

SONOSITE INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 09, 2007

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

### FORM 10-Q

X Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2007

OR

Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

For the transition period from to \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 0-23791

## SONOSITE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Washington  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation or Organization)

91-1405022  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

21919 30th Drive SE, Bothell, WA  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

98021-3904  
(Zip Code)

(425) 951-1200

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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 [X] No [ ]

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer or a non-accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Large accelerated filer [ ] Accelerated filer [X] Non-accelerated filer [ ]

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2). Yes [ ] No [X]

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value  
(Class)

16,694,770  
(Outstanding as of October 31, 2007)

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Short-term investment securities	134,397	38,428
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$1,159 and \$1,145	48,420	52,838
Inventories	28,452	23,020
Deferred income taxes	6,832	7,684
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	6,744	4,821
	<b>399,328</b>	<b>172,464</b>
Total current assets		
Property and equipment, net	10,633	10,752
Investment securities	--	3,014
Deferred income taxes	21,439	19,729
Goodwill	3,129	2,459
Intangible assets, net	14,153	1,405
Other assets	9,488	1,687
	<b>458,170</b>	<b>211,510</b>
Total assets		
<b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 8,260	\$ 6,450
Accrued expenses	19,918	15,459
Deferred revenue, current portion	3,371	3,253
Deferred tax liability, current portion	115	--
	<b>31,664</b>	<b>25,162</b>
Total current liabilities		
Convertible senior notes	225,000	--
Deferred tax liability	4,976	--
Other liabilities, net of current	11,244	5,317
	<b>272,884</b>	<b>30,479</b>
Total liabilities		
Commitments and contingencies		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$1.00 par value		
Authorized shares--6,000,000		
Issued and outstanding shares--none	--	--
Common stock, \$.01 par value		
Authorized shares--50,000,000		
Issued and outstanding shares:		
As of September 30, 2007--16,657,364	167	
As of December 31, 2006--16,441,177		164
Additional paid-in-capital	233,088	231,387
Accumulated deficit	( 49,146)	( 51,777)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,177	1,257
	<b>185,286</b>	<b>181,031</b>
Total shareholders' equity		
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	<b>\$ 458,170</b>	<b>\$ 211,510</b>

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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**SonoSite, Inc.**  
**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations**  
**(unaudited)**

(In thousands, except net income per share)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Revenue	\$ 50,041	\$ 40,346	\$ 140,233	\$ 116,730
Cost of revenue	15,292	11,707	42,818	33,533
Gross margin	34,749	28,639	97,415	83,197
Operating expenses:				
Research and development	6,984	5,360	19,638	14,057
Sales and marketing	22,009	20,011	64,854	58,885
General and administrative	6,096	3,859	14,041	11,269
Total operating expenses	35,089	29,230	98,533	84,211
Total other income	2,469	1,125	5,043	2,917
Income before income taxes	2,129	534	3,925	1,903
Income tax provision	642	59	1,294	497
Net income	\$ 1,487	\$ 475	\$ 2,631	\$ 1,406
Net income per share				
Basic	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.09
Diluted	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.08
Weighted average common and potential common shares outstanding				
Basic	16,657	16,366	16,586	16,229
Diluted	17,188	16,903	17,101	16,857

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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**SonoSite, Inc.**  
**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**  
**(unaudited)**

(In thousands)	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2007	2006

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Operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 2,631	\$ 1,406
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	3,157	2,472
Stock-based compensation	5,566	5,739
Deferred income tax provision	882	1,948
Amortization of premiums (discounts) on investment securities	( 3,653)	( 203)
Amortization of note issuance costs	264	--
Accretion of contingent purchase consideration	119	--
Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock options	( 477)	( 1,995)
Loss on sale of property and equipment	--	43
Net gain on investments	--	( 6)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	5,362	1,458
Inventories	( 4,961)	( 3,660)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	( 2,434)	( 2,145)
Accounts payable	2,368	1,646
Accrued expenses	4,393	835
Deferred revenue and other liabilities	268	916
Net cash provided by operating activities	13,485	8,454
Investing activities:		
Purchases of investment securities	( 659,748)	( 55,969)
Proceeds from sales/maturities of investment securities	570,592	52,256
Purchases of property and equipment	( 2,762)	( 3,203)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	--	75
Acquisition of LumenVu	( 3,498)	--
Earn-out consideration associated with SonoMetric acquisition	( 654)	( 797)
Net cash used in investing activities	( 96,070)	( 7,638)
Financing activities:		
Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock options	477	1,995
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan	4,040	8,895
Proceeds from issuance of convertible senior notes	217,606	--
Purchase of call options	( 28,612)	--
Proceeds from sale of warrants	19,546	--
Net cash provided by financing activities	213,057	10,890
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	( 1,662)	( 559)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	128,810	11,147
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	45,673	26,809
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 174,483	\$ 37,956
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 729	\$ 102

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**SonoSite, Inc.**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**(unaudited)**

**Interim Financial Information*****Basis of Presentation***

The information contained herein has been prepared in accordance with instructions for Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. The information reflects, in the opinion of SonoSite, Inc. management, all adjustments necessary (which are of a normal and recurring nature) for a fair presentation of the results for the interim periods presented. The results of operations for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2007 are not necessarily indicative of expected results for the entire year ending December 31, 2007 or for any other fiscal period. These financial statements do not include all disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles. For a presentation including all disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2006, included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

***Reclassification of prior period balances***

Certain amounts reported in previous periods have been reclassified to conform to current period presentation.

***Inventories***

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market, on a first-in, first-out method. Included in our inventories balance are demonstration products used by our sales representatives and marketing department. Adjustments to reduce carrying costs are recorded for obsolete material, shrinkage, earlier generation products and used or refurbished products held either as saleable inventory or as demonstration product. If market conditions change or if the introduction of new products by us impacts the market for our previously released products, we may be required to further write down the carrying cost of our inventories.

Inventories consisted of the following (in thousands):

	As of	
	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
Raw material	\$ 9,272	\$ 9,035
Work-in-process	3	19
Demonstration inventory	7,584	5,665
Finished goods	11,593	8,301
Total	\$28,452	\$ 23,020

**Table of Contents*****Warranty expense***

We accrue estimated warranty expense at the time of sale for costs expected to be incurred under our product warranties. This provision for warranty expense is based upon our historical product failure rates and service repair costs as well as management's judgment. Our warranty period is one year for products introduced prior to the MicroMaxx. For the MicroMaxx, M-Turbo and S Series systems, with certain exceptions, we provide a five-year warranty period. The warranty is included with the original purchase. The warranty liability is summarized as follows (in thousands):

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	<b>Balance at Beginning of Period</b>	<b>Charged to cost of Revenue</b>	<b>Applied to Liability</b>	<b>Balance at end of Period</b>
Three months ended September 30, 2007	\$ 3,200	\$ 853	\$ ( 428)	\$ 3,625
Three months ended September 30, 2006	\$ 1,494	\$ 620	\$ ( 277)	\$ 1,837
Nine months ended September 30, 2007	\$ 2,317	\$ 2,364	\$ ( 1,056)	\$ 3,625
Nine months ended September 30, 2006	\$ 995	\$ 1,600	\$ ( 758)	\$ 1,837

In addition to our standard warranty, we sell extended warranty and service agreements for coverage beyond the standard warranty period or coverage above what is covered by the standard warranty. Revenue from sales of extended warranty and service agreements are deferred and recognized over the extended period.

### *Income taxes*

The income tax provision for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was based on projections of total year pre-tax income and the projected total year tax provision. Deferred income taxes are provided based on the estimated future tax effects of temporary differences between financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards arising since our inception. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates that are expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences and carryforwards are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in our tax rate is recognized in income in the period of change.

On January 1, 2007, we adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" ("FIN 48"). FIN 48 is an interpretation of FASB Statement ("SFAS") No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes" and it seeks to reduce the diversity in practice associated with certain aspects of measurement and recognition in accounting for income taxes. In addition, FIN 48 provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, and accounting in interim periods and requires expanded disclosure with respect to the uncertainty in income taxes. The adoption of FIN 48 did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial position or results of operations. Subsequent to adoption, interest and penalties incurred associated with unresolved income tax positions will be included in income tax expense. Accrued interest and penalties are insignificant.

As of January 1, 2007, we had \$2.8 million of unrecognized tax benefits, of which the entire amount would reduce income tax expense if ultimately recognized. The amount of unrecognized tax benefits did not materially change during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007. We do not expect any significant increases or decreases to our unrecognized tax benefits within 12 months of this reporting date.

We conduct business globally and, as a result, file numerous consolidated and separate income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various state and foreign jurisdictions. In the normal course of business, we are subject to examination by tax authorities throughout the world, including such major jurisdictions as the U.S., United Kingdom, France and Japan. We are subject to U.S. federal, state and local, or non-U.S. income tax examinations for years after 2002. However, carryforward attributes that were generated prior to 2002 may still be adjusted by a taxing authority upon examination if the attributes have been or will be used in a future period.

### *Net income per share*

Basic net income per share is based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per share is based on the weighted average number of common and dilutive common equivalent shares outstanding during the period. Potentially dilutive common equivalent shares consist of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options, restricted stock, and warrants using the treasury stock method. Diluted net income per share would also be impacted to reflect shares issuable upon conversion of our convertible debt if our share price exceeds \$38.20 per share.

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The following is a reconciliation of the numerator and denominator of the basic and diluted net income per share calculations (in thousands, except per share amounts):

<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>
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	2007		2006		2007		2006	
Net income	\$	1,487	\$	475	\$	2,631	\$	1,406
Weighted average common shares outstanding used in computing basic net income per share		16,657		16,366		16,586		16,229
Effect of dilutive stock options and restricted stock units		531		537		515		628
Weighted average common shares outstanding used in computing diluted net income per share		17,188		16,903		17,101		16,857
Net income per share:								
Basic	\$	0.09	\$	0.03	\$	0.16	\$	0.09
Diluted	\$	0.09	\$	0.03	\$	0.15	\$	0.08

The following weighted average potential common shares were excluded from the computation of diluted net income per share as their effect would have been anti-dilutive (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Stock options (1)	597	501	559	316
Restricted stock (1)	--	116	--	6
Warrants (2)	2,225	--	744	--
Total weighted average potential common shares excluded from diluted net income per share	2,822	617	1,303	322

- (1) These potential common shares were excluded from the computation of diluted net income per share because their impact is anti-dilutive.
- (2) As further detailed in the Convertible senior notes footnote, in July 2007 we issued warrants to purchase up to 2.5 million shares of our common stock with a strike price of \$46.97, which are anti-dilutive since the strike price of the warrants is greater than the market price of our common stock.

