

NANOMETRICS INC
Form 10-Q
November 06, 2008
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D. C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the quarterly period ended September 27, 2008

OR

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 0-13470

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	94-2276314 (I. R. S. Employer Identification No.)
1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, CA (Address of principal executive offices)	95035 (Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (408) 545-6000	

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 No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer 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 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of October 31, 2008, there were 18,297,003 shares of common stock, \$0.001 par value, issued and outstanding.

Table of Contents

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

INDEX TO QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q

FOR QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 27, 2008

	Page
PART I.	
	<u>FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>
Item 1.	3
	<u>Financial Statements (Unaudited)</u>
	3
	<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets at September 27, 2008 and December 29, 2007</u>
	3
	<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Three- and Nine-Month Periods Ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007</u>
	4
	<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Nine-Month Periods Ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007</u>
	5
	<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>
	6
Item 2.	18
	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>
Item 3.	26
	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>
Item 4.	26
	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>
PART II.	27
	<u>OTHER INFORMATION</u>
Item 1.	27
	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>
Item 1A.	27
	<u>Risk Factors</u>
Item 2.	36
	<u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>
Item 4.	36
	<u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Securities Holders</u>
Item 6.	36
	<u>Exhibits</u>
<u>Exhibit Index</u>	36
<u>Signatures</u>	38

Table of Contents**PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(Amounts in thousands except share amounts)****(Unaudited)**

	September 27, 2008	December 29, 2007
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 21,779	\$ 14,919
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$311 and \$323, respectively	21,333	34,855
Inventories	33,951	33,343
Inventories- delivered systems	175	785
Prepaid expenses and other	2,743	2,598
Total current assets	79,981	86,500
Property, plant and equipment, net	42,181	44,419
Goodwill and indefinite lived intangible asset		52,532
Intangible assets, net	7,224	21,820
Other assets	1,816	1,805
Total assets	\$ 131,202	\$ 207,076
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Revolving line of credit	\$	\$
Accounts payable	8,055	13,931
Accrued payroll and related expenses	3,804	4,514
Deferred revenue	988	2,501
Other current liabilities	7,750	7,243
Income taxes payable	244	1,101
Current portion of debt obligations	468	148
Total current liabilities	21,309	29,438
Deferred income taxes	382	382
Other long-term liabilities	558	1,283
Debt obligations	13,162	129
Total liabilities	35,411	31,232
Commitments and Contingencies		
Stockholders Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 3,000,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 47,000,000 shares authorized; 18,297,003 and 18,620,682, respectively, issued and outstanding	18	19

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

Additional paid-in capital	189,086	187,180
Accumulated deficit	(94,002)	(13,917)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	689	2,562
Total stockholders' equity	95,791	175,844
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 131,202	\$ 207,076

See Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents**NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(Amounts in thousands except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Net revenues:				
Products	\$ 16,311	\$ 33,306	\$ 62,744	\$ 98,564
Service	6,826	5,341	18,882	14,533
Total net revenues	23,137	38,647	81,626	113,097
Costs of net revenues:				
Cost of products	8,150	16,773	30,974	50,628
Cost of service	4,778	4,791	14,548	15,459
Total costs of net revenues	12,928	21,564	45,522	66,087
Gross profit	10,209	17,083	36,104	47,010
Operating expenses:				
Research and development	4,430	4,661	13,107	13,986
Selling	4,280	4,603	13,963	14,636
General and administrative	4,935	4,783	15,761	16,538
Amortization of intangible assets	600	1,285	3,215	4,497
Restructuring charge	655	2,128	1,525	2,128
Asset impairment	55,332		68,545	
Gain on sale of assets		(2,100)		(2,100)
Total operating expenses	70,232	15,360	116,116	49,685
Income (loss) from operations	(60,023)	1,723	(80,012)	(2,675)
Other income (expense)				
Interest income	24	69	156	121
Interest expense	(240)	(56)	(343)	(141)
Other, net	142	382	564	(40)
Total other income (expense), net	(74)	395	377	(60)
Income (loss) before provision (benefit) for income taxes	(60,097)	2,118	(79,635)	(2,735)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	350	110	450	(2)
Net income (loss)	\$ (60,447)	\$ 2,008	\$ (80,085)	\$ (2,733)
Net income (loss) per share:				
Basic	\$ (3.25)	\$ 0.11	\$ (4.31)	\$ (0.15)
Diluted	\$ (3.25)	\$ 0.11	\$ (4.31)	\$ (0.15)

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

Shares used in per share calculation:				
Basic	18,574	18,278	18,599	17,931
Diluted	18,574	18,676	18,599	17,931

See Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Amounts in thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net loss	\$ (80,085)	\$ (2,733)
Reconciliation of net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	6,085	6,983
Asset impairment	68,545	
Stock-based compensation	3,137	2,749
Gain on sale of assets		(2,100)
Non-cash portion of restructuring charge		1,910
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of assets acquired:		
Accounts receivable	13,664	(8,949)
Inventories, net	(380)	851
Inventories-delivered systems	610	3,736
Prepaid expenses and other	(60)	(984)
Other assets	(165)	183
Accounts payable, accrued and other liabilities	(7,155)	5,692
Deferred revenue	(1,657)	(4,342)
Income taxes payable	(724)	(103)
 Net cash provided by operating activities	 1,815	 2,893
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of Tevet's net assets, net of cash received	(3,357)	
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(2,762)	(1,045)
Proceeds from sale of assets		3,863
 Net cash provided by (used) in investing activities	 (6,119)	 2,818
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of debt obligations	13,500	
Repayments of debt obligations	(136)	(1,500)
Proceeds from sale of shares under employee stock option plans and purchase plan	604	3,118
Repurchases of common stock	(1,836)	(198)
 Net cash provided by financing activities	 12,132	 1,420
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(968)	(214)
 Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	 6,860	 6,917
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	14,919	7,957
 Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	 \$ 21,779	 \$ 14,874

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

Cash for interest	\$ 163	\$ 122
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 693	\$ 175
Capitalization of inventory as property, plant and equipment	\$	\$ 5,775
Goodwill adjustment	\$	\$ 2,332

See Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

Note 1. Consolidated Financial Statements

In the opinion of management, the accompanying Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (financial statements) of Nanometrics Incorporated and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, Nanometrics or the Company) have been prepared on a consistent basis with the December 29, 2007 audited consolidated financial statements and include all adjustments, consisting of only normal recurring adjustments, necessary to fairly present the information set forth therein. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the regulations of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and, therefore, omit certain information and footnote disclosure necessary to present the statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the operating results that may be expected for the entire year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 29, 2007, which were included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K, which was filed with the SEC on March 13, 2008 and amended on April 25, 2008.

Fiscal Period Nanometrics uses a 52/53 week fiscal year ending on the Saturday nearest to December 31. All references to the quarter refer to Nanometrics fiscal quarter. The fiscal quarters presented herein include 13 weeks.

Note 2. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2008, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Staff Position (FSP) No. 142-3, *Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets* , (FSP 142-3) that amends the factors considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) SFAS No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets* (SFAS 142). FSP 142-3 requires a consistent approach between the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under SFAS 142 and the period of expected cash flows used to measure the fair value of an asset under SFAS No. 141 (R), *Business Combinations* (SFAS 141R). The FSP also requires enhanced disclosures when an intangible asset s expected future cash flows are affected by an entity s intent and/or ability to renew or extend the arrangement. FSP 142-3 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008 and is applied prospectively. Early adoption is prohibited. The Company does not expect the adoption of FSP 142-3 to have a material impact on its consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

In May 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 162, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*, (SFAS 162). SFAS 162 identifies the sources of accounting principles and the framework for selecting the principles used in the preparation of financial statements of non-governmental entities that are presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. SFAS 162 became effective on November 15, 2008. The Company does not anticipate the adoption of SFAS 162 will have a material impact on the Company s consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161 *Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133* (SFAS 161). The new standard requires additional disclosures regarding a company s derivative instruments and hedging activities by requiring disclosure of the fair values of derivative instruments and their gains and losses in a tabular format. It also requires disclosure of derivative features that are credit risk related as well as cross-referencing within the notes to the financial statements to enable financial statement users to locate important information about derivative instruments, financial performance, and cash flows. The standard is effective for the Company s fiscal year and interim periods within such year, beginning January 1, 2009, with early application encouraged. The Company does not anticipate the adoption of SFAS 161 will have a material impact on the Company s consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS 141R, *Business Combinations* which amends SFAS 141 and provides revised guidance for recognizing and measuring identifiable assets and goodwill acquired, liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree. It also provides disclosure requirements to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. It is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008 and will be applied prospectively. The Company does not anticipate the adoption of SFAS 141 will have a material impact on the Company s consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Table of Contents

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, *Non-controlling interests in Consolidated Financial Statements an amendment of ARB No. 51* (SFAS 160). SFAS 160 requires that ownership interests in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent, and the amount of consolidated net income, be clearly identified, labeled, and presented in the consolidated financial statements. It also requires once a subsidiary is deconsolidated, any retained non-controlling equity investment in the former subsidiary be initially measured at fair value. Sufficient disclosures are required to clearly identify and distinguish between the interests of the parent and the interests of the non-controlling owners. It is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008 and requires retroactive adoption of the presentation and disclosure requirements for existing minority interests. All other requirements shall be applied prospectively. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting SFAS 160 on its consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB finalized 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; however, it does not require any new fair value measurements. In February 2008, the FASB issued FSP No. 157-2, *Effective Date of FASB Statement 157* (FSP 157-2). Effective upon issuance, FSP 157-2 delays the effective date of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008. FSP 157-2 also covers interim periods within the fiscal years for items within its scope. The delay is intended to allow the FASB and its constituents the time to consider the various implementation issues associated with SFAS 157. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting SFAS 157 for non-financial assets and liabilities on its consolidated financial statements.

Note 3. Acquisitions

On May 19, 2008, Nanometrics announced that it had acquired Tevet Process Control Technologies, Ltd., (Tevet) an Israel-based privately held corporation. The acquisition of Tevet, an integrated metrology company serving the worldwide semiconductor and solar manufacturing industry, is expected to further Nanometrics' strategy to offer a breadth of process control metrology solutions that address both advanced technology as well as cost of ownership. Under the terms of the asset purchase agreement, which was an all-cash transaction, the total consideration to purchase all assets and assume specified liabilities of Tevet was \$3.8 million, including \$0.2 million in transaction fees, which include legal, valuation and accounting fees. The asset purchase has been accounted for under the purchase method of accounting in accordance with SFAS 141, *Business Combinations* . Under the purchase method of accounting, the total estimated purchase price is allocated to the net tangible and identifiable intangible assets of Tevet acquired in connection with the transaction, based on their respective estimated fair values. The results of operations of Tevet were included in the Company's consolidated statements of operations from the date of the acquisition.

The preliminary allocation of the Tevet purchase price to the tangible and identifiable intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed was based on management's estimates of fair value at the date of acquisition. When estimating fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed, management considered a number of factors, including valuations, appraisals and assumptions which are subject to change. The primary areas of the purchase price allocation that are not yet finalized relate to finalization of the valuation report. Management expects the valuation process to be completed during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008.

Table of Contents

The preliminary allocation of the Tevet purchase price is summarized below (in thousands):

Assets acquired:	
Cash	\$ 446
Accounts receivable	49
Inventories	467
Other assets	70
Property, plant and equipment	169
Total assets acquired	1,201
Liabilities assumed:	
Accounts payable	159
Deferred revenue	250
Other accrued liabilities	336
Total liabilities assumed	745
Net assets acquired	456
Goodwill and other intangible assets:	
Goodwill	1,848
Customer relationships	669
Developed technology	600
Backlog	230
Total goodwill and other intangible assets	3,347
Net estimated purchase price	\$ 3,803

The developed technology and customer relationships are being amortized over an estimated useful life of seven years and the customer relationships is being amortized on an accelerated basis over an estimated useful life designed to match the amortization to the benefits where applicable. In accordance with SFAS 142, the Company concluded that events had occurred and circumstances had changed during the third quarter of 2008 which indicated the existence of impairment indicators. Consistent with the Company's approach in its annual impairment test the Company performed an impairment test which resulted in no implied fair value of the goodwill, and therefore, the Company recognized an impairment charge of \$54.0 million including \$1.8 million in goodwill arising from Tevet acquisition in the third quarter of 2008, representing a write-off of the entire amount of the Company's previously recorded goodwill.

