

EBAY INC
Form 10-Q
April 28, 2010

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 March 31, 2010

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 000-24821

eBay Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

77-0430924
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

2145 Hamilton Avenue

San Jose, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

95125
(Zip Code)

(408) 376-7400

(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 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 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 (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

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

As of April 14, 2010, there were 1,306,969,862 shares of the registrant's common stock, \$0.001 par value, outstanding, which is the only class of common or voting stock of the registrant issued.

PART I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1: Financial Statements

eBay Inc.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	December 31, 2009	March 31, 2010
	(In thousands, except par value amounts) (Unaudited)	
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,999,818	\$ 3,593,003
Short-term investments	943,986	934,898
Accounts receivable, net	407,507	393,414
Loans and interest receivable, net	622,846	595,268
Funds receivable and customer accounts	2,157,945	2,315,160
Other current assets	328,106	445,695
Total current assets	8,460,208	8,277,438
Long-term investments	1,381,765	1,977,567
Property and equipment, net	1,314,328	1,346,850
Goodwill	6,143,086	6,130,156
Intangible assets, net	767,812	703,153
Other assets	341,121	255,014
Total assets	\$ 18,408,320	\$ 18,690,178
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 192,412	\$ 144,266
Funds payable and amounts due to customers	2,157,945	2,315,160
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	981,784	970,881
Deferred revenue and customer advances	99,305	98,123
Income taxes payable	210,522	58,581
Total current liabilities	3,641,968	3,587,011
Deferred and other tax liabilities, net	929,143	928,460
Other liabilities	49,561	49,598
Total liabilities	4,620,672	4,565,069
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 3,580,000 shares authorized; 1,297,799 and 1,306,855 shares outstanding	1,486	1,495
Additional paid-in capital	9,986,199	10,069,834
Treasury stock at cost, 188,251 and 188,260 shares	(5,377,258)	(5,377,490)
Retained earnings	8,359,117	8,756,770
Accumulated other comprehensive income	818,104	674,500
Total stockholders' equity	13,787,648	14,125,109
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 18,408,320	\$ 18,690,178

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

eBay Inc.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2010
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)	
	(Unaudited)	
Net revenues	\$ 2,020,586	\$ 2,196,057
Cost of net revenues	573,386	606,555
Gross profit	1,447,200	1,589,502
Operating expenses:		
Sales and marketing	403,316	446,161
Product development	201,516	210,139
General and administrative	268,291	276,743
Provision for transaction and loan losses	81,234	106,029
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	63,468	53,252
Restructuring	6,611	8,569
Total operating expenses	1,024,436	1,100,893
Income from operations	422,764	488,609
Interest and other income, net	18,092	6,046
Income before income taxes	440,856	494,655
Provision for income taxes	(83,743)	(97,002)
Net income	\$ 357,113	\$ 397,653
Net income per share:		
Basic	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.31
Diluted	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.30
Weighted average shares:		
Basic	1,283,810	1,301,248
Diluted	1,287,814	1,326,021

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

eBay Inc.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) INCOME

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2010
	(In thousands)	
	(Unaudited)	
Net income	\$ 357,113	\$ 397,653
Other comprehensive income:		
Foreign currency translation	(396,218)	(154,715)
Unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net	17,291	(27,887)
Unrealized gains on hedging activities	935	28,123
Tax (provision) benefit on above items	(6,854)	10,875
Net change in accumulated other comprehensive income	(384,846)	(143,604)
Comprehensive (loss) income	\$ (27,733)	\$ 254,049

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

eBay Inc.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2010
	(In thousands)	
	(Unaudited)	
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 357,113	\$ 397,653
Adjustments:		
Provision for transaction and loan losses	81,234	106,029
Depreciation and amortization	197,289	188,022
Stock-based compensation	113,846	102,069
Changes in assets and liabilities	(80,955)	(375,511)
Net cash provided by operating activities	668,527	418,262
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of property and equipment, net	(90,934)	(152,256)
Changes in principal loans receivable, net	46,204	15,650
Purchases of investments	(13,594)	(944,393)
Maturities and sales of investments	5,944	259,446
Repayment of Skype note receivable		125,000
Other	321	(4,416)
Net cash used in investing activities	(52,059)	(700,969)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net	2,826	42,117
Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation	2	20,993
Tax withholdings related to net share settlements of restricted stock awards and units	(17,348)	(70,500)
Net payments from borrowings under credit agreement	(600,000)	
Funds receivable and customer accounts	(116,796)	(157,215)
Funds payable and amounts due to customers	116,796	157,215
Net cash used in financing activities	(614,520)	(7,390)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(133,717)	(116,718)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(131,769)	(406,815)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	3,188,928	3,999,818
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 3,057,159	\$ 3,593,003
Supplemental cash flow disclosures:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 2,994	\$
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 133,162	\$ 311,442

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

Note 1 The Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Company

eBay Inc. (eBay) was incorporated in California in May 1996, and reincorporated in Delaware in April 1998. eBay's purpose is to pioneer new communities around the world, built on commerce, sustained by trust and inspired by opportunity. eBay brings together millions of buyers and sellers every day on a local, national and international basis through an array of websites. eBay provides online marketplaces for the sale of goods and services as well as other online commerce, or ecommerce, platforms and online payment services to a diverse community of individuals and businesses.

We currently operate two primary business segments: Marketplaces and Payments. Our Marketplaces segment provides the infrastructure to enable global online commerce on a variety of platforms, including the eBay.com platform and our other online platforms, such as our online classifieds businesses, our secondary tickets marketplace (StubHub), our online shopping comparison website (Shopping.com) and our apartment listing service platform (Rent.com), as well as our fixed price media marketplace (Half.com). Our Payments segment is comprised of our online payment solutions PayPal and Bill Me Later. Historically, we also had a Communications segment that consisted of Skype Technologies S.A. (Skype). On November 19, 2009, we completed the sale of Skype to an investor group for cash, a subordinated note and an equity stake of approximately 30 percent in the outstanding capital stock of the entity that purchased Skype (which is now named Skype). Accordingly, Skype's operating results are not consolidated in our 2010 results. However, Skype's results of operations are consolidated in our 2009 results through the date of sale. Our non-controlling interest in Skype is accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

When we refer to we, our, us or eBay in this document, we mean the current Delaware corporation (eBay Inc.) and its California predecessor, as well as all of our consolidated subsidiaries.

Use of estimates

The preparation of condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to provisions for transaction and loan losses, legal contingencies, income taxes, revenue recognition, stock-based compensation and the recoverability of goodwill and intangible assets. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Principles of consolidation and basis of presentation

The accompanying condensed financial statements are consolidated and include the financial statements of eBay Inc. and our majority-owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. We have evaluated all subsequent events through the date the financial statements were issued.

The condensed consolidated financial statements include 100% of the assets and liabilities of our majority-owned subsidiaries and the ownership interests of minority investors are recorded as a noncontrolling interest. Investments in private entities where we hold 20% or more but less than a 50% ownership interest and exercise significant influence are accounted for using the equity method of accounting, and our share of the investee's results of operations is included in interest and other income, net. Investments in private entities where we hold less than a 20% ownership interest and where we do not have the ability to significantly influence the operations of the investee are accounted for using the cost method of accounting, where our share of the investee's results of operations is not included in our condensed consolidated statement of income, except to the extent of earnings distributions actually received from the investee. Our investment balance in private entities is included in long-term investments.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

In 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued new accounting guidance that amends the evaluation criteria used to identify the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity (VIE) and requires ongoing reassessment of whether an enterprise is the primary beneficiary of the VIE. The new guidance significantly changes the consolidation rules for VIEs including the consolidation of common structures, such as joint ventures, equity method investments and collaboration arrangements. We adopted this guidance as of January 1, 2010. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact to our financial statements.

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

In 2009, the FASB issued new accounting guidance related to the revenue recognition of multiple element arrangements. The new guidance states that if vendor specific objective evidence or third party evidence for deliverables in an arrangement cannot be determined, companies will be required to develop a best estimate of the selling price for separate deliverables and allocate arrangement consideration using the relative selling price method. We adopted this guidance as of January 1, 2010. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact to our financial statements.

Note 2 Net Income Per Share

Basic net income per share is computed by dividing the net income for the period by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per share is computed by dividing the net income for the period by the weighted average number of shares of common stock and potentially dilutive common stock outstanding during the period. The dilutive effect of outstanding options and restricted stock is reflected in diluted earnings per share by application of the treasury stock method. The calculation of diluted net income per share excludes all anti-dilutive shares. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net income per share for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2010
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)	
Numerator:		
Net income	\$ 357,113	\$ 397,653
Denominator:		
Weighted average common shares - basic	1,283,810	1,301,248
Dilutive effect of equity incentive plans	4,004	24,773
Weighted average common shares - diluted	1,287,814	1,326,021
Net income per share:		
Basic	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.31
Diluted	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.30
Common stock equivalents excluded from net income per diluted share because their effect would have been anti-dilutive	128,097	31,039

Note 3 Goodwill and Intangible Assets**Goodwill**

The following table presents goodwill balances and the adjustments to those balances for each of our reportable segments during the three months ended March 31, 2010:

December 31, 2009	Goodwill Acquired	Adjustments	March 31, 2010
(In thousands)			

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Reportable segments:			
Marketplaces	\$ 4,013,906	\$	\$ (11,390) \$ 4,002,516
Payments	2,156,541		(1,541) 2,155,000
	\$ 6,170,447	\$	\$ (12,931) \$ 6,157,516

Investments accounted for under the equity method of accounting are classified on our balance sheet as long-term investments. Such investments include any related goodwill. As of December 31, 2009 and March 31, 2010, the goodwill related to our equity investments, included above, was approximately \$27.4 million.

The adjustments to goodwill during the three months ended March 31, 2010 were due primarily to foreign currency translation.

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Intangible Assets

The components of identifiable intangible assets are as follows:

	December 31, 2009				March 31, 2010			
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Weighted Average Useful Life (Years) (In thousands, except years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Weighted Average Useful Life (Years)
Intangible assets:								
Customer lists and user base	\$ 819,653	\$ (524,667)	\$ 294,986	6	\$ 817,299	\$ (550,298)	\$ 267,001	6
Trademarks and trade names	634,387	(300,046)	334,341	5	635,179	(321,342)	313,837	5
Developed technologies	225,614	(152,982)	72,632	3	225,377	(164,196)	61,181	3
All other	149,315	(83,462)	65,853	4	152,289	(91,155)	61,134	4
	\$ 1,828,969	\$ (1,061,157)	\$ 767,812		\$ 1,830,144	\$ (1,126,991)	\$ 703,153	

Aggregate amortization expense for intangible assets was \$80.3 million and \$71.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

Note 4 Segments

Operating segments are based upon our internal organization structure, the manner in which our operations are managed, the criteria used by our Chief Operating Decision Maker to evaluate segment performance and the availability of separate financial information. We operate two primary operating segments: Marketplaces and Payments. Historically, we had a Communications segment that consisted of Skype. On November 19, 2009, we completed the sale of Skype to an investor group for cash, a subordinated note and an equity stake of approximately 30 percent in the outstanding capital stock of the entity that purchased Skype (which is now named Skype). Accordingly, Skype's operating results are not consolidated in our 2010 results. However, Skype's results of operations are consolidated in our 2009 results through the date of sale. Our non-controlling interest in Skype is accounted for under the equity method of accounting. As such, our proportionate share of the net income (loss) of Skype will be recognized on a one quarter lag as a component of interest and other income, net in our condensed consolidated statement of income.

The following tables summarize the financial performance of our operating segments:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2009			
	Marketplaces	Payments	Communications	Consolidated
	(In thousands)			
Net revenues from external customers	\$ 1,224,449	\$ 642,958	\$ 153,179	\$ 2,020,586
Direct costs	671,614	530,969	116,915	1,319,498
Direct contribution	\$ 552,835	\$ 111,989	\$ 36,264	701,088
Operating expenses and indirect costs of net revenues				278,324

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Income from operations	422,764
Interest and other income, net	18,092
Income before income taxes	\$ 440,856

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2010		
	Marketplaces	Payments	Consolidated
	(In thousands)		
Net revenues from external customers	\$ 1,386,795	\$ 809,262	\$ 2,196,057
Direct costs	803,964	626,685	1,430,649
Direct contribution	\$ 582,831	\$ 182,577	765,408
Operating expenses and indirect costs of net revenues			276,799
Income from operations			488,609
Interest and other income, net			6,046
Income before income taxes			\$ 494,655

Direct contribution consists of net revenues from external customers less direct costs. Direct costs include specific costs of net revenues, sales and marketing expenses, and general and administrative expenses, such as advertising and marketing programs, customer support expenses, bank charges, internal interest charges related to Bill Me Later, site operations expenses, product development expenses, billing operations, certain technology and facilities expenses, transaction expenses and provision for transaction and loan losses. Expenses such as our corporate center costs (consisting of certain costs such as corporate management, human resources, finance and legal), amortization of intangible assets, restructuring charges and stock-based compensation expense are excluded from direct costs as they are not included in the measurement of segment performance.

Note 5 Fair Value Measurement of Assets and Liabilities

The following tables summarize our financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2009 and March 31, 2010:

Description	Balance as of December 31, 2009	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) (In thousands)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)
Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents:			
Bank deposits and money market funds	\$ 3,999,818	\$ 3,999,818	\$
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,999,818	3,999,818	
Short-term investments:			
Restricted cash	29,123	29,123	
Corporate debt securities	73,140		73,140
Government and agency securities	109,807		109,807
Time deposits	310,418		310,418
Equity instruments	421,498	421,498	
Total short-term investments	943,986	450,621	493,365

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Derivatives	362		362
Long-term investments:			
Restricted cash	985	985	
Corporate debt securities	457,183		457,183
Government and agency securities	249,360		249,360
Time deposits and other	1,583		1,583
Total long-term investments	709,111	985	708,126
Total financial assets	\$ 5,653,277	\$ 4,451,424	\$ 1,201,853
Liabilities:			
Derivatives	\$ 5,710	\$	\$ 5,710

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Description	Balance as of March 31, 2010	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) (In thousands)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)
Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents:			
Bank deposits and money market funds	\$ 3,593,003	\$ 3,593,003	\$
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,593,003	3,593,003	
Short-term investments:			
Restricted cash	31,450	31,450	
Corporate debt securities	121,360		121,360
Government and agency securities	113,260		113,260
Time deposits	277,070		277,070
Equity instruments	391,758	391,758	
Total short-term investments	934,898	423,208	511,690
Derivatives	27,208		27,208
Long-term investments:			
Restricted cash	805	805	
Corporate debt securities	1,071,541		1,071,541
Government and agency securities	189,370		189,370
Time deposits and other	5,339		5,339
Total long-term investments	1,267,055	805	1,266,250
Total financial assets	\$ 5,822,164	\$ 4,017,016	\$ 1,805,148
Liabilities:			
Derivatives	\$ 4,914	\$	\$ 4,914

Our financial assets and liabilities are valued using market prices on both active markets (level 1) and less active markets (level 2). Level 1 instrument valuations are obtained from real-time quotes for transactions in active exchange markets involving identical assets. Level 2 instrument valuations are obtained from readily available pricing sources for comparable instruments. As of December 31, 2009, and March 31, 2010, we did not have any assets or liabilities without observable market values that would require a high level of judgment to determine fair value (level 3). Our derivative instruments are valued using pricing models that take into account the contract terms as well as multiple inputs where applicable, such as equity prices, interest rate yield curves, option volatility and currency rates. Our derivative instruments are short-term in nature, typically one month to one year in duration. Cash and cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments with original or remaining maturities of three months or less when purchased.

In addition to the long-term investments noted above, we had approximately \$672.7 million and \$710.5 million of cost and equity method investments included in long-term investments on our condensed consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2009 and March 31, 2010, respectively.

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

In Europe, we have a cash pooling arrangement with a financial institution for cash management purposes. This arrangement allows for cash withdrawals from this financial institution based upon our aggregate operating cash balances held in Europe within the same financial institution (Aggregate Cash Deposits). This arrangement also allows us to withdraw amounts exceeding the Aggregate Cash Deposits up to an agreed-upon limit. The net balance of the withdrawals and the Aggregate Cash Deposits are used by the financial institution as a basis for calculating our net interest expense or income. As of March 31, 2010, we had a total of \$2.7 billion in cash withdrawals offsetting our \$2.7 billion in Aggregate Cash Deposits held within the same financial institution under this cash pooling arrangement.

Other financial instruments, including accounts receivable, loans and interest receivable, funds receivable, customer accounts, accounts payable, funds payable, and amounts due to customers are carried at cost, which approximates their fair value because of the short-term nature of these instruments.

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Note 6 Derivative Instruments

We have significant international revenues as well as costs denominated in foreign currencies, subjecting us to foreign currency risk. We purchase foreign currency exchange contracts that qualify as cash flow hedges, generally with maturities of 12 months or less, to reduce the volatility of cash flows primarily from revenue and intercompany transactions denominated in certain foreign currencies. All outstanding derivatives that qualify for hedge accounting are recognized on the balance sheet at fair value, and changes in their fair value are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) until the underlying forecasted transaction occurs. The effective portion of the derivative's gain or loss is initially reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), and is subsequently reclassified into the financial statement line item in which the hedged item is recorded in the same period the forecasted transaction affects earnings. We also hedge our exposure to foreign currency denominated monetary assets and liabilities with foreign currency contracts. Since these derivatives hedge existing exposures that are denominated in foreign currencies, the contracts do not qualify for hedge accounting. Accordingly, these outstanding non-designated derivatives are recognized on the balance sheet at fair value and changes in fair value from these contracts are recorded in interest and other income, net, in the condensed consolidated statement of income. Our derivatives program is not designed or operated for trading or speculative purposes.

Our derivative instruments expose us to credit risk to the extent that our counterparties may be unable to meet the terms of the agreements. We seek to mitigate this risk by limiting our counterparties to major financial institutions and by spreading the risk across several major financial institutions. In addition, the potential risk of loss with any one counterparty resulting from this type of credit risk is monitored on an ongoing basis.

Fair Value of Derivative Contracts: The fair value of our outstanding derivative instruments was as follows:

	Derivative Assets Reported in Other Current Assets		Derivative Liabilities Reported in Other Current Liabilities	
	December 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	December 31, 2009	March 31, 2010
	(In thousands)			
Foreign exchange contracts designated as cash flow hedges	\$ 27	\$ 27,102	\$ 4,848	\$ 3,800
Foreign exchange contracts not designated as hedging instruments	335	106	862	1,114
Total fair value of derivative instruments	\$ 362	\$ 27,208	\$ 5,710	\$ 4,914

Effect of Derivative Contracts on Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income: The following table represents the activity of derivative contracts that qualify for hedge accounting as of December 31, 2009 and March 31, 2010, and the impact of designated derivative contracts on accumulated other comprehensive income for the three months ended March 31, 2010:

December 31, 2009	Amount of gain (loss) recognized in other comprehensive income (effective portion)	Amount of gain (loss) reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income to income (effective portion)	March 31, 2010

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Foreign exchange contracts designated as cash flow hedges	\$ (4,821)	\$ 30,697	\$ (2,574)	\$ 23,302
---	------------	-----------	------------	-----------

Effect of Derivative Contracts on Condensed Consolidated Statement of Income: The following table provides the location in our financial statements of the recognized gains or losses related to our derivative instruments:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010
	(In thousands)	
Foreign exchange contracts designated as cash flow hedges recognized in net revenues	\$ 14,151	\$ (2,574)
Foreign exchange contracts not designated as hedging instruments recognized in interest and other income, net	21,651	377
Total gain (loss) recognized from derivative contracts in the consolidated statement of income	\$ 35,802	\$ (2,197)

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Note 7 Commitments and Contingencies

Credit Agreement

As of March 31, 2010, there were no amounts outstanding under our \$1.8 billion unsecured revolving credit facility and we were in compliance with the financial covenants in the credit agreement.

Litigation and Other Legal Matters

In August 2006, Louis Vuitton Malletier and Christian Dior Couture filed two lawsuits in the Paris Court of Commerce against eBay Inc. and eBay International AG. Among other things, the complaint alleged that we violated French tort law by negligently broadcasting listings posted by third parties offering counterfeit items bearing plaintiffs' trademarks and by purchasing certain advertising keywords. Around September 2006, Parfums Christian Dior, Kenzo Parfums, Parfums Givenchy, and Guerlain Société also filed a lawsuit in the Paris Court of Commerce against eBay Inc. and eBay International AG. The complaint alleged that we had interfered with the selective distribution network the plaintiffs established in France and the European Union by allowing third parties to post listings offering genuine perfumes and cosmetics for sale on our websites. In June 2008, the Paris Court of Commerce ruled that eBay and eBay International AG were liable for failing to prevent the sale of counterfeit items on its websites that traded on plaintiffs' brand names and for interfering with the plaintiffs' selective distribution network. The court awarded plaintiffs approximately EUR 38.6 million in damages and issued an injunction (enforceable by daily fines of up to EUR 100,000) prohibiting all sales of perfumes and cosmetics bearing the Dior, Guerlain, Givenchy and Kenzo brands over all worldwide eBay sites to the extent that they are accessible from France. A hearing took place in September 2009 regarding our compliance with the injunction and in November 2009, the court awarded the plaintiffs EUR 1.7 million (the equivalent of EUR 2,500 per day) and indicated that as a large Internet company we could do a better job of enforcing the injunction. We have taken measures to comply with the injunction and have appealed these rulings. However, these and similar suits may force us to modify our business practices, which could lower our revenue, increase our costs, or make our websites less convenient to our customers. Any such results could materially harm our business. Other luxury brand owners have also filed suit against us or have threatened to do so in numerous different jurisdictions, seeking to hold us liable for, among other things, alleged counterfeit items listed on our websites by third parties, for "tester" and other not for resale consumer products listed on our websites by third parties, for the alleged misuse of trademarks in listings, for alleged violations of selective distribution channel laws, for alleged violations of parallel import laws, for alleged non-compliance with consumer protection laws or in connection with paid search advertisements. We have prevailed in some of these suits, lost in others, and many are in various stages of appeal. We continue to believe that we have meritorious defenses to these suits and intend to defend ourselves vigorously.

