

SOCKET MOBILE, INC.
Form 10-Q
November 13, 2017

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2017

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.

For the transition period _____ to _____.

Commission file number 1-13810

SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware **94-3155066**
(State of incorporation) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

39700 Eureka Drive, Newark, CA 94560

(Address of principal executive offices including zip code)

(510) 933-3000

(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 has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). YES [X] NO []

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).
YES NO

The number of shares of Common Stock (\$0.001 par value) outstanding as of November 8, 2017 was 7,011,128 shares.

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Index**PART I****Item 1. Financial Statements****SOCKET MOBILE, INC.**
STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Revenues	\$5,475,475	\$5,102,130	\$16,903,173	\$15,357,658
Cost of revenues	2,429,036	2,472,315	7,834,378	7,641,852
Gross profit	3,046,439	2,629,815	9,068,795	7,715,806
Operating expenses:				
Research and development	873,830	704,335	2,529,210	2,102,466
Sales and marketing	737,276	694,061	2,238,081	2,063,585
General and administrative	659,575	513,114	1,949,673	1,652,218
Total operating expenses	2,270,681	1,911,510	6,716,964	5,818,269
Operating income	775,758	718,305	2,351,831	1,897,537
Interest expense, net	(20,892)	(28,970)	(81,246)	(102,380)
Net income before income taxes	754,866	689,335	2,270,585	1,795,157
Income tax expense	(340,765)	(20,285)	(980,754)	(60,855)
Net income	\$414,101	\$669,050	\$1,289,831	\$1,734,302
Net income per share:				
Basic	\$0.07	\$0.11	\$0.21	\$0.30
Diluted	\$0.06	\$0.10	\$0.19	\$0.25
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	6,261,460	5,842,609	6,047,869	5,769,981

Diluted	7,129,633	7,281,545	6,936,210	7,181,588
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See accompanying notes.

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BALANCE SHEETS

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
	(Unaudited)	
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,867,023	\$1,319,006
Accounts receivable, net	3,413,897	2,866,877
Inventories, net	2,246,289	1,537,439
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	445,946	259,464
Deferred cost on shipments to distributors	241,523	947,799
Total current assets	9,214,678	6,930,585
Property and equipment:		
Machinery and office equipment	2,112,111	2,063,221
Computer equipment	854,476	945,054
	2,966,587	3,008,275
Accumulated depreciation	(2,442,573)	(2,444,392)
Property and equipment, net	524,014	563,883
Goodwill	4,427,000	4,427,000
Other assets	63,037	75,918
Deferred tax assets	8,329,850	9,589,408
Total assets	\$22,558,579	\$21,586,794
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$1,108,264	\$1,581,226
Accrued payroll and related expenses	635,928	632,931
Deferred revenue on shipments to distributors	633,554	2,010,441
Related party convertible notes payable	—	752,625
Short term portion of deferred service revenue	34,298	47,776
Short term portion of capital leases and deferred rent	53,878	39,175
Total current liabilities	2,465,922	5,064,174
Long term portion of deferred service revenue	30,339	25,610
Long term portion of capital leases and deferred rent	285,155	327,078
Total liabilities	2,781,416	5,416,862

Commitments and contingencies

Stockholders' equity:

Common stock, \$0.001 par value: Authorized – 20,000,000 shares, Issued and outstanding – 6,982,869 shares at September 30, 2017 and 5,878,405 shares at December 31, 2016	6,983	5,878
Additional paid-in capital	64,702,918	62,889,851
Accumulated deficit	(44,932,738)	(46,725,797)
Total stockholders' equity	19,777,163	16,169,932
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$22,558,579	\$21,586,794

See accompanying notes.

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SOCKET MOBILE, INC.
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2017	2016
Operating activities		
Net income	\$ 1,289,831	\$ 1,734,302
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Stock-based compensation	315,237	244,052
Depreciation and amortization	236,059	209,707
Deferred income tax expense	926,464	23,954
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(547,020)	(294,941)
Inventories	(708,850)	186,475
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(186,482)	(139,946)
Other assets	12,881	—
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(9,478)	(639,303)
Accrued payroll and related expenses	2,997	(40,759)
Net deferred income on shipments to distributors	109,011	21,324
Customer deposit	56,700	(640,440)
Deferred service revenue	(8,749)	(37,692)
Change in deferred rent	(7,299)	4,890
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,481,302	631,623
Investing activities		
Purchases of equipment	(196,190)	(175,080)
Net cash used in investing activities	(196,190)	(175,080)
Financing activities		
Payments on capital leases	(19,921)	(24,798)
Proceeds from borrowings under bank line of credit agreement	—	350,000
Repayments of borrowings under bank line of credit agreement	—	(350,000)
Repayments of related party and other short term credit line notes payable	—	(500,000)
Proceeds from stock options exercised	282,826	118,068
Proceeds from warrants exercised	—	158,145
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	262,905	(248,585)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	1,548,017	207,958
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	1,319,006	938,155
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 2,867,023	\$ 1,146,113

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Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information

Cash paid for interest	\$2,339	\$12,873
Supplemental disclosure of non-cash investing and financing activities		
Equipment purchased under capital lease	—	\$64,101
Conversion of notes payable and accrued interest into common stock	\$1,216,109	—
Cashless exercise of warrants	—	\$35

See accompanying notes.

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SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

NOTE 1 — Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited financial statements of Socket Mobile, Inc. (the “Company”) have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 8 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring accruals considered necessary for fair presentation have been included. The results of operations for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the operating results for the full fiscal year or any future period. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and notes included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

NOTE 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates, and such differences may be material to the financial statements.

Cash Equivalents and Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company considers all highly liquid investments purchased with a maturity date of 90 days or less at date of purchase to be cash equivalents. At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, all of the Company’s cash and cash equivalents consisted of amounts held in demand deposit accounts in banks. The aggregate cash balance on deposit in these accounts are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000. The Company’s cash balance on deposit in these accounts may, at times, exceed the federally insured limits. The Company has never experienced any losses in such accounts.

The carrying value of the Company's cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, debt and foreign exchange contracts approximate fair value due to the relatively short period of time to maturity.

Revenue Recognition and Deferred Revenue

The Company adopted the new revenue recognition policy effective January 1, 2017. Instead of deferring 100% of revenue and cost of revenue until products are sold by distributors, the new policy recognizes revenue on sales to distributors when shipping of product is completed and title transfers to the distributor, less a reserve for estimated product returns (sales and cost of sales). The reserves are based on estimates of future returns calculated from actual return history plus knowledge of pending returns outside of the norm. Actual return history is approximately 20% of the channel inventory, primarily from stock rotations. To reflect the period-specific effects of applying the new policy, the Company reclassified the balance of net deferred revenue on shipments to distributors in the amount of \$1,062,642 as of December 31, 2016 to a refund liability of \$2,010,441 (deferred revenue on shipments to distributors) and an asset of \$947,799 (deferred cost on shipments to distributors). The effect of the change on January 1, 2017 is a one-time reduction (debit) to net deferred revenue in the amount of \$836,000 less the deferred tax effects of \$333,000 for a net improvement in retained deficit of \$503,000. At September 30, 2017, the deferred revenue and deferred cost on shipments to distributors were \$633,554 and \$241,523, respectively.