If the Company had acquired Tevet at the beginning of the periods presented, the Company's unaudited pro forma net revenues, net income/loss and net income/loss per share from operations would have been as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Net revenues	\$ 23,137	\$ 39,304	\$ 82,447	\$ 114,560
Net income (loss)	(60,447)	1,473	(80,545)	(5,048)
Net income (loss) per share:				
Basic	\$ (3.25)	\$ 0.08	\$ (4.33)	\$ (0.28)
Diluted	\$ (3.25)	\$ 0.08	\$ (4.33)	\$ (0.28)

Note 4. Asset Impairment**Goodwill**

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price paid over the fair value of tangible and identifiable intangible net assets acquired in a business combination. In accordance with SFAS 142 goodwill is reviewed annually or whenever events or circumstances occur which indicate that goodwill might be impaired. SFAS 142 provides for a two-step approach to determining whether and by how much goodwill has been impaired. The first step requires a comparison of the fair value of the Company (reporting unit) to its net book value. If the fair value is greater, then no impairment is deemed to have occurred. If the fair value is less, then the second step must be performed to determine the amount, if any, of actual

Table of Contents

impairment. The process of evaluating the potential impairment of goodwill is highly subjective and requires significant judgment. In estimating the fair value of the Company, the Company made estimates and judgments about future revenues and cash flows for each reporting unit. To determine the fair value, the Company's review process includes the income method and is based on a discounted future cash flow approach that uses estimates including the following for each reporting unit: revenue, based on assumed market growth rates and its assumed market share; estimated costs; and appropriate discount rates based on the particular business's weighted average cost of capital. The Company's estimates of market segment growth, market segment share and costs are based on historical data, various internal estimates and certain external sources, and are based on assumptions that are consistent with the plans and estimates it uses to manage the underlying businesses. The Company's business consists of both established and emerging technologies and its forecasts for emerging technologies are based upon internal estimates and external sources rather than historical information. The Company also considered its market capitalization on the dates of its impairment tests in determining the fair value of the respective businesses. The Company completed the first step at June 28, 2008 and determined that the fair value of its reporting units was in excess of the net book value on that date.

In accordance with SFAS 142, the Company concluded that events had occurred and circumstances had changed during the third quarter of 2008 which might indicate the existence of impairment indicators including a significant decline in the Company's stock price and continued deterioration in the semiconductor equipment market and the related impact on revenue forecasts of each reporting unit. Consistent with the Company's approach in its annual impairment testing, in assessing the fair value of the reporting unit, the Company considered both the market approach and income approach. Under the market approach, the fair value of the reporting unit is based on quoted market prices and the number of shares outstanding of the Company's common stock. Under the income approach, the fair value of the reporting unit is based on the present value of estimated future cash flows. At September 27, 2008, the Company determined that the fair value of its reporting units was less than the net book value of the net assets of each reporting unit and accordingly, the Company performed step two of the impairment test.

In step two of the impairment test, the Company determined the implied fair value of the goodwill and compared it to the carrying value of the goodwill. With the assistance of a third party valuation firm, the Company allocated the fair value of the reporting units to all of its assets and liabilities as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination and the fair value of the reporting units was the price paid to acquire the reporting unit. The excess of the fair value of the reporting unit over the amount assigned to its assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of goodwill. The Company's step two analysis resulted in no implied fair value of goodwill, and therefore, the Company recognized an impairment charge of \$54.0 million in the third quarter of 2008, representing a write-off of the entire amount of the Company's previously recorded goodwill including goodwill from the Tevet acquisition which was a part of the impaired reporting units.

Long-Lived Assets

The Company performs an impairment review of its long-lived assets upon a change in business conditions or upon the occurrence of an indicator of impairment. Due to changes in the forecasts relating to specific intangible assets acquired in the 2006 acquisitions caused by management's decision to focus the Company's resources on new generation products, and changes in the forecasts relating to the machine shop, the Company performed an analysis in accordance with SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets* (SFAS 144), of its long-lived assets including intangible assets and other long-lived assets where cash flows could be identified with a specific group of assets. SFAS 144 provides for a two-step approach to determine whether and by how much a long-lived asset has been impaired. The first step requires a comparison of the future undiscounted cash flows of the asset to its net book value. If the undiscounted future cash flows are greater, then no impairment is deemed to have occurred. If the undiscounted future cash flows are less, then the second step must be performed to determine the amount, if any, of actual impairment. The Company performed step one of the impairment test for certain of its long-lived assets as of June 28, 2008, and determined that the net book value exceeded the undiscounted future cash flows for certain intangible assets as well as assets associated with the Company's machine shop and plating facility which was subcontracted in the third quarter of 2007. The initial projected future cash flows from subcontracting this facility has been significantly reduced due to operational limitations. Accordingly, the Company completed step two of the impairment analysis utilizing a present value technique to estimate the fair value of the impaired assets. As a result of this analysis, impairment charges of \$11.8 million and \$1.5 million, respectively, were recorded in the second quarter of 2008 to reflect certain customer relationships, brand names, developed technology intangible assets and machine shop related assets at their fair value.

Due to the continuing deterioration in the semiconductor equipment market, during the third quarter 2008, the Company's forecasted revenues have declined for certain product lines relating to specific intangible assets acquired in the 2006 acquisition of Accent Optical Technologies, Inc. The Company performed an analysis in accordance with SFAS 144 of

Table of Contents

its long-lived intangible assets where cash flows could be identified with a specific group of assets. The Company performed step one of the impairment test for the specified intangible assets and has determined that at September 27, 2008, the net book value exceeded the undiscounted future cash flows. Accordingly, the Company completed step two of the impairment analysis utilizing a present value technique to estimate the fair value of the impaired assets. As a result of this analysis, an impairment charge of \$1.4 million was recorded in the third quarter of 2008 to reflect certain brand names and developed technology intangible assets at their fair value.

The process of evaluating the potential impairment of long-lived assets is highly subjective and requires significant judgment. In estimating the fair value of these assets, the Company made estimates and judgments about future revenues and cash flows. The Company's forecasts were based on assumptions that are consistent with the plans and estimates the Company is using to manage the business. Changes in these estimates could change the Company's conclusion regarding impairment of the long-lived assets and potentially result in future impairment charges for all or a portion of their balance at September 27, 2008.

Note 5. Restructuring Charge

During the first and third quarters of 2008, the Company reduced its global work force by approximately 30 and 34 employees, respectively. This reduction affected employees in each of the Company's locations worldwide and is aimed at reducing its operating expenses.

	Other Charges	Severance and Other Benefits	Total
Restructuring charges recorded during the first quarter of 2008	\$ 84	\$ 786	\$ 870
Cash paid	(84)	(786)	(870)
Reserve balance at March 29, 2008	\$	\$	\$
Restructuring charges recorded during the third quarter of 2008	\$	\$ 655	\$ 655
Cash paid		(377)	(377)
Reserve balance at September 27, 2008	\$	\$ 278	\$ 278

The Company anticipates that the remaining restructuring reserve balance of \$0.3 million will be paid or utilized by December 27, 2008. The balance is reflected in "Other current liabilities" in the accompanying unaudited consolidated balance sheet.

During the third quarter of 2007, the Company announced it would close its Milpitas, California machine shop and plating facility as part of its strategy to reverse its manufacturing vertical integration and lower its breakeven point. In conjunction with this closure, Nanometrics recorded a restructuring charge in an amount of \$2.1 million consisting of \$1.9 million write-down of property, plant and equipment, \$0.1 million for professional fees and \$0.1 million for severance payments.

	Professional Fees	Severance and Other Benefits	Other Charges	Total
Restructuring charges recorded during the third quarter of 2007	\$ 126	\$ 92	\$ 1,910	\$ 2,128
Non-cash charges			(1,910)	(1,910)
Cash paid	(84)	(84)		(168)
Reserve balance at September 29, 2007	\$ 42	\$ 8	\$	\$ 50

The remaining restructuring reserve balance of \$0.1 million was paid or utilized by December 29, 2007.

Table of Contents**Note 6. Accounts Receivable**

The Company maintains arrangements under which eligible accounts and notes receivable are sold without recourse to unrelated third-party financial institutions. These receivables were not included in the consolidated balance sheets as the criteria for sale treatment established by SFAS No. 140, *Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities*, (SFAS 140) had been met. Under SFAS 140, after a transfer of financial assets, an entity stops recognizing the financial assets when the control has been surrendered. The Company's sale of accounts receivable met the criteria of a true sale of these assets since the acquiring party retained the title to these receivables and had assumed the risk that the receivables will be collectible. The Company pays administrative fees as well as interest at rates ranging from 1.875% to 1.890% based on the anticipated length of time between the date the sale is consummated and the expected collection date of the receivables sold. The Company sold \$5.9 million and \$16.4 million of receivables, respectively, during the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008, and sold \$5.7 million and \$15.2 million of receivables, respectively, during the three- and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007. There were no material gains or losses on the sale of such receivables. There were no amounts due from the financial institutions at September 27, 2008 and December 29, 2007.

Note 7. Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market and consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 27, 2008	December 29, 2007
Raw materials and sub-assemblies	\$ 18,545	\$ 19,685
Work in process	6,186	7,134
Finished goods	9,220	6,524
Total inventories	\$ 33,951	\$ 33,343

We reflect the cost of systems that were invoiced upon shipment but deferred for revenue recognition purposes separate from our inventory held for sale as Inventories delivered systems.

Note 8. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consists of the following (in thousands):

	September 27, 2008	December 29, 2007
Land	\$ 15,584	\$ 15,597
Building and improvements	21,318	18,188
Machinery and equipment	20,005	18,753
Furniture and fixtures	2,270	2,185
	59,177	54,723
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(16,996)	(10,304)
Total property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 42,181	\$ 44,419

Note 9. Intangible Assets

Intangible assets with an indefinite life are evaluated annually for impairment or whenever events or circumstances occur which indicate that those assets might be impaired. On March 15, 2006, as a result of the Company's acquisition of Soluris Inc., the Company acquired a trademark with a value of \$0.4 million with an indefinite life. During the first quarter of 2008, the Company determined the trademark no longer had an indefinite life. Accordingly, a remaining life of five years was assigned and the Company began amortization of the finite-lived intangible asset.

Table of Contents

During the second quarter of 2008, the Company added \$1.5 million of finite-lived intangible assets through its acquisition of Tevet. Finite-lived intangible assets are recorded at cost, less accumulated amortization. Finite-lived intangible assets as of September 27, 2008 and December 29, 2007 consist of the following (in thousands):

	Original Amount	(A) Impairment and Tax Adjustment	Adjusted Basis	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
September 27, 2008					
Developed technology	\$ 10,400	\$ (3,790)	\$ 6,610	\$ (2,921)	\$ 3,689
Customer relationships	16,369	(7,479)	8,890	(6,271)	2,619
Brand names	3,600	(1,671)	1,929	(1,051)	878
Patented technology	1,790		1,790	(1,790)	
Trade Mark	400	(320)	80	(42)	38
Backlog	3,361		3,361	(3,361)	
Non-compete agreement	50		50	(50)	
Other	250		250	(250)	
Total	\$ 36,220	\$ (13,260)	\$ 22,960	\$ (15,736)	\$ 7,224
December 29, 2007					
Developed technology	\$ 9,800	\$	\$ 9,800	\$ (2,037)	\$ 7,763
Customer relationships	15,700		15,700	(4,638)	11,062
Brand names	3,600		3,600	(749)	2,851
Patented technology	1,790		1,790	(1,646)	144
Backlog	3,131		3,131	(3,131)	
Non-compete agreement	50		50	(50)	
Other	250		250	(250)	
Total	\$ 34,321	\$	\$ 34,321	\$ (12,501)	\$ 21,820

(A) Amounts include impairments charges recorded in the second and third quarters of 2008 of \$11.8 million and \$1.4 million, respectively and tax adjustment of \$0.1 million in the third quarter of 2008.

The amortization of finite-lived intangibles is computed using the straight-line method except for customer relationships which is computed using an accelerated method. Estimated lives of finite-lived intangibles range from five to ten years, except for the non-compete agreement and backlog which were amortized over one year. Total amortization expense for the three-month periods ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007 was \$0.6 million and \$1.3 million, respectively, and for the nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007 was \$3.2 million and \$4.5 million, respectively.