In May 2009, the U.K. High Court of Justice ruled in the case filed by L'Oréal SA, Lancôme Parfums et Beauté & Cie, Laboratoire Garnier & Cie and L'Oréal (UK) Ltd v. eBay International AG, other eBay companies, and several eBay sellers (No. HC07CO1978) that eBay was not jointly liable with the seller co-defendants as a joint tortfeasor, and indicated that it would certify to the European Court of Justice questions of liability for the use of L'Oréal trademarks, hosting liability, and the scope of a possible injunction against intermediaries. The U.K. High Court of Justice has released its certification request to the European Court of Justice. We have filed our briefs before the European Court of Justice. A decision is not expected before 2011. The case was originally filed in July 2007. L'Oréal's complaint alleged that we were jointly liable for trademark infringement for the actions of the sellers who allegedly sold counterfeit goods, parallel imports and testers (not for resale products). Additionally, L'Oréal claimed that eBay's use of L'Oréal brands on its website, in its search engine and in sponsored links, and purchase of L'Oréal trademarks as keywords, constitute trademark infringement. The suit sought an injunction preventing future infringement, full disclosure of the identity of all past and present sellers of infringing L'Oréal goods, and a declaration that our Verified Rights Owner (VeRO) program as currently operated was insufficient to prevent such infringement. Other damages claimed were to be specified after the liability stage of the proceedings.

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

In April 2010, the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the decision of the trial court that eBay was not liable to Tiffany & Co. for direct or contributory trademark infringement and that generalized knowledge of alleged counterfeiting was not sufficient to cause intermediaries to be liable where there was no willful blindness by the intermediary to the problem. The Court remanded to the District Court the issue of false advertising. In June 2004, Tiffany (NJ) Inc. and Tiffany & Co. filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York (No. 04 Civ. 4607 (NRB)) claiming that eBay was liable for contributory trademark infringement, false advertising, unfair competition and various related claims based on the listing of alleged counterfeit Tiffany silver jewelry on the eBay website by third parties. The suit sought an injunction, lost profits, punitive damages and attorneys' fees. A bench trial took place in November 2007 and in a ruling in July 2008, the trial court rejected Tiffany's claims, finding that the burden of enforcing trademarks is on the trademark owner and that eBay's anti-counterfeiting efforts are sufficient under the law.

In June 2006, Net2Phone, Inc. filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey (No. 06-2469) alleging that eBay Inc., Skype Technologies S.A., and Skype Inc. infringed five patents owned by Net2Phone relating to point-to-point Internet protocol. The suit seeks an injunction against continuing infringement, unspecified damages, including treble damages for willful infringement, and interest, costs, and fees. We have filed an answer and counterclaims asserting that the patents are invalid, unenforceable, and were not infringed. The parties have completed claim construction briefing and attended a pre-trial conference hearing. The claim construction hearing and trial dates have not yet been set. Net2Phone has filed a motion to transfer venue to Western District of Arkansas in an attempt to consolidate the case with a separate, pending case. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has accepted reexamination on all five Net2Phone patents that are the subject of the lawsuit and has preliminarily rejected all claims in all of the patents. We believe that we have meritorious defenses and intend to defend ourselves vigorously.

In March 2007, a plaintiff filed a purported antitrust class action lawsuit against eBay in the Western District of Texas alleging that eBay and its wholly owned subsidiary PayPal monopolized markets through various anticompetitive acts and tying arrangements. The plaintiff alleged claims under sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Act, as well as related state law claims. In April 2007, the plaintiff re-filed the complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (No. 07-CV-01882-RS), and dismissed the Texas action. The complaint seeks treble damages and an injunction. In 2007, the case was consolidated with other similar lawsuits (No. 07-CV-01882JF). In June 2007, we filed a motion to dismiss the complaint. In March 2008, the court granted the motion to dismiss the tying claims with leave to amend and denied the motion with respect to the monopolization claims. Plaintiffs subsequently decided not to refile the tying claims. The plaintiffs' motion on class certification and our motion for summary judgment were heard by the court in December 2009. In March 2010, the District Court granted our motion for summary judgment, denied plaintiffs' motion for class certification as moot, and entered judgment in favor of us. Plaintiffs have filed a notice of appeal.

In October 2007, PartsRiver filed a lawsuit in the Eastern District of Texas (No. 2-07CV-440-DF) alleging that eBay, Microsoft, Yahoo!, Shopzilla, PriceGrabber and PriceRunner infringed its patent relating to search methods. The suit seeks an injunction against continuing infringement, unspecified damages, and interest, costs, and fees. The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas has granted defendants motion to transfer venue and moved the case to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California. In August 2009, the District Court granted our motion for summary judgment and ruled that the PartsRiver patent was invalid based on a finding that it was on sale more than a year before the filing date of the patent. PartsRiver has appealed the District Court's decision. We intend to vigorously oppose PartsRiver's appeal.

eBay's Korean subsidiary, IAC, has notified its approximately 20 million users of a January 2008 data breach involving personally identifiable information including name, address, resident registration number and some transaction and refund data (but not including credit card information or real time banking information). Approximately 147,000 users have sued IAC over this breach in several lawsuits in Korean courts and more may do so in the future. Trial for a group of four representative suits began in August 2009 in the Seoul District Court, and trial for a group of 23 other suits began in September 2009 in the Seoul District Court. There is some precedent in Korea for a court to grant consolation money for data breaches without a specific finding of harm from the breach. Such precedents have involved payments of up to approximately \$200 per user. On January 14, 2010, the court ruled that IAC had met its obligations with respect to defending the site from intrusion and, accordingly, had no liability for the breach. This ruling has been appealed to the Seoul High Court, where it will be heard de novo.

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Other third parties have from time to time claimed, and others may claim in the future, that we have infringed their intellectual property rights. We are subject to additional patent disputes, and expect that we will increasingly be subject to patent infringement claims as our services expand in scope and complexity. In particular, we expect that we may face additional patent infringement claims involving various aspects of our Marketplaces and Payments businesses. We have in the past been forced to litigate such claims. We may also become more vulnerable to third-party claims as laws such as the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, the Lanham Act and the Communications Decency Act are interpreted by the courts, and as we become subject to laws in jurisdictions where the underlying laws with respect to the potential liability of online intermediaries like ourselves are either unclear or less favorable. We believe that additional lawsuits alleging that we have violated patent, copyright or trademark laws will be filed against us. Intellectual property claims, whether meritorious or not, are time consuming and costly to resolve, could require expensive changes in our methods of doing business, or could require us to enter into costly royalty or licensing agreements.

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

From time to time, we are involved in other disputes or regulatory inquiries that arise in the ordinary course of business including suits by our users (individually or as class actions) alleging, among other things, improper disclosure of our prices, rules or policies, that such prices, rules or policies violate applicable law, or that we have not acted in conformity with such prices, rules or policies. The number and significance of these disputes and inquiries are increasing. Any claims or regulatory actions against us, whether meritorious or not, could be time consuming, result in costly litigation, require significant amounts of management time, and result in the diversion of significant operational resources.

Note 8 Stock-Based Plans*Stock Option Activity*

The following table summarizes stock option activity for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010:

	Shares (In thousands)
Outstanding at January 1, 2010	54,048
Granted	6,480
Exercised	(3,049)
Forfeited/expired/cancelled	(2,612)
Outstanding at March 31, 2010	54,867

The weighted average exercise price of stock options granted during the period was \$23.90 per share and the related weighted average grant date fair value was \$6.69 per share.

Restricted Stock Unit Activity

The following table summarizes restricted stock unit (RSU) activity for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010:

	Units (In thousands)
Outstanding at January 1, 2010	42,241
Awarded	12,456
Vested	(8,962)
Forfeited	(998)
Outstanding at March 31, 2010	44,737

The weighted average grant date fair value for RSUs awarded during the period was \$23.87 per share.

Nonvested Share Activity

There was no material activity related to our nonvested shares for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010.

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Stock-based Compensation Expense

The impact on our results of operations of recording stock-based compensation expense for the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2010 was as follows:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2009	2010
	(In thousands)	
Cost of net revenues	\$ 14,784	\$ 13,034
Sales and marketing	33,686	28,491
Product development	30,679	27,164
General and administrative	34,697	33,380
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$ 113,846	\$ 102,069
Capitalized in product development	\$ 2,295	\$ 2,370

Valuation Assumptions

We calculated the fair value of each stock option award on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The following weighted average assumptions were used for the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2010:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2009	2010
Risk-free interest rates	1.6%	1.5%
Expected lives (in years)	3.8	3.4
Dividend yield	0%	0%
Expected volatility	47%	36%

Our computation of expected volatility is based on a combination of historical and market-based implied volatility from traded options on our common stock. Our computation of expected life was determined based on historical experience of similar awards, giving consideration to the contractual terms of the stock-based awards, vesting schedules and expectations of future employee behavior. The interest rate for periods within the contractual life of the award is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant.

Note 9 Restructuring*2009 Customer Service Consolidation*

In 2009, we began the consolidation of certain customer service facilities in North America and Europe to streamline our operations and deliver better and more efficient customer support to our users. As previously announced, the consolidation will potentially impact approximately 1,100 employees. In connection with this consolidation, we estimate that we will incur aggregate costs of \$45.0 million to \$55.0 million. During the first quarter of 2010, we incurred restructuring charges of \$8.6 million. Since the inception of the plan, we have incurred \$35.2 million in restructuring related charges. We expect to complete these activities by mid-2010.

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

The following table summarizes the restructuring and other related costs by segment recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2010:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2009			Three Months Ended March 31, 2010		
	Employee Severance and Benefits	Facilities	Total	Employee Severance and Benefits	Facilities	Total
	(In thousands)					
Marketplaces	\$ 6,615	\$ 692	\$ 7,307	\$ 8,531	\$ 38	\$ 8,569
Payments	(709)	13	(696)			
	\$ 5,906	\$ 705	\$ 6,611	\$ 8,531	\$ 38	\$ 8,569

eBay Inc.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

The following table summarizes the restructuring activity during the three months ended March 31, 2010:

	Employee Severance and Benefits	Facilities (In thousands)	Total
Accrued liability as of January 1, 2010	\$ 8,827	\$ 2,082	\$ 10,909
Charges	8,531	38	8,569
Payments	(2,773)	(723)	(3,496)
Adjustment	(252)	3	(249)
Accrued liability as of March 31, 2010	\$ 14,333	\$ 1,400	\$ 15,733

In the table above, adjustments reflect the impact of foreign currency translation.

Note 10 Income Taxes

The following table reflects changes in unrecognized tax benefits for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010:

	(In thousands)
Gross amounts of unrecognized tax benefits as of January 1, 2010	\$ 838,616
Increases related to prior period tax positions	2,378
Decreases related to prior period tax positions	(13,804)
Increases related to current period tax positions	28,681
Settlements	(13,073)
Gross amounts of unrecognized tax benefits as of March 31, 2010	\$ 842,798

As of December 31, 2009 and March 31, 2010, our liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits were included in deferred and other tax liabilities, net.

The total liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits and the increase in these liabilities in 2010 relate primarily to the allocations of revenue and costs among our global operations partially offset by the impact of tax rulings made during the period affecting our tax positions. Over the next 12 months, our existing tax positions will continue to generate an increase in liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits. We recognize interest and/or penalties related to uncertain tax positions in income tax expense. The amount of interest and penalties accrued as of December 31, 2009 and March 31, 2010 was approximately \$90.5 million and \$85.7 million, respectively.

We are subject to taxation in the U.S. and various states and foreign jurisdictions. We are under examination by certain tax authorities for the 2003 to 2008 tax years. The material jurisdictions where we are subject to potential examination by tax authorities for tax years after 2002 include, among others, the U.S. (Federal and California), France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Switzerland and Singapore. We believe that adequate amounts have been reserved for any adjustments that may ultimately result from these examinations. Although timing of the resolution of these audits are uncertain, we do not believe it is reasonably likely that the total amount of the unrecognized tax benefits as of March 31, 2010 will materially change in the next 12 months.

Note 11 Skype-Related Transaction

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

During the three months ended March 31, 2010, Skype paid in full the subordinated note receivable of \$125.0 million, which we held as a result of the sale of Skype to an investor group in November 2009, and senior debt securities of \$50.0 million. As a result of the payment, we recorded a gain of approximately \$22.8 million in interest and other income, net, which had a \$13.7 million impact on net income. As of March 31, 2010, we reinvested approximately \$91.4 million in new senior debt securities issued by Skype, which are reflected in other assets on our condensed consolidated balance sheet. These securities mature in five years and offer a variable interest rate based on LIBOR.

Item 2: Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including statements that involve expectations, plans or intentions (such as those relating to future business or financial results, new features or services, or management strategies). You can identify these forward-looking statements by words such as may, will, would, should, could, expect, anticipate, believe, estimate, intend, plan and other similar expressions. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, those discussed in Part II Item 1A: Risk Factors of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q as well as our condensed consolidated financial statements, related notes, and the other financial information appearing elsewhere in this report and our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. We do not intend, and undertake no obligation, to update any of our forward-looking statements after the date of this report to reflect actual results or future events or circumstances. Given these risks and uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements.

You should read the following Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes that appear elsewhere in this report.

Overview

We currently operate two primary business segments: Marketplaces and Payments. Our Marketplaces segment provides the infrastructure to enable global online commerce on a variety of platforms, including the eBay.com platform and our other online platforms, such as our online classifieds businesses, our secondary tickets marketplace (StubHub), our online shopping comparison website (Shopping.com) and our apartment listing service platform (Rent.com), as well as our fixed price media marketplace (Half.com). Our Payments segment is comprised of our online payment solutions PayPal and Bill Me Later. Historically, we also had a Communications segment that consisted of Skype Technologies S.A (Skype). On November 19, 2009, we completed the sale of Skype to an investor group for cash, a subordinated note and an equity stake of approximately 30 percent in the outstanding capital stock of the entity that purchased Skype (which is now named Skype). Accordingly, Skype's operating results are not consolidated in our 2010 results. However, Skype's results of operations are consolidated in our 2009 results through the date of sale. Our non-controlling interest in Skype is accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

For the three months ended March 31, 2010, net revenues increased 9% to \$2.2 billion compared to the same period of the prior year due primarily to growth in the Payments and Marketplaces businesses, as well as a positive impact from foreign currency movements against the U.S. dollar. For the three months ended March 31, 2010, our operating margin increased to 22% compared to 21% in the same period of the prior year due primarily to productivity gains and lower amortization costs associated with our acquired intangible assets, partially offset by faster growth in our lower margin PayPal business and lower take rates. Our Payments segment margin increased 5 percentage points on a year-over-year basis due primarily to improvements in operating leverage and transaction margin as well as the impact from certain one-time items. Our Payments transaction margin was favorably impacted by the shift of certain customer protection program costs from Payments to Marketplaces. Our Marketplaces segment margin decreased 3 percentage points on a year-over-year basis due primarily to reinvestments in our turnaround initiatives, including our customer protection programs in the U.S. and U.K., and the inclusion of Gmarket. For the three months ended March 31, 2010, our diluted earnings per share increased \$0.02 to \$0.30 compared to the same period of the prior year, driven primarily by improvement in our operating margin noted above. For the three months ended March 31, 2010, we generated cash flow from operations of approximately \$418.3 million, down \$250.2 million from the same period of the prior year due primarily to cash paid for income taxes related to a legal entity restructuring completed in 2009 and a higher employee bonus payment.

Some key operating metrics that members of our senior management regularly review to evaluate our financial results include net promoter score (NPS), market share, gross merchandise volume (GMV), GMV excluding vehicles, number of sold items, net total payment volume (TPV), net number of payments, free cash flow, and revenue excluding acquisitions and foreign currency impact.

Outlook

We expect net revenues in 2010 to benefit from continuing GMV and net TPV momentum, partially offset by foreign currency movements. We continue to see signs of improvement in our Marketplaces business, which is exhibiting modest acceleration in certain key metrics. We expect continued strong growth in our Payments business. For the remainder of 2010, we expect pressure on operating results from a stronger U.S. dollar. We will continue to focus on driving operational efficiencies designed to enable us to reallocate resources into strategies and initiatives that we believe will directly benefit our customers and increase activity on our platforms.

Results of Operations*Summary of Net Revenues*

We generate two types of net revenues: net transaction revenues and marketing services and other revenues. Our net transaction revenues are derived principally from listing fees and final value fees (which are fees payable on transactions completed on our Marketplaces trading platforms), fees paid by merchants for payment processing services and, until the sale of Skype on November 19, 2009, fees charged to users to connect Skype's Internet communications products to traditional fixed-line and mobile telephones. Our marketing services revenues are derived principally from the sale of advertisements, revenue sharing arrangements, classifieds fees and lead referral fees. Other revenues are derived principally from interest earned on certain PayPal customer account balances, interest and fees earned on the Bill Me Later portfolio of receivables from loans and from contractual arrangements with third parties that provide services to our users.

We generate the majority of our revenue internationally and, accordingly, fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates impact our results of operations. We have a foreign exchange risk management program that is designed to reduce our exposure to fluctuations in foreign currencies; however, the effectiveness of this program in mitigating the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on our results of operations varies from period to period, and in any given period our operating results are usually affected, sometimes significantly, by changes in currency exchange rates. For the three months ended March 31, 2010, foreign currency movements against the U.S. dollar positively impacted net revenues by approximately \$88.2 million compared to the same period of the prior year. On a business segment basis for the three months ended March 31, 2010, foreign currency movements against the U.S. dollar positively impacted Marketplaces and Payments net revenues by approximately \$72.3 million and \$15.9 million, respectively, compared to the same period of the prior year. Revenues are attributed to U.S. and international geographies primarily based upon the country in which the seller, payment recipient, customer, website that displays advertising, other service provider or, until the sale of Skype on November 19, 2009, the Skype user's Internet protocol address, as the case may be, is located.

The following table sets forth the breakdown of net revenues by type, segment and geography for the periods presented. In addition, we have provided a table of certain key operating metrics that we believe are significant factors affecting our net revenues.

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
(In thousands, except percentage changes)			
Net Revenues by Type:			
Net transaction revenues			
Marketplaces	\$ 1,033,827	\$ 1,172,939	13%
Payments	604,833	766,572	27%
Communications	143,238		N/A
Total net transaction revenues	1,781,898	1,939,511	9%
Marketing services and other revenues			
Marketplaces	190,622	213,856	12%
Payments	38,125	42,690	12%
Communications	9,941		N/A
Total marketing services and other revenues	238,688	256,546	7%
Total net revenues	\$ 2,020,586	\$ 2,196,057	9%
Net Revenues by Segment:			
Marketplaces	\$ 1,224,449	\$ 1,386,795	13%
Payments	642,958	809,262	26%
Communications	153,179		N/A
Total net revenues	\$ 2,020,586	\$ 2,196,057	9%
Net Revenues by Geography:			
U.S.	\$ 968,584	\$ 1,004,211	4%
International	1,052,002	1,191,846	13%

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Total net revenues	\$ 2,020,586	\$ 2,196,057	9%
--------------------	--------------	--------------	----

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
Supplemental Operating Data:			
<i>Marketplaces Segment: (1)</i>			
GMV excluding vehicles (2)	\$ 10,796	\$ 13,371	24%
GMV vehicles only (3)	2,075	2,021	(3)%
Total GMV (4)	\$ 12,871	\$ 15,392	20%
<i>Payments Segment:</i>			
Net total payment volume (5)	\$ 15,859	\$ 21,348	35%

- (1) Rent.com, Shopping.com and eBay's classifieds websites are not included in these metrics.
- (2) Total value of all successfully closed items between users on eBay Marketplaces trading platforms during the period, regardless of whether the buyer and seller actually consummated the transaction, excluding vehicles gross merchandise volume.
- (3) Total value of all successfully closed vehicle transactions between users on eBay Marketplaces trading platforms during the period, regardless of whether the buyer and seller actually consummated the transaction.
- (4) Total value of all successfully closed items between users on eBay Marketplaces trading platforms during the period, regardless of whether the buyer and seller actually consummated the transaction.
- (5) Total dollar volume of payments, net of payment reversals, successfully completed through our Payments network or on Bill Me Later accounts during the period, excluding PayPal's payment gateway business.

