\$ 115.2$ million. Termination, interruption, or contraction of relationships with our vendors, including a reduction in the level of trade credit provided to us, could have a material adverse effect on our financial position.

Some product manufacturers either do not permit us to sell the full line of their products or limit the number of product units available to direct marketers such as us. An element of our business strategy is to continue increasing our participation in first-to-market purchase opportunities. The availability of certain desired products, especially in the direct marketing channel, has been constrained in the past. We could experience a material adverse effect to our business if we are unable to source first-to-market purchase or similar opportunities, or if we face the reemergence of significant availability constraints.

## We may experience a reduction in the incentive programs offered to us by our vendors.

Some product manufacturers and distributors provide us with incentives such as supplier reimbursements, payment discounts, price protection, rebates, and other similar arrangements. The increasingly competitive computer hardware market has already resulted in the following:

- reduction or elimination of some of these incentive programs;


## Table of Contents

- more restrictive price protection and other terms; and
- reduced advertising allowances and incentives, in some cases.

Many product suppliers provide us with advertising allowances, and in exchange, we feature their products in our catalogs and other marketing vehicles. These vendor allowances, to the extent that they represent specific reimbursements of incremental and identifiable costs, are offset against SG\&A expenses. Advertising allowances that cannot be associated with a specific program funded by an individual vendor or that exceed the fair value of advertising expense associated with that program are classified as offsets to cost of sales or inventory. In the past, we have experienced a decrease in the level of vendor consideration available to us from certain manufacturers. The level of such consideration we receive from some manufacturers may decline in the future. Such a decline could decrease our gross margin and have a material adverse effect on our earnings and cash flows.

Should our financial performance not meet our expectations and our stock price continue to trade at current levels, we may be required to record a significant charge to earnings for impairment of goodwill and other intangibles.

We perform an annual impairment test relative to goodwill in accordance with SFAS 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangibles." Given the recent decline in the economy and our stock price, we completed an interim review in the third quarter of 2008. Although we determined that the fair values of our operating segments' goodwill and trademarks exceeded the carrying values at the end of the third quarter, should our financial performance not meet our expectations, we would likely adjust downward expected future operating results. Such adjustment may result in a determination that our carrying values for goodwill and other intangibles exceed fair values. This determination may in turn require that we record a significant non-cash charge to earnings to reduce the carrying amounts of goodwill and other intangibles in one or more operating segments, resulting in a negative effect on our results of operations.

## The failure to comply with our public sector contracts could result in, among other things, fines or liabilities.

Revenues from the public sector segment are derived from sales to federal, state, and local government departments and agencies, as well as to educational institutions, through various contracts and open market sales. Government contracting is a highly regulated area. Noncompliance with government procurement regulations or contract provisions could result in civil, criminal, and administrative liability, including substantial monetary fines or damages, termination of government contracts, and suspension, debarment, or ineligibility from doing business with the government. Our current arrangements with these government agencies allow them to cancel orders with little or no notice and do not require them to purchase products from us in the future. The effect of any of these possible actions by any government department or agency could adversely affect our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

## We face many competitive risks.

The direct marketing industry and the computer products retail business, in particular, are highly competitive. We compete with consumer electronics and computer retail stores, including superstores. We also compete with other direct marketers of hardware and software and computer related products, including CDW Corporation, Insight Enterprises, Inc., and Dell Inc., who are much larger than we are. Certain hardware and software vendors, such as HP, Lenovo, and Apple, who provide products to us, are also selling their products directly to end users through their own catalogs, stores, and via the Internet. We compete not only for customers, but also for advertising support from personal computer product manufacturers. Some of our competitors have larger catalog circulations and customer bases and greater financial, marketing, and other resources. In addition, some of our competitors offer a wider range of products and services than we do and may be able to respond more quickly to new or changing opportunities, technologies, and customer requirements. Many current and potential competitors also have greater name recognition, engage in more extensive promotional activities, and

## Table of Contents

adopt pricing policies that are more aggressive than ours. We expect competition to increase as retailers and direct marketers who have not traditionally sold computers and related products enter the industry.

In addition, product resellers and direct marketers are combining operations or acquiring or merging with other resellers and direct marketers to increase efficiency. Moreover, current and potential competitors have established or may establish cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties to enhance their products and services. Accordingly, it is possible that new competitors or alliances among competitors may emerge and acquire significant market share.

We cannot provide assurance that we can continue to compete effectively against our current or future competitors. If we encounter new competition or fail to compete effectively against our competitors, our business may be harmed.