The estimated future amortization expense as of September 27, 2008 is as follows (in thousands):

Fiscal Years	
2008 (remaining three months)	\$ 316
2009	1,519
2010	1,338
2011	1,104
2012	929
Thereafter	2,018
Total amortization	\$ 7,224

Table of Contents**Note 10. Other Current Liabilities**

Other current liabilities consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 27, 2008	December 29, 2007
Accrued warranty	\$ 2,568	\$ 4,545
Accrued professional services	1,181	529
Consumption/value added tax	1,233	12
Other	2,768	2,157
Total other current liabilities	\$ 7,750	\$ 7,243

Note 11. Debt Obligations

Debt obligations consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 27, 2008	December 29, 2007
Milpitas building mortgage	\$ 13,476	\$
Equipment financing	154	277
Total debt obligations	13,630	277
Current portion of debt obligations	(468)	(148)
Long-term debt obligations	\$ 13,162	\$ 129

In July 2008, the Company entered into a borrowing facility in the principal amount of \$13.5 million maturing in July 2018. All borrowings under this facility bear a fixed interest for five years at a per annum rate equal to 7.18% whereupon the interest rate will be reset to a fixed rate for the following five years equal to the weekly average yield of five year U.S. dollar interest rate swaps in effect plus 3.03%. The loan is collateralized by a lien on the building and land comprising of the Company's principal offices in Milpitas, California.

The equipment financing was obtained by the Company's subsidiary in the United Kingdom and is collateralized by the financed assets. The loan is denominated in British pound sterling (£138,745 at December 29, 2007) and bears interest at 5.53% per annum. The loan is payable in monthly installments with unpaid principal and interest due in November 2009.

The Company is not in breach of any restrictive covenants in connection with its debt. At September 27, 2008, future annual maturities of debt obligations were as follows (in thousands):

2008 (remaining three months)	\$ 115
2009	451
2010	357
2011	383
2012	412
Thereafter	11,912
Total	\$ 13,630

Table of Contents**Note 12. Stockholders' Equity**

Net Income (Loss) Per Share Basic net income (loss) per share is computed by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per share gives effect to all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding during the period, including contingently issuable shares and certain stock options, calculated using the treasury stock method. A reconciliation of the share denominator of the basic and diluted net income (loss) per share computations is as follows (in thousands):

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Weighted average common shares outstanding used in basic net loss per share computation	18,574	18,278	18,598	17,931
Contingently issuable shares in connection with the Accent acquisition		276		
Potential dilutive common stock equivalents, using treasury stock method		122		
Shares used in diluted net loss per share computation	18,574	18,676	18,598	17,931

For the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007, the Company had securities outstanding which could potentially dilute basic earnings per share in the future, which were excluded from the computation of diluted net income (loss) per share in the periods presented as their impact would have been anti-dilutive. Weighted average common share equivalents, consisting of stock options excluded from the calculation of diluted net income(loss) per share were 3.0 million and 2.7 million for the three-month periods ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007, respectively and were 2.8 million and 2.7 million in the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007 .

During the third fiscal quarter of 2007, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program pursuant to which the Company may repurchase up to \$4.0 million of its common stock. The Company repurchased 461,057 and 26,455 common shares, respectively, at an average price of \$3.98 and \$7.47 per share during the nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007.

Note 13. Stock-Based Compensation

Stock-based compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to the Company's employees and directors pursuant to the employee stock option and employee stock purchase plans under SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*, (SFAS 123(R)) is as follows (in thousands):

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Cost of products	\$ 115	\$ 103	\$ 251	\$ 216
Cost of service	116	103	301	268
Research and development	216	231	527	762
Selling	186	140	592	577
General and administrative	505	296	1,466	926
Total stock-based compensation expense related to employee stock options and employee stock purchase plans	\$ 1,138	\$ 873	\$ 3,137	\$ 2,749

The fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes valuation model and the assumptions noted in the following table. The expected term of options granted was calculated using the simplified method allowed by Staff Accounting Bulletin 107. The risk-free rate is based on the U.S. Treasury rates in effect during the corresponding period of grant. The expected volatility is based on the historical volatility of Nanometrics' stock price. The dividend yield reflects that the Company has not paid any cash dividends since inception

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

and does not intend to pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Stock Options				
Expected life	3.94 years	4.5 years	4.2 years	4.4 years
Volatility	55.18%	58.40%	54.42%	59.8%
Risk free interest rate	2.97%	5.15%	2.97%	5.10%
Dividends				
Employee Stock Purchase Plan				
Expected life	0.5 years	0.5 years	0.5 years	0.5 years
Volatility	72.93%	34.0%	72.93%	37.90%
Risk free interest rate	1.64%	2.20%	1.64%	3.12%
Dividends				

Table of Contents

The weighted average fair value per share of the stock options awarded in the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 was \$2.08 and \$2.77, respectively, based on the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the grant dates.

A summary of activity under the Company's stock option plans during the nine months ended September 27, 2008 is as follows:

	Shares Available (Options and RSUs)	Number of Shares (Options)	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in Thousands)
Options					
Outstanding at December 29, 2007	1,607,911	3,120,467	\$ 9.94	4.6	\$ 4,381
Shares added through 2005 Option Plan	558,620				
Exercised		(35,978)			
Granted	(506,466)	506,466			
RSU Allocation	(20,000)				
Cancelled	625,047	(628,307)			
Outstanding at September 27, 2008	2,265,112	2,962,648	\$ 9.25	4.53	\$ 12
Exercisable at September 27, 2008		1,722,848	\$ 10.23	3.7	\$ 12

During the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008, the Company granted 20,000 Restricted Stock Units (RSUs) with vesting periods of three years. As of September 27, 2008, there were 51,333 RSUs outstanding.

The aggregate intrinsic value in the preceding table represents the total pretax intrinsic value, based on the Company's closing stock price of \$2.34 as of September 27, 2008, which would have been received by the option holders had all option holders exercised their options as of that date. The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 was \$0.1 million and total intrinsic value of options exercised during the three- and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 was \$0.1 million and \$0.4 million respectively. The fair value of options vested for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 was \$1.7 million and \$5.1 million, respectively, and for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 was \$1.6 million and \$3.2 million, respectively.

Note 14. Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The Company's comprehensive income (loss) was as follows (in thousands):

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Net loss	\$ (60,447)	\$ 2,008	\$ (80,085)	\$ (2,733)
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax	(1,551)	678	(1,873)	768
Total comprehensive income (loss)	\$ (61,998)	\$ 2,686	\$ (81,958)	\$ (1,965)

Substantially all of the accumulated other comprehensive income reflected as a separate component of stockholders' equity consists of accumulated foreign currency translation adjustment for all periods presented.

Table of Contents**Note 15. Warranties**

Product Warranty The Company sells the majority of its products with a 12-month repair or replacement warranty from the date of acceptance which generally represents the date of shipment. The Company provides an accrual for estimated future warranty costs based upon the historical relationship of warranty costs to the cost of products sold. The estimated future warranty obligations related to product sales are recorded in the period in which the related revenue is recognized. The estimated future warranty obligations are affected by the warranty periods, sales volumes, product failure rates, material usage, and labor and replacement costs incurred in correcting a product failure. If actual product failure rates, material usage, labor or replacement costs differ from the Company's estimates, revisions to the estimated warranty obligations would be required. For new product introductions where limited or no historical information exists, the Company may use warranty information from other previous product introductions to guide it in estimating its warranty accrual. The warranty accrual represents the best estimate of the amount necessary to settle future and existing claims on products sold as of the balance sheet date. The Company periodically assesses the adequacy of its reported warranty reserve and adjusts the amounts in accordance with changes in these factors. Components of the warranty accrual, which was included in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets with other current liabilities, were as follows (in thousands):

	Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Balance as of beginning of period	\$ 4,545	\$ 4,349
Warranty settlements	(4,226)	(2,989)
Provision for warranty	2,249	3,361
Balance as of end of period	\$ 2,568	\$ 4,721

Intellectual Property Indemnification Obligations In addition to product warranties, the Company will, from time to time, in the normal course of business, agree to indemnify certain customers with whom it enters into contractual relationships. The Company has agreed to hold these customers harmless against third party claims that Nanometrics' products, when used for their intended purpose(s), infringe the intellectual property rights of such third parties or other claims made against the customer. It is not possible to determine the maximum potential amount of liability under these indemnification obligations due to the limited history of prior indemnification claims and the unique facts and circumstances that are likely to be involved in each particular claim. Historically, the Company has not made payments under these obligations and believes that the estimated fair value of these agreements is minimal. Accordingly, no liabilities have been recorded for these obligations in the accompanying unaudited consolidated balance sheets as of September 27, 2008 and December 29, 2007.

Note 16. Gain on the Sale of Assets

In August 2007 the Company entered into a contract to sell a parcel of land and building in Japan and realized a gain on the sale of \$1.1 million. In addition, the sale of a condominium in California was consummated in July 2007 and the Company realized a gain of \$0.2 million in the third quarter of 2007. We also sold other non-strategic assets during the third quarter of 2007 realizing a gain of \$0.8 million.

Note 17. Income Taxes

For the three-month period ended September 27, 2008 the income taxes provision of \$0.4 million was the result of aggregate charges for potential tax exposure of certain foreign jurisdictions of \$0.2 million and \$0.1 million relating to a tax exposure associated with the consolidation of duplicate foreign entities. The tax liability associated with the consolidation of duplicate foreign entities was offset by the utilization of net operating losses generated by Accent Optical Technologies prior to the merger with Nanometrics. In accordance with SFAS 109, the benefit derived from the utilization of the pre-acquisition net operating losses is recorded as a reduction of the acquired Accent intangible assets rather than a reduction of the related tax expense. For the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008 the income taxes provision of \$0.5 million was the result of the aggregate charges for potential tax exposure of certain foreign jurisdictions of \$0.6 million and \$0.1 million relating to a tax exposure associated with the consolidation of duplicate foreign entities, partially offset by a tax benefit in a certain foreign jurisdiction where sufficient deferred tax liabilities exist to allow for benefiting the operating loss of \$0.2 million, and reduction of a tax contingency of \$0.1 million due to the expiration of local statutes.

Table of Contents

The income taxes provision of \$0.1 million for the three-month period ended September 29, 2007 was the result of foreign taxes of \$0.2 million offset by \$0.1 million of tax benefit in a certain foreign jurisdiction where sufficient deferred tax liabilities exist to allow for benefiting the operating loss.

Note 18. Contingencies

In August 2005, KLA-Tencor Corporation (KLA) filed a complaint against the Company in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. The complaint alleges that certain of the Company's products infringe two of KLA's patents. On January 30, 2006, KLA added a third patent to their claim. The complaint seeks a preliminary and permanent injunction against the sale of these products as well as the recovery of monetary damages and attorneys' fees. As part of its defense, the Company has filed a request for re-examination of two of the allegedly infringed KLA patents with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (PTO). In March 2006, the Company filed a motion for and was granted a stay in the patent litigation case until such re-examination is completed. On July 28, 2008, the PTO issued a Notice of Intent to issue a Reexamination Certificate for one of the KLA patents. The other two patent reexaminations remain pending. In all three of the reexamination proceedings, the PTO has issued Office Actions rejecting numerous claims and KLA has amended the claims in response.

Note 19. Geographic and Significant Customer Information

The Company has one operating segment, as defined in SFAS No. 131, *Disclosures About Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information*. The Company's operating segment is the sale, design, manufacture, marketing and support of thin film, optical critical dimension and overlay dimension metrology systems. The following table summarizes total net revenues and long-lived assets (excluding intangible assets) attributed to significant countries (in thousands):

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Total net revenues:				
United States	\$ 7,851	\$ 9,413	\$ 23,769	\$ 20,790
Japan	6,966	12,970	24,880	31,718
South Korea	3,048	5,440	13,043	28,859
Taiwan	2,498	829	5,307	7,531
China	132	5,840	7,115	10,307
Europe	2,142	2,897	3,799	12,374
All other	500	1,258	3,712	1,518
Total net revenues*	\$ 23,137	\$ 38,647	\$ 81,626	\$ 113,097

* Net revenues are attributed to countries based on the deployment and service locations of systems.

	September 27, 2008	December 29, 2007
Long lived assets		
United States	\$ 35,879	\$ 37,767
Japan	1,084	1,165
South Korea	4,534	5,589
Taiwan	144	158
Europe	2,356	1,545
Total long lived assets**	\$ 43,997	\$ 46,224

** Long-lived assets include tangible assets only.

Table of Contents

The following customers accounted for 10% or more of total accounts receivable as of:

	September 27, 2008	December 29, 2007
Samsung	***	14.1%
Toshiba	18.9%	***

*** The customer accounted for less than 10% of total accounts receivable.

The following customers accounted for 10% or more of total revenue:

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.	****	11.40%	14.2%	16.30%
Hynix	****	****	****	12.70%
Toshiba	22.1%	11.10%	12.0%	****

**** The customer accounted for less than 10% of revenue during the period.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The statements contained in this document that are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including, without limitation, statements regarding our expectations, beliefs, intentions or strategies regarding our business in future periods. We may identify these statements by the use of words such as anticipate, believe, continue, could, estimate, expect, intend, may, might, plan, potential, predict, project, should, will, would and other similar expressions. All forward-looking statements included in this document are based on information available to us on the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements, except as may otherwise be required by law.

Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain risk factors, including those set forth in Part II Item 1A Risk Factors and elsewhere in this document. In evaluating our business, current and prospective investors should carefully consider these factors in addition to the other information set forth in this document. We believe that it is important to communicate our expectations to our investors. However, there may be events in the future that we are not able to predict accurately or over which we have no control. You should be aware that the occurrence of the events described in such risk factors and elsewhere in this report could materially and adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition. While management believes that the discussion and analysis in this report is adequate for a fair presentation of the information presented, we recommend that you read this discussion and analysis in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 29, 2007, which were included in our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities Exchange Commission on March 13, 2008 and amended on April 25, 2008.

Overview

The semiconductor industry is cyclical in nature and has historically experienced periodic downturns and upturns. Today's leading indicators of changes in customer investment patterns may not be any more reliable than in prior years. Demand for our equipment can vary significantly from period to period as a result of various factors, requirements, and our ability to develop, acquire, and market competitive products. For these and other reasons, our current results of operations may not necessarily be indicative of future operating results.

We are an innovator in the field of metrology systems for the semiconductor industry. Our systems are designed to precisely monitor film thickness and critical dimensions that are necessary to control the manufacturing process and provide increased production yields and performance.

Table of Contents

Capital expenditures by manufacturers of semiconductors and their suppliers are critical to our success. The demand by these manufacturers and suppliers is driven by the expected market demand for new products and new applications. The increasing complexity of the 300mm manufacturing processes for semiconductors is an important factor in the demand for our innovative metrology systems. The incorporation of smaller features sizes, copper interconnects technology and optical critical dimension technology is expected to result in increased demand. Our strategy is to continue to innovate organically and to evaluate strategic acquisitions in order to address business challenges and opportunities.

Our revenues are primarily derived from product sales, which include sales of accessories, but are also derived from customer service for the installed base of our products. In the year ended December 29, 2007, we derived 86.2% of our total net revenues from product sales and 13.8% of our total net revenues from services.

Important Themes and Significant Trends

The semiconductor equipment industry is characterized by cyclical growth. Changing trends in the semiconductor industry are increasing the need for metrology as a major component of manufacturing systems. These trends include:

Incorporation of Optical Critical Dimension Metrology in the Patterning Process. Our customers use photolithographic processes to create patterns on wafers. Critical dimensions must be carefully controlled during this process. Our proprietary optical critical dimension systems can provide the critical process control of these circuit dimensions that is necessary for successful manufacturing of these state of the art devices.

Copper Interconnect Technology. The need for ever increasing device circuit speed coupled with lower power consumption has pushed semiconductor device manufacturers to begin the replacement of the subtractive aluminum interconnect process with copper damascene technology. This new copper processing technology has driven the need for new metrology techniques such as non-destructive laser profiling and the use of optical critical dimension (OCD) technology for control of the copper process.

Incorporation of 65nm and 45nm Feature Sizes. In an effort to reduce costs and increase device performance, semiconductor manufacturers are decreasing both the die size and feature size. Monitoring the increased tolerance requirements on smaller features sizes requires increased use of metrology systems. Our thin film and critical dimension metrology systems are well suited and are being adopted for these next generation processes.

Reduced Number of Customers. Because of the escalating cost of 300mm manufacturing facilities, fewer semiconductor manufacturers can afford the significant investment in these next generation facilities. Therefore, fewer opportunities for semiconductor equipment companies exist. Given that the available number of potential customers is decreasing, previous customer relationships, product positioning and critical mass take on greater importance.

Adoption of New Types of Thin Film Materials. Manufacturers are adopting new processes and technologies that increase the importance and utilization of thin film metrology systems. To achieve greater semiconductor device speed, manufacturers are utilizing copper and new, low dielectric constant (low k) insulating materials. Our advanced metrology solutions are required in the manufacturing process to characterize these materials.

Need for Improved Process Control to Drive Process Efficiencies. Competitive forces influencing semiconductor device manufacturers, such as price-cutting and shorter product life cycles, place pressure on manufacturers to rapidly achieve production efficiency. Device manufacturers are using our integrated and standalone metrology systems throughout the fab to ensure that manufacturing processes scale rapidly, are accurate and can be repeated on a consistent basis.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of our financial statements conforms to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which requires management to make estimates and judgments in applying our accounting policies that have an important impact on our reported

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, expenses and related disclosures at the date of our financial statements. On an on-going basis, management evaluates its estimates including those related to bad debts, inventory valuations, warranty obligations and income taxes. Management bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from management's estimates. We believe that the application of the following accounting policies requires significant judgments and estimates on the part of management. For a summary of all of our accounting policies, including those discussed below, see Note 1 to The Consolidated Financial Statements included in our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 13, 2008 and amended on April 25, 2008.

Table of Contents

Revenue Recognition We recognize revenue when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, delivery has occurred or services have been rendered, the sales price is fixed or determinable, and collectibility is reasonably assured. Product revenue includes hardware and also software that is incidental to the products. For product sales to existing customers, revenue recognition generally occurs at the time of shipment, as our terms are FOB shipping point, if we have met defined customer acceptance experience levels with both the customer and the specific type of equipment. All other product revenue is recognized upon customer acceptance including deemed acceptances. In Japan, where risk of loss and title transfers to the customer upon customer technical acceptance, our policy is that revenue is recognized upon customer technical acceptance.

All of our products are assembled prior to shipment to our customers. We often perform limited installation for our customers; however such installation is inconsequential and perfunctory as it may also be performed by third parties. Revenue related to spare parts sales is recognized generally upon shipment and is included as part of service revenue. Service revenue also includes service contracts and non-warranty, billable repairs of systems. Whereas service revenue related to service contracts is recognized ratably over the period under contract, service revenue related to billable repairs of systems is recognized as services are performed. On occasion, customers request a warranty period longer than our standard 12 month warranty. In those instances where extended warranty services are separately quoted to the customer, we follow the guidance of Financial Accounting Standards Board Technical Bulletin 90-1, *Accounting for Separately Priced Extended Warranty and Product Maintenance Contracts*, associated revenue is deferred and recognized to income ratably over the term of the contract. Unearned maintenance and service contract revenue is included in deferred revenue. Furthermore, generally we do not provide our customers with any return rights. Service contracts may be purchased by the customer when the warranty period expires.

In limited situations we have multiple deliverables in our customer arrangements. Those situations arise with the sale of repair services and parts together. Revenues on such sales are recognized when both the services and parts have been delivered. We also provide technical support to our customers as part of our warranty program. Upon recognition of product revenue, a liability is recorded for anticipated warranty costs.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts We maintain allowances for estimated losses resulting from the inability of our customers to make required payments. Credit limits are established through a process of reviewing the financial history and stability of our customers. Where appropriate and available, we obtain credit rating reports and financial statements of customers when determining or modifying their credit limits. We regularly evaluate the collectibility of our trade receivable balances based on a combination of factors such as the length of time the receivables are past due, customary payment practices in the respective geographies and our historical collection experience with customers. We believe that our allowance for doubtful accounts reflects our risk associated with smaller rather than larger customers and that our reported allowances are adequate. If however, the financial conditions of customers were to deteriorate, resulting in their inability to make payments, we would assess the necessity to record additional allowances which would result in additional general and administrative expenses being recorded for the period in which such determination was made.

Inventories We are exposed to a number of economic and industry factors that could result in portions of our inventory becoming either obsolete or in excess of anticipated usage, or saleable only for amounts that are less than their carrying amounts. These factors include, but are not limited to, technological changes in our market, our ability to meet changing customer requirements, competitive pressures in products and prices, and the availability of key components from our suppliers. We have established inventory reserves when conditions exist that suggest that our inventory may be in excess of anticipated demand or is obsolete based upon our assumptions about future demand for our products and market conditions. We regularly evaluate our ability to realize the value of our inventory based on a combination of factors including the following: historical usage rates, forecasted sales of usage, product end-of-life dates, estimated current and future market values and new product introductions. For demonstration inventory, we also consider the age of the inventory and potential cost to refurbish the inventory prior to sale. When recorded, our reserves are intended to reduce the carrying value of our inventory to its net realizable value. If actual demand for our products deteriorates, or market conditions are less favorable than those that we project, additional reserves may be required. Inventories are stated at the lower of cost, using the first-in, first-out method, or market value.

Inventories delivered systems We reflect the cost of systems that were invoiced upon shipment but deferred for revenue recognition purposes separate from our inventory held for sale as **Inventories delivered systems** .

Product Warranties We sell the majority of our products with a twelve-month repair or replacement warranty from the date of acceptance which generally represents the date of shipment. We provide an accrual for estimated future warranty costs based upon the historical relationship of warranty costs to the cost of products sold. The estimated future warranty

Table of Contents

obligations related to product sales are reported in the period in which the related revenue is recognized. The estimated future warranty obligations are affected by the warranty periods, sales volumes, product failure rates, material usage, labor and replacement costs incurred in correcting a product failure. If actual product failure rates, material usage, labor or replacement costs differ from our estimates, revisions to the estimated warranty obligations would be required. For new product introductions where limited or no historical information exists, we may use warranty information from other previous product introductions to guide us in estimating our warranty accrual. The warranty accrual represents the best estimate of the amount necessary to settle future and existing claims on products sold as of the balance sheet date. We periodically assess the adequacy of our recorded warranty reserve and adjust the amounts in accordance with changes in these factors.

Goodwill and Intangible Assets Goodwill is initially recorded when the purchase price paid for an acquisition exceeds the estimated fair value of the net identified tangible and intangible assets acquired. Under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets* (SFAS 142), intangible assets with finite lives are amortized over their useful lives while goodwill and indefinite lived assets are not amortized but tested annually for impairment. Our impairment review process is completed as of the last day of November of each year or whenever events or circumstances occur which indicate that an impairment might have occurred. SFAS 142 provides for a two-step approach to determining whether and by how much goodwill has been impaired. The first step requires a comparison of the fair value of Nanometrics (reporting unit) to its net book value. If the fair value is greater, then no impairment is deemed to have occurred. If the fair value is less, then the second step must be performed to determine the amount, if any, of actual impairment. The process of evaluating the potential impairment of goodwill is highly subjective and requires significant judgment. In estimating the fair value of Nanometrics, we made estimates and judgments about future revenues and cash flows for each reporting unit. To determine the fair value, our review process includes the income method and is based on a discounted future cash flow approach that uses estimates including the following for each reporting unit: revenue, based on assumed market growth rates and our assumed market share; estimated costs; and appropriate discount rates based on the particular business' s weighted average cost of capital. Our estimates of market segment growth, our market segment share and costs are based on historical data, various internal estimates and certain external sources, and are based on assumptions that are consistent with the plans and estimates we are using to manage the underlying businesses. Our business consists of both established and emerging technologies and our forecasts for emerging technologies are based upon internal estimates and external sources rather than historical information. We also considered our market capitalization on the dates of our impairment tests in determining the fair value of the respective businesses. We completed the first step and have determined that our fair value at June 28, 2008 exceeded our net book value on that date.

In accordance with SFAS 142, we concluded that events had occurred and circumstances had changed during the third quarter of 2008 which might indicate the existence of impairment indicators including a significant decline in our stock price and continued deterioration in the semiconductor equipment market and related impact on revenue forecasts of each reporting unit. Consistent with our approach of our annual impairment testing, in assessing the fair value of the reporting unit, we considered both the market approach and income approach. Under the market approach, the fair value of the reporting unit is based on quoted market prices and the number of shares outstanding of our common stock. Under the income approach, the fair value of the reporting unit is based on the present value of estimated future cash flows. We determined that the fair value of its reporting units was less than the net book value of the net assets of each reporting unit and accordingly, we performed step two of the impairment test.

In step two of the impairment test, we determined the implied fair value of the goodwill and compared it to the carrying value of the goodwill. With the assistance of a third party valuation firm, we allocated the fair value of the reporting units to all of its assets and liabilities as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination and the fair value of the reporting units was the price paid to acquire the reporting unit. The excess of the fair value of the reporting unit over the amount assigned to its assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of goodwill. Our step two analysis resulted in no implied fair value of goodwill, and therefore, we recognized an impairment charge of \$54.0 million in the third quarter of 2008, representing a write-off of the entire amount of our previously recorded goodwill.

