

Seagate Technology plc
Form 10-K
August 20, 2010

Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended July 2, 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 No. 001-31560

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Ireland
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

98-0648577
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

**Arthur Cox Building, Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2, Ireland**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (353) (1) 618-0517

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12 (b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Ordinary Shares, par value \$0.00001 per share	The NASDAQ Global Select Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. YES NO

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. YES NO

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 (§ 229.405 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 if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common shares held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of January 1, 2010, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was approximately \$6.3 billion based upon a closing price of \$18.19 reported for such date by the NASDAQ.

The number of outstanding ordinary shares of the registrant as of August 12, 2010 was 471,808,544.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement to be delivered to shareholders in connection with our 2010 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the "Proxy Statement") are incorporated herein by reference in Part III.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY PLC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Item	Page No.
<u>PART I</u>	
1. <u>Business</u>	4
1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	19
1B. <u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	36
2. <u>Properties</u>	37
3. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	38
4. <u>(Removed and Reserved)</u>	38
<u>PART II</u>	
5. <u>Market for Registrant's Shares, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	39
6. <u>Selected Financial Data</u>	43
7. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	44
7A. <u>Qualitative and Quantitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	66
8. <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	69
9. <u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	122
9A. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	122
9B. <u>Other Information</u>	122
<u>PART III</u>	
10. <u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	123
11. <u>Executive Compensation</u>	123
12. <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management</u>	123
13. <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	123
14. <u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	123
<u>PART IV</u>	
15. <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	124
<u>SIGNATURES</u>	125
<u>EXHIBIT INDEX</u>	127

Table of Contents

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

Effective as of 1:30 p.m. PDT on July 3, 2010 (the "Effective Time"), Seagate Technology public limited company, an Irish public limited company, ("Seagate-Ireland") became the successor to Seagate Technology, an exempted company incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the Cayman Islands ("Seagate-Cayman"). In this Annual Report on Form 10-K (this "Form 10-K"), unless the context indicates otherwise, as used herein, the terms "we," "us," "Seagate," the "Company" and "our" refer to Seagate-Cayman and its subsidiaries for periods prior to the Effective Time and to Seagate-Ireland and its subsidiaries for periods after the Effective Time. References to "\$" are to United States dollars.

We have compiled the market size in this Form 10-K using statistics and other information obtained from several third-party sources.

Various amounts and percentages used in this Form 10-K have been rounded and, accordingly, they may not total 100%.

We own or otherwise have rights to the trademarks and trade names, including those mentioned in this Form 10-K, used in conjunction with the marketing and sale of our products.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements contained in this Form 10-K that are not historical facts, particularly in "Item 1. Business," "Item 1A. Risk Factors," "Item 3. Legal Proceedings," and "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," are statements of future expectations and other forward-looking statements (within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 or Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, each as amended). Certain of these forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, such as "believes," "expects," "may," "are expected to," "will," "will continue," "should," "would be," "seeks" or "anticipates" or similar expressions or the negative thereof or other variations thereof or comparable terminology, or by discussions of strategy, plans or intentions. These forward-looking statements are based on management's current views and assumptions, and are conditioned upon and also involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, performance or events to differ materially from those in such statements due to, among other factors:

uncertainty in global economic conditions as customers may defer purchases in response to tighter credit and negative financial news;

the impact of the variable demand and the pricing environment for disk drives, particularly in view of current business and economic conditions;

our dependence on our ability to successfully qualify, manufacture and sell our disk drive products in increasing volumes on a cost-effective basis and with acceptable quality, particularly the new disk drive products with lower cost structures;

the impact of competitive product announcements and industry supply with respect to particular disk drive products; and

our ability to achieve potential cost savings from restructuring activities.

These risks and uncertainties include a variety of factors, some of which are beyond our control. Additional risks and uncertainties are set forth and are discussed in more detail in "Item 1A. Risk Factors" of this Form 10-K. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in this Annual Report on Form 10-K as anticipated, believed or expected. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing our views as of any subsequent date and we undertake no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date they were made.