Seasonality

The following table sets forth, for the periods presented, our total net revenues and the sequential quarterly movements of these net revenues:

	March 31	Quarter Ended		December 31
		June 30	September 30	
2008*				
Net revenues	\$ 2,192,223	\$ 2,195,661	\$ 2,117,531	\$ 2,035,846
Percent change from prior quarter	1%	0%	(4)%	(4)%
2009*				
Net revenues	\$ 2,020,586	\$ 2,097,992	\$ 2,237,852	\$ 2,370,932
Percent change from prior quarter	(1)%	4%	7%	6%
2010*				
Net revenues	\$ 2,196,057	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent change from prior quarter	(7)%			

* On November 19, 2009, we completed the sale of Skype to an investor group. Accordingly, Skype's revenue is not consolidated in our 2010 results. However, Skype's results of operations are consolidated in our 2008 and 2009 results through the date of sale. See Note 4 Segments to the condensed consolidated financial statements included in this report.

We expect transaction activity patterns on our websites to mirror general consumer buying patterns.

Marketplaces Net Transaction Revenues

Marketplaces net transaction revenues increased \$139.1 million, or 13%, while GMV excluding vehicles increased 24% during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in net transaction revenues was due primarily to the inclusion of revenues generated from Gmarket (acquired June 2009) and the positive impact of foreign currency movements against the U.S. dollar, as well as growth in StubHub, partially offset by our U.S. buyer loyalty programs and pricing initiatives (including larger discounts to our highest-rated sellers), which are recorded as a reduction in revenue.

Marketplaces net transaction revenues earned internationally totaled \$530.6 million and \$677.5 million during the first quarter of 2009 and 2010, respectively, representing 51% and 58% of total Marketplaces net transaction revenues during those respective periods. The increase in international net transaction revenues was due primarily to the inclusion of revenues generated from Gmarket (acquired June 2009) and foreign

currency movements against the U.S. dollar.

Payments Net Transaction Revenues

Payments net transaction revenues increased \$161.7 million, or 26%, during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase was due primarily to net TPV growth of 35% during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period of the prior year, partially offset by lower take rates due primarily to a shift to larger merchants in our Merchant Services business. The increase in net TPV during the first quarter of 2010 was due primarily to growth in consumer and merchant adoption of PayPal. Our Merchant Services net TPV experienced 49% growth during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period of the prior year and represented 59% of PayPal's net TPV. The increase in our Merchant Services business was due primarily to an increase in PayPal's revenue from its existing customer base of merchants as well as an increase in the number of online merchants offering PayPal as a payment option.

Payments net transaction revenues earned internationally totaled \$267.0 million and \$359.9 million during the first quarter of 2009 and 2010, respectively, representing 44% and 47% of total Payments net transaction revenues during those respective periods.

Communications Net Transaction Revenues

On November 19, 2009, we completed the sale of Skype to an investor group. Accordingly, Skype's revenue is not consolidated in our 2010 results. However, Skype's results of operations are consolidated in our 2009 results through the date of sale.

Marketing Services and Other Revenues

Marketing services and other revenues increased \$17.9 million, or 7%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year, and represented 12% of total net revenues in both the first quarter of 2010 and 2009. The increase in marketing services and other revenues during the first quarter of 2010 was due primarily to an increase in revenues attributable to our classifieds business and to advertising.

Summary of Cost of Net Revenues

The following table summarizes changes in cost of net revenues for the periods presented:

	Three Months Ended		Change from	
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	in Dollars	in %
(In thousands, except percentages)				
Cost of net revenues:				
Marketplaces	\$ 215,742	\$ 260,887	\$ 45,145	21%
As a percentage of total Marketplaces net revenues	17.6%	18.8%		
Payments	281,003	345,668	64,665	23%
As a percentage of total Payments net revenues	43.7%	42.7%		
Communications	76,641		(76,641)	N/A
As a percentage of total Communications net revenues	50.0%	N/A		
Total cost of net revenues	\$ 573,386	\$ 606,555	\$ 33,169	6%
As a percentage of net revenues	28.4%	27.6%		

Cost of Net Revenues

Cost of net revenues consists primarily of costs associated with payment processing, customer support and site operations and Skype telecommunications (through November 2009). Significant components of these costs include bank transaction fees, credit card interchange and assessment fees, Bill Me Later related interest charges, employee compensation, contractor costs, facilities costs, depreciation of equipment and amortization expense.

Marketplaces

Marketplaces cost of net revenues increased \$45.1 million, or 21%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year. The increase during the first quarter of 2010 was due primarily to costs attributable to Gmarket (acquired June 2009) and higher revenue. Marketplaces cost of net revenues increased as a percentage of Marketplaces net revenues during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

period of the prior year due primarily to the addition of Gmarket and faster growth in our lower margin businesses, such as StubHub.

Payments

Payments cost of net revenues increased \$64.7 million, or 23%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year. The increase in cost of net revenues was primarily due to the impact of our growth in net TPV. Payments cost of net revenues as a percentage of Payments net revenues decreased during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period of the prior year due primarily to improved leverage of our existing site operations and customer support infrastructure, partially offset by lower take rates.

Communications

On November 19, 2009, we completed the sale of Skype to an investor group. Accordingly, Skype's cost of net revenue is not consolidated in our 2010 results.

Summary of Operating Expenses, Non-Operating Items and Provision for Income Taxes

The following table summarizes changes in operating expenses, non-operating items and provision for income taxes for the periods presented:

	Three Months Ended		Change from	
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	in Dollars	in %
	(In thousands, except percentage changes)			
Sales and marketing	\$ 403,316	\$ 446,161	\$ 42,845	11%
Product development	201,516	210,139	8,623	4%
General and administrative	268,291	276,743	8,452	3%
Provision for transaction and loan losses	81,234	106,029	24,795	31%
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	63,468	53,252	(10,216)	(16)%
Restructuring	6,611	8,569	1,958	30%
Interest and other income, net	18,092	6,046	(12,046)	(67)%
Provision for income taxes	83,743	97,002	13,259	16%

Sales and Marketing

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
Sales and marketing	\$ 403,316	\$ 446,161	11%
As a percentage of net revenues	20.0%	20.3%	

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of advertising costs, marketing programs, employee compensation, facilities costs and depreciation on equipment.

Sales and marketing expense increased \$42.8 million, or 11%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year, due primarily to higher marketing program costs and employee-related expenses (including consultant costs, facility costs and equipment-related costs). The increase in costs attributable to Gmarket (acquired June 2009) was partially offset by the exclusion of costs attributable to Skype (sold November 2009).

Product Development

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
Product development	\$ 201,516	\$ 210,139	4%
As a percentage of net revenues	10.0%	9.6%	

Product development expenses consist primarily of employee compensation, contractor costs, facilities costs and depreciation on equipment. Product development expenses are net of required capitalization of major site and other product development efforts, including the development of our next generation platform architecture, migration of certain platforms, seller tools and Payments services projects. Capitalized site and product development costs were \$26.0 million and \$27.1 million in the first quarter of 2009 and 2010, respectively, and are primarily reflected as a cost of net revenues when amortized in future periods.

Product development expenses increased \$8.6 million, or 4%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year. The increase in dollars was due primarily to an increase in employee-related costs (including consultant costs, facility costs and equipment-related costs) driven by increased investment in our top technology priorities - search, catalog, platform, and user experience - and the inclusion of costs attributable to Gmarket (acquired June 2009), partially offset by a decrease in costs attributable to Skype (sold November 2009).

General and Administrative

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
General and administrative	\$ 268,291	\$ 276,743	3%
As a percentage of net revenues	13.3%	12.6%	

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of employee compensation, contractor costs, facilities costs, depreciation of equipment, employer payroll taxes on employee stock-based compensation, legal settlement costs, insurance and professional fees.

General and administrative expenses increased \$8.5 million, or 3%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year. The increase was primarily due to an increase in employee-related expenses (including consultant costs, facility costs, equipment-related costs and payroll taxes on employee stock options) of \$26.2 million and inclusion of costs attributable to Gmarket (acquired June 2009), partially offset by a decrease in legal expenses of \$14.6 million and the exclusion of costs attributable to Skype (sold November 2009). Our legal expenses, including those related to various ongoing legal proceedings, may fluctuate substantially from period to period.

Provision for Transaction and Loan Losses

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
Provision for transaction and loan loss	\$ 81,234	\$ 106,029	31%
As a percentage of net revenues	4.0%	4.8%	

Provision for transaction and loan losses primarily consists of bad debt expense associated with our accounts receivable balance, loan reserves associated with our principal loan receivable balance and PayPal transaction loss expense, as well as our losses resulting from our customer protection programs.

Provision for transaction and loan losses increased by \$24.8 million, or 31%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year. The increase was due primarily to higher costs associated with our customer protection programs, including the recent launch of eBay's Buyer Protection program, as well as increases in GMV excluding vehicles and TPV, partially offset by improvements to PayPal's transaction loss rates (in part due to the substitution of eBay's Buyer Protection Program for prior PayPal programs). We continue to expect our provision for transaction and loan loss expense to fluctuate depending on many factors, including macroeconomic conditions and our customer protection programs.

Amortization of Acquired Intangible Assets

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	\$ 63,468	\$ 53,252	(16)%
As a percentage of net revenues	3.1%	2.4%	

From time to time we have purchased, and we expect to continue to purchase, assets and businesses. These purchase transactions generally result in the creation of acquired intangible assets with finite lives and lead to a corresponding increase in our amortization expense in future periods. We amortize intangible assets over the period of estimated benefit, using the straight-line method and estimated useful lives ranging from one to eight years. Amortization of acquired intangibles assets is also impacted by our sale activity and timing of fully amortized acquired intangible assets.

The decrease in amortization of acquired intangible assets during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period of the prior year was due primarily to our purchase of Gmarket (acquired June 2009), our sale of Skype (sold November 2009) and the timing of fully amortizing acquired intangible assets.

Restructuring

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
Restructuring	\$ 6,611	\$ 8,569	30%
As a percentage of net revenues	0.3%	0.4%	

Restructuring expenses increased \$2.0 million, or 30%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year. The restructuring charges incurred during both periods related primarily to employee severance and benefits.

In 2009, we began the consolidation of certain customer service facilities in North America and Europe to streamline our operations and deliver better and more efficient customer support to our users. As previously announced, the consolidation will potentially impact approximately 1,100 employees. In connection with the consolidation, we estimate that we will incur aggregate costs of \$45.0 million to \$55.0 million. During the first quarter of 2010, we incurred restructuring charges of \$8.6 million. Since the inception of the plan, we have incurred \$35.2 million in restructuring related charges. We expect to complete these activities by mid-2010. See Note 9 Restructuring to the condensed consolidated financial statements included in this report.

Interest and Other Income, Net

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
Interest and other income, net	\$ 18,092	\$ 6,046	(67)%
As a percentage of net revenues	0.9%	0.3%	

Interest and other income, net, consists of interest earned on cash, cash equivalents and investments, as well as foreign exchange transaction gains and losses, our portion of operating results from investments accounted for under the equity method of accounting, interest expense consisting of interest charges on the amount drawn under our credit agreement and certain accrued contingencies. Interest and other income, net excludes interest expense related to Bill Me Later, which is included in cost of net revenues.

Interest and other income, net decreased \$12.0 million, or 67%, during the first quarter of 2010, compared to the same period of the prior year. The decrease in interest and other income, net was due primarily to charges associated with the sale of Skype that were finalized during the quarter and losses from our portion of investments accounted for under the equity method of accounting, partially offset by a gain on the repayment in full of the Skype note receivable and senior debt securities.

Provision for Income Taxes

	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 31, 2009	March 31, 2010	
	(In thousands, except percentages)		
Provision for income taxes	\$ 83,743	\$ 97,002	16%
Effective tax rate	19%	20%	

The provision for income taxes differs from the amount computed by applying the statutory U.S. federal rate principally due to foreign income with lower tax rates and tax credits that lower the effective tax rate, offset by state taxes, subsidiary losses for which we have not provided a benefit and other factors that impact the effective tax rate.

The increase in our effective tax rate during the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period of the prior year was due to a change in our geographic mix of earnings, including the impact of our sale of Skype, stronger earnings in the U.S. and the tax impact of the gain on the repayment in full of the Skype note receivable and senior debt securities, partially offset by a tax benefit from a ruling issued by a tax authority.

From time to time, we engage in certain intercompany transactions and legal entity restructurings. We consider many factors when evaluating these transactions, including the alignment of our corporate structure with our organizational objectives, the operational and tax efficiency of our corporate structure, as well as the long-term cash flows and cash needs of our different businesses. These transactions may impact our overall tax rate and/or result in additional cash tax payments. The impact in any period may be significant. These transactions may be complex in nature and the impact of such transactions on future periods may be difficult to estimate. In 2009, we completed a legal entity restructuring as a result of which we transferred approximately \$1.1 billion in cash to the U.S. The tax impact of this restructuring was included in our 2009 provision for income taxes. As a result of this transaction, we made cash payment for taxes of approximately \$207.4 million during the first quarter of 2010. See *Liquidity and Capital Resources* *Cash Flows* *Operating activities* below.

Liquidity and Capital Resources**Cash Flows**

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2010
	(In thousands)	
Net cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities	\$ 668,527	\$ 418,262
Investing activities	(52,059)	(700,969)
Financing activities	(614,520)	(7,390)
Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	(133,717)	(116,718)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	\$ (131,769)	\$ (406,815)

Operating Activities

We generated cash from operating activities in amounts greater than net income in the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2010 due primarily to non-cash charges to earnings and changes in working capital. Non-cash charges to earnings included depreciation and amortization on our long-term assets, stock-based compensation and the provision for transaction and loan losses. The decrease in cash provided by operating activities during the three months ended March 31, 2010 compared to the same period of the prior year was due primarily to cash paid for taxes of \$207.4 million related to a legal entity restructuring completed in the fourth quarter of 2009 and a higher employee bonus payment.

Investing Activities

The net cash used in investing activities of \$701.0 million in the first three months of 2010 was due primarily to net cash paid for the purchases of investments of \$684.9 million and purchases of property and equipment of \$152.3 million, partially offset by proceeds of \$125.0 million from the Skype note receivable. The net cash used in investing activities of \$52.1 million in the first three months of 2009 was due primarily to cash paid for the purchases of property and equipment of \$90.9 million and net purchases of investments of \$7.7 million, partially offset by \$46.2 million in cash received from principal loans receivable, net of collections, that were related to Bill Me Later.

Financing Activities

The net cash used in financing activities of \$7.4 million in the first three months of 2010 was due primarily to \$70.5 million in cash paid for tax withholdings related to net share settlements of RSUs and nonvested share awards, partially offset by proceeds of \$42.1 million from the issuance of common stock in connection with the exercise of stock options and \$21.0 million in excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation. The net cash flows used in financing activities of \$614.5 million in the three months of 2009 was due primarily to the repayment of \$600.0 million in borrowings under our credit agreement.

The negative effect of exchange rate movements on cash and cash equivalents during the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2010 was due to the strengthening of the U.S. dollar against other foreign currencies, primarily the Euro.

Stock Repurchases

In January 2008, our Board authorized, and we announced, a stock repurchase program of up to \$2.0 billion of our common stock. During the three months ended March 31, 2010, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock. As of March 31, 2010, we had the ability to repurchase up to \$656.5 million under this stock repurchase program.

Credit Agreement

As of March 31, 2010, there were no amounts outstanding under our \$1.8 billion credit agreement.

Liquidity and Capital Resource Requirements

At March 31, 2010, we had cash and cash equivalents and non-equity investments of \$5.4 billion, compared to \$5.2 billion at December 31, 2009. At March 31, 2010, we held balances in cash, cash equivalents and non-equity investments outside the U.S. in certain of our foreign operations totaling approximately \$4.3 billion. If these cash and cash equivalents were distributed to the U.S., we may be subject to additional U.S. taxes in certain circumstances. Our available cash and cash equivalents are held in bank deposits and money market funds. We actively monitor the third-party depository institutions and money market funds that hold our cash and cash equivalents. Our emphasis is primarily on safety of principal while secondarily maximizing yield on those funds. We diversify our cash and cash equivalents among various financial institutions and money market funds in order to reduce our exposure should any one of these financial institutions or money market funds fail or encounter difficulties. To date, we have experienced no material loss or lack of access to our invested cash or cash equivalents; however, we can provide no assurances that access to our invested cash and cash equivalents will not be impacted by adverse conditions in the financial markets.

We believe that our existing cash and cash equivalents, together with cash expected to be generated from operations and cash available through our credit agreement, will be sufficient to fund our operating activities, anticipated capital expenditures, Bill Me Later portfolio of receivables from loans and stock repurchases for the foreseeable future.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of March 31, 2010, we had no off-balance sheet arrangements that have, or are reasonably likely to have, a current or future material effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources. In Europe, we have a cash pooling arrangement with a financial institution for cash management purposes. This arrangement allows for cash withdrawals from this financial institution based upon our aggregate operating cash balances held in Europe within the same financial institution (Aggregate Cash Deposits). This arrangement also allows us to withdraw amounts exceeding the Aggregate Cash Deposits up to an agreed-upon limit. The net balance of the withdrawals and the Aggregate Cash Deposits are used by the financial institution as a basis for calculating our net interest expense or income. As of March 31, 2010, we had a total of \$2.7 billion in cash withdrawals offsetting our \$2.7 billion in Aggregate Cash Deposits held within the same financial institution under this cash pooling arrangement.

Customer balances held as direct claims against us, primarily PayPal, are included on our condensed consolidated balance sheet in funds receivable and customer accounts with an offsetting current liability in funds payable and amounts due to customers, and totaled approximately \$1.6 billion as of March 31, 2010 and \$1.5 billion as of December 31, 2009. Customer funds held by PayPal as an agent or custodian on behalf of our customers are not reflected in our condensed consolidated balance sheet. These funds include funds that are deposited in bank accounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (subject to applicable limits) on behalf of U.S. customers and funds that U.S. customers choose to invest in The PayPal Money Market Fund, which totaled approximately \$2.5 billion and \$2.2 billion as of March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. The PayPal Money Market Fund is invested in a portfolio managed by Barclays Global Fund Advisors.

Indemnification Provisions

In the ordinary course of business, we have included limited indemnification provisions in certain of our agreements with parties with which we have commercial relations, including our standard marketing, promotions and application-programming-interface license agreements. Under these contracts, we generally indemnify, hold harmless, and agree to reimburse the indemnified party for losses suffered or incurred by the indemnified party in connection with claims by a third party with respect to our domain names, trademarks, logos and other branding elements to the extent that such marks are applicable to our performance under the subject agreement. In a limited number of agreements, we have provided an indemnity for other types of third-party claims, which are indemnities mainly related to various intellectual property rights. In our PayPal business, we have provided an indemnity to our payment processors in the event of certain third-party claims or card association fines against the processor arising out of conduct by PayPal or PayPal customers. In connection with the sale of Skype, we made certain customary warranties to the buyer in the purchase agreement. Our liability to the buyer for inaccuracies in these warranties is generally subject to certain limitations. With respect to certain specified litigation matters involving Skype that were pending as of the closing of the transaction, we also agreed, among other things, to bear 50% of the cost of any monetary judgment that is rendered in respect of those matters. It is not possible to determine the maximum potential loss under these indemnification provisions due to our limited history of prior indemnification claims and the unique facts and circumstances involved in each particular provision. To date, no significant costs have been incurred, either individually or collectively, in connection with our indemnification provisions.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 1 The Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies to the condensed consolidated financial statements regarding the impact of certain recent accounting pronouncements on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The information in this section should be read in connection with the information on financial market risk related to changes in interest rates and non-U.S. currency exchange rates in Part II, Item 7A, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk, in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009. Our market risk profile has not changed significantly during the first three months of 2010.

Interest Rate Risk

We actively monitor the third-party depository institutions that hold our cash and cash equivalents. We diversify our cash and cash equivalents among counterparties to minimize exposure to any one of these entities. Our emphasis is primarily on safety of principal while secondarily maximizing yield on those funds. To achieve this objective, we maintain our portfolio of cash equivalents and short-term and long-term investments in a variety of securities, including government and corporate securities and money market funds. These investments are generally classified as available-for-sale and consequently are recorded on the balance sheet at fair value with unrealized gains or losses reported as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income, net of estimated tax.

Investment Risk

As of March 31, 2010, the carrying value of our cash and cash equivalents approximated their fair value and represented approximately 55% of our total cash, cash equivalents and investment portfolio. As of March 31, 2010 our cash and cash equivalents were held primarily in bank deposits and money market funds. As of March 31, 2010, we held no direct investments in auction rate securities, collateralized debt obligations, structured investment vehicles or mortgage-backed securities.