Income Tax Assets and Liabilities We account for income taxes based on SFAS 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes* , whereby deferred tax assets and liabilities must be recognized using enacted tax rates for the effect of temporary differences between the book and tax accounting for assets and liabilities. Also, deferred tax assets must be reduced by a valuation allowance if it is more likely than not that a portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized in the future. We evaluate the deferred tax assets on a quarterly basis to determine whether or not a valuation allowance is appropriate. Factors used in this determination include future expected income and the underlying asset or liability which generated the temporary tax difference. Our income tax provision is primarily impacted by federal statutory rates, state and foreign income taxes and changes in our valuation allowance.

Table of Contents

Stock-Based Compensation Upon adoption of SFAS 123(R), *Share based payment*, on January 1, 2007, we began estimating the value of employee stock options on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes model. Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), the value of each employee stock option was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes model for the purpose of the pro forma financial disclosure in accordance with SFAS 123. The determination of fair value of share-based payment awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model is affected by our stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of highly complex and subjective variables. These variables include, but are not limited to the expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, and actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors. The expected term of options granted is calculated based on the simplified method allowed by Staff Accounting Bulletin 107. The expected volatility is based on the historical volatility of our stock price.

Restructuring Charge - During each of the three-month periods ended March 29, 2008 and September 27, 2008, we implemented a restructuring program based on our business strategy and recorded a significant accrual in connection with the restructuring program. In connection with the plan we have recorded estimated expenses for severance and other costs. In accordance with SFAS 146, *Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities*, generally costs associated with restructuring activities have been recognized when they are incurred rather than the date of a commitment to an exit or disposal plan. In addition post-employment benefits accrued for workforce reductions related to restructuring activities are accounted for under SFAS 112, *Employer's Accounting Post-Employment Benefits*. A liability for post-employment benefits is recorded when payment is probable, the amount is reasonably estimable, and the obligation relates to rights that have vested or accumulated. Given the significance and complexity of restructuring activities, and the timing of the execution of such activities, the restructuring process involves periodic reassessments of the estimates made at the time the original decisions were made, including evaluating market conditions for expected disposals of assets and vacancy of space. Although we believe that these estimates accurately reflect the costs of the restructuring programs, actual results may vary or differ, thereby requiring us to record additional provisions or reverse a portion of such provisions.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2 of the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of recent accounting pronouncements, including the respective dates of adoption and effects on results of operations and financial condition.

Results of Operations**Periods ended September 27, 2008 and September 29, 2007**

Total net revenues. Our net revenues were comprised of the following categories:

	Three-Months Ended				Nine-Months Ended			
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	Change	Percentage Change	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	Change	Percentage Change
Automated systems	\$ 9,163	\$ 25,824	\$ (16,661)	(64.5%)	\$ 47,654	\$ 75,237	\$ (27,583)	(36.7%)
Integrated systems	7,148	7,482	(334)	(4.5%)	15,090	23,327	(8,237)	(35.3%)
Total product revenue	16,311	33,306	(16,995)	(51.0%)	62,744	98,564	(35,820)	(36.3%)
Service	6,826	5,341	1,485	27.8%	18,882	14,533	4,349	29.9%
Total net revenues	\$ 23,137	\$ 38,647	\$ (15,510)	(40.1%)	\$ 81,626	\$ 113,097	\$ (31,471)	(27.8%)

For the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008, net revenues from automated systems decreased by \$16.7 million and \$27.6 million, respectively, from the comparable periods of 2007 and net revenues from our integrated systems decreased \$0.3 million and \$8.2 million, respectively, from the comparable periods of 2007. The overall decrease in product revenue of 51.0% and 36.3%, respectively, is reflective of the ongoing general economic environment in the semiconductor equipment manufacturing sector.

Service revenue increased by \$1.5 million and \$4.3 million, respectively, during the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 over the comparable periods of 2007 due to a significant increase of in-the-field tool upgrades and an increased focus on billable service and spare parts.

Table of Contents

Gross margins. Our gross margin breakdown was as follows (in percent):

	Three-Months Ended		Nine-Months Ended	
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007
Products	50.0%	49.6%	50.6%	48.6%
Services	30.0%	10.3%	23.0%	(6.4)%

The product gross margin for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 increased slightly from the comparable periods of 2007 due to reductions in our cost structure such as higher product reliability and reduction of manufacturing costs from the completion of the integration of our 2006 acquisitions of Accent and Soluris including the closure of a facility in Concord, Massachusetts and out-sourcing the manufacturing of several of our products to contract manufactures offset by lower utilization of our manufacturing facilities due to lower revenues. In addition, the Company reduced its estimate of integration fees on certain products sold to a customer in Japan by \$0.3 million and \$0.7 million during the three- and nine-month periods, respectively, ended September 27, 2008.

The gross margin for our services line of business increased to 30.0% and 23.0%, respectively, for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 as compared to gross margins of 10.3% and a negative 6.4% for the comparable periods of 2007. The increase in gross margin reflects a higher level of in-the-field tool upgrades which provide favorable margins, increased efforts on billable service and spare parts sales and our focus on controlling expenses including personnel, personnel related expenses and material costs as compared to 2007.

Operating expenses. Our operating expenses were comprised of the following (in thousands):

	Three-Months Ended				Nine-Months Ended			
	September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	Change		September 27, 2008	September 29, 2007	Change	
Research and development	\$ 4,430	\$ 4,661	\$ (231)	(5.0)%	\$ 13,107	\$ 13,986	\$ (879)	(6.3)%
Selling	4,280	4,603	(323)	(7.0)%	13,963	14,636	(673)	(4.6)%
General and administrative	4,935	4,783	152	3.2%	15,761	16,538	(777)	(4.7)%
Amortization of intangible assets	600	1,285	(685)	(53.3)%	3,215	4,497	(1,282)	(28.5)%
Restructuring charge	655	2,128	(1,473)	(69.2)%	1,525	2,128	(603)	(28.3)%
Asset impairment	55,332		55,332	100.0%	68,545		68,545	100.0%
Gain on sale of assets		(2,100)	2,100	100.0%		(2,100)	2,100	100.0%
Total operating expenses	\$ 70,232	\$ 15,360	\$ 54,872	(357.2)%	\$ 116,116	\$ 49,685	\$ 66,431	133.7%

Research and development. Research and development expenses decreased by \$0.2 million and \$0.9 million for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008, respectively, over the comparable periods in 2007 due to lower product development expenses such as materials and outside consulting services of \$0.7 million and \$0.3 million respectively.

Selling. Selling expenses decreased by \$0.3 million and \$0.7 million, respectively, for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 as compared to the corresponding periods of 2007 due primarily to lower personnel and personnel related expenses.

General and administrative. General and administrative expenses increased slightly for the three-month period ended September 27, 2008 with the comparable period in 2007. The increase was due primarily to termination charges of a certain senior executive. For the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008 general and administrative expenses decreased \$0.8 million from the comparable period in 2007. The decrease was primarily due to lower legal expenses of \$1.1 million as we settled the patent litigation with Nova Measuring Instruments Ltd (Nova) in April 2007 and also reductions of \$0.3 million of depreciation expense and \$0.2 million of regulatory and compliance costs offset by higher stock-based compensation of \$0.5 million and various other expenses of \$0.3 million.

Amortization of intangible assets. For the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008 the decrease in amortization of intangible assets of \$0.7 million and \$1.3 million over the comparable periods of 2007 reflects lower amortization expense due to the \$11.8 million asset impairment during the second quarter of 2008, discussed below and to the backlog intangible asset acquired with the Accent acquisition, which was fully amortized by the second quarter of 2007.

Table of Contents

Restructuring charge. During the first and third quarters of 2008, the Company reduced its global work force by approximately 30 and 34 employees, respectively. This reduction affected employees in each of our locations worldwide and is aimed at reducing our operating expenses through improving our variable to fixed cost ratio and effective consolidation and elimination of overlap within our business entities. We recorded a charge of \$0.9 million and \$0.7 million, respectively, in the first and third quarters of fiscal 2008.

During the third quarter of 2007, the Company announced it would close its Milpitas, California machine shop and plating facility as part of its strategy to reverse its manufacturing vertical integration and lower its breakeven point. In conjunction with this closure, we recorded a restructuring charge in an amount of \$2.1 million consisting of \$1.9 million write-down of property, plant and equipment, \$0.1 million for professional fees and \$0.1 million for severance payments.

Asset impairment.

Goodwill: During the three-month period ended September 27, 2008 we concluded that events had occurred and circumstances had changed which might indicate the existence of impairment indicators including a significant decline in our stock price and continued deterioration in the semiconductor equipment market and related impact on revenue forecasts of each reporting unit. In accordance with SFAS 142 and consistent with our approach of our annual impairment testing, in assessing the fair value of the reporting unit, we considered both the market approach and income approach. Under the market approach, the fair value of the reporting unit is based on quoted market prices and the number of shares outstanding of our common stock. Under the income approach, the fair value of the reporting unit is based on the present value of estimated future cash flows. We determined that the fair value of our reporting units was less than the net book value of the net assets of each reporting unit and accordingly, we performed step two of the impairment test. In step two of the impairment test, we determined the implied fair value of the goodwill and compared it to the carrying value of the goodwill. With the assistance of a third party valuation firm, we allocated the fair value of the reporting units to all of its assets and liabilities as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination and the fair value of the reporting units was the price paid to acquire the reporting units. The excess of the fair value of the reporting unit over the amount assigned to the assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of goodwill. Our step two analysis resulted in no implied fair value of goodwill, and therefore, we recognized an impairment charge of \$54.0 million in the third quarter of 2008, representing a write-off of the entire amount of our previously recorded goodwill.

Intangible Assets: Also, during the three-month period ended September 27, 2008 we performed an analysis in accordance with SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets*, of our long-lived assets including intangible assets and other long-lived assets where cash flows could be identified with a specific group of assets. Due to the continuing deterioration in the semiconductor equipment market, our forecasted revenues have declined for certain product lines relating to specific intangible assets acquired in the 2006 acquisition of Accent Optical Technologies, Inc. We performed an analysis in accordance with SFAS 144 of our long-lived intangible assets where cash flows could be identified with a specific group of assets. We performed step one of the impairment test for the specified intangible assets and have determined that at September 27, 2008, the net book value exceeded the undiscounted future cash flows. Accordingly, we completed step two of the impairment analysis utilizing a present value technique to estimate the fair value of the impaired assets. As a result of this analysis, an impairment charge of \$1.4 million was recorded in the third quarter of 2008 to reflect certain brand names and developed technology intangible assets at their fair value.

For the three month period ended June 28, 2008, we perform an analysis in accordance with SFAS 144 of our long-lived intangible assets where cash flows could be identified with a specific group of assets. Due to changes in the forecasts, relating to specific intangible assets acquired in our 2006 acquisitions, caused by management's decision to focus our resources on new generation products, and changes in the forecasts relating to the machine shop, we performed an impairment analysis in accordance with SFAS 144. SFAS 144 provides for a two-step approach to determining whether and by how much a long-lived asset has been impaired. The first step requires a comparison of the future undiscounted cash flows of the asset to its net book value. If undiscounted future cash flows are greater, then no impairment is deemed to have occurred. If the undiscounted future cash flows are less, then the second step must be performed to determine the amount, if any, of actual impairment. We performed step one impairment test for certain of the long-lived asset and have determined that at June 28, 2008, the net book value exceeded the undiscounted future cash flows for certain intangible assets as well as for assets associated with our machine shop and plating facility which was subcontracted in the third fiscal quarter of 2007. The initial projected future cash flows from subcontracting this facility have been significantly reduced due to operational limitations. Accordingly, we completed step two of the impairment analysis utilizing a present value technique to estimate the fair value of the impaired assets. As a result of this analysis, impairment charges of \$11.8 million and \$1.5 million, respectively, were recorded in the second quarter of 2008 to reflect certain customer relationships and developed technology intangible assets and machine shop related assets at their fair value.

Table of Contents

Gain on the sale of assets. In August 2007 we entered into a contract to sell a parcel of land and building in Japan and realized a gain on the sale of \$1.1 million. In addition, the sale of a condominium in California was consummated in July 2007 and we realized a gain of \$0.2 million in the third quarter of 2007. We also sold other non-strategic assets during the third quarter of 2007 realizing a gain of \$0.8 million.

Other income (expense). Our net other income (expense) consisted of the following categories (in thousands):

	Three-Months Ended				Nine-Months Ended			
	September 27,	September 29,			September 27,	September 29,		
	2008	2007	Change	%	2008	2007	Change	%
Interest income	\$ 24	\$ 69	\$ (45)	(65.2)%	\$ 156	\$ 121	\$ 35	28.9%
Interest expense	(240)	(56)	(184)	(328.6)%	(343)	(141)	(202)	(143.3)%
Other income (loss)	142	382	(240)	(62.8)%	564	(40)	604	1,510.0%
Total other income (expenses)	\$ (74)	\$ 395	\$ (469)	(118.7)%	\$ 377	\$ (60)	\$ 437	728.3%

For the three-month period ended September 27, 2008 we incurred higher interest expense due to the issuance of debt obligations during the quarter. For the three- and nine-month periods ended September 27, 2008, we incurred more favorable foreign exchange gains and losses due to exchange rate fluctuations associated with our extensive inter-company balances between our various global entities over the comparable periods of 2007.