Table of Contents

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

We are the world's leading provider of hard disk drives based on revenue. We design, manufacture, market and sell hard disk drives. Hard disk drives commonly referred to as disk drives, hard drives or HDDs, are devices that store digitally encoded data on rapidly rotating disks with magnetic surfaces. The performance attributes of disk drives, including their cost effectiveness and high storage capacities have resulted in disk drives being used as the primary medium for storing electronic data.

We produce a broad range of disk drive products addressing enterprise applications, where our products are designed for enterprise servers, mainframes and workstations; client compute applications, where our products are designed for desktop and notebook computers; and client non-compute applications, where our products are designed for a wide variety of end user devices such as digital video recorders (DVRs), personal data backup systems, portable external storage systems and digital media systems. In addition to manufacturing and selling disk drives, we provide data storage services for small- to medium-sized businesses, including online backup, data protection and recovery solutions.

Industry Overview

Electronic Data Storage Industry

The electronic data storage industry is comprised of companies that manufacture components or subcomponents designed for electronic data storage devices and companies that provide storage solutions through a variety of technologies such as disk drives, tape storage and semiconductor-based storage technologies such as flash memory. Participants in the electronic data storage industry include:

Major subcomponent manufacturers. Companies that manufacture components or subcomponents used in electronic data storage devices or solutions include companies such as Fuji Electric Device Technology Co., Ltd., Showa Denko K.K. and TDK Corporation, which supply heads and media to disk drive manufacturers; LSI Corporation and Marvell Technology Group Limited, which supply application specific integrated circuits (ASICs); and Hoya Corporation, which supplies glass substrates.

Hardware storage solutions manufacturers. Companies that transform components into storage products include disk drive manufacturers such as Seagate, Hitachi Global Storage Technologies, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., Toshiba Corporation and Western Digital Corporation; magnetic tape storage manufacturers such as Quantum Corporation; and semiconductor storage manufacturers such as Intel Corporation, Micron Technology, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., SanDisk Corporation and STEC, Inc., whose operations include integrating flash memory into storage products such as solid state drives (SSDs).

System integrators. Companies that bundle and package storage components such as storage hardware and software into client compute, client non-compute or enterprise applications. Client compute original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) include Acer Inc., Apple Inc., Dell Inc., Hewlett-Packard Company and Lenovo Group Limited; client non-compute OEMs include Apple Inc., DIRECTV Group, Inc., Microsoft Corporation, Motorola, Inc., Scientific-Atlanta Inc., a subsidiary of Cisco Systems Inc., Sony Corporation and TiVo Inc.; and enterprise storage system OEMs include EMC Corporation, Hewlett-Packard Company and NetApp, Inc. Distributors who in turn integrate storage hardware and software into end-user applications are also included in this category.

Storage services. Another area within the electronic data storage industry is services and solutions related to the backup, archiving, recovery and discovery of electronic data.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Demand for Electronic Data Storage

The electronic data storage industry has traditionally been focused on client compute applications. We believe that technological advances in storage technology and a proliferation of client non-compute applications such as digital video recorders, gaming devices, digital music players and digital cameras are driving the broad, global proliferation and growth of digital content through the:

creation and sharing of all types of digital content, such as high-resolution photos, high definition video and movies and music by consumers and electronic data by enterprises;

aggregation and distribution of digital content through services and other offerings by companies such as YouTube by Google Inc., Hulu LLC by the National Broadcasting Company and FOX Broadcasting Company (a News Corporation Company), iTunes by Apple Inc., MySpace by News Corporation and Facebook;

network infrastructure, including broadband, cable and satellite that has enabled the access, hosting and distribution of such digital content;

enjoyment and consumption of digital content through DVRs, handheld devices and gaming consoles, as well as in automobiles; and

protection of digital content through storage on backup devices and storage services.