Foreign Currency Risk

Our foreign currency exposure continues to evolve as we grow internationally. Our exposure to foreign currency transaction gains and losses is the result of certain net receivables due from our foreign subsidiaries and customers being denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, primarily the Euro, British pound, Korean won and Australian dollar, in which our revenues and profits are denominated. A portion of these risks is hedged, but fluctuations could impact our results of operations, financial position, and cash flows.

Item 4: Controls and Procedures

(a) *Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* Based on the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) required by Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b), our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer have concluded that as of the end of the period covered by this report, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

(b) *Changes in internal controls.* There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this report 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

The information set forth under Note 7 Commitments and Contingencies to the condensed consolidated financial statements included in Part I, Item 1 of this report is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 1A: Risk Factors

Risk Factors That May Affect Results of Operations and Financial Condition

The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing us. Other events that we do not currently anticipate or that we currently deem immaterial also may adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Our operating results may decline.

Our operating results have varied on a quarterly basis during our operating history. Our operating results may fluctuate significantly as a result of a variety of factors, many of which are outside our control. Factors that may affect our operating results include the following:

general economic conditions, including the possibility of a protracted recession or prolonged period of limited economic growth in the U.S. and a worldwide economic slowdown; disruptions to the credit and financial markets in the U.S. and worldwide; contractions or limited growth in consumer spending or consumer credit; and adverse economic conditions that may be specific to the Internet, ecommerce and payments industries;

our ability to retain an active user base, attract new users, and encourage existing users to list items for sale, purchase items through our websites, or use our payment services, especially when consumer spending has contracted;

the primary and secondary effects of previously announced and possible future changes to our pricing, products and policies, including, among other changes: a reduced emphasis on upfront fees (e.g., insertion fees for listings) and corresponding increases in success-based fees (e.g., final value fees for sold items); the discontinuation of certain optional seller listing features and loss of associated revenues; new algorithms for determining which listings appear at the top of searches; tighter seller standards, which may restrict some sellers from selling on our websites even if they have been able to do so historically; restrictions or holds on payments made to certain sellers or in connection with certain categories of higher-risk transactions; incentives and rewards for top sellers, including pricing discounts; increased protection for buyers; lower insertion fees for, and extended duration of, listings of fixed-price items; shipping and handling limits on certain categories of items (e.g., media); requiring sellers to accept at least one approved payment method (and restricting sellers from referencing non-permitted payment methods, including paper forms of payment such as checks and money orders), on eBay.com in the U.S. for most categories of items; changes intended to drive more sales and improve seller efficiency, including, among others, the expansion of buyer incentives and loyalty programs, requiring sellers to provide additional key information intended to set buyer expectations and help reduce seller costs, changes to performance standards and/or rewards for sellers (including the creation of a new top-rated seller status); changes to the dispute resolution process (including directing eBay buyers to resolve disputes with sellers through eBay instead of through PayPal); and the adoption in the U.S. of a single fixed price format, which includes making listings previously available under our store inventory format accessible through

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

our search algorithms, and changes to our fee structure, including new standard fees and, for a monthly subscription fee, eBay Stores packages with discounted fees;

our ability to improve the quality of the user experience on our websites (including our customer support in the event of a problem) in light of the improved quality generally of the user experience offered by competitive Internet merchants;

our ability to reduce the loss of active buyers and sellers and increase activity of the users of our Marketplaces business, especially with respect to our top buyers and sellers, and especially in the U.S., Germany and the U.K.;

changes to our use of advertising on our sites, including changes in ad placement;

our ability to successfully integrate and manage businesses that we acquire, including new needs to manage credit risks and bad debts following our acquisition of Bill Me Later in November 2008 and to manage competing marketplaces in Korea following our acquisition of Gmarket in June 2009;

consumer confidence in the safety and security of transactions using our websites or technology and the effect of any changes in our practices and policies designed to foster improved confidence;

our ability to manage the costs of our user protection programs;

the volume, velocity, size, timing, monetization, and completion rates of transactions using our websites or technology;

regulatory and legal actions imposing obligations on our businesses or our users, including the injunction related to certain cosmetic and perfume brands (see Item 1 Legal Proceedings above);

new laws or regulations, or interpretations of existing laws or regulations, that impose liability on us for actions of our users or otherwise harm our business models or restrict the Internet, ecommerce, online payments or online advertising;

our ability to meet regulatory requirements as we expand the range and geographical scope of our services;

the actions of our competitors, including the introduction of new sites, services, products and functionality;

our ability to manage the transaction loss rate on eBay and in our Payments business;

our ability to manage funding costs and losses associated with our Bill Me Later business;

the amount and timing of operating costs and capital expenditures relating to the maintenance and expansion of our businesses, operations, and infrastructure;

the costs and results of litigation that involves us;

our ability to develop product enhancements, programs, and features at a reasonable cost and in a timely manner;

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

our ability to upgrade and develop our systems, infrastructure, and customer service capabilities to accommodate growth and to improve our websites at a reasonable cost while maintaining 24/7 operations;

technical difficulties or service interruptions involving our websites or services provided to us or our users by third parties;

our ability to comply with the requirements of entities whose services are required for our operations, such as credit card networks and banks;

the cost and availability of online and traditional advertising, and the success of our brand building and marketing campaigns;

our ability to attract new personnel in a timely and effective manner and to retain key employees;

the continued healthy operation of our technology suppliers and other parties with which we have commercial relations;

continued consumer acceptance of the Internet as a medium for ecommerce and payments in the face of increasing publicity about fraud, spoofing, phishing, viruses, spyware, malware and other dangers of the Internet; and

macroeconomic and geopolitical events affecting commerce generally.

It is difficult for us to forecast the level or source of our revenues or earnings accurately. In view of the rapidly evolving nature of our business, we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our operating results may not be meaningful, and you should not rely upon them as an indication of future performance. We do not have backlog, and substantially all of our net revenues each quarter come from transactions involving sales or payments during that quarter. Due to the inherent difficulty in forecasting revenues, it is also difficult to forecast income statement expenses as a percentage of net revenues. Quarterly and annual income statement expenses as a percentage of net revenues may be significantly different from historical or projected rates. Our operating results in one or more future quarters may fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors. In that event, the trading price of our common stock would almost certainly decline.

We invest heavily in marketing and promotion, customer support, protection programs, technology and further development of the operating infrastructure for our core and non-core operations. Some of this investment entails long-term contractual commitments. As a result, we may be unable to adjust our spending rapidly enough to compensate for any unexpected revenue shortfall, which may harm our profitability.

Growth rates of our Marketplaces businesses in some of our most established markets have been slower than that for ecommerce generally and have declined in certain periods. Despite our efforts to stem this loss of market share in these and other markets, we may not be successful. As our growth rates in established markets slow, we will increasingly need to focus on keeping existing users, especially our top buyers and sellers, active and increasing their activity level on our websites in order to continue to grow our business. In addition, our Marketplaces business is facing increased competitive pressure. In particular, the competitive norm for, and the expected level of service from, Internet ecommerce websites has significantly increased, ranging from improved user experience to greater ease of buying goods to lower (or no) shipping costs to faster shipping times. If we are unable to change our services in ways that reflect the changing demands of the ecommerce marketplace, particularly the higher growth of sales of fixed-price items and higher service levels (some of which depend on services provided by sellers on our platforms), our business will suffer.

We have announced changes to our Marketplaces business intended to drive more sales and improve seller efficiency. Some of the changes that we have announced to date have been controversial with, and led to dissatisfaction among, our sellers, and additional changes that we announce in the future may also be negatively received by some of our sellers. This may not only impact the supply of items listed on our websites, but because many sellers also buy from our sites, it may adversely impact demand as well. Given the number of recent changes that we have made to our policies and pricing, it may take our sellers some time to fully assess and adjust to these changes, and sellers may elect to reduce volume while making such assessments and adjustments or in response to these changes. If any of these changes cause sellers to move their business (in whole or in part) away from our websites or otherwise fail to improve gross merchandise volume or the number of successful listings, our operating results and profitability will be harmed. We believe that the mix of sales under our traditional auction-style listing format and fixed-price listing format will continue to shift towards our fixed-price format. Accordingly, we have eliminated some of the features related to our traditional auction-style format and expect others will become less meaningful to, and used less frequently by, our sellers, which would result in a corresponding decrease in revenues from such features. In addition, we expect that the costs associated with our seller discount programs will increase as more sellers will become eligible for such discounts.

In addition, because a large percentage of PayPal transactions originate on the eBay platform, declines in growth rates in major Marketplaces markets also adversely affect PayPal's growth. The expected future growth of our PayPal, StubHub, and other lower margin businesses may also cause downward pressure on our profit margins because those businesses have lower gross margins than our Marketplaces platforms.

The current recession could harm our business.

Our Marketplaces and Payments businesses are dependent on consumer purchases. The current economic downturn has resulted in reduced buyer demand and reduced selling prices and may reduce the volume of purchases on our Marketplaces platforms and the volume of transactions paid for using our PayPal payment service, all of which would adversely affect our business. In addition, the economic downturn has adversely affected our advertising revenues and may continue to require us to increase our reserves for bad debt and transaction losses. Continuing poor economic conditions will likely continue or exacerbate these trends. In the event of the bankruptcy of a merchant that sells goods or services in advance of the date of their delivery or use (such as airline, cruise or concert tickets), PayPal could be liable to the buyers of such goods or services either through its buyer protection program or through chargebacks.

We are exposed to fluctuations in currency exchange rates and interest rates.

Because we conduct the majority of our business outside the United States but report our financial results in U.S. dollars, we face exposure to adverse movements in currency exchange rates. In connection with its multi-currency service, PayPal fixes exchange rates twice per day, and may face financial exposure if it incorrectly fixes the exchange rate or if exposure reports are delayed. PayPal also holds some corporate and customer funds in non-U.S. currencies, and thus its financial results are affected by the translation of these non-U.S. currencies into U.S. dollars. In addition, the results of operations of many of our internationally focused websites are exposed to foreign exchange rate fluctuations as the financial results of the applicable subsidiaries are translated from the local currency into U.S. dollars upon consolidation. If the U.S. dollar weakens against foreign currencies, the translation of these foreign currency denominated transactions will result in increased net revenues, operating expenses, and net income. Similarly, our net revenues, operating expenses, and net income will be negatively impacted if the U.S. dollar strengthens against foreign currencies, as happened in the first quarter of 2010. Net revenues in the three months ended March 31, 2010 were positively impacted by foreign currency translation of \$88.2 million compared to the same period of the prior fiscal year. Operating income for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 and the first three months ended March 31, 2010 was positively impacted by foreign currency translation of \$37.4 million, compared to the same period of the prior fiscal year. As exchange rates vary, net sales and other operating results, when translated, may differ materially from expectations. In particular, to the extent the U.S. dollar strengthens against the Euro, British pound, Korean won, Australian dollar or Canadian dollar, our foreign revenues and profits will be reduced as a result of these translation adjustments. While from time to time we enter into transactions to hedge portions of our foreign currency translation exposure, it is impossible to perfectly predict or completely eliminate the effects of this exposure. In addition, to the extent the U.S. dollar strengthens against the Euro, the British pound, the Australian dollar, and the Canadian dollar, cross-border trade related to purchases of dollar-denominated goods by non-U.S. purchasers will likely decrease, and that decrease will likely not be offset by a corresponding increase in cross-border trade involving purchases by U.S. buyers of goods denominated in other currencies, adversely affecting our business.

In addition, we face exposure to fluctuations in interest rates. For example, relatively low interest rates have continued to limit our investment income, including income we earn on PayPal customer balances, which in turn has materially lowered our net interest income.

Bill Me Later's operations depend on lending services provided by CIT Bank.

We acquired Bill Me Later, a company that facilitates transaction-based credit services by lending banks, in November 2008. Bill Me Later is neither a chartered financial institution nor is it licensed to make loans in any state. Accordingly, Bill Me Later must rely on CIT Bank (or another chartered financial institution) to extend credit to customers in order to offer the Bill Me Later service. When a consumer makes a purchase using the Bill Me Later service, CIT Bank extends the credit to the consumer, funds the consumer loan at the point of sale and advances funds to the merchant. Bill Me Later subsequently purchases the receivable related to the consumer loan extended by CIT Bank. Although CIT Bank continues to own each customer account, Bill Me Later owns the related receivable and is responsible for all servicing functions related to the account. Any termination or interruption of CIT Bank's ability to lend could result in an interruption to the Bill Me Later service. In November 2009, CIT Group Inc., the parent company of CIT Bank, filed for bankruptcy under a prepackaged plan of reorganization, the plan was approved by the bankruptcy court in December 2009 and CIT Group Inc. emerged from bankruptcy on December 10, 2009. If CIT Group is unable to complete the restructuring plan, or if CIT Group's financial condition otherwise significantly impairs CIT Bank's financial condition or operations or if CIT Bank's financial condition or operations are adversely affected for any reason, CIT Bank could be placed under Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) receivership. In the event of a receivership, the FDIC as receiver could potentially terminate or suspend our commercial relationship with CIT Bank. Bill Me Later has put in place a similar arrangement with another chartered financial institution, but if such a termination or suspension occurs with no or little advance notice from the FDIC, Bill Me Later would be unable to originate any new transactions until the new arrangement was implemented, which might materially and adversely affect Bill Me Later's business.

A lawsuit has been filed against Bill Me Later in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, alleging that in its relationship with CIT Bank, Bill Me Later is acting as the true lender to customers in violation of various California laws, including the state's usury law. We believe that these allegations are without merit and intend to defend ourselves vigorously. However, this area of law is uncertain and if the lawsuit is successful, Bill Me Later may be required to change its methods of operations, pay substantial damages and reduce some of its charges and fees, which would likely adversely affect our business.

The listing or sale by our users of pirated or counterfeit items may harm our business.

We have received in the past, and we anticipate receiving in the future, communications alleging that certain items listed or sold through our service by our users infringe third-party copyrights, trademarks and trade names, or other intellectual property rights. See Item 1 Legal Proceedings above. Although we have sought to work actively with the owners of intellectual property rights to eliminate listings offering infringing items on our websites, some rights owners have expressed the view that our efforts are insufficient. Content owners and other intellectual property rights owners have been active in asserting their purported rights against online companies, including eBay. Allegations of infringement of intellectual property rights have resulted in threats of litigation and actual litigation against us from time to time by rights owners, including litigation brought by luxury brand owners such as Tiffany & Co. in the U.S., Rolex S.A. and Coty Prestige Lancaster Group GmbH in Germany, Louis Vuitton Malletier and Christian Dior Couture in France, L'Oréal SA, Lancôme Parfums et Beauté & Cie, and Laboratoire Garnier & Cie in several European countries. The plaintiffs in these cases seek to hold eBay liable for alleged counterfeit items listed on our sites by third parties, for tester and other consumer products labeled in a manner to prevent resale and for unboxed and other allegedly nonconforming products listed on our sites by third parties, for the alleged misuse of trademarks or copyrights in listings or otherwise on our sites, or in connection with paid search advertisements, or for alleged violations of selective distribution channel laws or parallel import laws for listings of authentic items, or for alleged non-compliance with consumer protection laws. Such plaintiffs seek, among other things, injunctive relief and damages. In the aggregate, these suits could result in significant damage awards and could adversely affect our business. In June 2008, the Paris Court of Commerce ruled in the Louis Vuitton Malletier and Christian Dior Couture cases that eBay and eBay International AG were liable for failing to prevent the sale of counterfeit items on its websites that traded on plaintiffs' brand names and for interfering with the plaintiffs' selective distribution network. The court awarded the plaintiffs approximately EUR 38.6 million in damages and issued an injunction (enforceable by daily fines of up to EUR 100,000) prohibiting all sales of perfumes and cosmetics bearing the Dior, Guerlain, Givenchy and Kenzo brands over all worldwide eBay sites to the extent they are accessible from France. We have taken measures to comply with the injunction and have appealed these rulings. A subsequent ruling fined us EUR 1.7 million (the equivalent of EUR 2,500 per day) and indicated we should employ additional measures to enforce the injunction. These and similar suits may force us to modify our business practices, which could lower our revenue, increase our costs or make our websites less convenient to our customers. Any such results could materially harm our business.

In addition to litigation from rights owners, we may be subject to regulatory, civil or criminal proceedings and penalties if governmental authorities believe we have aided in the sale of counterfeit goods. While we have had some early success in defending against such litigation, more recent cases have been based, at least in part, on different legal theories than those of earlier cases, and there is no guarantee that we will continue to be successful in defending against such litigation. Plaintiffs in recent cases have argued that we are not entitled to safe harbors under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act in the U.S. or as a hosting provider in the European Union under the Electronic Commerce Directive because of the alleged active nature of our involvement with our sellers, and that, whether or not such safe harbors are available, we should be found liable because we supposedly have not adequately removed listings that are counterfeit or are authentic but allegedly violate trademark law or effectively suspended users who have created such listings. We are constantly seeking to improve and modify our efforts to eliminate counterfeit and pirated items. These improvements are in response to ongoing business initiatives designed to reduce bad buyer experiences and improve customer satisfaction as well as in response to new patterns we are seeing among counterfeiters and others committing fraud on our users. Notwithstanding these efforts, we believe that the legal climate, especially in Europe, is becoming more adverse to our positions, which may require us to take actions which could lower our revenues, increase our costs, or make our websites less convenient to our customers, which may materially harm our business. In addition, a public perception that counterfeit or pirated items are commonplace on our sites, even if factually incorrect, could damage our reputation and our business.

Content owners and other intellectual property rights owners may also seek to bring legal action against entities that are peripherally involved in the sale of infringing items, such as payment companies. To the extent that intellectual property rights owners bring legal action against PayPal based upon the use of PayPal's payment services in a transaction involving the sale of infringing items, including on our websites, our business could be harmed.

We are subject to patent litigation.

We have repeatedly been sued for allegedly infringing other parties' patents. Some of these ongoing suits are described under the heading "Item 1 Legal Proceedings" above. We are a defendant in other patent suits and we have been notified of several other potential patent disputes, and expect that we will increasingly be subject to patent infringement claims involving various aspects of our Marketplaces and Payments segments as our services expand in scope and complexity. These claims, whether meritorious or not, are time consuming and costly to resolve, and could require expensive changes in our methods of doing business, could require us to enter into costly royalty or licensing agreements, or could require us to cease conducting certain operations.

Use of our services for illegal purposes could harm our business.

The law relating to the liability of providers of online services for the activities of their users on their service is often challenged in the U.S. and internationally. We may be unable to prevent our users from selling unlawful or stolen goods or unlawful services, or selling goods or services in an unlawful manner, and we may be subject to allegations of civil or criminal liability for unlawful activities carried out by users through our services. We have been subject to several lawsuits based upon such allegations. In December 2004, an executive of Baazee.com, our Indian subsidiary, was arrested in connection with a user's listing of a pornographic video clip on that website. We continue to contest the charges related to this arrest. Similarly, one of our Korean subsidiaries (IAC), and one of its employees were found criminally liable for listings (which occurred prior to our acquisition) on IAC's website. The German Federal Supreme Court has ruled that we may have a duty to take reasonable measures to prevent prohibited DVDs from being sold on our site to minors and that competitors may be able to enforce this duty. In a number of circumstances, third parties, including government regulators and law enforcement officials, have alleged that our services aid and abet certain violations of certain laws, including antiscaling laws with respect to the resale of tickets, laws regarding the sale of counterfeit items, the fencing of stolen goods, selective distribution channel laws, distance selling laws and the sale of items outside of the U.S. that are regulated by U.S. export controls.

Although we have prohibited the listing of illegal and stolen goods and certain high-risk items and implemented other protective measures, we may be required to spend substantial resources to take additional protective measures or discontinue certain service offerings, any of which could harm our business. Any costs incurred as a result of potential liability relating to the alleged or actual sale of unlawful goods or the unlawful sale of goods could harm our business. Certain manufacturers and large retailers have sought new U.S. federal and state legislation regarding stolen goods that could limit our ability to allow sellers to use our sites without confirming the source of, and their legal rights to sell, the underlying goods. In addition, from time to time we have received significant media attention relating to the listing or sale of illegal goods and stolen goods using our services. This negative publicity could damage our reputation, diminish the value of our brand names and make users reluctant to use our services.

PayPal's payment system is also susceptible to potentially illegal or improper uses. These may include illegal online gambling, fraudulent sales of goods or services, illicit sales of prescription medications or controlled substances, piracy of software and other copyrighted or trademarked goods, money laundering, terrorist financing, bank fraud, child pornography trafficking, prohibited sales of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products, and online securities fraud. Recent changes in law have increased the penalties for intermediaries providing payment services for certain illegal activities. Despite measures PayPal has taken to detect and lessen the risk of this kind of conduct, illegal activities could still be funded using PayPal. Any resulting claims or liabilities could harm our business.

We are subject to risks associated with information disseminated through our service.

As discussed above with respect to certain specific issues, the law relating to the liability of online services companies for information carried on or disseminated through their services is often unsettled. Claims could be made against online services companies under both U.S. and foreign law for defamation, libel, invasion of privacy, negligence, copyright or trademark infringement, or other theories based on the nature and content of the materials disseminated through their services. Several private lawsuits seeking to impose liability under a number of these theories have been brought against us, as well as other online service companies. In addition, domestic and foreign legislation has been proposed that would prohibit or impose liability for the transmission over the Internet of certain types of information. Our service features a Feedback Forum, which includes information from users regarding other users. Although all such feedback is generated by users and not by us, claims of defamation or other injury have been made in the past and could be made in the future against us for not removing content posted in the Feedback Forum.