The computation of diluted net income per share does not include any potential dilutive common shares associated with our convertible senior notes. The convertible senior notes would become dilutive and included in the calculation of diluted net income per share, for the number of shares that would be required to satisfy the conversion spread, if the average market price of our common stock exceeds approximately \$38.20 per share.

**Accumulated other comprehensive income**

Unrealized gains or losses on our available-for-sale securities and foreign currency translation adjustments are included in accumulated other comprehensive income.



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The following presents the components of comprehensive income, net of tax, (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Net income	\$ 1,487	\$ 475	\$ 2,631	\$ 1,406
Other comprehensive income:				
Foreign currency translation adjustment	( 172)	( 17)	( 141)	235
Unrealized holding gains arising during the period, net of taxes	11	208	61	180
Less reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income	--	9	--	6
<b>Comprehensive income</b>	<b>\$ 1,326</b>	<b>\$ 675</b>	<b>\$ 2,551</b>	<b>\$ 1,827</b>

### *Technology Transfer and License Agreement with ATL*

We license ultrasound technology from ATL Ultrasound, Inc ("ATL") under a Technology Transfer and License Agreement executed at the time of our spin-off from ATL as a public company in 1998. Under that agreement, we took ownership of certain ultrasound technology developed as part of a government grant and also patent rights, which had been established or were being pursued for that technology. As part of this agreement, we also entered into a cross-license whereby we had the exclusive right to use certain ATL technology existing on April 6, 1998 or developed by ATL during the three-year period following April 6, 1998 in ultrasound systems weighing 15 pounds or less, and ATL had the exclusive right to use our technology existing on April 6, 1998 or developed by us during the same three-year period in ultrasound systems weighing more than 15 pounds. On April 6, 2003, this cross-license became nonexclusive and, except for the patented technology of each party, now extends to all ultrasound systems regardless of weight.

Our license from ATL bore a royalty equivalent to a percentage of the net sales of ultrasound products under fifteen pounds that use ATL technology. While our technology license continues, effective September 21, 2007 royalty payments expired and are no longer required. We incurred royalty expense of \$0.4 million and \$1.5 million for the three and nine months of 2007, and \$0.5 million and \$1.5 million for the three and nine months of 2006, respectively.

### *Indemnification Obligations and Guarantees (excluding product warranty)*

We provide (i) indemnifications of varying scope and size to our customers and distributors against claims of intellectual property infringement made by third parties arising from the use of our products; (ii) indemnifications of varying scope and size to our customers against third party claims arising as a result of defects in our products; (iii) indemnifications of varying scope and size to consultants against third party claims arising from the services they provide to us; and (iv) guarantees to support obligations of some of our subsidiaries such as lease payments.

To date, we have not incurred material costs as a result of these obligations and do not expect to incur material costs in the future. Accordingly, we have not accrued any liabilities in our consolidated financial statements related to these indemnifications or guarantees.

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### *Segment reporting*

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We currently have one reportable segment. We market our products in the United States and internationally through our direct sales force and our indirect distribution channels. Our chief operating decision maker evaluates resource allocation decisions and our performance based upon revenue recorded in geographic regions and does not receive financial information about expense allocation on a disaggregated basis. Geographic regions are determined by the shipping destination. Revenue by geographic location for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 are as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
United States	\$ 28,369	\$ 23,406	\$ 71,310	\$ 61,781
Europe, Africa and the Middle East	11,877	9,286	38,568	32,799
Latin America and Canada	4,347	2,536	12,324	8,360
Asia Pacific	5,448	5,118	18,031	13,790
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ 50,041</b>	<b>\$ 40,346</b>	<b>\$ 140,233</b>	<b>\$ 116,730</b>

### *Convertible senior notes*

In July 2007, we completed the offering of \$225 million aggregate principal amount of 3.75% convertible senior notes ("Notes") due 2014. The Notes may be converted, under certain circumstances described below, based on an initial conversion rate of 26.1792 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (which is equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$38.20 per share). The net proceeds from the issuance of the Notes were \$217.6 million, after deducting issuance costs.

Holder may convert their notes based on an initial conversion rate of 26.1792 shares of our common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, subject to adjustment, at their option at any time prior to April 15, 2014 under the following circumstances: (1) during any fiscal quarter beginning after September 30, 2007 (and only during such fiscal quarter), if the last reported sale price of our common stock for at least 20 trading days during the 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the immediately preceding fiscal quarter is greater than or equal to 130% of the applicable conversion price on each applicable trading day of such preceding fiscal quarter; (2) during the five business day period after any ten consecutive trading day period in which the trading price per note for each day of that ten consecutive trading day period was less than 98% of the product of the last reported sale price of our common stock and the conversion rate on such day; or (3) upon the occurrence of specified corporate transactions. On or after April 15, 2014, holders may convert their notes at any time prior to the close of business on the third scheduled trading day immediately preceding the maturity date.

Upon conversion, we will pay cash and shares of our common stock, if any, based on a daily conversion rate multiplied by a volume weighted average price of our common stock during a specified period following the conversion date. Conversions will be settled in cash up to the principal amount of the notes, with any conversion value above the principal amount settled in shares of our common stock. Holders of the Notes may require us to repurchase the notes for cash equal to 100% of the principal amount to be repurchased plus accrued and unpaid interest upon the occurrence of a fundamental change. In addition, we will adjust the conversion rate for holders who elect to convert notes in connection with a fundamental change. We may not redeem any of the notes at our option prior to maturity.

We will pay cash interest at an annual rate of 3.75%, payable semi-annually on January 15 and July 15 of each year, beginning January 15, 2008. Note issuance costs of approximately \$7.1 million are being amortized to interest expense over the term of the Notes and have been included in "Other Assets" on the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

In connection with the offering, we used a portion of the offering proceeds to enter into a convertible note hedge transaction whereby we purchased a call option for up to 2.5 million shares of our common stock at a price of \$38.1982 per share. These options expire on July 15, 2014 and must be settled in net shares. The cost of the call option was approximately \$28.6 million and has been recorded as a reduction to stockholders' equity in accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 00-19, "Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to, and Potentially Settled in, a Company's Own Stock," ("EITF 00-19"). The tax benefit from the deduction related to the purchase of the call option as part of the convertible note hedge transaction will be recorded to additional paid in capital over the term of the hedge transaction.

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Additionally, to partially offset the cost of the convertible note hedge transaction, we sold warrants to purchase up to 2.5 million shares of our common stock at a price of \$46.965 per share. The warrants expire on various dates from October 15, 2014 through the 60<sup>th</sup> scheduled trading day following October 15, 2014 and must be settled in net shares. We received approximately \$19.5 million in cash proceeds from the sales of these warrants and have been recorded as an increase to stockholders equity in accordance with EITF 00-19.

The net proceeds from the issuance of the Notes, the convertible note hedge transaction, and the warrant transaction were \$208.5 million, after deducting issuance costs.

The fair value of our convertible senior notes, which has a carrying value of \$225.0 million, was \$233.5 million at September 30, 2007.

***Acquisitions***

On July 24, 2007, we acquired all of the outstanding stock of LumenVu, Inc. ("LumenVu"), a private development stage company that has developed, in conjunction with a leading academic research institution, a patented technology to improve the accuracy of catheter placement. The results of LumenVu's operations have been included in our consolidated financial statements since that date. The acquisition, which was treated as an asset purchase, had a purchase price that consisted of cash consideration of \$2.9 million, note receivable forgiveness of \$0.1 million, assumed liabilities of \$0.6 million, which were paid at closing, and future cash payments of \$10.0 million, which had a present value of \$4.7 million at the date of acquisition. The future cash payments are contingent upon the continued development of the product and revenues recognized from the sale of products incorporating this technology. The liability for contingent consideration will be accreted to operating expenses over the payment period. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, we recorded \$0.1 million of accretion expense. Based on a tentative independent valuation report, \$12.8 million will be allocated to an intangible technology asset, which will be amortized over ten years commencing with sales of products incorporating this technology. We expect to finalize the valuation report prior to December 31, 2007. No amortization expense has been recorded as of September 30, 2007. Since the amortization of this intangible technology asset is not deductible for tax purposes we have recorded a deferred tax liability of \$4.5 million. We expect to introduce products based on this technology in late 2008. Additionally, we recorded a deferred tax asset associated with net operating losses of LumenVu of \$0.2 million.

***Contingencies***

On May 15, 2007, GE Healthcare, a competitor of ours, filed a lawsuit against us in the federal district court in the Western District of Wisconsin. The lawsuit alleges that our MicroMaxx and/or TITAN products willfully infringe GE's U.S. patents Nos. 4,932,415, 5,584,294, 6,120,447, 6,210,327 and 6,418,225 relating to ultrasound technology. GE is seeking unspecified monetary damages and an injunction. On July 5, 2007, we filed a counterclaim against GE and certain of its affiliates. In parallel, we filed our answer to the complaint denying all of GE's claims and alleging that the asserted patents are either invalid, not infringed, or both. In our counterclaim complaint, we assert that GE and its affiliated companies have infringed certain of our U.S. patents through their sales of ultrasound products, including GE's compact ultrasound systems. Subsequent to these initial filings, GE added another patent to its claims (6,102,859) and SonoSite added patents to its counterclaims against GE so that SonoSite is now alleging infringement of four patents by GE's products (6,569,101, 6,962,566, 6,364,839 and 6,471,651). Our complaint also seeks unspecified monetary damages and a court injunction against future infringement by GE and its affiliates.