Index**SOCKET MOBILE, INC.****NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Unaudited)****NOTE 3 — Inventories**

Inventories consist principally of raw materials and sub-assemblies, which are stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market. Inventories at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 were as follows:

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Raw materials and sub-assemblies	\$3,279,490	\$2,665,185
Finished goods	151,655	64,359
Inventory reserves	(1,184,856)	(1,192,105)
Inventories, net	\$2,246,289	\$1,537,439

NOTE 4 — Related Party Subordinated Convertible Notes Payable

The Company's Subordinated Convertible Notes of \$752,625 matured on September 4, 2017. At the option of the note holders, note payable principal and accrued interest totaling \$1,216,109 was converted into 972,884 shares of common stock at a conversion rate of \$1.25 per share. The conversion reduces current liabilities and increases stockholders' equity by \$1,216,109. These 4-year notes were originally issued on September 4, 2013 to officers and directors of the company and converted into common stock at maturity pursuant to the terms of the notes.

At December 31, 2016, accrued interest of all convertible notes was \$382,808 and was included in Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses.

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Interest expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 was \$22,179 and \$80,676, respectively.
Interest expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 was \$27,836 and \$88,840, respectively.

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SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

NOTE 5 — Bank Financing Arrangements

On March 20, 2017, the Company completed a Business Financing Modification Agreement by and between the Company and Western Alliance Bank (the “Bank”) to extend the expiration date of the domestic portion of the revolving credit line to February 27, 2019. The international portion of the credit line was not changed and will expire on February 27, 2018. Under the terms of the credit facility agreement with the Bank, the Company may borrow up to \$2.5 million, of which up to \$2.0 million is based on qualified receivables from domestic customers and up to \$0.5 million is based on qualified receivables from international customers. In addition, the Company must maintain a minimum liquidity ratio calculated at the end of each month of quick assets (cash plus qualified accounts receivable) to outstanding obligations to the Bank not less than 1.75 to 1.0. Advances against the domestic and international lines are calculated at 70% of qualified receivables. Borrowings under the lines bear an annual interest rate equal to the Bank’s prime rate (minimum of 3.25%) plus 1.5%. There is also a collateral handling fee of 0.1% per month of the financed receivables outstanding. The applicable interest and fees are calculated based on the actual amounts borrowed. The borrowings under the credit facility are secured by a first priority security interest in the assets of the Company. All advances are at the Bank’s discretion and the Bank is not obligated to make advances. The agreement may be terminated by the Company or by the Bank at any time. At September 30, 2017, there were no amounts borrowed, and the total borrowing capacity was approximately \$2,186,000.

No amounts were drawn under the Company’s bank credit lines during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017. Total interest expense on the amounts drawn under the Company’s bank credit lines in effect during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, was zero and \$3,000, respectively.

NOTE 6 — Segment Information and Concentrations

Segment Information

The Company operates in the mobile barcode and RFID/NFC scanning market. Mobile scanning typically consists of mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets, with mobile scanning peripherals for data collection, and third-party vertical applications software. The Company distributes its products in the United States and foreign countries primarily through distributors and resellers. The Company markets its products primarily through application developers whose applications are designed to work with Company’s products. Revenues for the geographic areas for

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three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2017	2016	September 30, 2017	2016
Revenues:				
United States	\$4,430,409	\$4,030,547	\$13,438,873	\$12,308,704
Europe	711,057	821,782	2,642,265	2,237,439
Asia and rest of world	334,009	249,801	822,035	811,515
Total revenues	\$5,475,475	\$5,102,130	\$16,903,173	\$15,357,658

Export revenues are attributable to countries based on the location of the Company's customers. The Company does not hold long-lived assets in foreign locations.

Index**SOCKET MOBILE, INC.****NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Unaudited)***Major Customers*

Customers who accounted for at least 10% of the Company's total revenues in the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2017		September 30, 2016	
Ingram Micro Inc.	40%	29%	39%	27%
BlueStar, Inc.	20%	21%	17%	23%
ScanSource, Inc.	10%	19%	17%	16%
Spinal Modulation, Inc.	*	*	*	10%

* Customer accounted for less than 10% of total revenues for the period

Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk include cash, cash equivalents and accounts receivable. The Company invests its cash in demand deposit accounts in banks. To date, the Company has not experienced losses on the investments. The Company's trade accounts receivables are primarily with distributors. The Company performs ongoing credit evaluations of its customers' financial condition but the Company generally requires no collateral. Reserves are maintained for potential credit losses, and such losses have been within management's expectations. Customers who accounted for at least 10% of the Company's net accounts receivable balances at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 were as follows:

	September	December		
	30,	31,		
	2017	2016		
Ingram Micro Inc.	36 %	49 %		
BlueStar, Inc.	23 %	30 %		
ScanSource, Inc.	13 %	*		

* Customer accounted for less than 10% of net accounts receivable balance at period end

Concentration of Suppliers

Several of the Company's component parts are produced by a sole or limited number of suppliers. Shortages could occur in these essential materials due to increased demand, or to an interruption of supply. Suppliers may choose to restrict credit terms or require advance payments causing delays in the procurement of essential materials. If the Company were unable to procure certain of such materials, it could have a material adverse effect upon its results. At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, 20% and 27%, respectively, of the Company's accounts payable balances were concentrated with two suppliers. For the nine months ended September 30, 2017, the top two suppliers accounted for 53% of the inventory purchases.

Index**SOCKET MOBILE, INC.****NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Unaudited)****NOTE 7 — Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company recognizes the compensation cost in the financial statements for all stock-based awards to employees, including grants of employee stock options, based on the fair value of the awards as of the date that the awards are issued. The fair values of stock options are generally determined using a binomial lattice valuation model that incorporates assumptions about expected volatility, risk-free interest rate, dividend yield, and expected life. Compensation cost for stock-based awards is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. Total stock-based compensation expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, was \$112,151 and \$315,237, respectively. Total stock-based compensation expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 was \$93,230 and \$244,052, respectively. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, 66,600 and 248,900 stock options were granted at weighted average per share fair values estimated at \$2.47 and \$2.65, respectively.

NOTE 8 — Net Income per Share Applicable to Common Stockholders

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

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2017	2016	September 30, 2017	2016
Numerator:				
Net income	\$414,101	\$669,050	\$1,289,831	\$1,734,302
Convertible note interest	—	\$27,836	—	\$88,840
Adjusted diluted net income	\$414,101	\$696,886	\$1,289,831	\$1,823,142
Denominator:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding used in computing net income per share:				

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Basic	6,261,460	5,842,609	6,047,869	5,769,981
Effect of dilutive stock options and convertible notes payable	868,173	1,438,936	888,341	1,411,607
Diluted	7,129,633	7,281,545	6,936,210	7,181,588
Net income per share:				
Basic	\$0.07	\$0.11	\$0.21	\$0.30
Diluted	\$0.06	\$0.10	\$0.19	\$0.25

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SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

NOTE 9 — Taxes

Effective December 31, 2016, the Company released a full valuation allowance for deferred taxes and set up deferred tax assets on the balance sheet. With the consideration of available evidence, including three consecutive years of increasing net income and expectations for continued sustainable profitable operations, the Company believed that, in accordance with the guidance provided by ASC 740, it is more likely than not to realize the majority of the value of federal and state deferred tax assets. The Company will continue to monitor the likelihood that it will be able to recover the deferred tax assets in the future.