## We face and will continue to face significant price competition.

Generally, pricing is very aggressive in the personal computer industry, and we expect pricing pressures to continue. An increase in price competition could result in a reduction of our profit margins. There can be no assurance that we will be able to offset the effects of price reductions with an increase in the number of customers, higher sales, cost reductions, or otherwise. Also, our sales of personal computer hardware products are generally producing lower profit margins than those associated with software products. Such pricing pressures could result in an erosion of our market share, reduced sales, and reduced operating margins, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

## The methods of distributing personal computers and related products are changing, and such changes may negatively impact us and our business.

The manner in which personal computers and related products are distributed and sold is changing, and new methods of distribution and sale, such as online shopping services, have emerged. Hardware and software manufacturers have sold, and may intensify their efforts to sell, their products directly to end users. From time to time, certain manufacturers have instituted programs for the direct sales of large order quantities of hardware and software to certain major corporate accounts. These types of programs may continue to be developed and used by various manufacturers. Some of our vendors, including Apple, HP, and Lenovo, currently sell some of their products directly to end users and have stated their intentions to increase the level of such direct sales. In addition, manufacturers may attempt to increase the volume of software products distributed electronically to end users. An increase in the volume of products sold through or used by consumers of any of these competitive programs or distributed electronically to end users could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

## We could experience system failures which would interfere with our ability to process orders.

We depend on the accuracy and proper use of our management information systems, including our telephone system. Many of our key functions depend on the quality and effective utilization of the information generated by our management information systems, including:

- our ability to manage inventory and accounts receivable collection;
- our ability to purchase, sell, and ship products efficiently and on a timely basis; and
- our ability to maintain operations.

Our management information systems require continual upgrades to most effectively manage our operations and customer database. Although we maintain some redundant systems, with full data backup, a substantial interruption in management information systems or in telephone communication systems, including those resulting from natural disasters as well as power loss, telecommunications failure, and similar events, would substantially hinder our ability to process customer orders and thus could have a material adverse effect on our business.

## Table of Contents

## We rely on the continued development of electronic commerce and Internet infrastructure development.

We have had an increasing level of sales made via the Internet in part because of the growing use and acceptance of the Internet by end users. Sales of computer products via the Internet represent a significant and increasing portion of overall computer product sales. Growth of our Internet sales is dependent on potential customers using the Internet in addition to traditional means of commerce to purchase products. We cannot accurately predict the rate at which they will do so.

Our success in growing our Internet business will depend in large part upon the development of an increasingly sophisticated infrastructure for providing Internet access and services. If the number of Internet users or their use of Internet resources continues to grow rapidly, such growth may overwhelm the existing Internet infrastructure. Our ability to increase the speed with which we provide services to customers and to increase the scope of such services ultimately is limited by, and reliant upon, the sophistication, speed, reliability, and cost-effectiveness of the networks operated by third parties, and these networks may not continue to be developed or be available at prices consistent with our required business model.

## We depend heavily on third-party shippers to deliver our products to customers.

Many of our customers elect to have their purchases shipped by an interstate common carrier, such as DHL, United Parcel Service, or FedEx Corporation. A strike or other interruption in service by these shippers could adversely affect our ability to market or deliver products to customers on a timely basis.

## We may experience potential increases in shipping, paper, and postage costs, which may adversely affect our business if we are not able to pass such

 increases on to our customers.Shipping costs are a significant expense in the operation of our business. Increases in postal or shipping rates and paper costs could significantly impact the cost of producing and mailing our catalogs and shipping customer orders. Postage prices and shipping rates increase periodically, and we have no control over future increases. We have long-term contracts with DHL and United Parcel Service. We believe that we have negotiated favorable shipping rates with these carriers. We generally invoice customers for shipping and handling charges. There can be no assurance that we will be able to pass on to our customers the full cost, including any future increases in the cost, of commercial delivery services.

We also incur substantial paper and postage costs related to our marketing activities, including producing and mailing our catalogs. Paper prices historically have been cyclical, and we have experienced substantial increases in the past. Significant increases in postal or shipping rates and paper costs could adversely impact our business, financial condition, and results of operations, particularly if we cannot pass on such increases to our customers or offset such increases by reducing other costs.

## Privacy concerns with respect to list development and maintenance may materially adversely affect our business.

We mail catalogs and send electronic messages to names in our proprietary customer database and to potential customers whose names we obtain from rented or exchanged mailing lists. World-wide public concern regarding personal privacy has subjected the rental and use of customer mailing lists and other customer information to increased scrutiny. Any domestic or foreign legislation enacted limiting or prohibiting these practices could negatively affect our business.