Furthermore, several court decisions arguably have narrowed the scope of the immunity provided to Internet service providers like us under the Communications Decency Act. For example, the Ninth Circuit has held that certain immunity provisions under the Communications Decency Act might not apply to the extent that a website owner materially contributes to the development of unlawful content on its website. As our websites evolve, challenges to the applicability of these immunities can be expected to continue. In addition, the Paris Court of Commerce has ruled in the Louis Vuitton Malletier and Christian Dior Couture cases that applicable laws protecting passive internet hosts from liability are inapplicable to eBay given that the content in question was provided by users under eBay's control and authority. This trend, if continued, may increase our potential liability to third parties for the user-provided content on our sites, particularly in jurisdictions outside the U.S. where laws governing Internet transactions are unsettled. If we become liable for information provided by our users and carried on our service in any jurisdiction in which we operate, we could be directly harmed and we may be forced to implement new measures to reduce our exposure to this liability, including expending substantial resources or discontinuing certain service offerings, which would negatively affect our financial results. In addition, the increased attention focused upon liability issues as a result of these lawsuits and legislative proposals could require us to incur additional costs and harm our reputation and our business.

Government inquiries may lead to charges or penalties.

A large number of transactions occur on our websites on a daily basis. Government regulators have received a significant number of consumer complaints about both eBay and PayPal, which, while small as a percentage of our total transactions, are large in aggregate numbers. As a result, from time to time we have been contacted by various foreign and domestic governmental regulatory agencies that have questions about our operations and the steps we take to protect our users from fraud. PayPal has received inquiries regarding its restriction and disclosure practices from the Federal Trade Commission and regarding these and other business practices from the attorneys general of a number of states. In September 2006, PayPal entered into a settlement agreement with the attorneys general of a number of states under which it agreed to pay \$1.7 million to the attorneys general, shorten and streamline its user agreement, increase educational messaging to users about funding choices, and communicate more information regarding protection programs to users. We currently face inquiries from government regulators in various jurisdictions related to actions that we have taken that are designed to improve the safety of transactions on our websites, most notably by requiring PayPal to be offered and/or used for certain high-risk transactions or by certain sellers in certain jurisdictions, and we may face similar inquiries from other government regulators in the future. For example, the Reserve Bank of Australia recently reviewed our policies requiring sellers to offer PayPal as a payment alternative on most transactions on our localized Australian website and precluding sellers from imposing a surcharge or any other fee for accepting PayPal or other payment methods. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is currently reviewing the same matters. Similarly, Bill Me Later has from time to time received customer complaints that could result in investigations into Bill Me Later's business practices by state or federal regulators. As a result of the recent credit crisis, some new laws have been passed and we expect additional new laws and regulations to be adopted that impose, among other things, additional obligations and restrictions on providers of credit. We are likely to receive additional inquiries from regulatory agencies in the future, including under existing or new credit laws or regulations, which may lead to action against us. We have responded to all inquiries from regulatory agencies by describing our current and planned antifraud efforts, customer support procedures, operating procedures and disclosures. If one or more of these agencies is not satisfied with our response to current or future inquiries, we could be subject to enforcement actions, fines or other penalties, or forced to change our operating practices in ways that could harm our business.

We are subject to general litigation and regulatory disputes.

From time to time, we are involved in other disputes or regulatory inquiries that arise in the ordinary course of business. The number and significance of these disputes and inquiries have increased as our business has expanded and our company has grown larger. We have in the past been forced to litigate such claims. We may also become more vulnerable to third-party claims as laws such as the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, the Lanham Act and the Communications Decency Act are interpreted by the courts and as we expand geographically into jurisdictions where the underlying laws with respect to the potential liability of online intermediaries such as ourselves are either unclear or less favorable. Any claims or regulatory actions against us, whether meritorious or not, could be time consuming, result in costly litigation, damage awards, injunctive relief, or increased costs of doing business through adverse judgment or settlement, require us to change our business practices in expensive ways, require significant amounts of management time, result in the diversion of significant operational resources, or otherwise harm our business.

Changes to our dispute resolution process could increase our costs and loss rate.

In April 2009, we announced plans to change the dispute resolution process (which we refer to as resolutions) for transactions on eBay.com and eBay.co.uk in which a buyer claims the item was not received or the item they received was different from that described in the listing. Previously, buyers with an issue on our eBay.com and eBay.co.uk platform were generally required to contact the seller directly, and, if they were unable to resolve the issue, to start the resolutions process online via PayPal's resolution center. We are transitioning to a new, on-eBay resolutions process provided by eBay customer support, which will serve as the primary entry point for buyers on eBay.com and eBay.co.uk who are unable to resolve their disputes with eBay sellers. Among other things, the new resolutions process provides that eBay will generally reimburse the buyer for the full amount of an item's purchase price (including original shipping costs), in cases where the item was not received or the item they received was different from that described in the listing, and the seller does not provide adequate resolution to the buyer. eBay then attempts to recoup amounts paid to the buyer from the seller's PayPal accounts or other payment methods.

Our costs associated with resolutions have increased as a result of these changes to our resolutions policies and process. These changes, together with any further changes that we may make to our resolutions process in the future, may be negatively received by, and lead to dissatisfaction on the part of, our sellers. These changes may also result in an increase in buyer fraud and associated transaction losses. In addition, eBay does not have the same level of rights of recoupment against sellers as PayPal, which may result in higher costs to operate the program.

Failure to deal effectively with bad transactions and customer disputes would increase our loss rate and harm our business.

Over the last several years, we have enhanced the buyer and seller protections offered by PayPal in certain eBay marketplaces. These changes to PayPal's buyer and seller protection program could result in future increases and fluctuations in our Payments transaction loss rate. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 and three months ended March 31, 2010, our Payments transaction losses (including both direct losses and buyer protection payouts) totaled \$180.9 million and \$38.0 million, representing 0.25% and 0.18% of our net total payment volume in each period, respectively. In addition, in 2009 we changed the dispute resolution process for transactions on eBay.com and eBay.co.uk, which are described in greater detail above under the caption *Changes to our dispute resolution process could increase our costs and loss rate* and which could result in an increase in our combined eBay and PayPal transaction losses.

PayPal's highly automated and liquid payment service makes PayPal an attractive target for fraud. In configuring its service, PayPal continually strives to maintain the right balance of appropriate measures to promote both convenience and security for customers. Identity thieves and those committing fraud using stolen credit card or bank account numbers can potentially steal large amounts of money from businesses such as PayPal. We believe that several of PayPal's current and former competitors in the electronic payments business have gone out of business or significantly restricted their businesses largely due to losses from this type of fraud. While PayPal uses advanced anti-fraud technologies, we expect that technically knowledgeable criminals will continue to attempt to circumvent PayPal's anti-fraud systems using increasingly sophisticated methods. In addition, PayPal's service could be subject to employee fraud or other internal security breaches, and PayPal may be required to reimburse customers for any funds stolen as a result of such breaches. Merchants could also request reimbursement, or stop using PayPal, if they are affected by buyer fraud or other types of fraud.

PayPal incurs substantial losses from merchant fraud, including claims from customers that merchants have not performed or that their goods or services do not match the merchant's description. PayPal also incurs losses from claims that the customer did not authorize the purchase, from buyer fraud, from erroneous transmissions, and from customers who have closed bank accounts or have insufficient funds in them to satisfy payments. In addition to the direct costs of such losses, if they are related to credit card transactions and become excessive, they could potentially result in PayPal losing the right to accept credit cards for payment, which would materially and adversely affect our business. In addition, if PayPal were unable to accept credit cards, the velocity of trade on eBay could decrease and result in corresponding decreases in our net total payment volume, in which case our business would further suffer. Bill Me Later is similarly subject to the risk of fraudulent activity associated with merchants, users of the Bill Me Later service and third parties handling its user information, which could increase our exposure to transaction losses and adversely affect Bill Me Later's business. Our Payments business has taken measures to detect and reduce the risk of fraud, but these measures need to be continually improved and may not be effective against new and continually evolving forms of fraud or in connection with new product offerings. If these measures do not succeed, our business will suffer.

eBay faces similar risks with respect to fraudulent activities on its websites. eBay periodically receives complaints from users who may not have received the goods that they had purchased. In some cases individuals have been arrested and convicted for fraudulent activities using our websites. eBay also receives complaints from sellers who have not received payment for the goods that a buyer had contracted to purchase. Non-payment may occur because of miscommunication, because a buyer has changed his or her mind and decided not to honor the contract to purchase the item, or because the buyer bid on the item maliciously in order to harm either the seller or eBay. In some European and Asian jurisdictions, buyers may also have the right to withdraw from a sale made by a professional seller within a specified time period. While eBay can, in some cases, suspend the accounts of users who fail to fulfill their payment or delivery obligations to other users, eBay does not have the ability to require users to make payment or deliver goods, or otherwise make users whole other than through our limited buyer protection programs. The impact of changes to our dispute resolutions program implemented in 2009 is discussed in more detail above under the caption "Changes to our dispute resolution process could increase our costs and loss rate."

Other than through these programs, eBay does not compensate users who believe they have been defrauded by other users, although users who pay through PayPal may have reimbursement rights from their credit card company or bank, which in turn will seek reimbursement from PayPal. eBay also periodically receives complaints from buyers as to the quality of the goods purchased. We expect to continue to receive communications from users requesting reimbursement or threatening or commencing legal action against us if no reimbursement is made. Our liability for these sort of claims is only beginning to be clarified in some jurisdictions and may be higher in some non-U.S. jurisdictions than it is in the U.S. Litigation involving liability for third-party actions could be costly and time consuming for us, divert management attention, result in increased costs of doing business, lead to adverse judgments, or otherwise harm our business. In addition, affected users will likely complain to regulatory agencies that could take action against us, including imposing fines or seeking injunctions.

Negative publicity and user sentiment generated as a result of fraudulent or deceptive conduct by users of our Marketplaces and Payments services could damage our reputation, reduce our ability to attract new users or retain our current users, and diminish the value of our brand names. We believe that negative user experiences are one of the primary reasons users stop using our services.

Governmental regulators worldwide are also looking at approaches intended to reduce online fraud. Some of the current proposals (e.g., two-factor authentication in France) could increase our costs and require us to change our business practices in ways that would harm our business.

Any factors that reduce cross-border trade could harm our business.

Cross-border trade has become an increasingly important source of both revenue and profits for us. Cross-border transactions using our websites generally provide higher revenues and gross margins than similar transactions that take place within a single country or market. We generally earn higher transaction fees for cross-border transactions involving PayPal, and our Marketplaces business continues to represent a relatively easy way for buyers and sellers to engage in cross-border trade compared with other alternatives. To the extent that any factors result in a net reduction in cross-border trade, including, among other factors, fluctuations in exchange rates, the application of specific national or regional laws (e.g., selective distribution channel laws and parallel import laws) to users in other countries, or any other factors impose restrictions on, or increase the costs of, shipping goods across national borders (including customs enforcement and tariffs), our business would suffer.

Our business is subject to online security risks, including security breaches and identity theft.

To succeed, online commerce must provide a secure transmission of confidential information over public networks. Our security measures may not detect or prevent security breaches that could harm our business. Currently, a significant number of our users authorize us to bill their credit card accounts directly for all transaction fees charged by us. PayPal's users routinely provide credit card and other financial information. We rely on encryption and authentication technology licensed from third parties to provide the security and authentication to effectively secure transmission of confidential information, including customer credit card numbers. Advances in computer capabilities, new discoveries in the field of cryptography or other developments may result in the technology used by us to protect transaction data being breached or compromised. Other large Internet companies have recently disclosed sophisticated and highly targeted attacks on portions of their sites. In addition, any party who is able to illicitly obtain a user's password could access the user's transaction data. An increasing number of websites have reported breaches of their security. Any compromise of our security could harm our reputation and, therefore, our business, and could result in a violation of applicable privacy and other laws. In addition, a party that is able to circumvent our security measures could misappropriate proprietary information, cause interruption in our operations, damage our computers or those of our users, or otherwise damage our reputation and business. Under credit card rules and our contracts with our card processors, if there is a breach of credit card information that we store, or that is stored by PayPal's direct credit card processing customers, we could be liable to the credit card issuing banks for their cost of issuing new cards and related expenses. In addition, if we fail to follow credit card industry security standards, even if there is no compromise of customer information, we could incur significant fines or lose our ability to give customers the option of using credit cards to fund their payments or pay their fees. If we were unable to accept credit cards, our business would be seriously damaged.

Our servers are also vulnerable to computer viruses, physical or electronic break-ins, and similar disruptions, and we have experienced denial-of-service type attacks on our system that have made all or portions of our websites unavailable for periods of time (most recently involving our StubHub website in early 2010). We may need to expend significant resources to protect against security breaches or to address problems caused by breaches. These issues are likely to become more difficult as we expand the number of places where we operate. Security breaches, including any breach by us or by parties with which we have commercial relationships that result in the unauthorized release of our users' personal information, could damage our reputation and expose us to a risk of loss or litigation and possible liability. Our insurance policies carry low coverage limits, which may not be adequate to reimburse us for losses caused by security breaches.

Our users, as well as those of other prominent Internet companies, have been and will continue to be targeted by parties using fraudulent spoof and phishing emails to misappropriate passwords, credit card numbers, or other personal information or to introduce viruses through trojan horse programs to our users' computers. These emails appear to be legitimate emails sent by eBay, PayPal, or a user of one of those businesses, but direct recipients to fake websites operated by the sender of the email or request that the recipient send a password or other confidential information via email or download a program. Despite our efforts to mitigate spoof and phishing emails through product improvements and user education, spoof and phishing remain a serious problem that may damage our brands, discourage use of our websites, and increase our costs.

Changes in regulations or user concerns regarding privacy and protection of user data could adversely affect our business.

We are subject to laws relating to the collection, use, retention, security and transfer of personally identifiable information about our users, especially for financial information and for users located outside of the U.S. In addition, as an entity licensed and subject to regulation as a bank in Luxembourg, PayPal (Europe) S.A.R.L. et Cie, SCA is subject to banking secrecy laws. In many cases, these laws apply not only to third-party transactions but also to transfers of information between ourselves and our subsidiaries, and between ourselves, our subsidiaries, and other parties with which we have commercial relations. New laws in this area have been passed by several jurisdictions, and other jurisdictions are considering imposing additional restrictions. The interpretation and application of user data protection laws are in a state of flux. These laws may be interpreted and applied inconsistently from country to country and our current data protection policies and practices may not be consistent with those interpretations and applications. Complying with these varying international requirements could cause us to incur substantial costs or require us to change our business practices in a manner adverse to our business. In addition, we have and post on our websites our own privacy policies and practices concerning the collection, use and disclosure of user data. Any failure, or perceived failure, by us to comply with our posted privacy policies or with any regulatory requirements or orders or other federal, state or international privacy or consumer protection-related laws and regulations could result in proceedings or actions against us by governmental entities or others, subject us to significant penalties and negative publicity and adversely affect us. In addition, as noted above, we are subject to the possibility of security breaches, which themselves may result in a violation of these laws.

Our revenue from advertising is subject to factors beyond our control.

We derive significant revenue from advertising on our websites. Revenues from online advertising are sensitive to events and trends that affect advertising expenditures, such as general changes in the economy and changes in consumer spending, as well as the effectiveness of online advertising versus offline advertising media and the value our websites provide to advertisers relative to other websites. Recent economic conditions have adversely impacted our advertising revenue. In addition, major search engine operators have the ability to change from time to time, at their sole discretion, the rules and search algorithms governing the pricing, availability, and placement of online advertising. Any changes in these rules or search algorithms could materially reduce the value that we derive from online advertising on our websites, either directly or indirectly. For example, retailers pay a fee to Shopping.com for online shoppers directed to their websites by Shopping.com. Rule changes made by search engines in 2008 disrupted traffic to our Shopping.com website, which in turn adversely affected click-through traffic to retailers from our Shopping.com website and associated fee revenue. Furthermore, we have recently changed the placement of ads on our sites, which may reduce the amount we are paid. If we experience a reduction in our advertising revenues due to economic, competitive, technological or other factors, including the worldwide economic slowdown, a reduction in revenue due to the renegotiation of the terms of our contracts with major advertising companies such as Yahoo!, Google and Microsoft, changes in our ad placement, or if we are unable to provide value to our advertisers, our business and financial results would suffer.

Our growth will depend on our ability to develop our brands, and these efforts may be costly.

We believe that continuing to strengthen our brands will be critical to achieving widespread acceptance of our services, and will require a continued focus on active marketing efforts across all of our brands. We will need to continue to spend substantial amounts of money on, and devote substantial resources to, advertising, marketing, and other efforts to create and maintain brand loyalty among users. Since 2005, we have significantly increased the number of brands we are supporting, adding Shopping.com, our classified websites (e.g., eBay Classifieds, Kijiji, Marktplaats and Den Blå Avis), StubHub, Bill Me Later and Gmarket, among others. Each of these brands requires its own resources, increasing the costs of our branding efforts. Brand promotion activities may not yield increased revenues, and even if they do, any increased revenues may not offset the expenses incurred in building our brands. Also, major search engine operators that we use to advertise our brands have frequently-changing rules that govern their pricing, availability and placement of online advertisement (e.g., paid search, keywords), and changes to these rules could negatively affect our use of online advertising to promote our brands. If we fail to promote and maintain our brands, or if we incur substantial expenses in an unsuccessful attempt to promote and maintain our brands, our business would be harmed.

New and existing regulations could harm our business.

We are subject to the same foreign and domestic laws as other companies conducting business on and off the Internet. It is not always clear how existing laws governing issues such as property ownership, copyrights, trademarks and other intellectual property issues, parallel imports and distribution controls, taxation, libel and defamation, obscenity, and personal privacy apply to online businesses such as ours. The majority of these laws were adopted prior to the advent of the Internet and related technologies and, as a result, do not contemplate or address the unique issues of the Internet and related technologies. Those laws that do reference the Internet, such as the U.S. Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the European Union's Directives on Distance Selling and Electronic Commerce, are being interpreted by the courts, but their applicability and scope remain uncertain. Furthermore, as our activities and the types of goods and services listed on our websites expand, including through acquisitions such as Bill Me Later and StubHub, regulatory agencies or courts may claim or hold that we or our users are subject to licensure or prohibited from conducting our business in their jurisdiction, either generally or with respect to certain actions (e.g., the sale of real estate, event tickets, cultural goods, boats and automobiles). Recent financial and political events may increase the level of regulatory scrutiny on large companies in general and financial services companies in particular.

Our success and increased visibility has driven some existing businesses that perceive our business model to be a threat to their business to raise concerns about our business models to policymakers and regulators. These established businesses and their trade association groups employ significant resources in their efforts to shape the legal and regulatory regimes in countries where we have significant operations. They may employ these resources in an effort to change the legal and regulatory regimes in ways intended to reduce the effectiveness of our businesses and the ability of users to use our products and services. In particular, these established businesses have raised concerns relating to pricing, parallel imports, professional seller obligations, selective distribution networks, stolen goods, copyrights, trademarks and other intellectual property rights, and the liability of the provider of an Internet marketplace for the conduct of its users related to those and other issues. In addition, regulatory agencies may view matters or interpret laws and regulations differently than they have in the past. Changing the legal or regulatory regimes in a manner that would increase our liability for third-party listings could negatively impact our business.

Over the last few years some large retailers and their trade associations have sought legislation in a number of states and the U.S. Congress that would make eBay liable for the sale of stolen property or would ban certain categories of goods from sale on our platform, including gift cards and health and beauty products. No such legislation has passed. Nonetheless, the proponents continue to seek passage of such legislation, and if any of these laws are adopted they could harm our business.

Numerous states and foreign jurisdictions, including the State of California, where our headquarters are located, have regulations regarding auctions and the handling of property by secondhand dealers or pawnbrokers. Several states and some foreign jurisdictions, including France, have attempted, and may attempt in the future, to impose such regulations upon us or our users. Attempted enforcement of these laws against some of our users appears to be increasing and such attempted enforcements could harm our business. In France, we have been sued by Conseil des Ventes, the French auction regulatory authority. The authority alleges that sales on our French website constitute illegal auctions that cannot be performed without its consent. Although we have this lawsuit in the lower court, this decision is being appealed. A lawsuit alleging similar claims has been brought against us by two associations of French antique dealers. We intend to vigorously defend against these lawsuits. However, this and other regulatory and licensure claims could result in costly litigation and, if successful, could require us to change the way we or our users do business in ways that increase costs or reduce revenues (for example, by forcing us to prohibit listings of certain items for some locations). We could also be subject to fines or other penalties, and any of these outcomes could harm our business.