The Company has recorded a provision for income taxes of \$340,765 and \$20,285 for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively, and \$980,754 and \$60,855 for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

The 2017 provision of \$980,754 includes deferred tax expense of \$926,464, federal alternative minimum tax expense of \$41,387, and state alternative minimum tax expense of \$12,903. The provisions for income tax for 2016 include federal alternative minimum tax expense of \$27,750, state alternative minimum tax expense of \$9,150, and deferred tax expense of \$23,955.

NOTE 10 — Commitments and Contingencies

Operating Lease

The Company leases office space under a non-cancelable operating lease that provides the Company approximately 37,100 square feet in Newark, California. The lease agreement expires on June 30, 2022. Monthly base rent increases four percent per year annually on July 1st of each year. Rental expense was \$108,473 and \$326,509 for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2017, respectively. Rental expense was \$109,004 and \$327,049 for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2016, respectively. The Company recorded a deferred rent obligation in accrued liabilities in the amount of \$279,601 and \$286,901 at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments under the operating lease at September 30, 2017 are shown below:

Annual minimum payments:	Amount
2017 (October 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017)	\$108,421
2018	442,359
2019	460,053
2020	478,455
2021 to 2022	751,269
Total minimum payments	\$2,240,557

Index**SOCKET MOBILE, INC.****NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Unaudited)***Capital Lease Obligations*

The Company leases certain of its equipment under capital leases. The leases are collateralized by the underlying assets. At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, property and equipment with a cost of \$100,584 was subject to such financing arrangements. The accumulated depreciation of the assets associated with the capital leases as of September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, amounted to \$44,353 and \$20,173 respectively.

Future minimum payments under capital lease and equipment financing arrangements as of September 30, 2017 are as follows:

Annual minimum payments:	Amount
2017 (October 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017)	\$7,443
2018	26,900
2019	17,892
2020	9,164
Total minimum payments	61,399
Less amount representing interest	(1,968)
Present value of net minimum payments	59,431
Short term portion of capital leases	(28,688)
Long term portion of capital leases	\$30,743

Purchase Commitments

As of September 30, 2017, the Company has non-cancelable purchase commitments for inventory to be used in the ordinary course of business of approximately \$2,526,000.

Legal Matters

The Company is subject to disputes, claims, requests for indemnification and lawsuits arising in the ordinary course of business. Under the indemnification provisions of the Company's customer agreements, the Company routinely agrees to indemnify and defend its customers against infringement of any patent, trademark, copyright, trade secrets, or other intellectual property rights arising from customers' legal use of the Company's products or services. The exposure to the Company under these indemnification provisions is generally limited to the total amount paid for the indemnified products. However, certain indemnification provisions potentially expose the Company to losses in excess of the aggregate amount received from the customer. To date, there have been no claims against the Company by its customers pertaining to such indemnification provisions, and no amounts have been recorded. The Company is currently not a party to any material legal proceedings.

Recently Issued Financial Accounting Standards

In March 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2016-09, Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting (Topic 718), which simplifies several aspects of the accounting for employee share-based payment transactions including the accounting for income taxes, forfeitures, and statutory tax withholding requirements, as well as classification in the statement of cash flows. The new guidance removes the present requirement to delay recognition of a windfall tax benefit until it reduces current taxes payable; instead, it is required to be recognized at the time of settlement, subject to normal valuation allowance considerations. We adopted the new standard effective January 1, 2017.

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SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

From time to time, new accounting pronouncements are issued by the FASB or other standards setting bodies that are adopted by the Company as of the specified effective date. Unless otherwise discussed, management believes that the impact of recently issued standards that are not yet effective will not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

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Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This Quarterly Report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements include statements forecasting our future financial condition and results, our future operating activities, market acceptance of our products, expectations for general market growth of mobile computing devices, growth in demand for our data capture products, expansion of the markets that we serve, expansion of the distribution channels for our products, and the timing of the introduction and availability of new products, as well as other forecasts discussed under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.” Words such as “may,” “will,” “predicts,” “anticipates,” “expects,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “estimates,” variations of such words, and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, and projections about our industry, management’s beliefs, and assumptions made by management. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict; therefore, actual results and outcomes may differ materially from what is expressed or forecasted in any such forward looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results and outcomes to differ materially include, but are not limited to: volatility in the world economy generally and in the markets we serve in particular; the risk of delays in the availability of our products due to technological, market or financial factors including the availability of product components and necessary working capital; our ability to successfully develop, introduce and market future products; our ability to effectively manage and contain our operating costs; the availability of third-party hardware and software that our products are intended to work with; product delays associated with new model introductions and product changeovers by the makers of products that our products are intended to work with; continued growth in demand for barcode scanners; market acceptance of emerging standards such as RFID/Near Field Communications and of our related data capture products; the ability of our strategic relationships to benefit our business as expected; our ability to enter into additional distribution relationships; or other factors described in this Form 10-Q including “Item 1A. Risk Factors” and recent Form 8-K and Form 10-K reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We assume no obligation to update such forward-looking statements or to update the reasons why actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements.

You should read the following discussion in conjunction with the interim financial statements and notes included elsewhere in this report, the Company’s annual financial statements in form 10-K, and other information contained in other reports and documents filed from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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The Company

We are a leading producer of data capture products for mobile applications used in Retail, Commercial Services, Industrial & Manufacturing, Transportation & Logistics, and Health Care. Our primary products are cordless data capture devices that connect over Bluetooth and work with applications running on smartphones, tablets and mobile computers using operating systems from Apple® (iOS), Google™ (Android™) and Microsoft® (Windows®). We focus on serving the needs of software application developers as scanner sales are primarily driven by the deployment of barcode and NFC/RFID enabled mobile applications.

We design our own products and subcontract the manufacturing of product components to independent third-party contract manufacturers who are located in the U.S., Mexico, Singapore, China, and Taiwan and who have the equipment, know-how and capacity to manufacture products to our specifications. Final products are assembled, tested, packaged, and distributed at and from our Newark, California facility. We offer the products worldwide through two-tier distribution enabling customers to purchase from a large number of on-line resellers around the world including some application developers. The geographic regions served by the Company include the Americas, Europe, Asia Pacific and Africa.

We believe growth in mobile applications and the mobile workforce are resulting from technical advances in mobile technologies, cost reductions in mobile devices and the growing adoption by businesses of mobile applications running on smartphones and tablets, building a growing demand for our products. Our data capture products address the growing need for speed and accuracy by today's mobile workers and by the systems supporting those workers, thereby enhancing their productivity and allowing them to exploit time sensitive opportunities and improve customer satisfaction.

Products

Cordless scanners

We offer 1D (imager and laser) and 2D barcode and NFC/RFID scanning products in standard, durable and sled/sleeve configurations. Our SocketScan™ standard scanners are lightweight and ergonomically designed for easy handling and usage as stand-alone cordless scanners. Besides grey color, the SocketScan™ scanners come in 5 vivid colors, blue, green, red, white and yellow. Our DuraScan® line of durable scanners have an IP54 durability rating and improved usability features in industrial colors: Construction Orange, Safety Green and Utility Gray. Our SocketScan™ 800 Series cordless barcode scanners are designed to be attachable, with an easily detachable clip, to smartphones and other mobile devices for more integrated barcode scanning. The 800 Series scanners can also be used in simple handheld mode. Our sled/sleeve solution, "DuraCase", is designed to integrate one of our SocketScan™ 800 Series scanners in a sleeve with an iPod Touch or SmartPhone enabling both devices to be used and charged simultaneously

and easily operated with a single hand.