Provision for income taxes. For the three-month period ended September 27, 2008 the income taxes provision of \$0.4 million was the result of aggregate charges for potential tax exposure of certain foreign jurisdictions of \$0.2 million and \$0.1 million relating to a tax exposure associated with the consolidation of duplicate foreign entities. For the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008 the income taxes provision of \$0.5 million was the result of the aggregate charges for potential tax exposure of certain foreign jurisdictions of \$0.6 million and \$0.1 million relating to a tax exposure associated with the consolidation of duplicate foreign entities, partially offset by a tax benefit in a certain foreign jurisdiction where sufficient deferred tax liabilities exist to allow for benefiting the operating loss of \$0.2 million, and reduction of a tax contingency of \$0.1 million due to the expiration of local statutes.

The income taxes provision of \$0.1 million for the three-month period ended September 29, 2007 was the result of foreign taxes of \$0.2 million offset by \$0.1 million of tax benefit in a certain foreign jurisdiction where sufficient deferred tax liabilities exist to allow for benefiting the operating loss.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

At September 27, 2008, our cash and cash equivalents totaled \$21.8 million compared to \$14.9 million as of December 29, 2007. At September 27, 2008, we had working capital of \$58.3 million compared to \$57.1 million at December 29, 2007. The current ratio at September 27, 2008 was 3.7 to 1.

Operating activities provided cash of \$1.8 million for the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008 resulting from certain non-cash charges including \$68.5 million of impairment charges for long-lived assets, \$6.1 million associated with amortization and depreciation, \$3.1 million in stock-based compensation, and increases in net working capital of \$4.5 million partially offset by our net loss of \$80.1 million. Operating activities provided cash of \$2.9 million for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007 resulting from certain non-cash charges including \$7.0 million associated with amortization and depreciation and \$2.7 million in stock-based compensation offset by increases in net working capital of \$3.9 million and our net loss of \$2.7 million. For the nine-months ended September 29, 2007, cash provided from the reduction of working capital were primarily driven by reduction of inventory levels of \$4.6 million and increases in accounts payable and accrued liabilities of \$5.7 million offset by increases in accounts receivable of \$8.9 million due to higher revenue and reductions in deferred revenue and product margin of \$4.3 million.

Investing activities for the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008 used cash of \$6.1 million related to cash outlays of \$3.4 million of our acquisition of Tevet Process Control Technologies, Ltd. (Tevet) and capital equipment acquisitions of \$2.8 million. Investing activities for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007 provided cash of \$2.8 million. We received sales proceeds of \$3.9 million from the sale of assets (see preceding discussion for Gain on sale of assets) offset by \$1.0 million for purchases of property, plant and equipment.

Table of Contents

For the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008, financing activities provided cash of \$12.1 million. Proceeds from the issuance of \$13.5 million of debt obligation, as more fully described below, and \$0.6 million from the sale of stock from employee stock plans and purchase plan were offset by \$1.8 million used for the repurchase of our common stock and \$0.1 million for debt payments. For the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007, financing activities provided cash of \$1.4 million due to the sale of stock under employee stock option and purchase plans of \$3.1 million offset by the repayment of debt of \$1.5 million and repurchases of stock of \$0.2 million.

In July 2008, we entered into a lending facility in the principal amount of \$13.5 million maturing in July 2018. All borrowings under this facility bear a fixed interest for five years at a per annum rate equal to 7.18% whereupon the interest rate will be reset to a fixed rate for the following five years equal to the weekly average yield of five year U.S. dollar interest rate swaps in effect plus 3.03%. The loan is collateralized by a lien on the building and land comprising our principal offices in Milpitas California. We will use the proceeds of these borrowing for general corporate purposes or for future acquisitions or expansion of our business.

In February 2007, we entered into a two-year agreement for a revolving line of credit facility in a maximum principal amount of up to \$15 million. The instrument governing the facility includes certain financial covenants regarding net tangible worth. All borrowings under this credit line bear interest, at our election, at a per annum rate equal to the bank's prime rate or at the Libor rate plus 2.25%. The revolving line of credit agreement includes a provision for the issuance of commercial or standby letters of credit by the bank on our behalf. The value of all letters of credit outstanding reduces the total line of credit available. The revolving line of credit is collateralized by a blanket lien on all of our domestic assets excluding intellectual property and real estate. We may use the proceeds of any future borrowing under this credit facility for general corporate purposes or for future acquisitions or expansion of our business. Renewal of our revolving line of credit facility is due in February 2009. While we anticipate we will renew the line of credit, the present economic conditions in the banking and financing industry are very volatile and uncertain. We may be unable to renew the line of credit under the same general terms and conditions under which we presently operate.

We have evaluated and will continue to evaluate the acquisition of products, technologies or businesses that are complementary to our business. These activities may result in product and business investments, which may affect our cash position and working capital balances. Some of these activities might require significant cash outlays. For example, in the third quarter of 2007, our Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program of up to \$4 million, of which, there remains \$1.4 million available for future repurchases. However, we believe our working capital including cash and cash equivalents; will be sufficient to meet our needs through at least the next twelve months. However, we may require additional cash to fund acquisitions or investment opportunities or other events that may arise in the future. In these instances, we may seek to raise such additional funds through public or private equity or debt financings or from other sources. We may not be able to obtain adequate or favorable financing at that time. Any financing we obtain may dilute ownership interests and any debt financing could contain covenants that impose limitations on the conduct of our business.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Our exposure to market risk does not differ materially from that discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2007 filed with the SEC on March 13, 2008 and amended on April 25, 2008. However, we cannot give any assurance as to the effect that future changes in interest rates or foreign currency rates will have on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer, Timothy J. Stultz, and our Chief Financial Officer, Bruce A. Crawford, the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. As of September 27, 2008 our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information that we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 were recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms.

Table of Contents

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

As disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2007 filed with the SEC on March 13, 2008 and amended on April 25, 2008, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Gary C. Schaefer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2007. As a result of such evaluation, management identified a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2007 related to our controls over international income tax accounting. Specifically, the Company's process and procedures surrounding its accounting for international taxes were not effective as of December 29, 2007 in both design and operation, as the existing process and procedures failed to adequately and timely manage the international tax accounting process. As September 5, 2008, Mr. Schaefer resigned as Chief Financial Officer and was replaced by Mr. Crawford.

During our most recent fiscal quarter, we have taken the following steps to remediate the material weakness described above which we believe are necessary to address the issues associated with our material weakness over international income tax accounting, including implementing changes that are both organizational and process-focused to improve the design and operation of the controls. Such planned changes include:

Initiation of a global transfer pricing study,

Increased oversight and monitoring of accounting procedures and review of our international tax accounting and,

Rationalizing and simplifying the tax structures of our foreign entities.

We are in the process of implementing the above mentioned changes as of the quarter ended September 27, 2008, and upon completion of the testing of our internal controls subsequent to this date, we will determine the operating effectiveness of the enhanced controls.

Other than as noted above, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the three-month period ended September 27, 2008 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In August 2005, KLA-Tencor Corporation, or KLA, filed a complaint against us in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. The complaint alleges that certain of our products infringe two of KLA's patents. On January 30, 2007, KLA added a third patent to their claim. The complaint seeks a preliminary and permanent injunction against the sale of these products as well as the recovery of monetary damages and attorneys' fees. We do not believe that any of our products infringe the intellectual property of any third party and we intend to vigorously and aggressively defend ourselves in the litigation. As part of such defense, we have filed a request for re-examination of the three allegedly infringed KLA patents with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, or PTO. In March 2006, we filed a motion for and were granted a stay in the patent litigation case until such re-examination is completed. On July 28, 2008, the PTO issued a Notice of Intent to issue a Reexamination Certificate for one of the KLA patents. The other two patent reexaminations remain pending. In all three of the reexamination proceedings, the PTO has issued Office Actions rejecting numerous claims and KLA has amended the claims in response.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

A restated description of the risk factors associated with our business is set forth below. This description includes any material changes to and supersedes the description of the risk factors included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2007 filed with the SEC on March 13, 2008 and amended on April 25, 2008. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones that we face. If any of the following risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition or operating results could be harmed. In such case, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

Table of Contents

Risks Related to Our Business

Customer demand for our products is inelastic and has led to fluctuations in revenue from period to period and is expected to continue to do so.

Our operating results have varied significantly from period to period due to the inelastic nature of our products. The majority of our business depends upon the capital expenditures of semiconductor device and equipment manufacturers. These manufacturers' capital expenditures, in turn, depend upon the current and anticipated market demand for semiconductors and products using semiconductors. The semiconductor industry has historically experienced periodic downturns. These downturns have often resulted in substantial decreases in the demand for semiconductor manufacturing equipment, including metrology systems. We have found that the resulting decrease in capital expenditures has typically been more pronounced than the downturn in semiconductor device industry revenues. We expect the inelastic nature of demand for our products, and therefore, our business, to continue in the foreseeable future.

We depend on OEM suppliers for sales of our integrated metrology systems, and the loss of our OEM suppliers as a customer could harm our business.

We believe that sales of integrated metrology systems will continue to be an important source of our revenues. Sales of our integrated metrology systems depend upon the ability of OEMs to sell semiconductor equipment products that include our metrology systems as components. If our OEMs are unable to sell such products, or if they choose to focus their attention on products that do not integrate our systems, our business could suffer. If we were to lose our OEMs as a customer for any reason, our ability to realize sales from integrated metrology systems would be significantly diminished, which would harm our business.

Efforts to restructure our operations and align our resources with market opportunities could disrupt our business and affect our results of operations.

Since 2007, we have taken steps, including reductions in force, facility closures, and internal reorganizations to reduce the size and cost of our operations and to better match our resources with our market opportunities. We may take similar steps in the future to improve efficiency and match our resources with market opportunities. Any such changes could be disruptive to our business and may result in the recording of accounting charges. These include inventory and technology-related write-offs, workforce reduction costs and charges relating to consolidation of excess facilities. If we are required to take a substantial charge related to any future restructuring activities, our results of operations would be adversely affected in the period in which we take such a charge.

If any of our systems fail to meet or exceed our internal quality specifications, we do not ship them until such time as they have met such specifications. If we experience significant delays or are unable to ship our products to our customers as a result of our internal processes, or for any other reason, our business and reputation may suffer.

Our products are complex and require technical expertise to design and manufacture properly. Various problems occasionally arise during the manufacturing process that may cause delays and/or impair product quality. We must actively monitor our manufacturing processes to ensure that our products meet our internal quality specifications. Any significant delays stemming from the failure of our products to meet or exceed our internal quality specifications, or for any other reasons, would delay our shipments. Shipment delays could harm our business and reputation in the industry.

If we deliver systems with defects, our credibility will be harmed, revenue from, and market acceptance of, our systems will decrease and we could expend significant capital and resources as a result of such defects.

Notwithstanding our internal quality specifications, our systems have sometimes contained errors, defects and bugs when introduced. If we deliver systems with errors, defects or bugs, our credibility and the market acceptance and sales of our systems would be harmed. Further, if our systems contain errors, defects or bugs, we may be required to expend significant capital and resources to alleviate such problems. Defects could also lead to product liability as a result of product liability lawsuits against us or against our customers. We have agreed to indemnify our customers in some circumstances against liability arising from defects in our systems. In the event of a successful product liability claim, we could be obligated to pay damages significantly in excess of our product liability insurance limits.

Table of Contents

Our largest customers account for a substantial portion of our revenue, and our revenue would materially decline if one or more of these customers were to purchase significantly fewer of our systems or if they delayed or cancelled a large order.

Historically, a significant portion of our revenues in each quarter and each year has been derived from sales to a relatively few customers, and we expect this trend to continue. There are only a limited number of large companies operating in the semiconductor industry. Accordingly, we expect that we will continue to depend on a small number of large customers for a significant portion of our revenues for the foreseeable future. If any of our key customers were to purchase significantly fewer systems, or if a large order were delayed or cancelled, our revenues could significantly decline.

The success of our product development efforts depends on our ability to anticipate market trends and the price, performance and functionality requirements of semiconductor device manufacturers. In order to anticipate these trends and ensure that critical development projects proceed in a coordinated manner, we must continue to collaborate closely with our customers. Our relationships with our customers provide us with access to valuable information regarding industry trends, which enables us to better plan our product development activities. If our current relationships with our large customers are impaired, or if we are unable to develop similar collaborative relationships with important customers in the future, our long-term ability to produce commercially successful systems could be adversely affected.