We have not accrued any amounts for potential losses related to this matter. Because of uncertainties related to the potential outcome and any range of loss on the pending litigation, management is unable to make a reasonable estimate of the liability that could result from an unfavorable outcome. As additional information becomes available, we will assess the potential liability related to this matter. If and when we determine the negative outcome of such matters to be probable and reasonably estimable we will record accruals for losses. Our estimates regarding such losses could differ from actual results. Revisions in our estimates of the potential liability could materially impact our results of operations, financial position and cash flow. We expense legal costs as incurred.

***Recent accounting pronouncements***

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measures" ("SFAS 157"), which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and enhances disclosures about fair value measures required under other accounting pronouncements, but does not change existing guidance as to whether or not an instrument is carried at fair value. SFAS 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We are currently reviewing the provisions of SFAS 157 to determine the impact for the Company.

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In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities" ("SFAS 159"), including an amendment to FASB Statement No. 115. Under SFAS 159, entities may elect to measure specified financial instruments and warranty and insurance contracts at fair value on a contract-by-contract basis, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings each reporting period. The election, called the fair value option, will enable entities to achieve an offset accounting effect for changes in fair value of certain related assets and liabilities without having to apply complex hedge accounting provisions. SFAS 159 is intended to expand the use of fair value measurement consistent with the Board's long-term objectives for financial instruments. SFAS 159 is effective as of the beginning of a company's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. We are still in the process of evaluating the impact that adoption of SFAS 159 will have on our future consolidated financial statements.

### **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. Forward-looking statements provide our current expectations or forecasts of future events. Forward-looking statements in this report include, without limitation:

- information concerning possible or assumed future results of operations, trends in financial results and business plans, including those relating to earnings growth and revenue growth;
- statements about the level of our costs and operating expenses relative to our revenues, and about the expected composition of our revenues;
- statements about our future capital requirements and the sufficiency of our cash, cash equivalents, investments and available bank borrowings to meet these requirements;
- other statements about our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions; and
- other statements that are not historical facts.

Words such as "believe," "anticipate," "expect" and "intend" may identify forward-looking statements, but the absence of these words does not necessarily mean that a statement is not forward-looking. Forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties, and are based on potentially inaccurate assumptions that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expected or implied by the forward-looking statements. You should not unduly rely on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this report.

We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. You are advised, however, to consult any further disclosures we make on related subjects in our future quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and Annual Reports on Form 10-K. Also note that we provide a cautionary discussion of risks, uncertainties and possibly inaccurate assumptions relevant to our business in Item 1A. "Risk Factors" section of this quarterly report and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006. These are risks that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in our forward-looking statements or from our expected or historical results. Other factors besides the risks, uncertainties and possibly inaccurate assumptions described in this report could also affect actual results.

### **Overview**

We are the world leader in hand-carried ultrasound, or HCU, systems. We specialize in the development of HCU systems for use in a variety of medical specialties in a range of clinical settings at point of care. Our proprietary technologies have enabled us to design HCU systems that combine high resolution, all-digital, broadband imaging with advanced features and capabilities typically found on cart-based ultrasound systems. We believe that the performance, size, durability, ease of use and cost-effectiveness of our products are expanding existing ultrasound markets, and are opening new markets by bringing ultrasound visualization out of the imaging lab to the point-of-care such as the patient's bedside or the physician's examining table for diagnosis and procedural guidance.

The large size, weight and complexity of traditional cart-based ultrasound systems typically require a physician or highly trained clinician to perform the examination in a centralized imaging department, such as a hospital's radiology department. Our strategic intent is to enable clinicians to use ultrasound in a variety of clinical settings by developing each potential market based on three fundamental tenets: (i) the design of high performance system hardware, software and transducers with application-specific settings and capabilities; (ii) the provision of educational training that ensures appropriate use of the equipment in the clinical setting; and (iii) the support of professional institutions and ultrasound thought leaders in the completion of use protocols and clinical research that accelerates the adoption of HCU to improve patient outcomes. By providing ultrasound at the primary point-of-care, our systems can eliminate delays associated with the outpatient referral process or moving heavy, cart-based systems across hospital departments to scan patients. This increased accessibility is changing clinical practice, improving patient care and safety and has the potential to reduce healthcare costs through earlier and more rapid diagnosis of diseases and conditions.

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We design our products for applications where ultrasound has not typically been used such as emergency medicine, surgery, critical care, internal medicine and vascular access procedures as well as for imaging in traditional applications, such as radiology, cardiology, vascular medicine and obstetrics and gynecology. In addition, the U.S. military has successfully deployed our systems in traditional hospital settings, field hospitals and forward surgical teams in war zones and areas of conflict. We began shipping our first products in September 1999 and today have an installed base of thousands of systems worldwide.

Our third generation of products now includes our newest product lines, the M-Turbo (TM) system and the S Series (TM) which we introduced in October 2007 joining our MicroMaxx (R) system, introduced in June 2005. These systems are based on our proprietary Application Specific Integrated Circuit technology for high-resolution ultrasound imaging. These systems offer image resolution comparable to costly, conventional cart-based ultrasound systems weighing over 200 pounds. They address both traditional and emerging ultrasound markets and include a five-year warranty on the system and most of the transducers, a first in the ultrasound industry.

Our second generation product, the TITAN (R) system, began shipping in June 2003. This high performance system addresses both traditional and emerging ultrasound markets. Our first generation of products includes the 180 (TM) and iLook (R) series. The SonoSite 180PLUS (TM) system was designed for general ultrasound imaging and the SonoHeart (R) ELITE is specifically configured for cardiovascular applications. The iLook 25 imaging tool is designed to provide visual guidance for physicians and nurses while performing vascular access procedures and the iLook 15 imaging tool is designed to provide imaging of the chest and abdomen.

We currently face competition from companies that manufacture cart-based and portable ultrasound systems. Many of our competitors are larger and have greater resources than we do and offer a range of products broader than our products. The dominant competitors in this industry are GE Healthcare, a unit of General Electric Company, Siemens Medical Solutions, or Siemens, and Philips Medical Systems, a division of Koninklijke Philips Electronics, N.V., or Philips. In addition, as the market for high-performance, HCU systems develops, we expect competition to increase as potential and existing competitors enter the portable market or modify their existing products to more closely approximate the combined portability, quality, performance and cost of our products. Our current competitors in the portable market include GE Healthcare, Siemens, Philips, Biosound Esaote, Inc., Medison America Inc., a subsidiary of Medison Company, Ltd., or Medison America, Terason, a division of TeraTech Corporation, or Terason, and Zonare Medical Systems, Inc., a privately held company, or Zonare.

We commenced operations as a division of ATL Ultrasound, Inc., or ATL. On April 6, 1998, we became an independent, publicly owned company through a distribution of one new share of our stock for every three shares of ATL stock held as of that date. ATL retained no ownership in SonoSite following the spin-off.

**Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with instructions for Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. The preparation of these consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to product returns, bad debts, inventories, investments, goodwill and intangible assets, warranty obligations, service contracts, contingencies and litigation. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. The results 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 these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

As discussed in Item 7, "Management Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, our critical accounting policies and estimates include accounts receivable, revenue recognition, valuation of inventories, goodwill, intangible assets, warranty expense, income taxes and stock-based compensation.

**Results of Operations**

**Revenue**

Revenue increased to \$50.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007 from \$40.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. Revenue increased to \$140.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 from \$116.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increase in the third quarter 2007 compared to 2006 was attributable to the increased mix of MicroMaxx. The increase during the nine months in 2007 compared to 2006 was attributable to the increased mix of MicroMaxx sales and to increased sales from direct sales channels both in the U.S. and internationally. Changes in foreign currency rates increased the revenue growth rate by approximately 2 percentage points for both the quarter and the nine months.

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U.S. revenue increased to \$28.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007 from \$23.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. U.S. revenue increased to \$71.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 from \$61.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increase in the third quarter 2007 compared to 2006 was attributable to increased direct sales. The increase during the nine months in 2007 as compared to 2006 was attributable to growth in direct sales and enterprise sales.

Revenue from Europe, Africa and the Middle East increased to \$11.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007 from \$9.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 primarily due to an increase in revenue from direct selling in Europe. Revenue from Europe, Africa and the Middle East increased to \$38.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 from \$32.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 primarily due to an increase in revenue from direct selling in Europe, led by the UK. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we had experienced decreased sales in the UK resulting from a change in status of many hospitals from National Health System Trust hospitals to Foundation status, which impacted their processes on budgeting and spending in 2006.

Revenue from Latin America and Canada increased to \$4.3 million and \$12.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 from \$2.5 million and \$8.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, as these newer markets continue to expand.

Revenue from Asia Pacific increased to \$5.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007 from \$5.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 attributable to our expanded operations in Australia and China. Revenue from Asia Pacific increased to \$18.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 from \$13.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 due to our expanded operations in Australia and China and a one-time sale to a distributor in the first quarter of 2007.

We anticipate that overall revenue will increase in 2007 compared to 2006 due to the introduction of the M-Turbo and S Series products and product features during October 2007, continued expansion of our direct selling efforts in the U.S., Europe, Canada, Australia, Japan and Italy, as well as our international distributors in Europe, Middle East, and India, the expansion of our operations in China, improvement in the sales operations in Germany and the overall expansion of market awareness and acceptance of our products. However, the acceptance of our new products and product features and the expansion of our sales operations in China, India, Japan, Italy and into the U.S. office market may not be as successful as anticipated and may take longer than expected. We may encounter regulatory and other issues in selling our products in these markets. Our revenue may also be impacted by fluctuations in foreign exchange rates in the countries in which we sell our products in currencies other than the USD. Increased competition may also impact the extent of the increase in our anticipated growth in revenue. We currently face competition from larger companies that manufacture cart-based and portable ultrasound systems and have greater financial and other resources.

**Gross margin**

Gross margin was 69.4% for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 71.0% for the three months ended September 30, 2006. The gross margin decreased over the prior year quarter primarily as a result of the greater mix of international sales, particularly from lower margin sales in emerging geographic markets. Gross margin was 69.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 71.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The gross margin decreased over the prior year as a result of the greater mix of international sales and a one-time sale to a distributor.