Our Software Developer Kit (“SDK”) supports all of our data capture devices (both barcode reader and Contactless Reader Writer) with a single installation, making it easy for a developer to integrate our data capture capabilities into their application centric solution while giving the customer the ability to select the products that work best for them. Our SDK enables the developers to modify, control the placement of the captured data in their application, and control the feedback to the user that the transaction and transmission was successfully completed. Socket Mobile’s SDK also enables the built-in camera in a customer’s smartphone or tablet to be used for occasional or lower volume data collection requirements.

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Extended warranty programs are available for all of our data capture products.

We commenced shipping our DuraScan® D600 Contactless Reader Writer at the end of Q3 2017. The D600 is our first handheld capable of reading data from RFID tags or from smartphones leveraging near-field communication capabilities. RFID tags are used in many applications, like digital wallet applications for loyalty cards, identification cards, payment cards, coupons, event tickets and others that leverage the exchange of electronic “tokens”. These tokens can be exchanged via NFC enabled devices. We are also incorporating the RFID reader/writer technology into the base of a retail accessory stand that enables customers to scan barcoded documents. We continue working with our registered developers to explore the data capture opportunities around RFID/NFC.

Mobile handheld computers

Through June 30, 2016, we offered a family of SoMo® (“Socket® Mobile”) handheld computer products with standard or antimicrobial cases running the Windows Embedded Handheld System 6.5 operating system. Handheld computer accessories included plug-in 1D and 2D barcode scanners, charging cradles, durable cases, and radio frequency identification (RFID) readers with NFC (near field communication). Our handheld computers were designed with wireless LAN (802.11 b/g/n) and Bluetooth connectivity for use with applications that did not require phones. Due to the technical obsolescence of key components, we phased out this product family in Q2 2016 and exhausted the remaining SoMo® units in Q3 2016.

Service

Our products are warranted for one year and we offer SocketCare extended warranty programs for up to five years including repair or replacement due to accidental breakage. We also repair or replace products that are beyond their warranty period.

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Total revenue for the third quarter of 2017 was \$5.5 million, an increase of seven percent compared to revenue of \$5.1 million for the same quarter a year ago. For the nine months ended September 30, 2017, revenue was \$16.9 million, an increase of ten percent compared to revenue of \$15.4 million in the comparable period one year ago. Our product revenues and the corresponding increase or decrease in revenues for the comparable periods are shown in the following table:

(revenues in thousands)	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	September 30,		Increase		September 30,		Increase	
Product family:	2017	2016	(Decrease)		2017	2016	(Decrease)	
Cordless barcode scanners and accessories	\$5,022	\$4,635	8	%	\$16,258	\$12,669	28	%
Mobile handheld computer, accessories and license fees	83	400	(79	%)	165	2,329	(93	%)
Services	370	67	452	%	480	360	33	%
Total	\$5,475	\$5,102	7	%	\$16,903	\$15,358	10	%

Revenue of our *cordless barcode scanners and accessories* increased by 8% or \$0.4 million in the third quarter of 2017, compared to the same quarter a year ago. Revenue increases of \$0.3 million were from increased sales volume of our multi-colored SocketScan™ standard scanners (7Ci) that are lightweight and ergonomically designed for easy handling and usage as stand-alone cordless scanners. Revenue increases of \$0.2 million were from our DuraScan® 2D imager barcode scanners which have an IP54 durability rating and improved usability features. The revenue from our scanning accessories increased \$0.1 million. Revenue of our SocketScan™ 1D laser barcode scanners decreased \$0.2 million.

Revenue of *cordless barcode scanners and accessories* for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 was \$16.3 million, an increase of 28% or \$3.6 million compared to the revenue of \$12.7 million in the same period a year ago.

Revenue increase of \$2.3 million was from increased sales volumes of our multi-colored SocketScan™ standard scanners (7Ci). Revenue of our SocketScan™ 800 Series attachable scanners increased \$1.1 million. Revenue of DuraScan® 2D imager barcode scanners increased \$0.3 million. The revenue from our scanning accessories increased \$0.3 million. Revenue of our SocketScan™ 1D laser barcode scanners decreased \$0.4 million.

We discontinued availability of the *mobile handheld computer* product family due to technical obsolescence of several key components in Q3 2016. Revenue of *mobile handheld computer, accessories and license fees* in the nine months ended September 30, 2016 included a last buy order from one of our legacy SoMo® customers.

Service revenues were 6.8% and 1.3% of the total revenues in the third quarter of 2017 and 2016, respectively and were 2.8% and 2.3% in the first nine months of 2017 and 2016, respectively. Revenues in 2017 included engineering service revenue and SocketCare service revenue. Our SocketCare service contracts are purchased by our customers in conjunction with the purchase of cordless barcode scanners.

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Gross Margins

Our gross margins on sales for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 were 55.6% and 53.7%, respectively, compared to 51.5% and 50.2%, respectively, for the corresponding periods a year ago. Improvements in overall margins reflected the component cost reductions received from our suppliers due to our higher volumes of cordless barcode scanner sales. Margin improvements were also due to a change in mix of products sold favoring a greater proportion of sales of our cordless barcode scanner models which, as a whole, are above average product margins and a lower proportion of sales of our mobile handheld computers which are below average product margins. In 2016, about 8% and 15% of the revenue came from the sale of mobile computer products for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to 2% and 1%, respectively, for the corresponding periods in 2017.

Research and Development Expense

Research and development expense in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$873,830 and \$2,529,210, an increase of 24% and 20% compared to expenses of \$704,335 and \$2,102,466 in the corresponding periods one year ago. Increase in the level of research and development expense was primarily due to higher personnel costs reflecting additions to headcount and our annual salary increases effective April 1, 2017. Additional increases were from higher outside services driven by the development costs for our new SocketScan™ and DuraCase products and higher allocated facility maintenance costs. Research and development expense for the fourth quarter of 2017 is expected to moderately increase as we have added additional employees to engineering.

Sales and Marketing Expense

Sales and marketing expense in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$737,276 and \$2,238,081, an increase of 6% and 8% compared to expense of \$694,061 and \$2,063,585 in the corresponding periods one year ago. Increases in sales and marketing expense were primarily due to the higher personnel costs reflecting additions to headcount and our annual salary increases, higher professional consulting services for international market development and management, and higher allocated facility maintenance costs. Sales and marketing expense for the fourth quarter of 2017 is expected to be similar to the third quarter.

General and Administrative Expense

General and administrative expense in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$659,575 and \$1,949,673, an increase of 29% and 18% compared to the expenses of \$513,114 and \$1,652,218 in the same periods one year ago. Increases in general and administrative expense were primarily due to higher legal expenses associated with new patent applications and SEC filings for Convertible Notes conversion, higher personnel costs reflecting the effect of our annual salary increases for employees and higher employee benefit costs. General and administrative expense is expected to be moderately lower in the fourth quarter of 2017 from third quarter levels.