## We face many uncertainties relating to the collection of state sales and use tax.

We collect and remit sales and use taxes in states in which we have either voluntarily registered or have a physical presence. Various states have sought to impose on direct marketers the burden of collecting state sales and use taxes on the sales of products shipped to their residents. In 1992, the United States Supreme Court

## Table of Contents

affirmed its position that it is unconstitutional for a state to impose sales or use tax collection obligations on an out-of-state mail-order company whose only contacts with the state are limited to the distribution of catalogs and other advertising materials through the mail and the subsequent delivery of purchased goods by United States mail or by interstate common carrier. However, legislation that would expand the ability of states to impose sales and use tax collection obligations on direct marketers has been introduced in Congress on many occasions. Additionally, certain states have adopted rules that require companies and their affiliates to register in those states as a condition of doing business with those state agencies.

Moreover, due to our presence on various forms of electronic media and other operational factors, our contacts with many states may exceed the limited contacts involved in the Supreme Court case. We cannot predict the level of contacts that is sufficient to permit a state to impose on us a sales or use tax collection obligation. Two of our competitors have elected to collect sales and use taxes in all states. If the Supreme Court changes its position, or if legislation is passed to overturn the Supreme Court's decision, or if a court were to determine that our contacts with a state exceed the constitutionally permitted contacts, the imposition of a sales or use tax collection obligation on us in states to which we ship products would result in additional administrative expenses to us, could result in tax liability for past sales as well as price increases to our customers, and could reduce demand for our product.

## We are dependent on key personnel.

Our future performance will depend to a significant extent upon the efforts and abilities of our senior executives. The competition for qualified management personnel in the computer products industry is very intense, and the loss of service of one or more of these persons could have an adverse effect on our business. Our success and plans for future growth will also depend on our ability to hire, train, and retain skilled personnel in all areas of our business, including sales representatives and technical support personnel. There can be no assurance that we will be able to attract, train, and retain sufficient qualified personnel to achieve our business objectives.

## We are controlled by two principal stockholders.

Patricia Gallup and David Hall, our two principal stockholders, beneficially own or control, in the aggregate, approximately $64 \%$ of the outstanding shares of our common stock. Because of their beneficial stock ownership, these stockholders can continue to elect the members of the Board of Directors and decide all matters requiring stockholder approval at a meeting or by a written consent in lieu of a meeting. Similarly, such stockholders can control decisions to adopt, amend, or repeal our charter and our bylaws, or take other actions requiring the vote or consent of our stockholders and prevent a takeover of us by one or more third parties, or sell or otherwise transfer their stock to a third party, which could deprive our stockholders of a control premium that might otherwise be realized by them in connection with an acquisition of our Company. Such control may result in decisions that are not in the best interest of our public stockholders. In connection with our initial public offering, the principal stockholders placed substantially all shares of common stock beneficially owned by them into a voting trust, pursuant to which they are required to agree as to the manner of voting such shares in order for the shares to be voted. Such provisions could discourage bids for our common stock at a premium as well as have a negative impact on the market price of our common stock.

## Table of Contents

## Item 2-Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

The following table provides information about our purchases during the quarter ended September 30, 2008 of equity securities that we have registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act:

## ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

| Period |  |  | (b) erage erat enaid Share Unit) | (c) <br> Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (1) | (d) <br> Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plan or Programs |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 07/01/08-07/30/08 | - |  | - |  | \$ | 11,775,098 |
| 08/01/08-08/31/08 | 11,065 | \$ | 7.37 | 11,065 | \$ | 11,693,598 |
| 09/01/08-09/30/08 | 16,908 | \$ | 7.34 | 16,908 | \$ | 11,569,537 |
| Total | 27,973 | \$ | 7.35 | 27,973 | \$ | 11,569,537 |

(1) On March 28, 2001, our Board of Directors announced approval of a share repurchase program of our common stock having an aggregate value of up to $\$ 15.0$ million pursuant to the Program. Share purchases are made in open market transactions from time to time depending on market conditions. The Program does not have a fixed expiration date.

## Table of Contents

## Item 6-Exhibits

## Exhibit

Number Description
10.1 Separation Agreement, dated October 14, 2008, by and between the Company and David Beffa- Negrini (incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 17, 2008.)
10.2* Sixth Amendment, dated September 18, 2008, to the Lease Agreement between GovConnection, Inc. and Metro Park I, LLC, dated December 14, 1993, for property located in Rockland, Maryland.