A number of the lawsuits against us relating to trademark issues seek to have our websites subject to unfavorable local laws. For example, trademark exhaustion principles provide trademark owners with certain rights to control the sale of a branded authentic product until it has been placed on the market by the trademark holder or with the holder's consent. The application of trademark exhaustion principles is largely unsettled in the context of the Internet, and if trademark owners are able to force us to prohibit listings of certain items in one or more locations, our business could be harmed.

As we expand and localize our international activities, we become obligated to comply with the laws of the countries or markets in which we operate. In addition, because our services are accessible worldwide, and we facilitate sales of goods to users worldwide, one or more jurisdictions may claim that we or our users are required to comply with their laws based on the location of our servers or one or more of our users, or the location of the product or service being sold or provided in an ecommerce transaction. For example, we were found liable in France, under French law in the Louis Vuitton Malletier litigation for transactions on our websites worldwide that did not involve French buyers or sellers (see Item 1 Legal Proceedings above). Laws regulating Internet and ecommerce companies outside of the U.S. may be less favorable than those in the U.S., giving greater rights to consumers, content owners, competitors, users and other third parties. Compliance may be more costly or may require us to change our business practices or restrict our service offerings, and the imposition of any regulations on our users may harm our business. In addition, we may be subject to overlapping legal or regulatory regimes that impose conflicting requirements on us. Our alleged failure to comply with foreign laws could subject us to penalties ranging from criminal prosecution to significant fines to bans on our services, in addition to the significant costs we may incur in defending against such actions.

In light of the global financial crisis, federal lawmakers in Washington, D.C., have pursued the overhaul of regulations related to the oversight of consumer financial products. In the event that such changes are adopted, they could potentially result in eBay Inc. being regulated as a financial services holding company, restrictions being imposed on the nonfinancial activities of companies holding financial services companies, or PayPal becoming subject to a new federal financial services regulator and accompanying laws and regulations as well as increased regulatory scrutiny based on its new or existing businesses, products and offerings, which could impose substantial costs on us and could require us to change our business practices in ways that would harm our business.

If our Payments business is found to be subject to or in violation of any laws or regulations, including those governing money transmission, electronic funds transfers, money laundering, counter-terrorist financing, banking and lending, it could be subject to liability, licensure and regulatory approval and may be forced to change its business practices.

While PayPal currently allows its customers with credit cards to send payments from 190 markets, PayPal only allows customers in 65 of those markets (including the U.S.) to receive payments, in some cases with significant restrictions on the manner in which customers can withdraw funds. These limitations may affect PayPal's ability to grow in these markets.

Our Payments business is subject to regulation as a bank in certain jurisdictions. Of the 190 markets whose residents can use the PayPal service, 31 (27 countries plus four French overseas departments) are members of the European Union (EU). Since 2007, PayPal has provided localized versions of its service to customers in the EU through PayPal (Europe) S.A.R.L. et Cie, SCA, a wholly-owned subsidiary of PayPal that is licensed and subject to regulation as a bank in Luxembourg. Accordingly, PayPal (Europe) is subject to significant fines or other enforcement action if it violates the disclosure, reporting, anti-money laundering, capitalization, funds management, corporate governance or other requirements imposed on Luxembourg banks. PayPal has limited experience in operating as a bank, and any fines or other enforcement actions imposed by the Luxembourg regulator could adversely affect PayPal's business. PayPal (Europe) implements its localized services in EU countries through an expedited passport notification process through the Luxembourg regulator to regulators in other EU member states pursuant to EU Directives, and has completed the passport notice process in all EU member countries. The regulators in these countries could notify PayPal (Europe) of local consumer protection laws that will apply to its business, in addition to Luxembourg consumer protection law, and could also seek to persuade the Luxembourg regulator to order PayPal (Europe) to conduct its activities in the local country through a branch office. Any such responses from these regulators could increase the cost of, or delay, PayPal's plans for expanding its business in EU countries. In addition, the EU Payments Service Directive, which established a new regulatory regime for payment services providers, formally took effect in November 2009. The interpretation of regulations implementing the EU Payments Service Directive remains uncertain.

In markets other than the U.S., the EU, Australia and China, PayPal serves its customers through PayPal Private Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of PayPal that is based in Singapore. In many of these markets, it is not clear whether PayPal's Singapore-based service is subject to Singaporean law or, if it were subject to local laws, whether such local law would require a payment processor like PayPal to be licensed as a bank or financial institution or otherwise. In such markets, the business may rely on partnerships with local banks to process payments and conduct foreign exchange in local currency. Local regulators who do not have jurisdiction over Singapore-based PayPal Private Ltd, may use their local regulatory power to interfere with, slow or halt payments to local merchants conducted through the local banking partner. Such regulatory actions impacting local banking partner arrangements could impose substantial costs and involve considerable delay to the provision or development of PayPal services in that market. The Reserve Bank of India has asserted that PayPal's offering of payment services to customers outside of India to send personal, non-commercial payments to recipients in India requires a license from the Reserve Bank. The Reserve Bank directed the Indian affiliate of PayPal's processing bank to suspend all withdrawals to the Indian bank accounts of PayPal customers for both personal and business customers for a period of time and may again impose such a suspension if it is not satisfied with PayPal's corrective actions. PayPal has suspended personal non-commercial payments to Indian accounts, and intends to apply for a license from the Reserve Bank of India, but PayPal could be subject to fines from the Reserve Bank for the period of operation without a license, and PayPal's prospects for future business in India, both cross-border and domestic, could be materially and adversely affected.

Even if PayPal is not currently required to be licensed in some jurisdictions, future localization or targeted marketing of PayPal's service in those countries, or expansion of the financial products offered by PayPal to new jurisdictions (either alone, through a commercial alliance or through an acquisition), could subject PayPal to additional licensure requirements, laws and regulations and increased regulatory scrutiny, any of which may harm PayPal's business. These factors could impose substantial costs and involve considerable delay to the provision or development of its products. Delay or failure to receive such a license or regulatory approval could require PayPal to change its business practices or features in ways that would adversely affect PayPal's international expansion plans, and could require PayPal to suspend providing products and services to customers in one or more countries.

PayPal is also subject to various anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing laws and regulations around the world that prohibit, among other things, its involvement in transferring the proceeds of criminal activities. Although PayPal has implemented a program to comply with these laws and regulations, any errors or failure to comply with federal, state or foreign money laundering and counter-terrorist financing laws could result in significant criminal and civil lawsuits, penalties, and forfeiture of significant assets. Several countries, including Australia, Luxembourg and Singapore, have recently implemented new anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing laws and regulations, and PayPal has had to make changes to its procedures in response. In November 2009, the Australian anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing regulator (AUSTRAC) accepted an enforceable undertaking from PayPal Australia pursuant to which PayPal Australia agreed, among other things, to appoint an independent auditor to assess PayPal Australia's anti-money laundering compliance policies and procedures and issue a report.

In the United States, PayPal is also subject to regulations that require it to report suspicious activities involving transactions of \$2,000, or more and may be required to obtain and keep more detailed records on the senders and recipients in certain transfers of \$3,000 or more. The interpretation of suspicious activities in this context is uncertain. Future regulations under the USA PATRIOT Act may require PayPal to revise the procedures it uses to verify the identity of its customers and to monitor international transactions more closely. PayPal has localized its service in a number of other countries and as a result is subject to additional verification and reporting requirements, which in some cases are more stringent. As PayPal continues to localize its services in additional jurisdictions, PayPal could be required, among other things, to learn more about its customers before opening an account, to obtain additional verification of customers and to monitor its customers' activities more closely. These requirements could impose significant costs on PayPal, make it more difficult for new customers to join its network and reduce the attractiveness of its product.

To date, PayPal has obtained licenses to operate as a money transmitter in 42 U.S. states and territories and interpretations in seven states that licensing is not required under their existing statutes. The remaining U.S. state and territories do not currently regulate money transmitters. As a licensed money transmitter, PayPal is subject to restrictions on its investment of customer funds, reporting requirements, bonding requirements, and inspection by state regulatory agencies. If PayPal were found to be in violation of money services laws or regulations, PayPal could be subject to liability, forced to cease doing business with residents of certain states, forced to change its business practices, or required to obtain additional licenses or regulatory approvals that could impose a substantial cost on PayPal. Any change to PayPal's business practices that makes the service less attractive to customers or prohibits its use by residents of a particular jurisdiction could decrease the velocity of trade on eBay, which would further harm our business.

Although there have been no definitive interpretations to date, PayPal has assumed that its service is subject to the Electronic Fund Transfer Act and Regulation E of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board. As a result, among other things, PayPal must provide advance disclosure of changes to its service, follow specified error resolution procedures and reimburse consumers for losses above \$50 from transactions not authorized by the consumer. PayPal currently voluntarily reimburses consumers for all financial losses from transactions not authorized by the consumer, not just losses above \$50. PayPal seeks to pass most of these losses on to the relevant merchants, but PayPal incurs losses if the merchant does not have sufficient funds in its PayPal account.

Our Bill Me Later service is similarly subject to a variety of laws and regulations. Although Bill Me Later does not originate loans, one or more jurisdictions may conclude that Bill Me Later is a lender or money transmitter or loan broker, which could subject us to liability or regulation in one or more jurisdictions. Additionally, federal regulators could mandate changes to the relationship between Bill Me Later and CIT Bank, the financial institution that Bill Me Later relies on to extend credit to customers with the Bill Me Later service. Any termination or interruption of CIT Bank's lending services to consumers could result in an interruption of Bill Me Later services, as described under the caption "Bill Me Later's operations depend on lending services provided by CIT Bank" above. Also, effective February 2010, certain provisions of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009, or the CARD Act, will require CIT Bank to make fundamental changes to many of the practices currently used with respect to Bill Me Later consumer accounts, including marketing, pricing (including finance charges and fees assessed on receivables purchased by CIT Bank) and billing, which could in turn have an adverse affect on Bill Me Later's business.

Changes to credit card networks or bank fees, rules, or practices could harm PayPal's business.

PayPal does not belong to or directly access credit card networks, such as Visa and MasterCard. As a result, PayPal must rely on banks or other payment processors to process transactions, and must pay fees for this service. From time to time, credit card networks have increased, and may increase in the future, the interchange fees and assessments that they charge for each transaction using one of their cards. PayPal's credit card processors have the right to pass any increases in interchange fees and assessments on to PayPal as well as increase their own fees for processing. These higher fees increase PayPal's operating costs and reduce its profit margins. PayPal is also required by its processors to comply with credit card network operating rules, and PayPal has agreed to reimburse its processors for any fines they are assessed by credit card networks as a result of any rule violations by PayPal or PayPal's customers. The credit card networks set and interpret the credit card rules. Credit card networks could adopt new operating rules or re-interpret existing rules that PayPal or its processors might find difficult or even impossible to follow. As a result, PayPal could lose its ability to give customers the option of using credit cards to fund their payments. If PayPal were unable to accept credit cards, its business would be seriously damaged. In addition, the velocity of trade on eBay could decrease and our business would further suffer.

PayPal is required to comply with credit card networks' special operating rules for Internet payment services. PayPal and its credit card processors have implemented specific business processes for merchant customers in order to comply with these rules, but any failure to comply could result in fines, the amount of which would be within the credit card networks' discretion. PayPal also could be subject to fines from credit card networks if it fails to detect that merchants are engaging in activities that are illegal or that are considered high risk, primarily the sale of certain types of digital content. For high risk merchants, PayPal must either prevent such merchants from using PayPal or register such merchants with credit card networks and conduct additional monitoring with respect to such merchants. PayPal has incurred fines from its credit card processors relating to PayPal's failure to detect the use of its service by high risk merchants. The amount of these fines has not been material, but any additional fines in the future would likely be for larger amounts, could become material, and could result in a termination of PayPal's ability to accept credit cards or changes in PayPal's process for registering new customers, which would seriously damage PayPal's business.

Changes in PayPal's funding mix could adversely affect PayPal's results.

PayPal pays significant transaction fees when customers fund payment transactions using credit cards, lower payments when customers fund payments with debit cards, nominal fees when customers fund payment transactions by electronic transfer of funds from bank accounts, and no fees when customers fund payment transactions from an existing PayPal account balance or use buyer credit issued by GE Money Bank. As of October 2009, eligible U.S. customers may also fund payment transactions through a loan originated by CIT Bank in the Bill Me Later service, and PayPal will incur no fees for such transactions. Customers fund a significant portion of PayPal's payment volume using credit cards, and PayPal's financial success will remain highly sensitive to changes in the rate at which its senders fund payments using credit cards. Senders may prefer funding using credit cards rather than bank account transfers for a number of reasons, including the ability to dispute and reverse charges directly with their credit card provider if merchandise is not delivered or is not as described, the ability to earn frequent flier miles, cash rebates, or other incentives offered by credit card issuers, the ability to defer payment, or a reluctance to provide bank account information to PayPal. In addition, some of PayPal's offerings, including the ability to make a limited number of payments without opening an account, have a higher rate of credit card funding than PayPal's basic product offering.

PayPal's failure to manage customer funds properly would harm its business.

PayPal's ability to manage and account accurately for customer funds requires a high level of internal controls. In some of the markets that PayPal serves and currencies that PayPal offers, PayPal has a limited operating history and limited management experience in managing these internal controls. As PayPal's business continues to grow, it must strengthen its internal controls accordingly. PayPal's success requires significant public confidence in its ability to handle large and growing transaction volumes and amounts of customer funds. Any failure to maintain necessary controls or to manage customer funds accurately could severely diminish customer use of PayPal's products.

System failures could harm our business.

We have experienced system failures from time to time, and any interruption in the availability of our websites will reduce our current revenues and profits, could harm our future revenues and profits, and could subject us to regulatory scrutiny. Our eBay.com website has been interrupted for periods of up to 22 hours. In November 2009, technical systems issues resulted in eBay.com users being unable to search for listed items for a period of several hours. Our PayPal website has suffered intermittent unavailability for periods as long as five days, most recently for approximately five hours in August 2009. Any unscheduled interruption in our services results in an immediate, and possibly substantial, loss of revenues. Frequent or persistent interruptions in our services could cause current or potential users to believe that our systems are unreliable, leading them to switch to our competitors or to avoid our sites, and could permanently harm our reputation and brands. Reliability is particularly critical for PayPal, especially as it seeks to expand its Merchant Services business. Because PayPal is a regulated financial entity, frequent or persistent site interruptions could lead to fines, penalties, or mandatory changes to PayPal's business practices, and ultimately could cause PayPal to lose existing licenses it needs to operate or prevent it from obtaining additional licenses that it needs to expand. Finally, because our customers may use our products for critical transactions, any system failures could result in damage to our customers' businesses. These customers could seek significant compensation from us for their losses. Even if unsuccessful, this type of claim likely would be time-consuming and costly for us to address.

Although our systems have been designed around industry-standard architectures to reduce downtime in the event of outages or catastrophic occurrences, they remain vulnerable to damage or interruption from earthquakes, floods, fires, power loss, telecommunication failures, terrorist attacks, computer viruses, computer denial-of-service attacks, and similar events or disruptions. Some of our systems, including our Shopping.com website and the systems related to the Bill Me Later business, are not fully redundant, and our disaster recovery planning is not sufficient for all eventualities. Our systems are also subject to break-ins, sabotage, and intentional acts of vandalism. Despite any precautions we may take, the occurrence of a natural disaster, a decision by any of our third-party hosting providers to close a facility we use without adequate notice for financial or other reasons, or other unanticipated problems at our hosting facilities could cause system interruptions, delays, and loss of critical data, and result in lengthy interruptions in our services. We do not carry business interruption insurance sufficient to compensate us for losses that may result from interruptions in our service as a result of system failures.

There are many risks associated with our international operations.

Our international expansion has been rapid and our international business, especially in Germany, Korea and the U.K., has also become critical to our revenues and profits. Net revenues outside the U.S. accounted for approximately 54% of our net revenues in both the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 and the three months ended March 31, 2010. Expansion into international markets requires management attention and resources and requires us to localize our services to conform to local cultures, standards, and policies. The commercial, Internet, and transportation infrastructure in lesser-developed countries may make it more difficult for us to replicate our traditional Marketplace business model. In many countries, we compete with local companies that understand the local market better than we do, and we may not benefit from first-to-market advantages. We may not be successful in expanding into particular international markets or in generating revenues from foreign operations. For example, in 2002 we withdrew our eBay marketplace offering from the Japanese market, and in 2007 we contributed our business in China to a joint venture with a local Chinese company. Even if we are successful in developing new markets, we often expect the costs of operating new sites to exceed our net revenues for at least 12 months in most countries.

As we continue to expand internationally, including through the expansion of PayPal, Shopping.com, and our classified businesses, we are increasingly subject to risks of doing business internationally, including the following:

strong local competitors;

regulatory requirements, including regulation of Internet services, auctioneering, professional selling, distance selling, privacy and data protection, banking, and money transmitting, that may limit or prevent the offering of our services in some jurisdictions, prevent enforceable agreements between sellers and buyers, prohibit the listing of certain categories of goods, require product changes, require special licensure, subject us to various taxes, penalties or audits, or limit the transfer of information between us and our affiliates;

greater liability or legal uncertainty regarding our liability for the listings and other content provided by our users, including uncertainty as a result of legal systems that are less developed with respect to the Internet, unique local laws, conflicting court decisions and lack of clear precedent or applicable law;

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

cultural ambivalence towards, or non-acceptance of, online trading;

laws and business practices that favor local competitors or prohibit or limit foreign ownership of certain businesses;

difficulties in integrating with local payment providers, including banks, credit and debit card networks, and electronic fund transfer systems;

differing levels of retail distribution, shipping, and Internet infrastructures;

different employee/employer relationships and the existence of workers' councils and labor unions;

difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations;

challenges associated with joint venture relationships and minority investments, including dependence on our joint venture partners;

difficulties in implementing and maintaining adequate internal controls;

longer payment cycles, different accounting practices, and greater problems in collecting accounts receivable;

potentially adverse tax consequences, including local taxation of our fees or of transactions on our websites;

higher Internet service provider costs;

different and more stringent user protection, data protection, privacy and other laws;

seasonal reductions in business activity;

expenses associated with localizing our products, including offering customers the ability to transact business in the local currency;

restrictions on the repatriation of funds, foreign currency exchange restrictions, and exchange rate fluctuations;

volatility in a specific country's or region's political, economic or military conditions (e.g., in South Korea relating to its disputes with North Korea);

challenges associated with maintaining relationships with local law enforcement and related agencies; and

differing intellectual property laws.

Some of these factors may cause our international costs of doing business to exceed our comparable domestic costs. As we expand our international operations and have additional portions of our international revenues denominated in foreign currencies, we also could become subject to increased difficulties in collecting accounts receivable, repatriating money without adverse tax consequences, and risks relating to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. The impact of currency exchange rate fluctuations is discussed in more detail under the caption "We are exposed to fluctuations in currency exchange rates and interest rates," above.

In addition, we conduct certain functions, including product development, customer support and other operations, in regions outside the U.S., particularly in India and China. We are subject to both U.S. and local laws and regulations applicable to our offshore activities, and any factors which reduce the anticipated benefits, including cost efficiencies and productivity improvements, associated with providing these functions outside of the U.S. could adversely affect our business.

We maintain a portion of Shopping.com's research and development facilities and personnel in Israel, and in 2008 we acquired Fraud Sciences Ltd., an Israeli company. As a result, political, economic and military conditions in Israel affect those operations. The future of peace efforts between Israel and its neighboring countries remains uncertain. Increased hostilities or terrorism within Israel or armed hostilities between Israel and neighboring countries or other entities could make it more difficult for us to continue our operations in Israel, which could increase our costs. In addition, many of our employees in Israel could be required to serve in the military for extended periods of time under emergency circumstances. Our Israeli operations could be disrupted by the absence of employees due to military service, which could adversely affect our business.

Acquisitions, joint ventures and strategic investments could result in operating difficulties, dilution, and other harmful consequences.

We have acquired a number of businesses in the past, including, most recently, Gmarket in Korea, Bill Me Later in the United States and Den Blå Avis and BilBasen, classified businesses in Denmark. In November 2009, we completed the sale of Skype to an entity (Buyer) owned and organized by an investor group and received, among other things, an equity stake of approximately 30% of the outstanding capital stock of the Buyer. We expect to continue to evaluate and consider a wide array of potential strategic transactions, including business combinations, acquisitions and dispositions of businesses, technologies, services, products and other assets and strategic investments. At any given time we may be engaged in discussions or negotiations with respect to one or more of these types of transactions. Any of these transactions could be

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

material to our financial condition and results of operations. The process of integrating any acquired business may create unforeseen operating difficulties and expenditures and is itself risky. The areas where we may face difficulties include:

diversion of management time, as well as a shift of focus from operating the businesses to issues related to integration and administration, particularly given the number, size and varying scope of our recent acquisitions;

declining employee morale and retention issues resulting from changes in, or acceleration of, compensation, or changes in management, reporting relationships, future prospects, or the direction of the business;

the need to integrate each company's accounting, management, information, human resource and other administrative systems to permit effective management, and the lack of control if such integration is delayed or not implemented;

the need to implement controls, procedures and policies appropriate for a larger public company at companies that prior to acquisition had lacked such controls, procedures and policies;

in the case of foreign acquisitions, the need to integrate operations across different cultures and languages and to address the particular economic, currency, political, and regulatory risks associated with specific countries;

in some cases, the need to transition operations, users, and customers onto our existing platforms; and

liability for activities of the acquired company before the acquisition, including violations of laws, rules and regulations, commercial disputes, tax liabilities and other known and unknown liabilities.