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Interest Expense, Net of Interest Income

Interest expense and other, net of interest income and other, in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 was \$20,892 and \$81,246, respectively, compared to \$28,970 and \$102,380, respectively, in the same periods one year ago. Interest expense in 2017 was related to interest on subordinated convertible notes payable (see “NOTE 4 — Short Term Related Party Convertible Notes Payable” for more information) and interest on equipment lease financing obligations. Interest expense in 2016 was related to interest on subordinated convertible notes payable, interest on amounts drawn on our bank lines of credit, and interest on equipment lease financing obligations. Lower interest expense in Q3 2017 reflected the conversion of convertible notes on September 4th. Lower interest expense in comparable nine months in 2017 reflected the lower interest rate on the convertible notes effective at the end of Q1 2016 and no amount borrowed under the lines of credit with Western Alliance Bank during the period. \$350,000 was borrowed at March 31, 2016 and repaid in Q2 2016. Average outstanding balance of bank credit line during the first nine months of 2016 was \$78,000.

Interest income reflects interest earned on cash balances. Interest income was nominal in each of the comparable periods, reflecting low average rates of return.

Income Taxes

Effective December 31, 2016, we released our valuation allowance for deferred taxes and set up deferred taxes on our balance sheet. With the consideration of available evidence, including three consecutive years of increasing net income and expectations for continued sustainable profitable operations, we believed that, in accordance with the guidance provided by ASC 740, it is more likely than not to realize the value of federal and state deferred tax assets.

On September 30, 2017, our deferred tax asset is valued at \$8,329,850, and consists of \$7,041,053 for net operating loss carryforwards, \$991,108 relating to temporary timing differences between GAAP and tax-related expenses, and \$297,689 relating to R&D credits.

Income tax expenses in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$340,765 and \$980,754, respectively, compared to \$20,285 and \$60,855, respectively, in the same periods one year ago. The provision in both 2017 and 2016 included deferred tax expenses and federal and state alternative minimum tax expenses. In 2016, we applied a full valuation allowance for our deferred taxes so only a small deferred tax expense relating to the portion of the Company’s goodwill amortized for tax purpose was recorded.

We have determined that utilization of existing net operating losses against future taxable income is not limited by Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code. Future ownership changes, however, may limit our ability to fully utilize the existing net operating loss carryforwards against any future taxable income.

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Cash Flows and Contractual Obligations

As reflected in our Statements of Cash Flows, net cash provided by operating activities was \$1,481,302 and \$631,623 in the first nine months of 2017 and 2016, respectively. We calculate net cash provided by operating activities by increasing our net income (\$1,289,831 and \$1,734,302 in the first nine months of 2017 and 2016, respectively) by the expenses, such as stock based compensation expense, depreciation, and deferred tax expense, that did not require the use of cash. These amounts totaled \$1,477,760 and \$477,713 in the first nine months of 2017 and 2016, respectively. In addition, we report increases in assets and reductions in liabilities as uses of cash and decreases in assets and increases in liabilities as sources of cash, together referred to as changes in operating assets and liabilities.

In the first nine months of 2017, changes in operating assets and liabilities resulted in a net use of cash of \$1,286,289 which was primarily due to the buildup of inventories to support rising sales and to provide economic order quantity savings on orders, increases in accounts receivable driven by the higher shipment level during the last couple weeks of September, new product D600 software development costs which are expected to be amortized over the life of D600 starting from Q4 2017, and product certification costs which are capitalized and amortized over the shorter of the certification period or the useful life of the product. The uses of cash were partially offset by increases of the inventory levels in our distribution channel and a deposit collected from a customer who placed an order for a legacy product. In the first nine months of 2016, changes in operating assets and liabilities resulted in a net use of cash of \$1,580,392 which was primarily from decreases in accounts payable due to improvement in paying outstanding balances with our suppliers, reductions of customer deposit applied to the shipments of the last time buy order for our mobile handheld computer product, and increases in accounts receivable and prepaid expenses. The uses of cash were partially offset by reductions in SoMo® inventory which has been phased out as end of life during 2016.

In the nine months of 2017, we used \$196,190 in investing activities related to expenditures on production tooling for new products and purchases of computer software and hardware. In the comparable period of 2016, we used \$175,080 in investing activities related to expenditures on production tooling, purchases of computer software and hardware, and implementation of a new accounting and operations management ERP software system.

Cash provided by financing activities was \$262,905 in the first nine months of 2017 compared to \$248,585 used in financing activities in the same period of 2016. Financing activities in the first nine months of 2017 consisted primarily of the proceeds from the exercise of stock options. Financing activities in 2016 consisted primarily of repayment of \$500,000 of subordinated notes payable, offset by the proceeds from the exercise of warrants and stock options in the amount of \$276,213.

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Our contractual cash obligations at September 30, 2017 are outlined in the table below:

	Total	Payments Due by Period			More than 5 years
		Less than 1 year	1 to 3 years	4 to 5 years	
Contractual Obligations					
Unconditional purchase obligations with contract manufacturers	\$2,526,000	\$2,526,000	\$—	\$—	\$—
Operating leases	2,240,000	438,000	929,000	873,000	—
Capital leases	60,000	29,000	31,000	—	—
Total contractual obligations	\$4,826,000	\$2,993,000	\$960,000	\$873,000	\$—

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of September 30, 2017, we have no off-balance sheet arrangements as defined in Item 303 of Regulation S-K.

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Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Interest Rate Risk

Our exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to our bank credit line facilities. Our bank credit line facilities of up to \$2.5 million have variable interest rates based upon the lender's prime rate (minimum of 3.25%) plus 1.5%, for both the domestic line (up to \$2.0 million) and the international line (up to \$0.5 million). Accordingly, interest rate increases could increase our interest expense on our outstanding credit line balances. During the first nine months of 2017, no funds were borrowed under our lines of credit with Western Alliance Bank.

Foreign Currency Risk

A substantial majority of our revenue, expense and purchasing activities are transacted in U.S. dollars. However, we require our European distributors to purchase our products in Euros and we pay the expenses of our European employees in Euros and British pounds. We may enter into selected future purchase commitments with foreign suppliers that may be paid in the local currency of the supplier. We hedge a significant portion of our European receivables balance denominated in Euros to reduce the foreign currency risk associated with these assets, and we have not been subject to significant losses from material foreign currency fluctuations. Based on a sensitivity analysis of our net foreign currency denominated assets and expenses at the beginning, during and at the end of the quarter ended September 30, 2017, an adverse change of 10% in exchange rates would have resulted in a decrease in our net income for the third quarter of 2017 of approximately \$34,000 if left unprotected. For the third quarter of 2017, the total net adjustment for the effects of changes in foreign currency on cash balances, collections, payables, and derivatives used to hedge foreign currency risks, was a net gain of \$1,200. We will continue to monitor, assess, and mitigate through hedging activities, our risks related to foreign currency fluctuations.

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Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Conclusion Regarding the Effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is (i) recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and (ii) accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by the last fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2017 and this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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PART II

Item 1A. Risk Factors

The risks described in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are not the only risks facing our Company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, and operating results.

We may not maintain ongoing profitability.

To maintain ongoing profitability, we must accomplish numerous objectives, including continued growth in our business, ongoing support to registered developers whose applications support the use of our data capture products, and the development of successful new products. We cannot foresee with any certainty whether we will be able to achieve these objectives in the future. Accordingly, we may not generate sufficient net revenue or manage our expenses sufficiently to maintain ongoing profitability. If we cannot maintain ongoing profitability, we will not be able to support our operations from positive cash flows, and we would use our existing cash to support operating losses. If we are unable to secure the necessary capital to replace that cash, we may need to suspend some or all of our current operations.