We expect our gross margin percentage in 2007 to remain consistent with 2006. Effective September 21, 2007, our royalty payments to ATL expired and are no longer required. Nevertheless, increased competition from existing and new competitors in the portable ultrasound system market could result in lower average realized prices and could lower our gross margin. Our gross margin can be expected to fluctuate in future periods based on the mix of business between direct, government and distributor sales and our product and accessories sales mixes. Changes in our cost of inventory also may impact our gross margin. Adjustments to reduce carrying costs are recorded for obsolete material, earlier generation products and used or refurbished products held either as saleable inventory or as demonstration product. If market conditions change or the introduction of new products by us impacts the market for our previously released products, we may be required to write down the carrying value of our inventory, resulting in a negative impact on gross margins. Additionally, we rely on our sales forecasts by product to determine production volume. To the extent our sales forecasts or product mix estimates are inaccurate, we may produce excess inventory or experience inventory shortages, which may result in an increase in our costs of revenue, a decrease in our gross margin or lost sales. Our gross margin may also be impacted by fluctuations in foreign exchange rates in the countries in which we sell our products in currencies other than the USD.

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**Operating expenses**

Research and development expenses were \$7.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$5.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. Research and development expenses were \$19.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$14.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increases were due to increased product development activities.

We anticipate that research and development expenses will increase in 2007 compared to 2006 due to increased development related to our next generation of hand-carried technology.

Sales and marketing expenses were \$22.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$20.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. Sales and marketing expenses were \$64.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$58.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increases were attributable to increased emphasis on education and training programs, expansion of an alternate U.S. sales channel focused on the physician office market and expansion of our international operations.

We anticipate that sales and marketing expenses will increase in 2007 compared to 2006 primarily due to marketing expenses for the introduction of our new products and product features and for education and brand awareness, increased compensation for commissions related to the anticipated increase in revenue, and continued expansion of direct sales operations in Japan, Canada, Australia and in Europe. Additionally, we will incur significant expenses in the expansion of our operations in China and India.

General and administrative expenses were \$6.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$3.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. General and administrative expenses were \$14.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$11.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The primary increase for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 is legal expenses.

We anticipate that general and administrative expenses will increase in 2007 compared to 2006 primarily due to increased legal expenses and costs associated with potential future acquisitions.

Changes in the foreign currency rates increased the expense growth rate by approximately 2 percentage points for both the quarter and the nine months.

**Other income**

Total other income was \$2.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$1.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. Total other income was \$5.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 compared to \$2.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increase was attributable to an increase in interest income, which was caused by higher cash and investment balances and an increase in foreign currency gains, offset by an increase in interest expense in 2007 compared to 2006.

**Income tax expense**

Income tax expense was \$0.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$0.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. Income tax expense was \$1.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$0.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increase in our consolidated effective tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, as compared to 2006, results from the unfavorable rate impact associated with stock based compensation expense and increased foreign tax expense due to the release of valuation allowances against net operating losses in the fourth quarter of 2006 and the proportion of non-US income. We anticipate that our annual consolidated effective tax rate will be approximately 36%, which excludes the impact of future tax deductions resulting from disqualifying dispositions associated with our stock plans.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our cash and cash equivalents balance was \$174.5 million as of September 30, 2007, compared to \$45.7 million as of December 31, 2006. Cash and cash equivalents were primarily invested in money market accounts. Our short-term and long-term investment securities totaled \$134.4 million as of September 30, 2007, compared to \$41.4 million as of December 31, 2006. Investment securities consist of high-grade U.S. government or corporate debt and high-grade asset-backed securities. We have the ability to hold our securities until maturity, however, we classify all securities as available-for-sale, as the sale of such securities may be required prior to maturity to implement management strategies.

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Operating activities provided cash of \$13.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007, compared to cash provided of \$8.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 was adjusted by non-cash stock-based compensation expense of \$5.6 million, amortization of discounts on investment securities of \$3.7 million, depreciation and amortization of \$3.2 million and deferred income taxes of \$0.9 million. Changes in operating assets used \$2.0 million and changes in operating liabilities provided \$7.0 million. The change in operating assets is due to higher accounts receivable collections than sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and increased inventories to meet demand during the second half of 2007. The change in operating liabilities is primarily due to an increase in accrued expenses primarily related to interest expense and legal costs. We anticipate that cash provided by operating activities will increase in 2007 compared to 2006 primarily due to anticipated continued profitable operations. This increase will depend on our ability to successfully sell our products, collect our receivables, control our inventories and manage our expenses. Our cash flow from operations will also be impacted by the reclassification of excess income tax benefits from the exercise of stock options, from operating activities to financing activities, however, the amounts and timing of option exercising cannot be predicted.

Investing activities used cash of \$96.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007, compared to cash used of \$7.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The cash used in 2007 was due to the net purchases of investment securities of \$89.2 million, our acquisition of LumenVu of \$3.5 million, purchases of property and equipment of \$2.8 million and payment of \$0.7 million of earn-out consideration associated with the acquisition of SonoMetric Health, Inc.

Financing activities provided cash of \$213.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007, compared to \$10.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. Cash provided by financing activities was due to the net proceeds from the issuance of convertible debt of \$217.6 million and the exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan totaling \$4.0 million, offset by the net purchase of the convertible note hedge and warrant transaction of \$9.1 million in 2007. This compared to proceeds from the exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan totaling \$8.9 million in 2006. Additionally, tax deductions in excess of recognized compensation expense decreased to \$0.5 million in 2007 from \$2.0 million in 2006.

On July 16, 2007, we completed the offering of \$200 million aggregate principal amount of convertible senior notes ("Notes") due 2014 in an offering registered under the Securities Act of 1933 as amended. The Notes bear interest at a rate of 3.75% per annum payable January 15 and July 15. In certain circumstances and on or after April 15, 2014, the Notes will be convertible based on an initial conversion rate of 26.1792 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, which is equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$38.20 per share. Conversions will be settled in cash up to the principal amount of the notes, with any conversion value above the principal amount settled in shares of our common stock. Holders of the Notes may require us to repurchase the notes for cash equal to 100% of the principal amount to be repurchased plus accrued and unpaid interest upon certain conditions, including the occurrence of a fundamental change. On July 27, 2007, the underwriters exercised their 30-day option to purchase up to \$25 million in aggregate principal amount of additional notes to cover over-allotments.

We intend to use the net proceeds from the Notes (remaining after the cost of the convertible note hedge and warrant transactions described below) to fund acquisitions from time-to-time of one or more complementary businesses or product lines. To the extent the net proceeds are not used for acquisitions, they will be used for general corporate purposes, which may include repayment of debt, capital expenditures, investments in our subsidiaries or as additions to working capital. Net proceeds may be temporarily invested prior to use.

In connection with the offering, we used a portion of the proceeds of the offering to enter into a convertible note hedge transaction and a warrant transaction with an affiliate of one of the underwriters, which will cover approximately 42% of any Notes converted (including the over-allotment), and are intended to reduce the potential dilution to our common stockholders upon any such conversion by effectively increasing the conversion price for these notes to approximately \$46.97 per share of our common stock, representing a 50% premium relative to the last reported sale price on July 10, 2007 of \$31.31 per share. The cost of the convertible note hedge transaction of \$28.6 million was partially offset by proceeds of \$19.5 million received from the warrant transaction.

The net proceeds from the offering, including the exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option, were approximately \$208.6 million, after deducting the cost of the convertible note hedge transaction net of the warrant proceeds, commissions and expenses.



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We believe that our existing cash and cash generated from operations will be sufficient to fund our operations and planned capital expenditures in 2007. Nevertheless, we may experience an increased need for additional cash due to:

- any acquisition or strategic investment in another business;
- any significant decline in our revenue or gross margin;
- any delay or inability to collect accounts receivable;
- any significant increase in expenditures as a result of expansion of our sales and marketing infrastructure, our manufacturing capability or product development activities; and
- any significant increase in our sales and marketing expenditures as a result of our introduction of new products.

**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk**

**Interest rate risk**

We are exposed to market risk relating to changes in interest rates, which could adversely affect the value of our investments in marketable securities.

As of September 30, 2007, our portfolio consisted of \$134.4 million of interest-bearing debt securities with maturities of less than one year and no interest-bearing debt securities with maturities of more than one year. We have the ability to hold these securities until maturity, however, we have classified them as available-for-sale in the event of unanticipated cash needs. The interest bearing securities are subject to interest rate risk and will fall in value if market interest rates increase. We believe that the impact on the fair market value of our securities and related earnings for 2007 from a hypothetical 10% increase in market interest rates would not have a material impact on the investment portfolio.

**Foreign currency risk**

Except for sales transacted by our wholly-owned subsidiaries, we transact substantially all our sales in USDs; therefore, the obligations of many of our international customers are in USDs. Our exposure to risk from fluctuations in foreign currencies relates to revenues and expenses transacted by subsidiaries in foreign currencies. Additionally, we have exposure related to the strengthening of the USD against the local currency of our international subsidiaries, which may result in foreign exchange losses on transactions with them, and our international customers, which may impact our ability to collect amounts owed by them.

As of September 30, 2007, 62% of our outstanding accounts receivable balance was from international customers, of which 53%, or \$15.7 million, was denominated in a currency other than USDs. Total sales for the three months ended September 30, 2007 denominated in a currency other than USDs were \$14.0 million, or 28% of total consolidated revenues. Total sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 denominated in a currency other than USDs were \$42.9 million, or 31% of total consolidated revenues. The British pound, the Euro and the Japanese yen represented the majority of financial transactions executed in a currency not denominated in USDs. We regularly review our receivable positions in foreign countries for any indication that collection may be at risk. In addition, we utilize letters of credit where they are warranted in order to mitigate our collection risk.

We periodically enter into foreign currency participating forward contracts to reduce the impact of adverse fluctuations on earnings associated with foreign currency exchange rate changes. As of September 30, 2007, we had \$40.8 million in notional amount of foreign currency participating forward contracts. These contracts, which expire no later than December 31, 2007, serve as hedges of our intercompany balances denominated in a currency other than the USD, but are not designated as hedges for accounting purposes. These foreign currencies primarily include the British pound, the Euro and the Japanese yen. A sensitivity analysis of a change in the fair value of these contracts indicates that if the USD weakened by 10% against the applicable foreign currency, the fair value of these contracts would decrease by \$2.0 million. Conversely, if the USD strengthened by 10% against the applicable foreign currency, the fair value of these contracts would increase by \$4.1 million. Any gains and losses on the fair value of these contracts would be largely mitigated by offsetting losses and gains on the underlying balances. These offsetting gains and losses on the underlying balances are not reflected in the sensitivity analysis above. The fair value loss of these contracts as of September 30, 2007 was \$0.4 million. Changes in fair value of our derivative instruments are recorded in our consolidated statements of operations.

#### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

##### Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

As of September 30, 2007, our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act), and they have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by us in reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

##### Changes in internal control over financial reporting

We continue to review, revise and improve the effectiveness of our internal controls. We have made no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting during the third quarter 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

On May 15, 2007, GE Healthcare, a competitor of ours, filed a lawsuit against us in the federal district court in the Western District of Wisconsin. The lawsuit alleges that our MicroMaxx and/or TITAN products willfully infringe GE's U.S. patents Nos. 4,932,415, 5,584,294, 6,120,447, 6,210,327 and 6,418,225 relating to ultrasound technology. GE is seeking unspecified monetary damages and an injunction. On July 5, 2007, we filed a counterclaim against GE and certain of its affiliates. In parallel, we filed our answer to the complaint denying all of GE's claims and alleging that the asserted patents are either invalid, not infringed, or both. In our counterclaim complaint, we assert that GE and its affiliated companies have infringed certain of our U.S. patents through their sales of ultrasound products, including GE's compact ultrasound systems. Subsequent to these initial filings, GE added another patent to its claims (6,102,859) and SonoSite added patents to its counterclaims against GE so that SonoSite is now alleging infringement of four patents by GE's products (6,569,101, 6,962,566, 6,364,839 and 6,471,651). Our complaint also seeks unspecified monetary damages and a court injunction against future infringement by GE and its affiliates.

### Item 1A. Risk Factors

**If we are unable to effectively develop new and innovative products and product features that achieve market acceptance, our products will become technologically obsolete in the ultrasound market and our business will fail.**

Because substantially all of our revenue comes from the sales of our existing HCU systems and related products, in order to remain competitive, our future financial success will depend in large part upon our ability to successfully invent, deliver and market new and innovative products and product features. In October 2007, we released several new products, including the M-Turbo system and the S Series imaging tools which are customized for different clinical applications. The development of new, technologically advanced products and product features is a complex and uncertain process requiring great innovation and the ability to anticipate technological and market trends and needs. We may be unable to achieve or maintain market acceptance of any new products we develop, and we may be required to expend more costs than anticipated to successfully introduce these products. Without successful product innovation and market introduction of new offerings and improvements, our products will become technologically obsolete and we will be unable to compete effectively in the ultrasound market. Even with successful innovation and development, we cannot assure you that revenues from the sales of our HCU systems will continue to remain at or above current levels or that we will continue to be financially profitable.

Because technology innovation is complex, it can require long development and testing periods. If the launch of new products or product improvements are delayed for any reason, our business may be adversely affected. Factors which could cause delays in our product development or release schedules or cancellation of our product development projects include:

- research and development challenges;
- defects or errors in newly developed products or software for those products;
- third-party intellectual property rights that preclude us from pursuing a new product design; and
- the availability, cost and performance of supplies and components needed for new products.

We may experience delays in our innovation cycle, and in the scheduled introduction of future new products. Any such delays could adversely affect our ability to compete effectively in the ultrasound market and could adversely affect our operating results.

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**We may be unable to expand the market for our products to new applications and new users, which will limit our ability to grow our business.**

We seek to sell our products to current users of ultrasound, as well as to physicians and other healthcare providers who do not currently use ultrasound. Our market focus, and we believe our greatest growth opportunities, will come from new point-of-care clinical applications and new users of ultrasound. Any new users of ultrasound will not only require training and education to properly administer ultrasound examinations but also must develop an appreciation of the treatment value of our products so that our products will become successfully integrated into their day-to-day practices. Although we have spent, and will continue to spend, considerable marketing resources educating potential customers about the value of HCU products in new applications, our efforts may be unsuccessful. If these potential customers are unable or unwilling to be trained due to cost, time constraints, unavailability of courses or other reasons, or if they consider our products nonessential to their medical practices, our ability to expand the market for our products and to increase our revenues could be limited.

**Our efforts to integrate the business and technology of any future acquisition may result in significant costs or create significant disruptions that outweigh the benefits of any such acquisition.**

We intend to explore the possible acquisition of one or more medical device companies or medical device products in an effort to expand our product portfolio, expand our sales channels, create international operating leverage, improve marketing and other efficiencies and leverage manufacturing and supply chain economics. In furtherance of this strategy, in July 2007, we raised \$208.5 million in net proceeds from a convertible debt offering and we may raise additional funds to position ourselves to pursue any desirable acquisition candidates that we may identify. If we are unable to identify suitable acquisition candidates or to successfully consummate acquisitions and integrate, into our business, the operations, technology, products, customers, suppliers and personnel of any such acquired business or technology, our ability to grow our business may be limited. Also in July 2007, we acquired LumenVu, Inc. a private development stage company that has developed, in conjunction with a leading academic research institution, a patented technology to improve the accuracy of catheter placement. We expect to introduce products based on this technology in late 2008.

Any acquisition we do complete may be costly and difficult and we may experience:

- difficulty in integrating operations, including combining teams and processes in various functional areas;
- delays in realizing the benefits of the acquired company or technology;
- limited market acceptance of acquired products or technology;
- diversion of our management's time and attention from other business concerns;
- lack of or limited direct experience in new markets we may enter;
- difficulties in obtaining regulatory approvals or reimbursement codes for acquired technologies;
- increased risk of product liability actions from acquired products or technologies;
- additional costs, including fees and expenses of professionals involved in completing the integration process; and
- unexpected costs associated with existing liabilities of any acquired business.

In addition, an acquisition could materially impair our operating results by causing us to incur debt or requiring us to incur one-time charges or amortize acquisition expenses and related assets. If we fail in our attempts to integrate any acquired business or technology, or if the costs and burdens of such acquisition or integration outweigh the benefits of such acquisition, our financial resources or financial results could be impaired.

**If we are unable to compete effectively, we will fail to generate sufficient revenue to maintain our business.**

Competition in the cart-based and portable ultrasound systems market is very significant. Our main competitors in this industry are GE Healthcare, Siemens, and Philips. These companies are very large global organizations that have the following competitive advantages over us:

- significantly greater financial and infrastructure resources;
- larger research and development staffs;
- greater experience in product manufacturing, marketing and distribution;
- greater brand name recognition; and
- long-standing relationships with many of our existing and potential customers.

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These manufacturers of cart-based and portable ultrasound systems could use their greater resources to further increase the level of competition in the market through various means, including:

- price and payment terms that we are unable to match;
- marketing strategies that bundle the sale of portable systems with other medical products that we do not sell;
- technological innovation;
- market penetration and hospital systems integration that we cannot match;
- employee compensation that we cannot match; and
- complimentary services such as warranty protection, maintenance and product training that is outside of the scope of our product offerings.

Existing product supply relationships between these competitors and our potential customers could adversely impact the level or rate of adoption of our products due to brand loyalty or preferred customer discounts. Competing portable or traditional cart-based ultrasound devices may be more accepted or cost-effective than our products. Competition from these companies for employees with experience in the primary point-of-care market could result in higher turnover of our employees. If we are unable to respond to competitive pressures within the cart-based and HCU markets, we could experience delayed or reduced market acceptance of our products, higher expenses and lower revenue.

We expect the market for high-performance HCU products, and the competition in the HCU market, to continue to increase as new and existing competitors enter the portable ultrasound market or modify their existing products to more closely approximate the combined portability, quality, performance and cost of our products. If we are unable to compete effectively with current or new entrants to the high-performance HCU market, we will be unable to generate sufficient revenue to maintain our business.

**If our relationships with our distributors and channel partners are unsuccessful, our ability to sell our products will be limited.**

We currently depend on distributors to help promote market acceptance and demand for our products in countries in which we do not have a direct sales force. We also depend on a channel partner to provide expanded sales capacity in the United States for the physician office market. Distributors and channel partners that are in the business of selling other medical products may not devote a sufficient level of resources and support required to generate awareness of our products and grow or maintain product sales. In addition, because our relationship with our U.S. channel partner is relatively new, we cannot predict the degree to which this partner will succeed in expanding our penetration into the physician office market. If our distributors and channel partners are unwilling or unable to market and sell our products, or if they do not perform to our expectations, we could experience delayed or reduced market acceptance and sales of our products.

In addition, disagreements with our distributors and channel partner or non-performance by these third parties could lead to costly and time-consuming litigation or arbitration and disrupt distribution channels for a period of time and require us to re-establish a distribution channel.

**Existing or potential intellectual property claims and litigation either initiated by or against us may divert our resources and subject us to significant liability for damages, substantial litigation expense and the loss of our proprietary rights.**

In order to protect or enforce our patent rights, we may initiate patent litigation. For example, we filed a patent infringement suit against Zonare Medical Systems, Inc. alleging that Zonare infringed one of our key patents through sales of its z.one ultrasound system. On March 14, 2007, Zonare filed an answer to our claim which included a counterclaim against us alleging that our products infringe its patent related to its portable docking station.

Others may initiate patent litigation against us. On May 15, 2007, GE Healthcare, a competitor of ours, filed a lawsuit against us in the federal district court in the Western District of Wisconsin. The lawsuit alleges that our MicroMaxx and/or TITAN products willfully infringe GE's U.S. patents Nos. 4,932,415, 5,584,294, 6,120,447, 6,210,327 and 6,418,225 relating to ultrasound technology. GE is seeking unspecified monetary damages and an injunction. On July 5, 2007, we filed a counterclaim against GE and certain of its affiliates. In parallel, we filed our answer to the complaint denying all of GE's claims and alleging that the asserted patents are either invalid, not infringed, or both. In our counterclaim complaint, we assert that GE and its affiliated companies have infringed certain of our U.S. patents through their sales of ultrasound products, including GE's compact ultrasound systems. Subsequent to these initial filings, GE added another patent to its claims in (6,102,859) and SonoSite added patents to its counterclaims against GE so that SonoSite is now alleging infringement of four patents by GE's products (6,569,101, 6,962,566, 6,364,839 and 6,471,651). Our complaint also seeks unspecified monetary damages and a court injunction against future infringement by GE and its affiliates.