We have had significant management changes since the end of the last fiscal year and these changes may impact our ability to execute our business strategy in the near term. In general, our success depends to a significant extent on the performance of our senior management and on our ability to identify, hire and retain key management personnel.

In August 2007, our Chief Executive Officer joined the Company. Effective September 5, 2008 Gary Schaefer, resigned as our Chief Financial Officer and Vice President, Administration and was replaced, on an interim basis, by Bruce Crawford. While we are confident in the officers abilities to manage the Company, our business may be affected. Furthermore, we must be able to identify, hire and retain key personnel. Although we have employment agreements with certain key members of our senior management team, including Messrs. Stultz, and Crawford, these individuals or other key employees may still leave us. We do not have key person life insurance on any of our executives. In addition, to support our future growth, we will need to attract and retain additional qualified employees. Competition for such personnel in our industry is intense, and we may not be successful in attracting and retaining qualified employees. If we fail to attract, motivate and retain qualified senior management personnel, our business could be harmed and our ability to implement our strategy could be compromised.

Failure To achieve and maintain effective internal controls in accordance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 could have a material effect on our business.

As a publicly traded company, we are subject to rules adopted by the SEC pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Section 404 requires us to include an internal control report from management in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 13, 2008 and amended April 25, 2008. The internal control report must include the following: (1) a statement of management's responsibility for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, (2) a statement identifying the framework used by management to conduct the required evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, (3) management's assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of the end of each fiscal year, including a statement as to whether or not internal control over financial reporting is effective, and (4) a statement that our independent registered public accounting firm has issued an attestation report on management's internal control over financial reporting. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Company's annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Our assessment as of December 29, 2007 identified a material weakness in our internal controls over financial reporting, which also adversely impacted our disclosure controls and procedures. A material weakness results in a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Company's annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Since discovery of the material weakness, we have performed extensive additional work to obtain reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial statements. Even with this additional work, however, there is a risk of errors not being prevented or detected. For additional information refer to Item 9A Controls and Procedures in our Annual Report.

Because of the material weakness referenced in the preceding paragraph, management has concluded that, as of December 29, 2007, our internal controls over financial reporting were not effective based on those criteria. This failure and any failure in the future to achieve and maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting and otherwise comply with the requirements of Section 404 could have a material adverse effect on our business. Such noncompliance could result in perceptions of our business among customers, suppliers, lenders, investors, securities analysts and others being adversely affected. We may not be able to complete our remediation plans designed to address the identified material weakness in our internal controls over financial reporting and continue to attract additional qualified accountants, and auditing and compliance professionals to assist in completing such plans and maintaining compliance programs.

Table of Contents

Restructuring of our operations may adversely affect our financial condition and operating results.

We have incurred expenses related to restructuring of our operations in the past, and we may incur additional restructuring expenses in the future. For example, in the first and third quarters of 2008, we undertook a restructuring that involved a reduction of our global workforce by approximately 30 and 34 employees, respectively, and that caused us to record restructuring and reorganization charges of \$870,000 and \$655,000, respectively.

Several factors could cause a restructuring to adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. These include potential disruption of our operations, the development of our technology, our supply chain and other aspects of our business. Employee morale and productivity could also suffer and result in unintended employee attrition. Loss of sales, service and engineering talent, in particular, could damage our business. Any restructuring would require substantial management time and attention and may divert management from other important work. If we undertake further employee reductions or other restructuring activities, we will likely record restructuring and related expenses. Moreover, we could encounter delays in executing any restructuring plans, which could cause further disruption and additional unanticipated expense.

Our current and potential competitors have significantly greater resources than we do, and increased competition could impair sales of our products.

We operate in the highly competitive semiconductor industry and face competition from a number of companies, many of which have greater financial, engineering, manufacturing, marketing and customer support resources than we do. As a result, our competitors may be able to respond more quickly to new or emerging technologies or market developments by devoting greater resources to the development, promotion and sale of products, which could impair sales of our products. Moreover, there has been merger and acquisition activity among our competitors and potential competitors. These transactions by our competitors and potential competitors may provide them with a competitive advantage over us by enabling them to rapidly expand their product offerings and service capabilities to meet a broader range of customer needs. Many of our customers and potential customers in the semiconductor industry are large companies that require global support and service for their metrology systems. Some of our larger or more geographically diverse competitors might be better equipped to provide this global support.

Successful infringement claims by third parties could result in substantial damages, lost product sales and the loss of important intellectual property rights by us.

Our commercial success depends, in part, on our ability to avoid infringing or misappropriating patents or other proprietary rights owned by third parties. From time to time we may receive communications from third parties asserting that our metrology systems may contain design features which are claimed to infringe on their proprietary rights. For example, in August 2005, we were served with a complaint by KLA alleging that certain of our products infringe two of KLA's patents, Patent No. 6,483,580 and Patent No. 6,590,656. In January 2006, KLA added Patent No. 6,611,330 to its claim. For additional information, refer to Part II, Item 1. Legal Proceedings. There can be no assurance that Nanometrics' new or current products do not infringe any valid intellectual property rights. Even if our products do not infringe, we may be required to expend significant sums of money to defend against infringement claims, as in the KLA lawsuit described above, or to actively protect our intellectual property rights through litigation.

We obtain some of the components and subassemblies included in our systems from a single source or a limited group of suppliers, and the partial or complete loss of one of these suppliers could cause production delays and significant loss of revenue.

We rely on outside vendors to manufacture many components and subassemblies. Certain components, subassemblies and services necessary for the manufacture of our systems are obtained from a sole supplier or limited group of suppliers. We do not maintain any long-term supply agreements with any of our suppliers. We have entered into arrangements with J.A. Woollam Company for the purchase of the spectroscopic ellipsometer component incorporated in our advanced measurement systems. Our reliance on a sole or a limited group of suppliers involves several risks, including the following:

we may be unable to obtain an adequate supply of required components;

we have reduced control over pricing and the timely delivery of components and subassemblies; and

our suppliers may be unable to develop technologically advanced products to support our growth and development of new systems.

Table of Contents

Some of our suppliers have relatively limited financial and other resources. Because the manufacturing of certain of these components and subassemblies involves extremely complex processes and requires long lead times, we may experience delays or shortages caused by our suppliers. If we were forced to seek alternative sources of supply or to manufacture such components or subassemblies internally, we could be forced to redesign our systems, which could cause production delays and prevent us from shipping our systems to customers on a timely basis. Any inability to obtain adequate deliveries from our suppliers, or any other circumstance that would restrict our ability to ship our products, could damage relationships with current and prospective customers, harm our business and result in significant loss of revenue.

Variations in the amount of time it takes for us to sell our systems may cause fluctuations in our operating results, which could cause our stock price to decline.

Variations in the length of our sales cycles could cause our revenues to fluctuate widely from period to period. Our customers generally take long periods of time to evaluate our metrology systems. We expend significant resources educating and providing information to our prospective customers regarding the uses and benefits of our systems. The length of time that it takes for us to complete a sale depends upon many factors, including:

the efforts of our sales force and our independent sales representatives;

the complexity of the customer's metrology needs;

the internal technical capabilities and sophistication of the customer;

the customer's budgetary constraints; and

the quality and sophistication of the customer's current processing equipment.

Because of the number of factors influencing the sales process, the period between our initial contact with a customer and the time at which we recognize revenue from that customer, if at all, varies widely. Our sales cycles, including the time it takes for us to build a product to customer specifications after receiving an order, typically range from three to nine months. Occasionally our sales cycles can be much longer, particularly with customers in Asia who may require longer evaluation periods. During the sales cycles, we commit substantial resources to our sales efforts in advance of receiving any revenue, and we may never receive any revenue from a customer despite our sales efforts.

If we do complete a sale, customers often purchase only one of our systems and then evaluate its performance for a lengthy period of time before purchasing additional systems. The purchases are generally made through purchase orders rather than through long-term contracts. The number of additional products that a customer purchases, if any, depends on many factors, including a customer's capacity requirements. The period between a customer's initial purchase and any subsequent purchases is unpredictable and can vary from three months to a year or longer. Variations in the length of this period could cause fluctuations in our operating results, which could adversely affect our stock price.

Relatively small fluctuations in our system sales volume may cause our operating results to vary significantly each quarter.

During any quarter, a significant portion of our revenue is derived from the sale of a relatively small number of systems. Our automated metrology systems range in price from approximately \$200,000 to over \$1,000,000 per system, our integrated metrology systems range in price from approximately \$80,000 to \$400,000 per system. Accordingly, a small change in the number or mix of systems that we sell could cause significant changes in our operating results.

We depend on orders that are received and shipped in the same quarter, and therefore our results of operations may be subject to significant variability from quarter to quarter.

Our net sales in any given quarter depend upon a combination of orders received in that quarter for shipment in that quarter and shipments from backlog. Our backlog at the beginning of each quarter does not include all systems sales needed to achieve expected revenues for that quarter.

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

Consequently, we are dependent on obtaining orders for systems to be shipped in the same quarter that the order is received. Moreover, customers may reschedule shipments, and production difficulties could delay shipments. Accordingly, we have limited visibility into future product shipments, and our results of operations may be subject to significant variability from quarter to quarter.

Table of Contents

Because of the high cost of switching equipment vendors in our markets, it may be difficult for us to attract customers from our competitors even if our metrology systems are superior to theirs.

We believe that once a semiconductor customer has selected one vendor's metrology system, the customer generally relies upon that system and, to the extent possible, subsequent generations of the same vendor's system, for the life of the application. Once a vendor's metrology system has been installed, a customer must often make substantial technical modifications and may experience downtime in order to switch to another vendor's metrology system. Accordingly, unless our systems offer performance or cost advantages that outweigh a customer's expense of switching to our systems, it will be difficult for us to achieve significant sales from that customer once it has selected another vendor's system for an application.

If we fail to develop new and enhanced metrology systems we will likely lose market share to our competitors.

We operate in an industry that is subject to technological changes, changes in customer demands and the introduction of new, higher performance systems with short product life cycles. To be competitive, we must continually design, develop and introduce in a timely manner new metrology systems that meet the performance and price demands of semiconductor manufacturers and suppliers. We must also continue to refine our current systems so that they remain competitive. We may experience difficulties or delays in our development efforts with respect to new systems, and we may not ultimately be successful in developing them. Any significant delay in releasing new systems could adversely affect our reputation, give a competitor a first-to-market advantage or cause a competitor to achieve greater market share.

Lack of market acceptance for our new products may affect our ability to generate revenue and may harm our business.

We have recently introduced several products to the market including the Nano CD suite, Nano Station, VerteX Rapid Photoluminescence Mapping System for Compound Semiconductors and Atlas-M. We have invested substantial time and resources into the development of these products. However, we cannot accurately predict the future level of acceptance of our new products by our customers. As a result, we may not be able to generate anticipated revenue from sales of these products. While we anticipate that our new products will become an increasingly larger component of our business, their failure to gain acceptance with our customers could materially harm our business. Additionally, if our new products do gain market acceptance, our ability to sell our existing products may be impeded. As a result, there can be no assurance that the introduction of these products will be commercially successful or that these products will result in significant additional revenues or improved operating margins in future periods.

Our intellectual property may be infringed upon by third parties despite our efforts to protect it, which could threaten our future success and competitive position and harm our operating results.

Our future success and competitive position depend in part upon our ability to obtain and maintain proprietary technology for our principal product families, and we rely, in part, on patent, trade secret and trademark law to protect that technology. If we fail to adequately protect our intellectual property, it will be easier for our competitors to sell competing products. We own or may license patents relating to our metrology systems, and have filed applications for additional patents. Any of our pending patent applications may be rejected, and we may not in the future be able to develop additional proprietary technology that is patentable. In addition, the patents we own, have been issued, or may license may not provide us with competitive advantages and may be challenged by third parties. Third parties may also design around these patents.

In addition to patent protection, we rely upon trade secret protection for our confidential and proprietary information and technology. We routinely enter into confidentiality agreements with our employees. However, in the event that these agreements may be breached, we may not have adequate remedies. Our confidential and proprietary information and technology might also be independently developed by or become otherwise known to third parties. We may be required to initiate litigation in order to enforce any patents issued to or licensed by us, or to determine the scope or validity of a third party's patent or other proprietary rights. Any such litigation, regardless of outcome, could be expensive and time consuming, and could subject us to significant liabilities or require us to re-engineer our product or obtain expensive licenses from third parties, any of which would adversely affect our business and operating results. In March 2006, we filed a complaint against Nova for infringing our Patent Nos. Re 34,783. In October 2006, we filed a new complaint against Nova for infringement of Patent No. 5,867,276 and 7,115,858. In April 2007, we and Nova agreed to dismiss, without prejudice, all pending patent litigation and have entered into a covenant not to sue one another for any patent for a period of one year.