As a result of these factors, the nature and amount of content being created requires increasingly higher storage capacity in order to store, manage, distribute, utilize and back up such content. This in turn has resulted in the rapid growth in demand for electronic data storage applications and solutions.

We believe that demand for electronic data storage in the enterprise and traditional compute markets continues to grow as the proliferation of digital content in the consumer space has resulted in additional demand for storage by enterprises, including those that host, aggregate, distribute or share such content. Other factors driving demand for additional storage include:

continued growth in cloud computing and backup services for enterprises seeking efficient and cost-effective methods of processing and storing data, increases demand for storage as data centers expand and proliferate;

increasing legal and regulatory requirements, which necessitate larger archives;

changes in the nature and amount of data being stored, such as the growing use of digital records in the healthcare industry; and

growth in data captured in computer to computer communications, or "dark data", which does not require human interaction.

Demand Trends for Disk Drives

We believe that continued growth in digital content requires increasingly higher storage capacity in order to store, aggregate, host, distribute, manage, back up and use such content, which we believe will continue to result in increased demand for disk drive products. However, the disk drive industry is sensitive to global macroeconomic conditions as experienced in fiscal year 2009.

Historically, the electronic data storage industry has introduced alternative technologies that directly compete with hard disk drives. SSDs, using NAND flash memory, are a potential alternative to disk drives in certain applications such as consumer handheld devices and portable external storage. NAND flash memory is a type of non-volatile storage technology that does not require power to retain data. However, we

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

believe that in the foreseeable future the traditional enterprise and client compute markets that require high capacity storage solutions, as well as the data intensive client non-compute markets, will continue to

Table of Contents

be best served by hard disk drives based on the industry's ability to deliver reliable, power consumption efficient and cost effective mass storage devices.

Disk Drives for Enterprise Storage. We define enterprise storage as disk drives designed for mission critical applications and nearline applications.

Mission critical applications are defined as applications that are vital to the operation of enterprises, requiring high performance, and high reliability disk drives. We expect the market for mission critical enterprise storage solutions to be driven by enterprises continuing to move network traffic to dedicated storage area networks in an effort to reduce network complexity and increase energy savings. We believe that this transition will lead to an increased demand for more energy efficient, smaller form factor disk drives. These solutions are comprised principally of high performance enterprise class disk drives with sophisticated firmware and communications technologies.

Nearline applications are defined as applications that are less time-critical but capacity-intensive, such as reference data environments or redundancy for recovery purposes, which require high capacity and low power consumption disk drives featuring lower costs per gigabyte. We expect such applications, which include storage for cloud computing and backup services, will continue to grow and drive demand for disk drives designed with these attributes as data centers expand and proliferate.

SSD storage applications have been introduced as a potential alternative to redundant system startup or boot disk drives. In addition, enterprises are beginning to use SSDs in applications where rapid processing and/or lower power consumption is required. The timing of significant adoption of SSDs is dependent on enterprises weighing the pricing and other benefits of mission critical enterprise disk drives against the perceived performance benefits of SSDs.

Disk Drives for Client Compute. We define client compute applications as disk drives designed for the traditional desktop and mobile compute applications. In the near-term, we believe that demand growth in client compute applications will be driven by what we believe to be an accelerating corporate technology refresh cycle. In the long-term, we believe that the proliferation of digital content will drive the demand for the client compute market.

As the proliferation of client compute applications that require minimal storage such as tablets and netbooks continues, NAND flash technology could become more competitive within the client compute market in the future.

Disk Drives for Client Non-Compute. We define client non-compute applications as disk drives designed for consumer electronic devices and disk drives used for external storage and network-attached storage (NAS). Disk drives designed for consumer electronic devices are primarily used in applications such as DVRs that require a higher capacity, lower cost-per-gigabyte storage solution. Disk drives for external and NAS devices are designed for purposes such as personal data backup and portable external storage, and to augment the consumer's current desktop, notebook or DVR disk drive capacities. Client non-compute applications also include devices designed to display digital media in the home theater. We believe the proliferation of high definition and media-rich digital content will continue to create increasing consumer demand for higher storage solutions.