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If we fail to successfully defend GE's or Zonare's claim, we may be required to pay monetary damages (including treble damages) and, unless we are able to redesign our products to avoid infringing the asserted patents or to license proprietary rights from them, we may be prevented from continuing to market and sell our MicroMaxx and/or TITAN products, sales of which represent a substantial portion of our total revenues. If this outcome were to occur, we may be unable to redesign our products in a timely and cost effective manner, and licensing proprietary rights from GE or Zonare may not be possible on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. Even if we are successful in defending these actions and in proving infringement by GE or Zonare, we are likely to incur substantial costs that could adversely affect our financial condition and the actions will be distracting to management.

We may become subject to interference proceedings conducted in patent and trademark offices to determine the priority of inventions. There are numerous issued and pending patents in the ultrasound field. The validity and breadth of medical technology patents may involve complex legal and factual questions for which important legal principles may remain unresolved.

We may be liable for infringing the intellectual property of others as there could be existing patents of which we are unaware, or pending applications of which we are unaware which may later result in issued patents, that one or more of our products may infringe. Litigation may be necessary to:

- assert or defend against claims of infringement;
- enforce our issued and licensed patents;
- protect our trade secrets or know-how; or
- determine the enforceability, scope and validity of the proprietary rights of others.

We may also become involved in the defense and prosecution, if necessary, of intellectual property suits, patent interferences, opposition proceedings and other administrative proceedings. For example, we successfully defended a patent infringement suit, Neutrino Development Corporation vs. SonoSite, in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas for more than five years, from 2001 through the end of 2006. Although we were successful, this litigation forced us to incur substantial costs and, at certain points in the litigation, distracted our management personnel from the pursuit of our business strategy.

Involvement in intellectual property claims and litigation, including those described above, could have significant adverse consequences, including:

- diversion of management, scientific and financial resources;
- exposure to significant adverse judgments and financial liabilities;
- forcing us to incur substantial litigation costs;
- causing product shipment delays and lost sales;
- requiring us to enter into royalty or licensing agreements with third parties on terms that may not be acceptable to us; or
- forcing us to modify or discontinue selling our products, or to develop new products.

**If we are unable to protect our patents and proprietary rights, we may be unable to compete effectively and we may lose sources of revenue.**

Much of our value arises out of our proprietary technology and intellectual property for the design, manufacture and use of point-of-care ultrasound imaging systems. We rely on patent, copyright, trade secret and trademark laws to protect our proprietary technology and limit the ability of others to compete with us using the same or similar technology. Third parties may infringe or misappropriate our intellectual property, which could harm our business.

We currently hold 44 U.S and foreign patents relating to our technology. A number of other patents are pending in the United States and in foreign jurisdictions. Although we enter into confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants and strategic partners, and generally control access to and distribution of our proprietary information, the steps we have taken to protect our intellectual property may not prevent misappropriation. In addition, we do not know whether we will be able to defend our proprietary rights since the validity, enforceability and scope of protection of proprietary rights is still evolving.

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Our efforts may not adequately protect our rights to the extent necessary to sustain any competitive advantage we may have. Despite our efforts to protect our intellectual property, we may experience:

- unauthorized use of our technology by competitors;
- independent development of the same or similar technology by a competitor, coupled with a lack of enforceable patents on our part;
- failure of our pending patent applications to result in issued patents;
- successful interference actions to our patents, successful patent infringement lawsuits or successful oppositions to our patents and patent applications;
- unauthorized disclosure or use of our proprietary information by former employees or affiliates; and
- failure by our commercial partners to comply with their obligations to share technology or use our technology in a limited manner.

Policing unauthorized use of our intellectual property is difficult, costly and time-intensive. We may fail to prevent misappropriation of our technology, particularly in countries where the laws may not protect our proprietary rights to the same extent as do the laws of the United States. If we cannot prevent other companies from using our proprietary technology or if our patents are found invalid or otherwise unenforceable, we may be unable to compete effectively against other manufacturers of ultrasound systems, which could decrease our market share.

### **Changes in the healthcare industry could result in a reduction in the size of the market for our products or may require us to decrease the selling price for our products, either of which could have a negative impact on our financial performance.**

Trends toward managed care, healthcare cost containment, and other changes in government and private sector initiatives in the United States and other countries in which we do business are placing increased emphasis on lowering the cost of medical therapies, which could adversely affect the sale or the prices of our products. For example:

- major third-party payers of hospital and non-hospital based healthcare services, including Medicare, Medicaid and private healthcare insurers, are considering revising their payment methodologies which may result in stricter standards for reimbursement of imaging charges and/or lower or more bundled payment;
- numerous legislative proposals have been considered that would result in major reforms in the U.S. and foreign healthcare systems that could harm our business;
- there has been a consolidation among healthcare facilities and purchasers of medical devices in the United States and foreign countries who prefer to limit the number of suppliers from whom they purchase medical products, and these entities may decide to stop purchasing our products or demand discounts on our prices;
- there is economic pressure to contain healthcare costs in worldwide markets; and
- there are proposed and existing laws and regulations in domestic and international markets regulating pricing and profitability of companies in the healthcare industry.

These trends could lead to pressure to reduce prices for our products and could cause a decrease in the size of the market that could adversely affect our revenue and profitability, which could harm our business.

### **If healthcare reimbursement policies place limits on which providers may receive payment for imaging services or substantially reduce reimbursement amounts or coverage for specific procedures, market acceptance of our products may be reduced.**

Continued demand for our products depends in part on the extent to which our customers receive reimbursement for the use of our products from third-party payers such as Medicare, Medicaid and private health insurers (and equivalent third-party payers in foreign countries). Presently, reimbursement policies for physician-performed diagnostic imaging services are fairly unrestricted in the United States. The continuing efforts of governmental authorities, private health insurers and other third-party payers to contain or reduce the costs of healthcare could, however, result in more restricted payment policies for diagnostic imaging. As an example, a Medicare payment policy arising from the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, effective January 1, 2007, caps payments to physician offices and freestanding imaging centers for the technical component of most imaging services. Although reimbursement amounts for most ultrasound procedures were not lowered by this payment policy, vascular ultrasound examinations and ultrasound guidance of needle procedures, such as biopsies, aspirations and injections are now being paid at a lower rate than they were previously. In markets in which the use of ultrasound continues to be an emerging standard of care, the enactment of this provision may dampen market demand for ultrasound equipment.

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Some private insurers have implemented imaging privileging programs as a means of controlling utilization of imaging services. For example, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, a private insurer operating in Pennsylvania, requires that providers meet specific criteria in order to receive payment for imaging services provided to its subscribers. These criteria, in some instances, exclude some providers by virtue of their clinical specialty. Other criteria require providers to obtain specific credentials from third-party accreditation organizations. In addition, future

congressional legislation related to the Medicare program may include the requirement that non-physician sonographers obtain a credential from third-party credentialing organizations in order to provide ultrasound service under the program. Such legislation may also include the requirement that non-hospital providers of imaging services be accredited through a third-party accreditation organization. These programs, which increase the regulation of providers, could restrict the potential new users for our products and, in turn, limit our ability to grow our business.

Finally, both governmental and private third-party payers are calling for increasing levels of evidence of beneficial clinical outcomes and cost effectiveness in addition to proof of clinical efficacy as a prerequisite to granting coverage for new technologies and devices and new applications of existing technologies. Thus, to the extent that services performed with current or future products that we may bring to market are not described by existing Current Procedural Terminology codes or are not covered under existing coverage policies, there is a risk that reimbursement for these applications may not be attained at all or within a reasonable timeframe. For example, carotid intima media thickness measurement, which is an application of ultrasound performed by our SonoCalc IMT software, is not currently reimbursed by Medicare and is not a part of third-party payers' standard benefits packages.

**We may be unable to predict our sales and plan manufacturing requirements with accuracy, which may adversely affect our operating results.**

Our customers typically order products on a purchase order basis. In some circumstances, customer orders may be cancelled, changed or delayed on short notice. Lack of significant order backlog makes it difficult for us to forecast future sales with certainty and could result in over or under production, which could lead to higher expense, lower than anticipated revenue, and reduced gross margin. Varying quarterly demands from our customers, particularly as we introduce new products, also make it difficult to accurately forecast component and product requirements, exposing us to the following risks:

- If we overestimate our requirements, we may be obligated to purchase more components or third-party products than we need; and
- If we underestimate our requirements or experience shortages of product components from time to time, we could experience an interruption in revenue, because our third-party manufacturers and suppliers may have an inadequate product or product component inventory to satisfy our requirements.

The final assembly and testing of our products is done at our Bothell, Washington factory where we integrate different components manufactured by various suppliers. If we encounter supplier, regulatory, engineering or technical difficulties in manufacturing on account of events at our factory or our suppliers' factories, we may incur delays in delivery of these products to customers and that could adversely affect our revenues.

**If our suppliers, including our single-source suppliers, fail to supply us with the components that we need to manufacture our products on a timely basis, we could experience production delays, cost increases and lost sales.**

We depend on suppliers, including some single-source suppliers, to provide highly specialized parts, such as custom-designed integrated circuits, cable assemblies and transducer components. We also depend on single-source suppliers to provide other components, such as image displays, batteries, capacitors and cables. We do not maintain significant inventories of certain components, and may experience an interruption of supply if a supplier is unable or unwilling to meet our time, quantity and quality requirements. There are relatively few alternative sources of supply for some of these components. An increase in demand for some parts by other companies could also interrupt our supply of components. We have in the past experienced supply problems in timeliness and quality, but to date these problems have not resulted in lost sales or lower demand. Nevertheless, if we experience an interruption of supply or are required to switch suppliers, the manufacture and delivery of our products could be interrupted, our manufacturing costs could substantially increase and we could lose substantial amounts of product sales.

In addition, our circuit boards are produced in Thailand by one of the world's largest electronic manufacturing services suppliers. These circuit boards are highly customized and securing a different source of supply for this critical component of our product would be particularly difficult. If we experience delays in the receipt or deterioration in product yields of these critical components, we may experience delays in manufacturing or an increase in costs resulting in lost sales or a deterioration in gross margin.