We may require additional capital in the future, but that capital may not be available on reasonable terms, if at all, or on terms that would not cause substantial dilution to investors' stock holdings.

We may need to raise capital to fund our growth or operating losses in future periods. Our forecasts are highly dependent on factors beyond our control, including market acceptance of our products and delays in deployments by businesses of applications that use our data capture products. Even if we maintain profitable operating levels, we may need to raise capital to provide sufficient working capital to fund our growth. If capital requirements vary materially from those currently planned, we may require additional capital sooner than expected. There can be no assurance that such capital will be available in sufficient amounts or on terms acceptable to us, if at all.

If application developers are not successful in their efforts to develop, market and sell their applications into which our software and products are incorporated, we may not achieve our sales projections.

We are dependent upon application developers to integrate our scanning and software products into their applications designed for mobile workers using smartphones, tablets and mobile computers, and to successfully market and sell those application products and solutions into the marketplace. We focus on serving the needs of application developers as sales of our data capture products are application driven. However, these developers may take considerable time to complete development of their applications, may experience delays in their development timelines, may develop competing applications, may be unsuccessful in marketing and selling their application products and solutions to customers, or may experience delays in customer deployments and implementations, which would adversely affect our ability to achieve our revenue projections.

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Global economic conditions may have a negative impact on our business and financial condition in ways that we currently cannot predict, and may further limit our ability to raise additional funds.

Global economic conditions may have an impact on our business and our financial condition. We may face significant challenges if global economic growth slows down and conditions in the financial markets worsen. In particular, should these conditions cause our revenues to be materially less than forecast, we may find it necessary to initiate reductions in our expenses and defer product development programs. In addition, our ability to access the capital markets and raise funds required for our operations may be severely restricted at a time when we would like, or need, to do so, which could have an adverse effect on our ability to meet our current and future funding requirements and on our flexibility to react to changing economic and business conditions.

Our quarterly operating results may fluctuate in future periods, which could cause our stock price to decline.

We expect to experience quarterly fluctuations in operating results in the future. We generally ship orders as received, and as a result we may have little backlog. Quarterly revenues and operating results therefore depend on the volume and timing of orders received during the quarter, which are difficult to forecast. Historically, we have often recognized a substantial portion of our revenue in the last month of the quarter. This subjects us to the risk that even modest delays in orders or in the manufacture of products relating to orders received, may adversely affect our quarterly operating results. Our operating results may also fluctuate due to factors such as:

- the demand for our products;
- the size and timing of customer orders;
- unanticipated delays or problems in our introduction of new products and product enhancements;
- the introduction of new products and product enhancements by our competitors;
- the timing of the introduction and deployments of new applications that work with our products;
- changes in the revenues attributable to royalties and engineering development services;
- product mix;
- timing of software enhancements;
- changes in the level of operating expenses;
- competitive conditions in the industry including competitive pressures resulting in lower average selling prices;
- timing of distributors' shipments to their customers;
- delays in supplies of key components used in the manufacturing of our products, and
- general economic conditions and conditions specific to our customers' industries.

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Because we base our staffing and other operating expenses on anticipated revenues, unanticipated declines or delays in the receipt of orders can cause significant variations in operating results from quarter to quarter. As a result of any of the foregoing factors, or a combination, our results of operations in any given quarter may be below the expectations of public market analysts or investors, in which case the market price of our common stock would be adversely affected.

In order to maintain the availability of our bank lines of credit we must remain in compliance with the covenants as specified under the terms of the credit agreements and the bank may exercise discretion in making advances to us.

Our credit agreements with our bank requires us to maintain cash and qualified receivables that are at least 1.75 times amounts borrowed and outstanding under the credit agreements. The agreements contain customary representations, warranties, covenants and events of default that limit our ability to incur additional liens or indebtedness, make distributions to our stockholders and make investments. The events of default entitle our bank to accelerate our obligations and require repayment of our outstanding indebtedness thereunder. These events of default include a breach of our payment obligations or covenants, a material impairment in our financial condition or ability to repay any indebtedness to our bank and the commencement of dissolution or insolvency proceedings. The agreement may be terminated by us or by our bank at any time. Upon such termination, our bank would no longer make advances under the credit agreement and outstanding advances would be repaid as receivables are collected. All advances are at our bank's discretion and our bank is not obligated to make advances. Our bank has been granted a first priority security interest in all of our assets, including our intellectual property.

Deferred tax assets comprise a significant portion of our assets and are dependent upon future tax profitability to realize the benefits.

We have recorded deferred tax assets on our balance sheet because we believe that it is more likely than not that we will generate sufficient tax profitability in the future to realize the tax savings our deferred tax assets represent. If we do not achieve and maintain sufficient profitability, the tax savings represented by our deferred tax assets may never be realized and we would need to recognize a loss for those deferred tax assets.

Goodwill comprises a significant portion of our assets and may be subject to impairment write-downs in future periods which would substantially increase our losses, make it more difficult to achieve profitability, and could cause our stock price to decline.

We review our goodwill for impairment at least annually as of September 30th, and more often if factors suggest potential impairment. Many factors are considered in evaluating goodwill including our market capitalization,

comparable companies within our industry, our estimates of our future performance, and discounted cash flow analysis. Many of these factors are highly subjective and may be negatively impacted by our financial results and market conditions in the future. We may incur goodwill impairment charges in the future and any future write-downs of our goodwill would adversely affect our operating results, make it more difficult to maintain profitability, and as a result the market price of our common stock could be adversely affected.

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We may be unable to manufacture our products because we are dependent on a limited number of qualified suppliers for our components.

Several of our component parts are produced by one or a limited number of suppliers. Shortages or delays could occur in these essential components due to an interruption of supply or increased demand in the industry. Suppliers may choose to restrict credit terms or require advance payment causing delays in the procurement of essential materials. If we are unable to procure certain component parts, we could be required to reduce our operations while we seek alternative sources for these components, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial results. To the extent that we acquire extra inventory stocks to protect against possible shortages, we would be exposed to additional risks associated with holding inventory, such as obsolescence, excess quantities, or loss.

If we fail to develop and introduce new products rapidly and successfully, we will not be able to compete effectively, and our ability to generate sufficient revenues will be negatively affected.

The market for our products is prone to rapidly changing technology, evolving industry standards and short product life cycles. If we are unsuccessful at developing and introducing new products and services on a timely basis that include the latest technologies conform to the newest standards and that are appealing to end users, we will not be able to compete effectively, and our ability to generate significant revenues will be seriously harmed.

The development of new products and services can be very difficult and requires high levels of innovation. The development process is also lengthy and costly. Short product life cycles for smartphones and tablets expose our products to the risk of obsolescence and require frequent new product upgrades and introductions. We will be unable to introduce new products and services into the market on a timely basis and compete successfully, if we fail to:

- invest significant resources in research and development, sales and marketing, and customer support;
- identify emerging trends, demands and standards in the field of mobile computing products;
 - enhance our products by adding additional features;
 - maintain superior or competitive performance in our products; and
 - anticipate our end users' needs and technological trends accurately.

We cannot be sure that we will have sufficient resources to make adequate investments in research and development or that we will be able to identify trends or make the technological advances necessary to be competitive.