Moreover, we may not realize the anticipated benefits of any or all of our acquisitions, or may not realize them in the time frame expected. Future acquisitions or mergers may require us to issue additional equity securities, spend our cash, or incur debt, liabilities, amortization expenses related to intangible assets or write-offs of goodwill, which could adversely affect our results of operations and dilute the economic and voting rights of our stockholders.

In addition, we have made certain investments, including through joint ventures, in which we have a minority equity interest and lack management and operational control. These investments may involve risks. For example, the controlling joint venture partner in a joint venture investment may have business interests, strategies or goals that are inconsistent with ours, and business decisions or other actions or omissions of the controlling joint venture partner or the joint venture company may result in harm to our reputation or adversely affect the value of our investment in the joint venture.

Bill Me Later's operations expose us to new risks.

Risks associated with Bill Me Later's reliance on CIT Bank are discussed in detail under the caption "Bill Me Later's operations depend on lending services provided by CIT Bank" above.

Bill Me Later relies on third-party merchant processors and payment gateways to process transactions using the Bill Me Later service. For the year ended December 31, 2009 and three months ended March 31, 2010, approximately 80% and 70%, respectively, of all transaction volume by dollar amount through the Bill Me Later service was settled through the facilities of a single vendor. Any disruption to these third party payment processing and gateway services would adversely affect the Bill Me Later service. The Bill Me Later service is offered to a wide range of consumers, and the financial success of this business depends on CIT Bank, the chartered financial institution originating the loan, to manage credit risk. CIT Bank extends credit using Bill Me Later's proprietary segmentation and credit scoring algorithms and other analytical techniques designed to analyze the credit risk of a specific transaction for a specific customer. These algorithms and techniques may not accurately predict the creditworthiness of a consumer due to, among other factors, inaccurate assumptions about a particular consumer or the economic environment. The accuracy of the predictions and the ability of CIT Bank and Bill Me Later to manage credit risk may also be affected by legal or regulatory changes (such as bankruptcy laws and minimum payment regulations), competitors' actions, changes in consumer behavior and other factors. CIT Bank may also incorrectly interpret the data produced by these algorithms in setting its credit policies, which may impact Bill Me Later's financial performance. In addition, the credit crisis and current recession in the U.S. may affect consumer confidence levels and reduce consumers' ability or willingness to use credit, including the transaction-based credit extended by CIT Bank to consumers who use the Bill Me Later service, which could impair the growth and profitability of the Bill Me Later business.

We anticipate that the volume of loans extended by CIT Bank in connection with the Bill Me Later's service will increase as we begin to enable qualified buyers with a PayPal account to use Bill Me Later as a payment funding option for transactions on eBay.com and on certain merchant websites that accept PayPal. Like other businesses with significant exposure to losses from consumer loans, the Bill Me Later service faces the risk that after Bill Me Later purchases the receivables related to consumer loans, certain account holders will default on their payment obligations, making the receivables uncollectible and creating the risk of potential charge-offs. The rate at which receivables were charged off as uncollectible, or the credit loss rate, was approximately 10.66% and 9.49% for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 and the three months ended March 31, 2010, respectively. The nonpayment rate among Bill Me Later users may increase due to, among other things, worsening economic conditions, such as the current recession in the U.S., and higher unemployment rates. Consumers who miss payments on their loans often fail to repay them, and consumers who file for protection under the bankruptcy laws generally do not repay their loans. The age and rate of growth of the receivables related to a consumer loan portfolio also affects the rate of missed payments and loans charged off as uncollectible. Consumers are less likely to miss their payments within the first 12 to 18 months of a loan's term. Also worsening economic conditions typically result in fewer new loans and with fewer loans, the proportion of new loans will decrease and the rate of missed payments and charge-offs in the portfolio will increase, which has historically been the case with Bill Me Later.

We currently fund the purchase of receivables related to Bill Me Later accounts through free cash flow generated from our portfolio of businesses and from our existing credit agreement. Our existing credit agreement may be adversely affected by the impact of current financial conditions on our counterparties. Our ability to securitize receivables related to Bill Me Later accounts has been largely eliminated by disruptions in the credit industry generally, and in the securitization markets particularly. If we are unable to fund receivables related to the Bill Me Later business adequately or in a cost-effective manner, the growth and profitability of the Bill Me Later business could be significantly and adversely affected.

In addition, Bill Me Later faces other risks similar to those faced by PayPal, including the risk of system failures, security breaches or other loss of customer data, fraud, intellectual property claims, compliance failures, and changes to regulations relating to credit offerings described in these Risk Factors, including under the captions "Government inquiries may lead to charges or penalties" and "If our Payments business is found to be subject to or in violation of any laws or regulations, including those governing money transmission, electronic funds transfer, money laundering, counter-terrorist financing, banking and lending, it could be subject to liability, licensure and regulatory approval and may be forced to change its business practices."

Our business and users may be subject to sales tax and other taxes.

The application of indirect taxes (such as sales and use tax, value-added tax (VAT), goods and services tax, business tax, and gross receipt tax) to ecommerce businesses such as eBay and to our users is a complex and evolving issue. Many of the fundamental statutes and regulations that impose these taxes were established before the growth of the Internet and ecommerce. In many cases, it is not clear how existing statutes apply to the Internet or ecommerce. In addition, some jurisdictions have implemented or may implement laws specifically addressing the Internet or some aspect of ecommerce. For example, the State of New York has passed legislation that requires any out-of-state seller of tangible personal property to collect and remit New York use tax if the seller engages affiliates above certain financial thresholds in New York to perform certain business promotion activities. Several ecommerce companies are challenging this new law. North Carolina and Rhode Island have also enacted similar laws related to affiliates, and a number of other states appear to be considering similar legislation. Colorado recently enacted new legislation that takes a slightly different approach by imposing a set of use tax collection notice and reporting requirements (but not the actual tax collection responsibility) on certain retailers with no physical presence in Colorado. The law is designed to aid the State in collecting use tax from Colorado residents who purchase taxable items from out-of-state retailers. While the new laws in New York, North Carolina, and Rhode Island and Colorado do not specifically apply to our businesses, the proliferation of such state legislation, particularly as many states seek to expand revenues generated from broader taxes, could adversely affect some of our sellers at some point in the future and indirectly harm our business. In conjunction with the Streamlined Sales Tax Project—an ongoing, multi-year effort by U.S. state, and local governments to require collection and remittance of distant sales tax by out-of-state sellers—bills have been introduced in the U.S. Congress to overturn the Supreme Court's Quill decision, which limits the ability of state governments to require sellers outside of their own state to collect and remit sales taxes on goods purchased by in-state residents. Similar legislation may be considered by the current U.S. Congress as a way to enable states to increase sales tax revenues and help address significant state budgetary shortfalls caused by the economic downturn. The adoption of any legislation overturning the Quill decision that lacks a robust small business exemption would result in the imposition of sales taxes, as well as costs associated with complex sales tax collection, remittance and audit compliance requirements on our sellers, would make selling on our websites less attractive for small retailers, and would harm our business.

From time to time, some taxing authorities have notified us that they believe we owe them certain taxes. In May 2008, the City of Chicago notified both eBay and StubHub that they are liable for a city amusement tax on tickets to events in Chicago, irrespective of the location of the buyer or seller, and filed suit to enforce collection of taxes they claim are due. In March 2009, the court ruled that StubHub is not required to collect and remit the city amusement tax. The City of Chicago requested reconsideration of this ruling and StubHub sought clarification of the ruling relative to the remaining counts as well. In August 2009, the court entered a final order dismissing the case against StubHub. In December 2009, the court also dismissed the case against eBay. Appeals in both the StubHub and eBay matters are currently pending. The application of similar existing or future laws could have adverse effects on our business.

Several proposals have been made at the U.S. state and local level that would impose additional taxes on the sale of goods and services over the Internet. These proposals, if adopted, could substantially impair the growth of ecommerce and our brands, and could diminish our opportunity to derive financial benefit from our activities. The U.S. federal government's moratorium on state and local taxation of Internet access or multiple or discriminatory taxes on ecommerce was extended through November 2014. This moratorium does not prohibit federal, state, or local authorities from collecting taxes on our income or from collecting certain taxes that were in effect prior to the enactment of the moratorium and/or one of its extensions.

We do not collect taxes on the goods or services sold by users of our services. One or more states or the federal government or foreign countries may seek to impose a tax collection, reporting or record-keeping obligation on companies that engage in or facilitate ecommerce. Such an obligation could be imposed by legislation intended to improve tax compliance (and legislation to such effect has been discussed in the U.S. Congress, several states, and a number of foreign jurisdictions) or if an eBay company was ever deemed to be the legal agent of the users of our services by a jurisdiction in which eBay operates. In July 2008, the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (H.R. 3221) was signed into law. This law contains provisions that require companies that provide payments over electronic means to users to report to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) information on payments received by certain customers. The legislation, effective for payments received after December 31, 2010, will require PayPal and other electronic payments providers, as well as potentially StubHub and similar companies, to report to the IRS on U.S.-based customers who receive more than \$20,000 in payments and more than 200 payments in a year, and to request tax ID numbers from U.S. users and track payments by tax ID number. This requirement may decrease seller activity and harm our business. One or more other jurisdictions may also seek to impose tax-collection or reporting obligations based on the location of the product or service being sold or provided in an ecommerce transaction, regardless of where the respective users are located. Imposition of a discriminatory record keeping or tax collecting requirement could decrease seller activity on our sites and would harm our business. Foreign authorities may also require eBay to help ensure compliance by our users with local laws regulating professional sellers, including tax requirements. In addition, we have periodically received requests from tax authorities in many jurisdictions for information regarding the transactions of large classes of sellers on our sites, and in some cases we have been legally obligated to provide this data. The imposition of any requirements on us to disclose transaction records for all or a class of sellers to tax or other regulatory authorities or to file tax forms on behalf of any sellers, especially requirements that are imposed on us but not on alternative means of ecommerce, and any use of those records to investigate, collect taxes from, or prosecute sellers, could decrease seller activity on our sites and harm our business.

We pay input VAT on applicable taxable purchases within the various countries in which we operate. In most cases, we are entitled to reclaim this input VAT from the various countries. However, because of our unique business model, the application of the laws and rules that allow such reclamation is sometimes uncertain. A successful assertion by one or more countries that we are not entitled to reclaim VAT could harm our business.

We continue to work with the relevant tax authorities and legislators to clarify eBay's obligations under new and emerging laws and regulations. Passage of new legislation and the imposition of additional tax or tax-related reporting requirements could harm our users and our business. There have been, and will continue to be, substantial ongoing costs associated with complying with the various indirect tax requirements in the numerous markets in which eBay conducts or will conduct business.

Our decision to launch our PayPal Developer Platform, which is open to third-party developers, subjects us to new risks.

In 2009, we launched the PayPal Developer Platform to enable third party developers to access a wide variety of PayPal product and programming code specifications and to connect to select PayPal payment application programming interfaces (APIs). We also began providing a software tool kit for building mobile payments applications. In addition, we provide third party developers with access to certain APIs with respect to our Marketplaces platforms. There is no assurance that third-party developers will develop and maintain applications and services on PayPal's platforms on a timely basis or at all, and a number of factors could cause such third-party developers to curtail or stop development for our platforms. For instance, if we develop our own software applications and services, such development may negatively affect the decisions of third-party developers to develop, maintain, and upgrade similar or competitive applications on our platforms. The availability and development of these applications also depend on developers' perceptions and analysis of the relative benefits of developing software for our products versus our competitors' products, including devices that use competing platforms. If developers focus their efforts on these competing platforms, the availability and quality of applications for our products may suffer. In addition, we may potentially become subject to additional regulatory scrutiny based on applications developed by third-party developers.

Our businesses depend on continued and unimpeded access to the Internet. Internet service providers may be able to block, degrade, or charge us or our users additional fees for our offerings.

Our customers rely on access to the Internet to use our products and services. In many cases that access is provided by companies that compete with at least some of our offerings, including incumbent telephone companies, cable companies, mobile communications companies, and large Internet service providers. Some of these providers have stated that they may take measures that could degrade, disrupt, or increase the cost of customers' use of our offerings by restricting or prohibiting the use of their infrastructure to support or facilitate our offerings, or by charging increased fees to us or our users to provide our offerings. In addition, Internet service providers could attempt to charge us each time our customers use our offerings. Worldwide, a number of companies have announced plans to take such actions or are selling products designed to facilitate such actions. Interference with our offerings or higher charges for access to our offerings, whether paid by us or by our customers, could cause us to lose existing customers, impair our ability to attract new customers, and harm our revenue and growth.

Our tickets business is subject to regulatory, competitive, and other risks that could harm this business.

Our tickets business, which includes our StubHub business, is subject to numerous risks. Many jurisdictions have laws and regulations covering the resale of event tickets. Some jurisdictions prohibit the resale of event tickets at prices above the face value of the tickets or at all, or highly regulate the resale of tickets, and new laws and regulations or changes to existing laws and regulations imposing these or other restrictions may be adopted that could limit or inhibit our ability to operate, or our users' ability to continue to use, our tickets business. Regulatory agencies or courts may claim or hold that we are responsible for ensuring that our users comply with these laws and regulations or that we or our users are either subject to licensure or prohibited from reselling event tickets in their jurisdictions.

Some event organizers and professional sports teams have expressed concern about the resale of their event tickets on our sites. Suits alleging a variety of causes of actions have in the past, and may in the future, be filed against StubHub and eBay by venue owners, competitors, ticket buyers and unsuccessful ticket buyers. Such litigation could result in damage awards, could require us to change our business practices in ways that may be harmful to our business, or could otherwise negatively affect our tickets business. Our tickets business is also subject to seasonal fluctuations and the general economic and business conditions that impact the sporting events and live entertainment industries. The recent economic downturn has resulted in a decrease in ticket prices sold on our sites and has negatively impacted revenue and profits. Our tickets business also faces significant competition from a number of sources, including ticketing service companies (such as Live Nation Entertainment (formerly Ticketmaster), AEG, Comcast-Spectacor and Tickets.com), event organizers (such as professional sports teams and leagues), ticket brokers, and other online and offline ticket resellers, such as TicketsNow (which is owned by Live Nation Entertainment) and RazorGator. In addition, some ticketing service companies and event organizers have recently begun to issue event tickets through various forms of electronic ticketing systems that are designed to restrict or prohibit the transferability of such event tickets. Ticketing service companies have also begun to use market-based pricing strategies or dynamic pricing to charge much higher prices than they historically have for premium tickets. Besides charging higher prices, these ticketing service companies have also imposed additional restrictions on transferability for these types of tickets, such as requiring customers to pickup these tickets at will-call with the purchasing credit card. To the extent that event tickets issued in this manner cannot be resold on our websites, or to the extent that we are otherwise unable to compete with these competitors, our tickets business would be harmed.

We depend on key personnel.

Our future performance depends substantially on the continued services of our senior management and other key personnel and our ability to retain and motivate them. We do not have long-term employment agreements with any of our key personnel, we do not maintain any key person life insurance policies, and some members of our senior management team have fully vested the vast majority of their in-the-money equity incentives. The loss of the services of any of our executive officers or other key employees could harm our business. Our new businesses all depend on attracting and retaining key personnel. Our future success also will depend on our ability to attract, train, retain and motivate highly skilled technical, managerial, marketing, and customer support personnel. Competition for these personnel is intense, and we may be unable to successfully attract, integrate, or retain sufficiently qualified personnel. In making employment decisions, particularly in the Internet and high-technology industries, job candidates often consider the value of the equity awards they would receive in connection with their employment. Fluctuations in our stock price may make it more difficult to retain and motivate employees whose stock option strike prices are substantially above current market prices. Similarly, decreases in the number of unvested in-the-money stock options held by existing employees, whether because our stock price has declined, options have vested, or because the size of follow-on option grants has declined, may make it more difficult to retain and motivate employees.

Problems with or price increases by third parties who provide services to us or to our users could harm our business.

A number of parties provide services to us or to our users that benefit us. Such services include seller tools that automate and manage listings, merchant tools that manage listings and interface with inventory management software, storefronts that help our users list items, caching services that make our sites load faster, and shipping providers that deliver goods sold on our platform, among others. In some cases we have contractual agreements with these companies that give us a direct financial interest in their success, while in other cases we have none. PayPal is dependent on the processing companies and banks that link PayPal to the credit card and bank clearing networks. Similarly, Bill Me Later relies heavily on third parties to operate its services, including merchant processors and payment gateways to process transactions. Financial or regulatory issues, labor issues (e.g., strikes or work stoppages) or other problems that prevent these companies from providing services to us or our users could reduce the number of listings on our websites or make completing transactions or payments on our websites more difficult, and thereby harm our business. In addition, price increases by companies that provide services to our users (such as postal and delivery services) could also reduce the number of listings on our websites or make it more difficult for our users to complete transactions, thereby harming our business. Any security breach at one of these companies could also adversely affect our customers and harm our business.

In addition, we have outsourced certain functions to third-party outside providers, including customer support and product development functions, which are critical to our operations. If our service providers do not perform satisfactorily, our operations could be disrupted, which could result in user dissatisfaction and adversely affect our business, reputation and operating results. Although we generally have been able to renew or extend the terms of contractual arrangements with third parties who provide services to us on acceptable terms, there can be no assurance that we will continue to be able to do so in the future, and there can be no assurance that third parties who provide services directly to us or our users will continue to do so on acceptable terms. If any third parties were to stop providing services to us on acceptable terms, including as a result of bankruptcy due to poor economic conditions, we may be unable to procure alternatives from other third parties in a timely and efficient manner and on acceptable terms, or at all.

Customer complaints or negative publicity about our customer support or anti-fraud measures could diminish use of our services.

Customer complaints or negative publicity about our customer support could severely diminish consumer confidence in and use of our services. Measures we sometimes take to combat risks of fraud and breaches of privacy and security have the potential to damage relations with our customers or decrease activity on our sites by making our sites more difficult to use or restricting the activities of certain users. These measures heighten the need for prompt and accurate customer support to resolve irregularities and disputes. Effective customer support requires significant personnel expense, and this expense, if not managed properly, could significantly impact our profitability. Failure to manage or train our customer support representatives properly could compromise our ability to handle customer complaints effectively. If we do not handle customer complaints effectively, our reputation may suffer and we may lose our customers' confidence.

Because it is providing a financial service and operating in a more regulated environment, PayPal must provide telephone as well as email customer support and must resolve certain customer contacts within shorter time frames. As part of PayPal's program to reduce fraud losses and prevent money laundering, it may temporarily restrict the ability of customers to withdraw their funds if those funds or the customer's account activity are identified by PayPal's risk models as suspicious. PayPal has in the past received negative publicity with respect to its customer support and account restrictions, and has been the subject of purported class action lawsuits and state attorney general inquiries alleging, among other things, failure to resolve account restrictions promptly. If PayPal is unable to provide quality customer support operations in a cost-effective manner, PayPal's users may have negative experiences, PayPal may receive additional negative publicity, its ability to attract new customers may be damaged, and it could become subject to additional litigation. As a result, current and future revenues could suffer, and its operating margins may decrease. In addition, negative publicity about, or negative experiences with, customer support for any of our businesses could cause our reputation to suffer or affect consumer confidence in our brands as a whole.

Our industry is intensely competitive, and other companies or governmental agencies may allege that our behavior is anti-competitive.

Marketplaces

Marketplaces businesses currently or potentially compete with a number of companies providing both particular categories of goods and broader ranges of goods. The Internet provides new, rapidly evolving and intensely competitive channels for the sale of all types of goods. We expect competition to intensify in the future. The barriers to entry into these channels are relatively low and current offline and new competitors, including small businesses who want to create and promote their own stores, can easily launch online sites at a nominal cost using commercially available software or partnering with any one of a number of successful ecommerce companies.

Our broad-based competitors include the vast majority of traditional department, warehouse, discount, and general merchandise stores (as well as the online operations of these traditional retailers), emerging online retailers, online classified services, and other shopping channels such as offline and online home shopping networks. Among others, these include: Wal-Mart, Target, Sears, Macy's, JC Penney, Costco, Office Depot, Staples, OfficeMax, Sam's Club, Amazon.com, Buy.com, AOL.com, Yahoo! Shopping, MSN, QVC, and Home Shopping Network.

A number of companies offer a variety of services that provide channels for buyers to find and buy items from sellers of all sizes, including online aggregation and classifieds websites such as craigslist (in which we own a noncontrolling equity stake), Google Merchant Center, Oodle.com and a number of International websites operated by Schibsted ASA. Our classifieds websites, including eBay Classifieds, Kijiji, Marktplaats, mobile.de, Gumtree, Den Blå Avis and BilBasen offer classifieds listings in the U.S. and a variety of local international markets. In many markets in which they operate, including in the U.S., our classified platforms compete against more established online and offline classifieds platforms.