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**If we are unable to overcome the risks inherent in international business activities, the growth of our business will be limited and our profitability will decline.**

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We have ten wholly owned subsidiaries located in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, India, Spain, Japan, Canada, Australia and China. The percentage of our total revenue originating outside the United States equaled 48% and 46% for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and 49% for the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Successful maintenance of these international operations requires us to:

- maintain an efficient and self-reliant local infrastructure;
- continue to attract, hire, train, manage and retain qualified local sales and administrative personnel;
- comply with diverse and potentially burdensome local regulatory requirements and export laws, including license requirements, trade restrictions and tariff increases; and
- maintain complex information, financial, distribution and control systems.

Our presence in international markets has required, and will continue to require, substantial financial and managerial resources. The costs of maintaining our presence in international markets are unpredictable, difficult to control and may exceed budgeted amounts. In addition, we may be subject to the following conditions in countries where we conduct our operations:

- adverse regional political or economic conditions;
- currency exchange rate fluctuations;
- difficulty in enforcing any judgment against non-U.S. distributors or other third parties upon which our business is heavily dependent; and
- reduced protection for our intellectual property rights.

Despite our expenditures and efforts internationally to mitigate the challenges above, we may not continue to generate a proportional substantial increase in international revenue, and such a deficiency would impair our operating results.

### **Currency exchange rate fluctuations in various currencies in which we do business and longer receivables collection periods outside of the United States could adversely affect our business.**

Total sales denominated in a currency other than USD were \$14.0 million, or 28% of our total consolidated revenues for the three months ended September 30, 2007, and \$42.9 million, or 31% of our total consolidated revenues for the nine months ended September 30, 2007. As a result, our results of operations could be adversely affected by certain movements in exchange rates. Although we take steps to hedge a substantial portion of our foreign currency exposures, there is no assurance that our hedging strategy will be successful or that the hedging markets will have sufficient liquidity or depth for us to implement our strategy in a cost effective manner.

Additionally, as of September 30, 2007, 62% of our outstanding accounts receivable balance was from international customers, of which 53%, or \$15.7 million, was denominated in a currency other than USD. Although we regularly review our receivable positions in foreign countries for any indication that collection may be at risk, our revenue from international sales may be adversely affected by longer receivables collection periods and greater difficulty in receivables collection.

### **If we, or our suppliers, fail to comply with U.S. and foreign governmental regulations applicable to our products and manufacturing practices, we could experience product introduction delays, production delays, cost increases and lost sales and our future revenues may be adversely affected.**

Our products, our manufacturing and marketing activities, and the manufacturing activities of our third-party medical device manufacturers are subject to extensive regulation by a number of governmental agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, and comparable international agencies. Our third-party manufacturers and we are or may be required to:

- obtain prior clearance or approval from these agencies before we can market and sell our products;
- undergo rigorous inspections by domestic and international agencies; and
- satisfy content requirements for all of our sales and promotional materials.

The processes for obtaining regulatory approval can be lengthy and expensive, and the results are unpredictable. If we are unable to obtain clearances or approvals needed to market existing or new products, or obtain such clearances or approvals in a timely manner, our revenues and profitability could be adversely affected. Moreover, clearances and approvals, if granted, may limit the uses for which a product may be marketed, which could reduce or eliminate the commercial benefit of manufacturing any such product.



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To ensure that manufacturers adhere to good manufacturing practices, medical device manufacturers are routinely subject to periodic inspections by the FDA and may be inspected by foreign regulatory agencies from countries in which we do business. In addition, the Business Standards Institution performs periodic assessments of our manufacturing processes and quality system. Compliance with the regulations of various agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, may require us to incur substantial costs and may delay or prevent the introduction of new or improved products. Although to date these actions by regulatory bodies have not required us to incur substantial costs or delay product shipments, we expect to experience further inspections and incur additional costs as a result of governmental regulation.

Failure to comply with applicable regulatory requirements can result in enforcement action, including product recall, the issuance of fines, injunctions, civil and criminal penalties, detaining or banning our products, and operating restrictions. Our third-party medical device manufacturers may also be subject to the same sanctions if they fail to comply with the laws and regulations and, as a result, may fail to supply us with components required to manufacture our products.

### **A failure to manage our growth could impair our ability to achieve our business objectives.**

We have experienced rapid and substantial growth in recent years. Our revenue increased to \$171.1 million in 2006 from \$147.5 million in 2005 and \$115.8 million in 2004. Our growth could strain our existing management, operational and financial resources and, if we are unable to manage this growth successfully, our business and financial performance will be adversely affected. In order to manage our growth effectively, we will need to expand our manufacturing and quality assurance staff, our sales staff and our international support staff and improve the productivity and efficiency of our existing operational, financial and management resources and information systems. We may be unable to hire and retain the personnel necessary to operate and expand our business. We also may be unable to increase the productivity and efficiency of our existing resources.

### **Product liability and other claims and product field actions initiated against us could increase our costs, delay or reduce our sales and damage our reputation, adversely affecting our financial condition.**

Our business exposes us to the risk of product liability, malpractice or warranty claims inherent in the sale and support of medical device products, including those based on claims that the use or failure of one of our products resulted in a misdiagnosis or harm to a patient. Such claims may cause financial loss, damage our reputation by raising questions about our products' safety and efficacy, and could interfere with our efforts to market our products. Although to date we have not been involved in any medical malpractice or product liability litigation, we may incur significant liability if such litigation were to occur. We may also face adverse publicity resulting from product field actions or regulatory proceedings brought against us. Although we currently maintain liability insurance in amounts we believe are commercially reasonable, any product liability we incur may exceed our insurance coverage. Liability insurance is expensive and may cease to be available on acceptable terms, if at all. A product liability or other claim or product field action not covered by our insurance or exceeding our coverage could significantly impair our financial condition. In addition, a product field action or a liability claim against us could significantly harm our reputation and make it more difficult to obtain the funding and commercial relationships necessary to maintain our business.

### **Our reliance on a single manufacturing facility may expose us to enhanced risk from natural disasters or other unforeseen catastrophic events.**

Our manufacturing facilities are located in two buildings in Bothell, Washington, in close proximity to each other. Despite precautions taken by us, a natural disaster such as an earthquake or other unanticipated catastrophic events at this location could significantly impair our ability to manufacture our products and operate our business. Our facilities and certain manufacturing equipment would be difficult to replace and could require substantial replacement lead-time. Such catastrophic events may also destroy any inventory of product or components. While we carry insurance for natural disasters and business interruption for our Bothell facilities, the occurrence of such an event could result in losses that exceed the amount of our insurance coverage, which would impair our financial results.

### **We may incur greater than expected warranty expense.**

We expect our warranty liability and expense to continue to increase significantly due to the five-year warranty offered with the MicroMaxx system. Additionally, we will offer a five-year warranty with the M-Turbo and S Series systems. Should actual failure rates and repair or replacement costs differ from our estimates, additional warranty expense may be incurred and our results may be materially affected.

**The loss of key employees or management personnel could impair our ability to achieve our business objectives and negatively affect our financial results.**

Our success depends heavily on our ability to retain the services of certain key employees or certain technical expertise. Competition among medical device companies for qualified employees is intense. We may fail to retain these key employees, and we may fail to attract qualified replacements if they do leave. We do not maintain key-person insurance on any of our employees. We do not have employment agreements with any of our employees except for employees in certain countries outside the United States and change in control agreements with certain members of senior management. The loss of any of our key employees could significantly delay or prevent the achievement of our product development or business objectives.

In addition, our future success will depend, to a significant extent, on the ability of our management to operate effectively, both individually and as a group. We must successfully manage transition and replacement issues that may result from the departure or retirement of members of our senior management. Transitions of management personnel may cause disruption to our operations or customer relationships, or a decline in our financial results.

**Our results of operations are subject to significant quarterly variation.**

Our quarterly operating results may vary significantly due to a combination of factors, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include:

- the timing of new product introductions by us or our competitors;
- the timing of regulatory approvals;
- the timing of orders from major customers and distributors, including bulk orders from governmental entities and demo orders from new distributors;
- seasonal buying patterns of our customers;
- development and promotional expenses relating to new product introductions;
- the revenue mix by product and geography;
- changes in pricing policies by us or our competitors;
- foreign exchange rates;
- writeoffs resulting from obsolete inventory;
- fluctuations in our consolidated tax rates;
- our ability to meet demand for our products;
- the market acceptance of our products;
- legal costs and the results of litigation;
- changes in distribution channels; and
- the ability of our sales force to effectively market and sell our products.

Accordingly, our quarterly sales and operating results may vary significantly in the future, and period-to-period comparisons of our results of operations may not be meaningful and should not be relied upon as indicators of future performance.

**Seasonality and concentration of revenues at the end of the quarter could cause our revenues to fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors, resulting in a decrease in our stock price.**

As a result of customer buying patterns and the efforts of our sales force to meet or exceed quarterly and year-end quotas, historically we have earned a substantial portion of each year's revenues during the last quarter and a substantial portion of each quarter's revenues during its last month. If expected revenues at the end of any quarter are delayed, our revenues for that quarter could fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors, resulting in a decrease in our stock price.

**We may be unable to sustain or increase our profitability.**

Prior to 2004, we had incurred losses in each year since our inception in 1999. As of December 31, 2006, we had an accumulated deficit of \$51.8 million. We achieved profitability in 2004 and were profitable for each of 2005 and 2006, but we may be unable to sustain or increase future profitability on a quarterly or annual basis. We may incur losses if we cannot increase or sustain our revenue. We expect that our operating expenses will increase in the foreseeable future as we expand our product development activities, our sales and marketing infrastructure and our administrative support and our product offerings and as we pursue the acquisition of additional companies or technologies to further our growth. Our expansion and acquisition efforts, to be successful, may require more funding than we currently anticipate.

Accordingly, we will need to generate significant additional revenue in the future in order to be able to sustain or increase profitability. If we cannot generate sufficient revenue to sustain or increase our profitability, then our business will be adversely affected.