A significant portion of our revenue currently comes from a limited number of distributors, and any decrease in revenue from these distributors could harm our business.

A significant portion of our revenue comes from a limited number of distributors. In the first nine months of 2017 and 2016, Ingram Micro Inc., BlueStar, Inc. and ScanSource, Inc. together represented approximately 73% and 66%, respectively, of our worldwide revenues. We expect that a significant portion of our revenue will continue to depend on sales to a limited number of distributors. We do not have long-term commitments from our distributors to carry our products, and any of our distributors may from quarter to quarter comprise a significant concentration of our revenues. Any could choose to stop selling some or all of our products at any time, and each of these companies also carries our competitors' products. If we lose our relationship with any of our significant distributors, we would experience disruption and delays in marketing our products.

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We may not be able to collect receivables from customers who experience financial difficulties.

Our accounts receivable are derived primarily from distributors. We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers' financial conditions but generally require no collateral from our customers. Reserves are maintained for potential credit losses, and such losses have historically been within such reserves. However, many of our customers may be thinly capitalized and may be prone to failure in adverse market conditions. Although our collection history has been good, from time to time a customer may not pay us because of financial difficulty, bankruptcy or liquidation. If global financial conditions have an impact on our customers' ability to pay us in a timely manner, and consequently, we may experience increased difficulty in collecting our accounts receivable, and we may have to increase our reserves in anticipation of increased uncollectible accounts.

We could face increased competition in the future, which would adversely affect our financial performance.

The market in which we operate is very competitive. Our future financial performance is contingent on a number of unpredictable factors, including that:

- some of our competitors have greater financial, marketing, and technical resources than we do; we periodically face intense price competition, particularly when our competitors have excess inventories and discount their prices to clear their inventories; and
- certain manufacturers of tablets and mobile phones offer products with built-in functions, such as Bluetooth wireless technology or barcode scanning, that compete with our products.

Increased competition could result in price reductions, fewer customer orders, reduced margins, and loss of market share. Our failure to compete successfully against current or future competitors could harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

If we do not correctly anticipate demand for our products, our operating results will suffer.

The demand for our products depends on many factors and is difficult to forecast as we introduce and support more products, and as competition in the markets for our products intensifies. If demand is lower than forecasted levels, we could have excess production resulting in higher inventories of finished products and components, which could lead to write-downs or write-offs of some or all of the excess inventories, and reductions in our cash balances. Lower than forecasted demand could also result in excess manufacturing capacity at our third-party manufacturers and in our failure to meet minimum purchase commitments, each of which may lower our operating results.

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If demand increases beyond forecasted levels, we would have to rapidly increase production at our third-party manufacturers. We depend on suppliers to provide additional volumes of components, and suppliers might not be able to increase production rapidly enough to meet unexpected demand. Even if we were able to procure enough components, our third-party manufacturers might not be able to produce enough of our devices to meet our customer demand. In addition, rapid increases in production levels to meet unanticipated demand could result in higher costs for manufacturing and supply of components and other expenses. These higher costs could lower our profit margins. Further, if production is increased rapidly, manufacturing yields could decline, which may also lower operating results.

We rely primarily on distributors to sell our products, and our sales would suffer if any of these distributors stops selling our products effectively.

Because we sell our products primarily through distributors, we are subject to risks associated with channel distribution, such as risks related to their inventory levels and support for our products. Our distribution channels may build up inventories in anticipation of growth in their sales. If such growth in their sales does not occur as anticipated, the inventory build-up could contribute to higher levels of product returns. The lack of sales by any one significant participant in our distribution channels could result in excess inventories and adversely affect our operating results and working capital liquidity.

Our agreements with distributors are generally nonexclusive and may be terminated on short notice by them without cause. Our distributors are not within our control, are not obligated to purchase products from us, and may offer competitive lines of products simultaneously. Sales growth is contingent in part on our ability to enter into additional distribution relationships and expand our sales channels. We cannot predict whether we will be successful in establishing new distribution relationships, expanding our sales channels or maintaining our existing relationships. A failure to enter into new distribution relationships or to expand our sales channels could adversely impact our ability to grow our sales.

We allow our distribution channels to return a portion of their inventory to us for full credit against other purchases. In addition, in the event we reduce our prices, we credit our distributors for the difference between the purchase price of products remaining in their inventory and our reduced price for such products. Actual returns and price protection may adversely affect future operating results and working capital liquidity by reducing our accounts receivable and increasing our inventory balances, particularly since we seek to continually introduce new and enhanced products and are likely to face increasing price competition.

We depend on alliances and other business relationships with third-parties, and a disruption in these relationships would hinder our ability to develop and sell our products.

We depend on strategic alliances and business relationships with leading participants in various segments of the mobile applications market to help us develop and market our products. Our strategic partners may revoke their commitment to our products or services at any time in the future or may develop their own competitive products or services. Accordingly, our strategic relationships may not result in sustained business alliances, successful product or service offerings, or the generation of significant revenues. Failure of one or more of such alliances could result in delay or termination of product development projects, failure to win new customers, or loss of confidence by current or potential customers.

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We have devoted significant research and development resources to design products to work with a number of operating systems used in mobile devices including Apple (iOS), Google (Android), and Microsoft (Windows/Windows Mobile). Such design activities have diverted financial and personnel resources from other development projects. These design activities are not undertaken pursuant to any agreement under which Apple, Google or Microsoft is obligated to collaborate or to support the products produced from such collaboration. Consequently, these organizations may terminate their collaborations with us for a variety of reasons, including our failure to meet agreed-upon standards or for reasons beyond our control, such as changing market conditions, increased competition, discontinued product lines, and product obsolescence.

Our intellectual property and proprietary rights may be insufficient to protect our competitive position.

Our business depends on our ability to protect our intellectual property. We rely primarily on patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret laws, and other restrictions on disclosure to protect our proprietary technologies. We cannot be sure that these measures will provide meaningful protection for our proprietary technologies and processes. We cannot be sure that any patent issued to us will be sufficient to protect our technology. The failure of any patents to provide protection to our technology would make it easier for our competitors to offer similar products. In connection with our participation in the development of various industry standards, we may be required to license certain of our patents to other parties, including our competitors that develop products based upon the adopted standards.

We also generally enter into confidentiality agreements with our employees, distributors, and strategic partners, and generally control access to our documentation and other proprietary information. Despite these precautions, it may be possible for a third-party to copy or otherwise obtain and use our products, services, or technology without authorization, develop similar technology independently, or design around our patents.

Effective copyright, trademark, and trade secret protection may be unavailable or limited in certain foreign countries.

We may become subject to claims of intellectual property rights infringement, which could result in substantial liability.

In the course of operating our business, we may receive claims of intellectual property infringement or otherwise become aware of potentially relevant patents or other intellectual property rights held by other parties. Many of our competitors have large intellectual property portfolios, including patents that may cover technologies that are relevant to our business. In addition, many smaller companies, universities, and individuals have obtained or applied for patents in areas of technology that may relate to our business. The industry is moving towards aggressive assertion, licensing, and litigation of patents and other intellectual property rights.

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If we are unable to obtain and maintain licenses on favorable terms for intellectual property rights required for the manufacture, sale, and use of our products, particularly those products which must comply with industry standard protocols and specifications to be commercially viable, our results of operations or financial condition could be adversely impacted.