15 * Letter on unaudited interim financial information.
31.1* Certification of the Company’s President and Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2* Certification of the Company’s Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1* Certification of the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2* Certification of the Company's Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

* Filed herewith.


## SIGNATURES

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

PC CONNECTION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Date: November 10, 2008

Date: November 10, 2008

By: /S/ PATRICIA GALLUP Patricia Gallup
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)
By: $\qquad$ /S/ JACK FERGUSON
Jack Ferguson
Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Accounting and Financial Officer)

## SIXTH AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT OF LEASE

THIS SIXTH AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT OF LEASE ("Sixth Amendment") is made this 18th day of September 2008, by and between METRO PARK I, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Lessor") and GOVCONNECTION, INC., a Maryland corporation, formerly known as Comteq Federal, Inc. ("Lessee").

## WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Rockville Office/Industrial Associates, Lessor's predecessor in interest and Comteq Federal, Inc., Lessee's predecessor in interest, entered into that certain Lease dated December 14, 1993 (the "Original Lease"), as amended by that certain First Amendment to Lease dated November 1, 1996 (the "First Amendment"), as further amended by that certain Second Amendment to Agreement of Lease and Extension of Term dated as of March 31, 1998 (the "Second Amendment"), as further amended by that certain Third Amendment to Agreement of Lease dated as of August 31, 2000 (the "Third Amendment"), as further amended by that certain Fourth Amendment to Agreement of Lease dated November 20, 2002 (the "Fourth Amendment"), and as further amended by that certain Fifth Amendment to Agreement of Lease dated December 12, 2005 (the "Fifth Amendment") (the Original Lease, First Amendment, Second Amendment, Third Amendment, Fourth Amendment and Fifth Amendment shall be referred to collectively as the "Lease"), pursuant to which Lessee leased that certain space in the building located at 7501 and 7503 Standish Place, Rockville, Maryland (the "Building"), said leased premises containing approximately Ten Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Six $(10,196)$ rentable square feet of space (the "Premises");

WHEREAS, the Term of the Lease is scheduled to expire March 31, 2009; and
WHEREAS, Lessor and Lessee desire to amend the Lease to extend the Term of the Lease and modify and amend certain other terms and conditions of the Lease as herein provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants and agreements herein contained and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Lessor and Lessee hereby agree to the following:

1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein by this reference with the same force and effect as if fully set forth hereinafter.
2. Capitalized Terms. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Lease. From and after the date
hereof, the Lease and this Sixth Amendment shall be known collectively as the "Lease".
3. Term. The Term of the Lease is hereby extended for a period of three (3) years and six (6) months commencing on April 1, 2009 (the "Renewal Date") and expiring on September 30, 2012 (inclusively, the "Renewal Term"), unless terminated sooner pursuant to the provisions of the Lease or hereof. From and after the date hereof, all references in the Lease to "Term," "Term of the Lease," "Term hereof," and the like shall be deemed to include the Renewal Term.
4. Base Rent. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Lease, as of the Renewal Date, Lessee shall pay Base Rent with respect to the Premises at the times and in the manner set forth in Section 2.1 of the Original Lease, as restated in Paragraph 5 of the Fourth Amendment, according to the following schedule:

| Lease Period | Monthly Base Rent |
| :--- | :---: |
| $04 / 01 / 09-03 / 31 / 10$ | $\$ 16,993.00$ |
| $04 / 01 / 10-03 / 31 / 11$ | $\$ 17,503.00$ |
| $04 / 01 / 11-03 / 31 / 12$ | $\$$ |
| $04 / 01 / 12-09 / 30 / 12$ | $\$$ |