Disk Drive Technology

Overview

The design and manufacturing of disk drives depends on highly advanced technology and manufacturing techniques and therefore requires high levels of research and development spending and capital equipment investments. Manufacturing our disk drives is a complex process that begins with the production of individual components and ends with a fully assembled unit. We design, fabricate and assemble a number of the most important components found in our disk drives, including read/write heads

Table of Contents

and recording media. Our design and manufacturing operations are based on technology platforms that are used to produce various disk drive products that serve multiple data storage applications and markets. Our core technology platforms are focused around the areal density of media and read/write head technologies. Using an integrated platform design and manufacturing leverage approach allows us to deliver a portfolio of disk drive products to service a wide range of electronic data storage applications and a wide range of industries.

Disk Drive Performance

Disk drive performance is commonly differentiated by six key characteristics:

storage capacity, commonly expressed in gigabytes (GB) or terabytes (TB), which is the amount of data that can be stored on the disk;

spindle rotation speed, commonly expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM), which has an effect on speed of access to data;

interface transfer rate, commonly expressed in megabytes per second, which is the rate at which data moves between the disk drive and the computer controller;

average seek time, commonly expressed in milliseconds, which is the time needed to position the heads over a selected track on the disk surface;

data transfer rate, commonly expressed in megabytes per second, which is the rate at which data is transferred to and from the disk; and

product quality and reliability, commonly expressed in annualized return rates.

Areal Density

Areal density is a measure of storage capacity per square inch on the recording surface of a disk. The capacity of a disk drive is determined by the number of disks it contains as well as the areal density capability of these disks. We expect the long-term demand for increased disk drive capacities will continue to grow proportionately with the shift in storage applications from predominantly compute applications to more media-rich content. In particular, audio, video and photo storage data continue to increase in size, with high definition video content being an example of data requiring many multiples of the storage capacity of standard video. We believe that demand will further intensify by the proliferation of these forms of content. We have been pursuing, and will continue to pursue, a number of technologies to increase areal densities across the entire range of our products for expanding disk drive capacities and reducing the number of disks and heads per drive to further reduce product costs.

Manufacturing

Disk drive manufacturers are distinguished by their level of vertical integration, which is the degree to which they control the design and manufacture of the technology used in their products and by whether they are captive, producing disk drives for their own computer systems, or independent, producing disk drives as a stand-alone product.

Vertically integrated hard drive manufacturers design and produce their own read/write heads and recording media, which are critical technologies for disk drives. This integrated approach enables manufacturers to lower costs and to improve the functionality of components so that they work together efficiently. In contrast, manufacturers that are not integrated purchase most of their components from third-party suppliers, upon whom they depend for key elements of their technological innovation and differentiation. This can limit their ability to coordinate technology roadmaps and optimize the component design process for manufacturing efficiency and product reliability while making them reliant on the technology investment decisions of their suppliers. Independent manufacturers can enjoy a competitive

Table of Contents

advantage over captive manufacturers in working with OEMs because they do not compete with OEMs for computer system sales. We believe the competitive dynamics of the disk drive industry favor vertically integrated, independent manufacturers with the scale to make substantial technology investments and apply them across a broad product portfolio and set of customers.

We pursue a vertically integrated business strategy based on the ownership of critical component technologies, allowing us to maintain control over our product roadmap and component cost, quality and availability. We believe that because of our vertical design and manufacturing strategy, we are well suited to meet the challenges posed by the close interdependence of components for disk drives. Our manufacturing efficiency and flexibility are critical elements of our integrated business strategy. We continuously seek to improve our manufacturing efficiency and cost by:

employing manufacturing automation to enhance our efficiency;

improving product quality and reliability and reducing costs;

integrating our supply chain with suppliers and customers to enhance our demand visibility and reduce our working capital requirements;

coordinating between our manufacturing group and our research and development organization to rapidly achieve volume manufacturing; and

rationalizing the facilities we operate and reducing the number of personnel we employ.