In addition to disputes relating to the validity or alleged infringement of other parties' rights, we may become involved in disputes relating to our assertion of our own intellectual property rights. Whether we are defending the assertion of intellectual property rights against us or asserting our intellectual property rights against others, intellectual property litigation can be complex, costly, protracted, and highly disruptive to business operations by diverting the attention and energies of management and key technical personnel. Plaintiffs in intellectual property cases often seek injunctive relief, and the measures of damages in intellectual property litigation are complex and often subjective or uncertain. Thus, any adverse determinations in this type of litigation could subject us to significant liabilities and costs.

New industry standards may require us to redesign our products, which could substantially increase our operating expenses.

Standards for the form and functionality of our products are established by standards committees. These independent committees establish standards, which evolve and change over time, for different categories of our products. We must continue to identify and ensure compliance with evolving industry standards so that our products are interoperable and we remain competitive. Unanticipated changes in industry standards could render our products incompatible with products developed by major hardware manufacturers and software developers. Should any major changes, even if anticipated, occur, we would be required to invest significant time and resources to redesign our products to ensure compliance with relevant standards. If our products are not in compliance with prevailing industry standards for a significant period of time, we would miss opportunities to sell our products for use with new hardware components from mobile computer manufacturers and OEMs, thus affecting our business.

Undetected flaws and defects in our products may disrupt product sales and result in expensive and time-consuming remedial action.

Our hardware and software products may contain undetected flaws, which may not be discovered until customers have used the products. From time to time, we may temporarily suspend or delay shipments or divert development resources from other projects to correct a particular product deficiency. Efforts to identify and correct errors and make design changes may be expensive and time consuming. Failure to discover product deficiencies in the future could delay product introductions or shipments, require us to recall previously shipped products to make design modifications, or cause unfavorable publicity, any of which could adversely affect our business and operating results.

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The loss of one or more of our senior personnel could harm our existing business.

A number of our officers and senior managers have been employed for more than twenty years by us, including our President, Chief Financial Officer, Vice President of Operations and Vice President of Engineering/Chief Technical Officer. Our future success will depend upon the continued service of key officers and senior managers. Competition for officers and senior managers is intense, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to retain our existing senior personnel. The loss of one or more of our officers or key senior managers could adversely affect our ability to compete.

The expensing of options will continue to reduce our operating results such that we may find it necessary to change our business practices to attract and retain employees.

Historically, we have used stock options as a key component of our employee compensation packages. We believe that stock options provide an incentive to our employees to maximize long-term stockholder value and, through the use of vesting, encourage valued employees to remain with us. The expensing of employee stock options adversely affects our net income and earnings per share, will continue to adversely affect future quarters, and will make profitability harder to achieve. In addition, we may decide in response to the effects of expensing stock options on our operating results to reduce the number of stock options granted to employees or to grant options to fewer employees. This could adversely affect our ability to retain existing employees and attract qualified candidates, and also could increase the cash compensation we would have to pay to them.

If we are unable to attract and retain highly skilled sales and marketing and product development personnel, our ability to develop and market new products and product enhancements will be adversely affected.

We believe our ability to achieve increased revenues and to develop successful new products and product enhancements will depend in part upon our ability to attract and retain highly skilled sales and marketing and product development personnel. Our products involve a number of new and evolving technologies, and we frequently need to apply these technologies to the unique requirements of mobile products. Our personnel must be familiar with both the technologies we support and the unique requirements of the products to which our products connect. Competition for such personnel is intense, and we may not be able to attract and retain such key personnel. In addition, our ability to hire and retain such key personnel will depend upon our ability to raise capital or achieve increased revenue levels to fund the costs associated with such key personnel. Failure to attract and retain such key personnel will adversely affect our ability to develop and market new products and product enhancements.

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Our operating results could be harmed by economic, political, regulatory and other risks associated with export sales.

Our operating results are subject to the risks inherent in export sales, including:

- longer payment cycles;
- unexpected changes in regulatory requirements, import and export restrictions and tariffs;
- difficulties in managing foreign operations;
- the burdens of complying with a variety of foreign laws;
- greater difficulty or delay in accounts receivable collection;
- potentially adverse tax consequences; and
- political and economic instability.

Our export sales are primarily denominated in Euros for our sales to European distributors. Accordingly, an increase in the value of the United States dollar relative to Euros could make our products more expensive and therefore potentially less competitive in European market. Declines in the value of the Euro relative to the United States dollar may result in foreign currency losses relating to collection of Euro denominated receivables if left unhedged.

Our operations are vulnerable to interruption by fire, earthquake, power loss, telecommunications failure, and other events beyond our control.

Our corporate headquarters is located near an earthquake fault. The potential impact of a major earthquake on our facilities, infrastructure, and overall business is unknown. Additionally, we may experience electrical power blackouts or natural disasters that could interrupt our business. Should a disaster be widespread, such as a major earthquake, or result in the loss of key personnel, we may not be able to implement our disaster recovery plan in a timely manner. Any losses or damages incurred by us as a result of these events could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Failure to maintain effective internal controls could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and stock price.

We have evaluated and will continue to evaluate our internal control procedures in order to satisfy the requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which requires an annual management assessment of the design and effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. If we fail to maintain the adequacy of our internal controls, as such standards are modified, supplemented or amended from time to time, we may not be able to ensure that we can conclude on an ongoing basis that we have effective internal control over financial reporting in accordance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Moreover, effective internal controls, particularly those related to

revenue recognition, are necessary for us to produce reliable financial reports and are important to helping prevent financial fraud. If we cannot provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, our business and operating results could be harmed, investors could lose confidence in our reported financial information, and the trading price of our stock could drop significantly.

The sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock could cause the market price of our common stock to decline.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market could adversely affect the market price for our common stock. The market price of our common stock could also decline if one or more of our significant stockholders decided for any reason to sell substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market.

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As of November 8, 2017, we had 7,011,128 shares of common stock outstanding. Substantially all of these shares are freely tradable in the public market, either without restriction or subject, in some cases, only to S-3 prospectus delivery requirements and, in other cases, only to manner of sale, volume, and notice requirements of Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

As of November 8, 2017, we had 2,235,026 shares of common stock subject to outstanding options under our stock option plans, and 97,337 shares of common stock were available for future issuance under the plans. We have registered the shares of common stock subject to outstanding options and reserved for issuance under our stock option plans. Accordingly, the shares of common stock underlying vested options will be eligible for resale in the public market as soon as the options are exercised.

Volatility in the trading price of our Common Stock could negatively impact the price of our Common Stock.

During the period from January 1, 2016 through November 1, 2017, our common stock price fluctuated between a high of \$4.90 and a low of \$1.82. We have experienced low trading volumes in our stock, and thus relatively small purchases and sales can have a significant effect on our stock price. The trading price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to many factors, some of which are beyond our control, including general economic conditions and the outlook of securities analysts and investors on our industry. In addition, the stock markets in general, and the markets for high technology stocks in particular, have experienced high volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

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Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits

- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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SIGNATURES

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

SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

Registrant

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Date: November 13, 2017 /s/ Kevin J. Mills
Kevin J. Mills
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Duly Authorized Officer and Principal Executive Officer)

Date: November 13, 2017 /s/ David W. Dunlap
David W. Dunlap
Vice President of Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer (Duly Authorized Officer and Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

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Index to Exhibits

Exhibit
Number Description

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