5. Base Year. As of the Renewal Date, Section 2.2.4 of the Lease as set forth in Paragraph 5 of the Fourth Amendment, as amended by Paragraph 5 of the Fifth Amendment, shall be further modified by deleting the penultimate sentence therefrom and substituting the following in lieu thereof: "Lessee's Expense Base Year shall be the calendar year 2008."
6. Security Deposit. Lessor currently holds a Security Deposit under the Lease in the amount of Four Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Nine and No/100 Dollars (\$4,899.00). Lessee shall have no obligation to supplement such security deposit in connection with this Sixth Amendment.
7. Lessee Improvements. Lessee hereby accepts the Premises in its "as-is" condition existing on the Renewal Date. Lessor shall have no obligation to make any Lessee improvements to the Premises during the Renewal Term hereof.
8. Option to Renew. Provided that Lessee is not in default at the time of Lessee's exercise of the Option to Renew or at the commencement of the applicable Option term, Lessee shall have one (1) three (3) year Option to renew this Lease upon such terms and conditions then in effect for comparable space in the Project as of the commencement of the applicable Option term, except that the Base Rent payable during the first lease year of the applicable Option term shall be an amount equal to one hundred three percent (103\%) of the Base Rent payable during the last year of the applicable expiring Lease Term and such Base Rent shall be increased $3 \%$ for the $2^{\text {nd }}$ lease year and then the $3^{\text {rd }}$ lease year of the Option term. All other terms and conditions of the Lease shall remain the same. All such terms, conditions and rental provisions shall, upon the exercise of the Option, be evidenced upon the form of lease then in effect for the Project. Lessee shall provide to Lessor on a date which is prior to the date that the Option period would
commence (if exercised) by at least one hundred eighty (180) days, a written notice of the exercise of the Option to renew the Lease for the applicable additional Option term, time being of the essence. Such notice shall be given in accordance with Section 16 of the Lease. If notification of the exercise of this Option is not so given and received, all options granted hereunder shall automatically expire.
9. Brokers. Lessee represents and warrants to Lessor that Lessee has not had any dealings or entered into any agreements with any person, entity, realtor, broker, agent or finder in connection with the negotiation of this Sixth Amendment. Lessee shall indemnify and hold harmless Lessor from and against any loss, claim, damage, expense (including costs of suit and reasonable attorneys' fees) or liability for any compensation, commission or charges claimed by any realtor, broker, agent or finder claiming to have dealt with Lessee in connection with this Sixth Amendment.
10. Reaffirmation of Terms. Except as expressly modified hereby, all of the terms, covenants and provisions of the Lease are hereby confirmed and ratified and shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.
11. Representations. Lessee hereby represents and warrants to Lessor that Lessee (i) is not in default of any of its obligations under the Lease and that such Lease is valid, binding and enforceable in accordance with its terms, (ii) has full power and authority to execute and perform this Sixth Amendment, and (iii) has taken all action necessary to authorize the execution and performance of this Sixth Amendment.
12. Counterpart Copies. This Sixth Amendment may be executed in two or more counterpart copies, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which counterparts shall have the same force and effect as if the parties hereto had executed a single copy of this Sixth Amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Lessor and Lessee have executed this Sixth Amendment as of the day and year first above written.

## LESSOR:

METRO PARK I, LLC,
a Delaware limited liability company

By: PS Business Parks, L.P.,
a California limited partnership,

By: PS Business Parks, Inc., a California corporation, its General Partner

By: /s/ Eugene R. Uhlman
Eugene R. Uhlman
Regional Manager

Date: 9-18-08
Lessor's Execution Date

## LESSEE

GOVCONNECTION, INC.,
a Maryland corporation

By: /s/ Gary Anderson
Name: Gary Anderson
Title: Treasurer

Date: 9-16-08
Lessee's Execution Date
$\qquad$

PC Connection, Inc.
730 Milford Road
Merrimack, NH
We have reviewed, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the unaudited interim financial information of PC Connection, Inc. and subsidiaries for the periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, as indicated in our report dated November 10, 2008; because we did not perform an audit, we expressed no opinion on that information.

We are aware that our report referred to above, which is included in your Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30 , 2008 is incorporated by reference in Registration Statement Nos. 333-40172, 333-50845, 333-50847, 333-66450, 333-69981, 333-83943, 333-91584, 333-106652, 333130389, and 333-144065 on Form S-8.

We also are aware that the aforementioned report, pursuant to Rule 436(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, is not considered a part of the Registration Statement prepared or certified by an accountant or a report prepared or certified by an accountant within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of that Act.

Deloitte \& Touche
Boston, Massachusetts

## I, Patricia Gallup, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of PC Connection, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information; and
b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.
/s/ Patricia Gallup
Patricia Gallup
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

## I, Jack Ferguson, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of PC Connection, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information; and
b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.
/s/ Jack Ferguson
Jack Ferguson
Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, <br> AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO <br> SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of PC Connection, Inc. (the "Company") for the period ended September 30, 2008 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), the undersigned, Patricia Gallup, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:
(1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
(2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,

## AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO

## SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of PC Connection, Inc. (the "Company") for the period ended September 30, 2008 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), the undersigned, Jack Ferguson, Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:
(1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
(2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.


[^0]:    See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