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Table of Contents**Conversion of the notes will dilute the ownership interest of shareholders at the time of conversion.**

Upon conversion of some or all of the senior notes the ownership interests of shareholders will be diluted. Any sales in the public market of the common stock issuable upon such conversion could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our common stock. In addition, the existence of the senior notes may encourage short selling by market participants because the conversion of the notes could be used to satisfy short positions, or anticipated conversion of the notes into shares of our common stock could depress the price of our common stock.

In addition, if a fundamental change occurs, under certain circumstances we will adjust the conversion rate by a number of shares of our common stock for notes converted in connection with such fundamental change. The adjustment to the conversion rate will be determined based on the date on which the fundamental change becomes effective and the price paid per share of our common stock in such transaction, as described under the terms of the notes.

As more fully defined in the indenture applicable to the notes, a fundamental change will be deemed to have occurred upon the consummation of certain significant corporate transactions, including for example, the acquisition by one party or group of more than 50% of the voting power of our common equity, the consummation of certain recapitalizations, consolidations or mergers, the sale of all or substantially all of our assets, shareholder approval of our liquidation or dissolution, the failure of our common stock to be listed on any U.S. national securities exchange or a change in the composition of our board of directors as a result of which our incumbent directors, or directors appointed by our incumbent directors, do not constitute a majority of our board.

**Sales of a significant number of shares of our common stock in the public markets, or the perception of such sales, could depress the market price of our common stock.**

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock or other equity-related securities in the public markets could depress the market price of our common stock, and impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional equity securities. We cannot predict the effect that future sales of our common stock or other equity-related securities would have on the market price of our common stock. The price of our common stock could be affected by possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the notes as a more attractive means of equity participation in our company and by hedging or arbitrage trading activity, which we expect to occur involving our common stock. This hedging or arbitrage could, in turn, affect the market price of our common stock.

**The convertible note hedge and warrant transactions may affect the value of our common stock.**

The convertible note hedge and warrant transactions may affect the value of our common stock. In connection with the pricing of the notes, we entered into a convertible note hedge transaction with an option counterparty. We also entered into a warrant transaction with this option counterparty. The convertible note hedge transaction covers approximately 42% of any converted notes, and is expected to reduce potential dilution to our common stock upon any such conversion. However, the warrant transaction could separately have a dilutive effect on our earnings per share to the extent that the market value per share of our common stock exceeds the applicable strike price of the warrants.

In connection with establishing its initial hedge of these transactions, the option counterparty or its affiliates:

- entered into various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the notes; and
- may enter into or unwind various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock and/or purchase or sell our common stock in secondary market transactions following the pricing of the notes (and would likely do so during any observation period related to the conversion of the notes).

These activities could have the effect of increasing or preventing a decline in the price of our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of the notes and during any observation period related to a conversion of the notes.

In addition, the option counterparty or its affiliates will likely modify its hedge position from time to time prior to conversion or maturity of the notes by purchasing and selling our common stock, other of our securities or other instruments it may wish to use in connection with such hedging. In particular, such hedging activity would likely occur during any observation period for a conversion of notes, which may have a negative effect on the value of the consideration received in relation to the conversion of those notes.

We intend to exercise options we hold under the convertible note hedge transaction whenever notes are converted. In order to unwind its hedge position with respect to those exercised options, the option counterparty or its affiliates would expect to sell shares of our common stock in secondary market transactions or unwind various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock during the observation period for the converted notes. We have also agreed to indemnify the option counterparties for losses incurred in connection with a potential unwinding of its hedge positions under certain circumstances.

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The potential effect, if any, of any of these transactions and activities on the market price of our common stock will depend in part on market conditions and cannot be ascertained as of the date of this quarterly report. Any of these activities could adversely affect the price of our common stock and, as a result, the value of the consideration and the number of shares of our common stock, if any, that the noteholders would receive upon the conversion of the notes.

**If we, or our independent registered public accounting firm, determine that we have additional material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, current and potential shareholders could lose confidence in our financial reporting, which could harm our business and the trading price of our stock.**

Under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, we are required to evaluate and determine the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. As a part of the annual audit of our internal control over financial reporting and our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2006, we determined that we did not have the appropriate level of expertise to properly prepare and review our accounting for income taxes and we identified a material weakness regarding the level of resources and expertise for preparation and review of our tax provision. Because of this material weakness, our management concluded that, as of December 31, 2006, we did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting based on those criteria. As a result, KPMG LLP issued an adverse opinion with respect to our internal control over financial reporting for the year ended December 31, 2006. We have taken steps to remediate this material weakness, but we will be unable to reach final conclusions regarding the success of our remediation efforts until after our fiscal year end.

We have dedicated a significant amount of time and resources in an effort to ensure future compliance with this legislation since our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 and will continue to do so for future fiscal periods. We may encounter problems or delays in completing the review and evaluation, the implementation of improvements and the receipt of a positive attestation, or any attestation at all, by our independent auditors. Additionally, management's assessment of our internal control over financial reporting may identify additional deficiencies that need to be addressed in our internal control over financial reporting or other matters that may raise concerns for investors.

**We may be unable to utilize our deferred tax assets, which could adversely affect our future operating results.**

We may be subject to higher tax in future periods. In the fourth quarter of 2004 and based on Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes," ("SFAS 109"), we began to recognize deferred tax assets relating to our U.S. operations on our balance sheet as a non-recurring income tax benefit. In addition, in the fourth quarter of 2006, we began to recognize deferred tax assets relating to our international operations on our balance sheet as a non-recurring income tax benefit. The deferred tax assets primarily represent the income tax benefit of the net operating loss we have incurred from our operations since inception.

Our consolidated income tax rate may fluctuate as U.S. and international operations become more or less profitable. We will continue to evaluate our ability to utilize our tax credit carry-forwards in future periods and, in compliance with SFAS 109, record any resulting adjustments that may be required to deferred income tax expense.

**If we fail to comply with our obligations in our license with ATL, we could lose license rights that are important to our business.**

We license certain technology from ATL that is incorporated into our single technology platform, and we use this ATL technology in all of our HCU systems. A substantial majority of our revenue is attributable to products incorporating this ATL technology.

ATL may terminate our license in the event of an uncured material default by us in our obligations under the license agreement. The termination or other loss of our license to use ATL technology would significantly impair our ability to manufacture, market and sell our products. If this license is terminated, we may be unable to generate sufficient revenue to maintain our business.

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**If we incur a tax liability in connection with our spin-off from ATL, we would be required to pay a potentially significant expense, which would diminish our financial resources.**

Our spin-off was treated by ATL as a tax-free spin-off under Section 355 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the Code. If ATL were to recognize taxable gain from the spin-off, the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, could impose that liability on any member of the ATL consolidated group as constituted prior to the spin-off, including us. Generally, the IRS may assert that our spin-off from ATL is a taxable transaction until the expiration of the statute of limitations applicable to ATL with respect to the spin-off transaction. The expiration of the statute of limitations with respect to the spin-off transaction depends upon the actions and tax filings of ATL and the special rules applicable to spin-offs in general, which special rules could result in the extension of the general statute of limitations for an indefinite period of time. In the event of a tax liability, ATL has agreed to cover 85% of any such liability, unless the tax is imposed due to our actions solely or by ATL solely, in which case, we have agreed with ATL that the party who is solely at fault shall bear all of the tax liability. We are unaware of any actions that would result in a tax liability to us under the indemnity agreement regarding the spin-off transaction. We are aware that ATL was acquired in a transaction subsequent to the spin-off transaction, which could potentially result in the spin-off being treated as a taxable transaction, but which resulting tax liability in our view would be the sole responsibility of ATL pursuant to our agreement with ATL. ATL may refuse, however, to indemnify us for a tax liability arising out of the spin-off transaction or may argue that it did not cause the tax liability to be imposed. In such event, we may incur a significant expense for all or a portion of the taxes related to the spin-off.

**Our articles of incorporation, bylaws, rights plan and Washington law contain provisions that could discourage a change in control.**

Certain provisions of our restated articles of incorporation and bylaws, our shareholder rights plan and Washington law would make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us, even if doing so would be beneficial for our shareholders. This could limit the price that certain investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock. For example, certain provisions of our articles of incorporation or bylaws:

- allow our board to issue preferred stock without any vote or further action by the shareholders;
- limit the right of shareholders to act by written consent without a meeting;
- eliminate cumulative voting in the election of directors by holders of our common stock; and
- specify a minimum threshold for shareholders to call a special meeting.

We have adopted a shareholder rights plan, which is triggered upon commencement or announcement of a hostile tender offer or when any one person or group acquires 20% or more of our common stock. Once triggered, the rights plan would result in the issuance of preferred stock to the holders of our common stock other than the acquirer.

We are also subject to certain provisions of Washington law that could delay or make more difficult a merger, tender offer or proxy contest involving us. In particular, Chapter 23B.19 of the Washington Business Corporation Act prohibits corporations incorporated in Washington from engaging in certain business combinations with any interested shareholder for a period of five years unless specific conditions are met.

These provisions of our restated articles of incorporation, bylaws and rights plan and Washington law could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of us, including, without limitation, discouraging a proxy contest or making more difficult the acquisition of a substantial block of our common stock. The provisions could also limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock.

**Item 5. Other Information**

The Company's Compensation Committee approved, in July 2007, an amended and restated form of Senior Management Employment Agreement under which certain executive officers of the Company are entitled to change of control-related benefits, to include certain provisions conforming the agreements to federal deferred compensation tax law, require as a condition to the officer's receipt of benefits that he or she deliver a release of claims to the Company and agree to certain nonsolicitation covenants, and make certain clarifying and administrative changes. The amended standard form of Senior Management Employment Agreement is filed as an Exhibit to this Form 10-Q.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
<u>10.1</u>	Form of Senior Management Employment Agreement
<u>31.1</u>	Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
<u>31.2</u>	Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
<u>32.1</u>	Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 (Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002)
<u>32.2</u>	Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 (Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002)

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**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Company has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**SONOSITE, INC.**

(Registrant)

Dated: November 8, 2007

By: /s/ MICHAEL J. SCHUH

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 Michael J. Schuh  
 Vice President-Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer  
 (Authorized Officer and Principal Financial Officer)

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**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

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