In 2005, we acquired Shopping.com Ltd., an online shopping comparison site. Shopping.com competes with sites such as Buy.com, Google's Product Search, Nextag.com, Pricegrabber.com, Shopzilla, and Yahoo! Product Search, which offer shopping search engines that allow consumers to search the Internet for specified products. Recent legal developments may affect the utility of shopping comparison sites if manufacturers begin requiring more uniformity in product pricing. In addition, sellers are increasingly utilizing multiple sales channels, including the acquisition of new customers by paying for search-related advertisements on search engine sites such as Google and Yahoo!. We use product search engines and paid search advertising to channel users to our sites, but these services also have the potential to divert users to other online shopping destinations.

We also compete with many local, regional, and national specialty retailers and exchanges in each of the major categories of products offered on our site. For example, category-specific competitors to offerings in our Motors (Parts and Accessories) category include: Advanceautoparts.com, Auto Parts Warehouse, Autoanything.com, Autobytel Network, Automotix, AutoZone, Car Parts Wholesale, Discount Tire/America's Tire, Interstate Battery, jwhitney.com, Jegs.com, LemonFree.com, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Parts Train, Rockauto.com, tirerack.com, newspaper and online classifieds, used car dealers, swap meets, car clubs, and vehicle recyclers.

Our international Marketplaces websites compete with similar online and offline channels in each of their vertical categories in most countries. In addition, they compete with general online ecommerce sites, such as Quelle and Otto in Germany, Leboncoin.fr and Price Minister in France, Tradus (owned by Naspers) in Poland, Yahoo-Kimo in Taiwan, Lotte, Naver and 11th Street in South Korea, Trading Post, OZtion and Aussie Bidder in Australia, and Amazon and Play.com in the United Kingdom and other countries. In some of these countries, there are online sites that have much larger customer bases and greater brand recognition than we do, and in certain of these jurisdictions there are competitors that may have a better understanding of local culture and commerce than we do.

The principal competitive factors for Marketplaces include the following:

ability to attract and retain buyers and sellers;

volume of transactions and price and selection of goods;

trust in the seller and the transaction;

customer service; and

brand recognition.

With respect to our online competition, additional competitive factors include:

community cohesion, interaction and size;

website ease-of-use and accessibility;

system reliability;

reliability of delivery and payment;

level of service fees; and

quality of search tools.

Some current and potential competitors have longer operating histories, larger customer bases and greater brand recognition in other business and Internet sectors than we do. Other online trading services may be acquired by, receive investments from, or enter into other commercial relationships with well-established and well-financed companies. As a result, some of our competitors with other revenue sources may be able to devote more resources to marketing and promotional campaigns, adopt more aggressive pricing policies and devote substantially more resources to website and systems development than we can. Some of our competitors have offered services for free and others may do this as well. We may be unable to compete successfully against current and future competitors. In addition, certain established retailers may encourage manufacturers to limit or cease distribution of their products to dealers who sell through online channels such as eBay, or may attempt to use existing or future government regulation to prohibit or limit online commerce in certain categories of goods or services. For example, manufacturers may attempt to enforce minimum resale price maintenance arrangements to prevent distributors from selling on our websites or on the Internet generally, or at prices that would make our site attractive relative to other alternatives. The adoption by manufacturers or government authorities of policies or regulations discouraging the sales of goods or services over the Internet could force eBay users to stop

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

selling certain products on our websites. Increased competition or anti-Internet distribution policies or regulations may result in reduced operating margins, loss of market share and diminished value of our brand. In order to respond to changes in the competitive environment, we may, from time to time, make pricing, service or marketing decisions or acquisitions that may be controversial with and lead to dissatisfaction among a number of our sellers, and which could harm our profitability.

Conversely, other companies and government agencies have in the past and may in the future allege that our actions violate the antitrust or competition laws of the U.S. or other countries, or otherwise constitute unfair competition. Such claims, even if without foundation, typically are very expensive to defend, involve negative publicity and substantial diversion of management time and effort, and could result in significant judgments against us.

In several jurisdictions, we have taken actions designed to improve the safety of transactions on our websites. Beginning in June 2008, we have required users in the UK to offer PayPal as a payment alternative on most transactions on our localized UK website, and since October 2008, we have required sellers on eBay.com to accept one or more accepted payment methods (currently PayPal, credit or debit cards processed through Internet merchant accounts, ProPay, Moneybookers and Paymate) and no longer allow any forms of paper payment, including checks and money orders, to be listed by sellers in the U.S. for most categories of items. While these initiatives are intended to improve and make safer our users' buying experience and/or increase activity on our sites, certain users may be negatively affected by or react negatively to these changes. We currently face inquiries from government regulators in various jurisdictions related to such actions. For example, in 2009, the Reserve Bank of Australia reviewed our policies requiring sellers to offer PayPal as a payment alternative on most transactions on our localized Australian website and precluding sellers from imposing a surcharge or any other fee for accepting PayPal or other payment methods. We may face similar inquiries from other government regulators in the future. Any negative reaction to these changes by our users or government authorities could, among other things, force us to change our operating practices in ways that could harm our business, operating results and profitability. In addition, certain competitors may offer or continue to offer free shipping or other transaction related services, which could be impractical or inefficient for eBay sellers to match. New technologies may increase the competitive pressures by enabling our competitors to offer a lower cost service.

Although we have established Internet traffic arrangements with several large online services and search engine companies, these arrangements may not be renewed on commercially reasonable terms or these companies may decide to promote competitive services. Even if these arrangements are renewed, they may not result in increased usage of our services. In addition, companies that control user access to transactions through network access, Internet browsers, or search engines, could promote our competitors, channel current or potential users to their vertically integrated electronic commerce sites or their advertisers' sites, attempt to restrict our access, or charge us substantial fees for inclusion. Search engines are increasingly becoming a starting point for online shopping, and as the costs of operating an online store continue to decline, online sellers may increasingly sell goods through multiple channels, which could reduce the number and value of transactions these sellers conduct through our sites.

PayPal

The markets for PayPal's product are intensely competitive and are subject to rapid technological change, including but not limited to: mobile payments, electronic funds transfer networks starting to allow Internet access, cross-border access to networks, creation of new networks, expansion of prepaid cards, and bill pay networks. PayPal competes with existing online and offline payment methods, including, among others:

credit card merchant processors that offer their services to online merchants, including American Express, Chase Paymentech, First Data, and Wells Fargo; and payment gateways, including CyberSource (which Visa has agreed to acquire) and Authorize.net (which has merged with CyberSource);

money remitters such as MoneyGram, Western Union, Global Payments, Inc. and Euronet;

bill payment services, including CheckFree, a subsidiary of Fiserv;

processors that provide online merchants the ability to offer their customers the option of paying for purchases from their bank account or paying on credit, including Acculynk, Moneta, eBillMe, Revolution Money (which American Express has acquired) and TeleCheck, a subsidiary of First Data, or to pay on credit;

providers of traditional payment methods, particularly credit cards, checks, money orders, and Automated Clearing House transactions;

issuers of stored value targeted at online payments, including VisaBuxx, NetSpend and GreenDot;

mobile payments, including Obopay, Amazon Payments, Boku, Crandy, LUUP and Payforit;

Amazon Payments, which offers online merchants the ability to accept credit card- and bank-funded payments from Amazon's base of online customers on the merchant's own website;

Google Checkout, which enables the online payment of merchants using credit cards; and

Payment services targeting users of social networks and online gaming, including Facebook and Hi5 credits, PlaySpan, Zynga and Zong.

Some of these competitors have longer operating histories, significantly greater financial, technical, marketing, customer service and other resources, greater name recognition, or a larger base of customers in affiliated businesses than PayPal. PayPal's competitors may respond to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements faster and more effectively than PayPal. Some of these competitors may also be subject to lesser licensing, anti-money laundering, and other regulatory requirements than PayPal, which is subject to additional regulations

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

based on its licensure as a bank in Luxembourg. They may devote greater resources to the development, promotion, and sale of products and services than PayPal, and they may offer lower prices. For example, Google Checkout has offered free payments processing on transactions in an amount proportionate to certain advertising spending with Google. Competing services tied to established banks and other financial institutions may offer greater liquidity and engender greater consumer confidence in the safety and efficacy of their services than PayPal.

Overseas, PayPal faces competition from similar channels and payment methods. In each country, numerous banks provide standard online credit card acquiring and processing services, and these banks typically have leading market share. In addition, PayPal faces competition from Visa's Visa Direct, MasterCard's MoneySend, Royal Bank of Scotland's World Pay, Moneybookers, ClickandBuy and Ukash in the EU, NOCHEX in the United Kingdom, Sofortüberweisung in Germany, CertaPay and HyperWallet in Canada, Paymate, BPay and POLI in Australia, Alipay, YeePay and 99 Bill in China and Inicis in South Korea. In addition, in certain countries, such as Germany and Australia, electronic funds transfer is a leading method of payment for both online and offline transactions. As in the U.S., established banks and other financial institutions that do not currently offer online payments could quickly and easily develop such a service.

Some of PayPal's competitors, such as Wells Fargo, First Data, American Express, and Royal Bank of Scotland, also provide processing or foreign exchange services to PayPal. If PayPal were to seek to expand the financial products that it offers, either alone or through a commercial alliance or an acquisition, these processing and foreign exchange relationships could be negatively affected, or these competitors and other processors could make it more difficult for PayPal to deliver its services.

Our business may be adversely affected by factors that cause our users to spend less time on our websites, including seasonal factors, national events and increased usage of other websites.

Anything that diverts our users from their customary level of usage of our websites could adversely affect our business. We would therefore be adversely affected by geopolitical events such as war, the threat of war, or terrorist activity, and natural disasters, such as hurricanes or earthquakes. Similarly, our results of operations historically have been seasonal because many of our users reduce their activities on our websites with the onset of good weather during the summer months, and on and around national holidays. In addition, increased usage of social networking or other entertainment websites may decrease the amount of time users spend on our websites, which could adversely affect our financial results.

Our failure to cost-effectively manage certain aspects of our business could harm us.

We have expanded our headcount, facilities, and infrastructure in the U.S. and internationally, and anticipate that further expansion in certain areas will be required for some of our businesses. This expansion has placed, and we expect it will continue to place, a significant strain on our management, operational, and financial resources. The areas that are put under strain by our growth include the following:

Website Usability. User activity rates on our websites depend in part on the quality of our users' experiences on those sites. The rapid growth in the number and complexity of products and features on our sites has occasionally caused users to become confused or overwhelmed or has otherwise impaired users' experiences on those sites. We are in the process of making numerous improvements to our eBay websites, including an attempt to improve the user experience on those websites. These attempts at improvement could fail, or could decrease activity among users who had grown used to or preferred the existing experience on our sites. Any impairment of customer satisfaction as a result of site usability issues could lead to a loss of customers or impair our ability to add customers, either of which would harm our business.

Website Stability. We must constantly add new hardware, update software and add new engineering personnel to accommodate the increased use of our and our subsidiaries' websites and the new products and features we regularly introduce. This upgrade process is expensive, and the increased complexity of our websites and the need to support multiple platforms as our portfolio of brands grows increases the cost of additional enhancements. Failure to cost effectively upgrade our technology, features, transaction processing systems, security infrastructure, or network infrastructure to accommodate increased traffic or transaction volume or changes to our site functionality could harm our business. Adverse consequences could include unanticipated system disruptions, slower response times, degradation in levels of customer support, impaired quality of users' experiences of our services, impaired quality of services for third-party application developers using our externally accessible APIs and delays in reporting accurate financial information. We may be unable to effectively upgrade and expand our systems in a timely manner or smoothly integrate any newly developed or purchased technologies or businesses with our existing systems, and any failure to do so could result in problems on our sites. Further, steps to increase the reliability and redundancy of our systems are expensive, reduce our margins, and may not be successful in reducing the frequency or duration of unscheduled downtime.

Customer Account Billing. Our revenues depend on prompt and accurate billing processes. Our failure to grow our transaction-processing capabilities to accommodate the increasing number of transactions that must be billed on any of our websites would harm our business and our ability to collect revenue.

Customer Support. We seek to become more efficient in providing our customer support operations. We intend to provide an increased level of support (including an increasing amount of telephone support) in a cost-effective manner. If we are unable to provide customer support in a cost-effective manner, users of our websites may have negative experiences, current and future revenues could suffer, our costs may increase and our operating margins may decrease.

We must continue to effectively hire, train, and manage new employees. If our new hires perform poorly, if we are unsuccessful in hiring, training, managing, and integrating these new employees, or if we are not successful in retaining our existing employees, our business may be harmed. To manage the expected growth of our operations and personnel, we will need to improve our transaction processing, operational and financial systems, procedures, and controls. This is a special challenge as we acquire new operations with different systems. Our current and planned personnel, systems, procedures, and controls may not be adequate to support our future operations. Any capital investments that we may make will increase our cost base, which will make it more difficult for us to offset any future revenue shortfalls by expense reductions in the short term.

We may have exposure to greater than anticipated tax liabilities.

The determination of our worldwide provision for income taxes and other tax liabilities requires estimation and significant judgment and there are many transactions and calculations where the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. Like many other multinational corporations, we are subject to tax in multiple U.S. and foreign tax jurisdictions and have structured our operations to reduce our effective tax rate. Our determination of our tax liability is always subject to audit and review by applicable domestic and foreign tax authorities, and we are currently undergoing a number of investigations, audits and reviews by taxing authorities throughout the world, including with respect to our tax structure. Any adverse outcome of any such audit or review could have a negative effect on our business, operating results and financial condition, and the ultimate tax outcome may differ from the amounts recorded in our financial statements and may materially affect our financial results in the period or periods for which such determination is made. While we have established reserves based on assumptions and estimates that we believe are reasonable to cover such eventualities, these reserves may prove to be insufficient in the event that any taxing authority is successful in asserting tax positions that are contrary to our positions.

In addition, the economic downturn has reduced tax revenues for U.S. federal and state governments, and proposals to increase taxes from corporate entities are being considered at various levels of government. Among the options have been a range of proposals included in the tax and budget policies recommended to the U.S. Congress by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to modify the federal tax rules related to the imposition of U.S. federal corporate income taxes for companies operating in multiple U.S. and foreign tax jurisdictions. If such proposals are enacted into law, this could increase our effective tax rate. A number of U.S. states have likewise attempted to increase corporate tax revenues by taking an expansive view of corporate presence in order to attempt to impose corporate income taxes and other direct business taxes on companies that have no physical presence in their state. Many U.S. states are also altering their apportionment formulas in order to increase the amount of taxable income/loss attributable to their state from certain out-of-state businesses. Companies that operate over the Internet, such as eBay, are a target of some of these state efforts. If more states were successful in applying direct taxes to Internet companies that are not present in the state, this could increase of our effective tax rate.

We depend on the continued growth of online commerce.

The business of selling goods over the Internet, particularly through online trading, is dynamic and relatively new. Concerns about fraud, privacy, and other problems may discourage additional consumers from adopting the Internet as a medium of commerce. In countries such as the U.S., Germany, Korea and the U.K., where our services and online commerce generally have been available for some time and the level of market penetration of our services is high, acquiring new users for our services may be more difficult and costly than it has been in the past. In order to expand our user base, we must appeal to and acquire consumers who historically have used traditional means of commerce to purchase goods and may prefer Internet analogues to such traditional retail means to our offerings, such as the retailer's own website. If these consumers prove to be less active than our earlier users, and we are unable to gain efficiencies in our operating costs, including our cost of acquiring new customers, our business could be adversely impacted.

Our business depends on the development and maintenance of the Internet infrastructure.

The success of our services will depend largely on the development and maintenance of the Internet infrastructure. This includes maintenance of a reliable network backbone with the necessary speed, data capacity, and security, as well as timely development of complementary products, for providing reliable Internet access and services. The Internet has experienced, and is likely to continue to experience, significant growth in the numbers of users and amount of traffic. The Internet infrastructure may be unable to support such demands. In addition, increasing numbers of users, increasing bandwidth requirements, or problems caused by viruses, worms, malware and similar programs may harm the performance of the Internet. The backbone computers of the Internet have been the targets of such programs. The Internet has experienced a variety of outages and other delays as a result of damage to portions of its infrastructure, and it could face outages and delays in the future. These outages and delays could reduce the level of Internet usage generally as well as the level of usage of our services, which could adversely impact our business.

We may be unable to protect or enforce our own intellectual property rights adequately.

We regard the protection of our trademarks, copyrights, patents, domain names, trade dress, and trade secrets as critical to our success. We aggressively protect our intellectual property rights by relying on federal, state and common law rights in the U.S. and internationally, as well as a variety of administrative procedures. We also rely on contractual restrictions to protect our proprietary rights in products and services. We have entered into confidentiality and invention assignment agreements with our employees and contractors, and confidentiality agreements with parties with whom we conduct business in order to limit access to and disclosure of our proprietary information. Effective intellectual property protection may not be available in every country in which our products and services are made available, and contractual arrangements and the other steps we have taken to protect our intellectual property may not prevent misappropriation of our technology or deter independent development of similar technologies by others.

We pursue the registration of our domain names, trademarks, and service marks in the U.S. and internationally. Effective trademark, copyright, patent, domain name, trade dress, and trade secret protection is very expensive to maintain and may require litigation. We must protect our intellectual property rights and other proprietary rights in an increasing number of jurisdictions, a process that is expensive and time consuming and may not be successful in every location. We may not be able to discover or determine the extent of any unauthorized use of our proprietary rights. We have licensed in the past, and expect to license in the future, certain of our proprietary rights, such as trademarks or copyrighted material, to others. These licensees may take actions that diminish the value of our proprietary rights or harm our reputation.

We are subject to the risks of owning real property.

We own real property, including land and buildings related to our operations. We have little experience in managing real property. Ownership of this property subjects us to risks, including:

the possibility of environmental contamination and the costs associated with fixing any environmental problems;

disruptions to our operations resulting from possible natural disasters, interruptions in utilities and similar events;

adverse changes in the value of these properties, due to interest rate changes, changes in the commercial property markets, or other factors;

the possible need for structural improvements in order to comply with zoning, seismic, disability act, or other requirements; and

possible disputes with tenants, neighboring owners, or others.

Some anti-takeover provisions may affect the price of our common stock.

Our Board of Directors has the authority to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock and to determine the preferences, rights and privileges of those shares without any further vote or action by the stockholders. The rights of the holders of common stock may be harmed by rights granted to the holders of any preferred stock that may be issued in the future. Some provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws could have the effect of making it more difficult for a potential acquirer to acquire a majority of our outstanding voting stock. These include provisions that provide for a classified board of directors, prohibit stockholders from taking action by written consent and restrict the ability of stockholders to call special meetings. We are also subject to provisions of Delaware law that prohibit us from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years from the date the person became an interested stockholder, unless certain conditions are met. This restriction could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control.

Item 2: Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Stock repurchase activity during the three months ended March 31, 2010 was as follows:

Edgar Filing: EBAY INC - Form 10-Q

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased(2)	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Programs	Maximum Dollar Value that May Yet be Purchased Under the Programs (1)
January 1, 2010 - January 31, 2010		\$		\$ 656,500,143
February 1, 2010 - February 28, 2010		\$		\$ 656,500,143
March 1, 2010 - March 31, 2010	9,018	\$		\$ 656,500,143
	9,018			

- (1) In January 2008, our Board approved a stock repurchase program for \$2.0 billion having no expiration date. There were no stock repurchases under our stock repurchase program during the three months ended March 31, 2010. As of March 31, 2010, \$656.5 million remained available for further purchases under this repurchase program.
- (2) Represents shares of stock withheld from employees to satisfy tax obligations.

Item 3: Defaults Upon Senior Securities

Not applicable.

Item 5: Other Information

None.

Item 6: Exhibits

Exhibit 12.01	Statement regarding computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges.
Exhibit 31.01	Certification of eBay's Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Exhibit 31.02	Certification of eBay's Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Exhibit 32.01	Certification of eBay's Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Exhibit 32.02	Certification of eBay's Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS*	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

* XBRL information is furnished and not filed for purposes of Sections 11 and 12 of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and is not subject to liability under those sections, is not part of any registration statement or prospectus to which it relates and is not incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into any registration statement, prospectus or other document.

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.

eBay Inc.
Principal Executive Officer:

By: */s/* JOHN DONAHOE
John Donahoe
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: April 28, 2010

Principal Financial Officer:

By: */s/* ROBERT H. SWAN
Robert H. Swan
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 28, 2010

Principal Accounting Officer:

By: */s/* PHILLIP P. DEPAUL
Phillip P. DePaul
Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer

Date: April 28, 2010

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit 12.01	Statement regarding computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges.
Exhibit 31.01	Certification of eBay's Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Exhibit 31.02	Certification of eBay's Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Exhibit 32.01	Certification of eBay's Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Exhibit 32.02	Certification of eBay's Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS*	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

* XBRL information is furnished and not filed for purposes of Sections 11 and 12 of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and is not subject to liability under those sections, is not part of any registration statement or prospectus to which it relates and is not incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into any registration statement, prospectus or other document.