A vertically integrated model, however, tends to have less flexibility when demand moderates because it exposes us to higher unit costs as capacity utilization is not optimized.

Due to the significant challenges posed by the need to continually innovate and improve manufacturing efficiency and the continued demands on capital and research and development investments required to do so, the disk drive industry has undergone significant consolidation as disk drive manufacturers and component manufacturers merged with other companies or exited the industry. The trend toward consolidation is more pronounced during times of macroeconomic contraction. For example, Toshiba Corporation acquired Fujitsu Limited's hard disk drive business in October 2009. The increasing technological challenges, associated levels of investment and competitive necessity of large-scale operations may also drive future industry consolidation. Additionally, we may in the future face indirect competition from customers who from time to time evaluate whether to offer electronic data storage products that may compete with our products.

Components and Raw Materials

All of our disk drive products incorporate certain components, including a head disk assembly and a printed circuit board mounted to the head disk assembly, which are sealed inside a rigid base and top cover containing the recording components in a contamination controlled environment. We maintain a highly integrated approach to our business by designing and manufacturing a significant portion of the components we view as critical to our products, such as recording heads and media.

Read/Write Heads. The function of the read/write head is to scan across the disk as it spins, magnetically recording or reading information. The tolerances of recording heads are extremely demanding and require state-of-the-art equipment and processes. Our read/write heads are manufactured with thin-film and photolithographic processes similar to those used to produce semiconductor integrated circuits, though challenges in magnetic film properties and topographical structures are unique to the disk drive industry. We perform all primary stages of design and manufacture of read/write heads at our facilities. We use a combination of internally manufactured and externally sourced read/write heads, the mix of which varies based on product mix, technology and our internal capacity levels.

Table of Contents

Media. Information is written to the media, or disk, as it rotates at very high speeds past the read/write head. The media is made from non-magnetic material, usually aluminum alloy or glass, and is coated with a thin layer of magnetic material. We use a combination of internally manufactured and externally sourced finished media and aluminum substrates, the mix of which varies based on product mix, technology and our internal capacity levels. We purchase all of our glass substrates from third parties, which we use in the disk drives we make for mobile products.

Printed Circuit Board Assemblies. The printed circuit board assemblies (PCBAs) are comprised of standard and custom ASICs and ancillary electronic control chips. The ASICs control the movement of data to and from the read/write heads and through the internal controller and interface, which communicates with the host computer. The ASICs and control chips form electronic circuitry that delivers instructions to a head positioning mechanism called an actuator to guide the heads to the selected track of a disk where the data is recorded or retrieved. Disk drive manufacturers use one or more industry standard interfaces such as serial advanced technology architecture (SATA); small computer system interface (SCSI); serial attached SCSI (SAS); or Fibre Channel (FC) to communicate to the host systems. We outsource to third parties the manufacture and assembly of the PCBAs used in our disk drives. We do not manufacture any ASICs, but we participate in their proprietary design.

Head Disk Assembly. The head disk assembly consists of one or more disks attached to a spindle assembly powered by a spindle motor that rotates the disks at a high constant speed around a hub. The disks, or recording media, are the components on which data is stored and from which it is retrieved. Each disk consists of a substrate of finely machined aluminum or glass deposited with layers of thin-film magnetic material. Read/write heads, mounted on an arm assembly, similar in concept to that of a record player, fly extremely close to each disk surface and record data on and retrieve it from concentric tracks in the magnetic layers of the rotating disks. The read/write heads are mounted vertically on an E-shaped assembly that is actuated by a voice-coil motor to allow the heads to move from track to track. The E-block and the recording media are mounted inside the head disk assembly. We purchase spindle motors from outside vendors and from time to time participate in the design of the motors that go into our products.