Table of Contents

If we choose to acquire new and complementary businesses, products or technologies instead of developing them ourselves, we may be unable to complete these acquisitions or may not be able to successfully integrate an acquired business in a cost-effective and non-disruptive manner.

Our success depends on our ability to continually enhance and broaden our product offerings in response to changing technologies, customer demands and competitive pressures. To achieve this, from time to time we have acquired complementary businesses, products, or technologies instead of developing them ourselves and may choose to do so in the future. For example, in May 2008, we consummated our acquisition of Tevet Process Control Technologies, Ltd., an integrated metrology company serving the worldwide semiconductor and solar manufacturing industry. At the outset, we do not know if we will be able to complete any acquisitions, or whether we will be able to successfully integrate any acquired business, operate them profitably or retain their key employees. Integrating any business, product or technology that we acquire could be expensive and time consuming, disrupt our ongoing business and distract our management. In addition, in order to finance any acquisitions, we may be required to raise additional funds through public or private equity or debt financings. In that event, we could be forced to obtain financing on terms that are not favorable to us and, in the case of an equity or convertible debt financing which may result in dilution to our stockholders. If we are unable to integrate any acquired entities, products or technologies effectively, our business will suffer.

We manufacture all of our systems at a limited number of facilities, and any prolonged disruption in the operations of those facilities could reduce our revenues.

We produce all of our systems in our manufacturing facilities located in Milpitas, California and to a lesser extent, we manufacture through our subsidiaries in South Korea and Israel and we also use contract manufacturers in Japan and China. In addition, we perform limited subassembly for certain products at our York England facility. Our manufacturing processes are highly complex and require sophisticated, costly equipment and specially designed facilities. As a result, any prolonged disruption in the operations of our manufacturing facilities, such as those resulting from a severe fire or earthquake, could seriously harm our ability to satisfy our customer order deadlines.

Our efforts to protect our intellectual property may be less effective in some foreign countries where intellectual property rights are not as well protected as in the United States.

In 2007, 2006 and 2005, 68.2%, 65.0% and 66.8%, respectively, of our total net revenues were derived from sales to customers in foreign countries, including certain countries in Asia, such as Japan, South Korea, China and Taiwan. The laws of some foreign countries do not protect our proprietary rights to as great an extent as do the laws of the United States, and many U.S. companies have encountered substantial problems in protecting their proprietary rights against infringement in such countries. If we fail to adequately protect our intellectual property in these countries, it would be easier for our competitors to sell competing products.

Our results of operations could vary as a result of the methods, estimates and judgments we use in applying our accounting policies.

The methods, estimates and judgments we use in applying our accounting policies have a significant impact on our results of operations, see Significant Accounting Policies in Part II, Item 8, Note I of our Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 13, 2008 and amended on April 25, 2008. Such methods, estimates and judgments are, by their nature, subject to substantial risks, uncertainties and assumptions, and factors may arise over time that leads us to change our methods, estimates and judgments. Changes in those methods, estimates and judgments could significantly affect our results of operations. In particular, the calculation of share-based compensation expense under SFAS No. 123(R) requires us to use valuation methodologies (which were not developed for use in valuing employee stock options) and a number of assumptions, estimates and conclusions regarding matters such as expected forfeitures, expected volatility of our share price, the expected dividend rate with respect to our common stock and the exercise behavior of our employees. Furthermore, there are no means, under applicable accounting principles, to compare and adjust our expense if and when we learn of additional information that may affect the estimates that we previously made, with the exception of changes in expected forfeitures of share-based awards. Factors may arise over time that leads us to change our estimates and assumptions with respect to future share-based compensation arrangements, resulting in variability in our share-based compensation expense over time. Changes in forecasted share-based compensation expense could impact our gross margin percentage; research and development expenses; marketing, general and administrative expenses; and our tax rate.

Table of Contents

Our quarterly operating results have varied in the past and probably will continue to vary significantly in the future, which will cause volatility in our stock price.

Our quarterly operating results have varied significantly in the past and are likely to vary in the future, which volatility could cause our stock price to decline. Some of the factors that may influence our operating results and subject our stock to extreme price and volume fluctuations include:

changes in customer demand for our systems;

economic conditions in the semiconductor industries;

the timing, cancellation or delay of customer orders and shipments;

market acceptance of our products and our customers' products;

our ability to recover the higher costs associated with meeting our customers' increasing service demands;

competitive pressures on product prices and changes in pricing by our customers or suppliers;

the timing of new product announcements and product releases by us or our competitors and our ability to design, introduce and manufacture new products on a timely and cost-effective basis;

the timing of acquisitions of businesses, products or technologies;

the levels of our fixed expenses, including research and development costs associated with product development, relative to our revenue levels; and

fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, particularly the Japanese yen and the Great British Pound.

If our operating results in any period fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors, the market price of our common stock would likely decline.

We incur increased costs as a result of changes in laws and regulations affecting public companies.

Compliance with changes in laws and regulations affecting public companies, including the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, has resulted in and, we expect, will continue to result in substantial accounting, legal and administrative costs. In particular, Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules of the SEC and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board impose requirements with respect to the evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal controls. The cost of complying with these requirements is substantial.

We are highly dependent on international sales and operations, which exposes us to foreign political and economic risks.

We maintain facilities in Japan, Taiwan, United Kingdom, South Korea, China and the European Union. We anticipate that international sales will continue to account for a significant portion of our revenues. International sales and operations carry inherent risks such as: regulatory

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

limitations imposed by foreign governments, obstacles to the protection of our intellectual property, political, military and terrorism risks, disruptions or delays in shipments caused by customs brokers or other government agencies, unexpected changes in regulatory requirements, tariffs, customs, duties and other trade barriers, difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations, and potentially adverse tax consequences resulting from changes in tax laws. If any of these risks materialize and we are unable to manage them, our international sales and operations would suffer.

We are exposed to fluctuations in the exchange rates of foreign currency.

As a global concern, we face exposure to adverse movements in foreign currency exchange rates. With our operations in Japan, South Korea, United Kingdom, Taiwan, the European Union, China and Israel, a significant percentage of our cash flows are exposed to foreign currency risk. These exposures may change over time as business practices evolve and could have a material adverse impact on our financial results and cash flow.

We are subject to various environmental laws and regulations that could impose substantial costs upon us and may harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

Some of our operations use substances regulated under various federal, state, local, and international laws governing the environment, including those relating to the storage, use, discharge, disposal, labeling, and human exposure to hazardous and toxic materials. We could incur costs, fines and civil or criminal sanctions, third-party property damage or personal injury claims, or could be required to incur substantial investigation or remediation costs, if we were to violate or become

Table of Contents

liable under environmental laws. Liability under environmental laws can be joint and several and without regard to comparative fault. Compliance with current or future environmental laws and regulations could restrict our ability to expand our facilities or require us to acquire additional expensive equipment, modify our manufacturing processes, or incur other significant expenses. There can be no assurance that violations of environmental laws or regulations will not occur in the future as a result of the inability to obtain permits, human error, equipment failure or other causes.

Anti-takeover provisions in our charter documents and Delaware law could discourage, delay or prevent a change in control of our company and may affect the trading price of our common stock.

In September 2006, we changed our state of incorporation from California to Delaware. The anti-takeover provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law may discourage, delay or prevent a change in control by prohibiting us from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years after the person becomes an interested stockholder, even if a change of control would be beneficial to our existing stockholders. In addition, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws may discourage, delay or prevent a change in our management or control over us that stockholders may consider favorable. Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws:

authorize the issuance of blank check preferred stock that could be issued by our board of directors to thwart a takeover attempt;

establish a classified board of directors, as a result of which the successors to the directors whose terms have expired will be elected to serve from the time of election and qualification until the third annual meeting following their election;

limit who may call special meetings of stockholders; and

prohibit stockholder action by written consent, requiring all actions to be taken at a meeting of the stockholders.

Continuing economic and political instability could affect our business and results of operations.

The semiconductor industry is cyclical in nature and has historically experienced periodic downturns and upturns. Today's leading indicators of changes in customer investment patterns may not be any more reliable than in prior years. Demand for our equipment can vary significantly from period to period as a result of various factors, requirements, and our ability to develop, acquire, and market competitive products. For these and other reasons, our current results of operations may not necessarily be indicative of future operating results.

The ongoing threat of terrorism targeted at the United States or other regions where we conduct business increases the uncertainty in our markets and the economy in general. This uncertainty is likely to result in economic stagnation, which would harm our business. In addition, increased international political instability may hinder our ability to do business by increasing our costs of operations. For example, our transportation costs, insurance costs and sales efforts may become more expensive as a result of geopolitical tension. These tensions may also negatively affect our suppliers and customers. If this international economic and political instability continues or increases, our business and results of operations could be harmed.

We may not maintain Nasdaq listing requirements, which would adversely affect the price and liquidity of our common stock.

To maintain the listing of our common stock on The Nasdaq Global Market, we are required to meet certain listing requirements, including a minimum bid price of \$1.00 per share. If our stock trades below the \$1.00 minimum bid price for 30 consecutive business days, Nasdaq may choose to notify us that it may delist our common stock from The Nasdaq Global Market. If the closing bid price of our common stock did not thereafter regain compliance for a minimum of 10 consecutive trading days during the 180 days following notification by Nasdaq, Nasdaq could delist our common stock from trading on The Nasdaq Global Market. There can be no assurance that our common stock will remain eligible for trading on The Nasdaq Global Market. If our stock were delisted, the ability of our stockholders to sell any of our common stock at all would be severely, if not completely, limited, causing our stock price to continue to decline.

Table of Contents**ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

We repurchased the following shares of our common stock during the nine-month period ended September 27, 2008:

Issuer Purchase of Equity Securities

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of a Publicly Announced Programs	Maximum Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Program
Month Ending July 26, 2008				\$ 2,725,261
Month Ending August 23, 2008	71,782	\$ 4.04	71,782	\$ 2,435,356
Month Ending September 27, 2008	313,725	\$ 3.22	313,725	\$ 1,424,629
Total	385,507	\$ 3.37	385,507	

- (1) On July 26, 2007, our Board of Directors approved the repurchase of up to \$4.0 million of our common stock. Share repurchases under this program may be made through open market and privately negotiated transactions, at times and in such amounts as management deems appropriate. The timing and actual number of shares repurchased will depend on a variety of factors including price, corporate and regulatory requirements and other market conditions. The stock repurchase program may be limited or terminated at any time without prior notice. As of September 27, 2008, there remained \$1.4 million available for the future purchase of shares of our common stock.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

None

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**Exhibit Index**

The following exhibits are filed or incorporated by reference with this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q:

Exhibit No.	Description
3.(i)	Certificate of Incorporation
3.1(1)	Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
3.(ii)	Bylaws
3.2(2)	Bylaws of the Registrant
10	Material Contracts
	Management Contracts, Compensatory Plans, Contracts or Arrangements
10.1(3)	Asset purchase agreement by and between Tevet Process Control Technologies, Ltd., and Nanometrics-Israel Ltd., dated May 7, 2008
10.2	

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form 10-Q

Security Agreement, Balloon Promissory Note, and Deed of Trust by and between GE Commercial Finance Business Property Corporation and Nanometrics Incorporated each dated July 25, 2008

10.3 Confidential Settlement Agreement and General Release by and between Gary C. Schaefer and Nanometrics Incorporated dated September 5, 2008

31 Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications

31.1 Certification of Timothy J. Stultz, principal executive officer of the Registrant, pursuant to rule 13a-14(a) or rule 15a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

31.2 Certification of Bruce A. Crawford, principal financial officer of the Registrant, pursuant to rule 13a-14(a) or rule 15a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Table of Contents

32 Section 1350 Certifications

32.1 Certification of Timothy J. Stultz, principal executive officer of the Registrant, and Bruce A. Crawford, principal financial officer of the Registrant, pursuant to rule 13a-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

- (1) Incorporated by reference to exhibits filed with the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed October 5, 2007.
- (2) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 filed with the Registrant's Current Report on Form 10-8 filed May 7, 2008.
- (3) Incorporated by reference to exhibits filed with the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed May 5, 2008 and Form 8-K/A filed May 7, 2008.

Table of Contents

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.

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

(Registrant)

By: /s/ Bruce A. Crawford
Bruce A. Crawford
Chief Financial Officer

Dated: November 6, 2008