Disk Drive Assembly. Following the completion of the head disk assembly, it is mated to the PCBA, and the completed unit goes through extensive defect mapping and testing prior to packaging and shipment. Disk drive assembly and test operations occur primarily at facilities located in China, Singapore and Thailand. We perform subassembly and component manufacturing operations at our facilities in China, Malaysia, Northern Ireland, Singapore, Thailand and in the United States in Minnesota. In addition, third parties manufacture and assemble components for us in various Asian countries, including China, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam, in Europe and in the United States.

Suppliers of Components and Industry Constraints. Due to industry consolidation, there are a limited number of independent suppliers of components, such as recording heads and media, available to disk drive manufacturers. Vertically integrated disk drive manufacturers, who manufacture their own components, are less dependent on external component suppliers than less vertically integrated disk drive manufacturers.

We believe the supply chain was generally tight for the industry during most of fiscal year 2010. Availability of glass substrates, finished media and heads improved during the June 2010 quarter. However, supply of these critical components is still expected to be generally tight for the second half of the 2010 calendar year, reflecting typical seasonal patterns.

Commodity and Other Manufacturing Costs. The production of disk drives requires precious metals, scarce alloys and industrial commodities, which are subject to fluctuations in prices and the supply of which has at times been constrained. We believe that currently there is an adequate supply of these precious metals, scarce alloys and industrial commodities. Additionally, volatility in fuel costs may increase our costs

Table of Contents

related to commodities, manufacturing and freight. As a result, we may increase our use of ocean shipments to help offset any increase in freight costs.

Industry Supply Balance

From time to time the industry has experienced periods of imbalance between supply and demand. To the extent that the disk drive industry builds capacity based on expectations of demand that do not materialize, price erosion may become more pronounced. Conversely, during periods where demand exceeds supply, price erosion is generally muted. For the first half of fiscal year 2010, our industry experienced unmet demand due to industry-wide supply constraints, while in the March 2010 quarter supply and demand were relatively balanced. However, in the June 2010 quarter, industry supply exceeded demand, which we believe reflected a return to seasonal patterns typical of a June quarter.

Products

We offer a broad range of disk drive products for the enterprise, client compute and client non-compute market applications. We offer more than one product within each product family and differentiate products on the basis of price, performance, form factor, capacity, interface, power consumption efficiency, security features like full disk encryption and other customer integration requirements. Our industry is characterized by continuous and significant advances in technology, which contribute to rapid product life cycles. We list our main current product offerings below.

Enterprise Storage

Cheetah SCSI/SAS/Fibre Channel Family. Our Cheetah 3.5-inch disk drives ship in 10,000 and 15,000 RPM and in storage capacities ranging from 73GB to 600GB. Commercial uses for Cheetah disk drives include Internet and e-commerce servers, data mining and data warehousing, mainframes and supercomputers, department/enterprise servers and workstations, transaction processing, professional video and graphics and medical imaging.

Savvio SCSI/SAS/Fibre Channel Family. We are currently shipping our fourth generation Savvio 2.5-inch enterprise disk drive featuring increased throughput and improved power consumption, targeted at space optimized enterprise storage systems. Our Savvio disk drives ship in 10,000 and 15,000 RPM and in storage capacities ranging from 73GB to 600GB. We believe that end-user customers are increasingly adopting the smaller 2.5-inch form factor enterprise class disk drives, which allow the installation of more disk drives per square foot, thus facilitating faster access to data.

Barracuda ES SATA Family. Our Barracuda ES 3.5-inch disk drives ship in 7,200 RPM and in storage capacities ranging from 250GB to 2TB. The Barracuda ES addresses the emerging market in enterprise storage using nearline storage systems for capacity-intensive enterprise applications that require space optimization, maximized performance and availability. We have also introduced Barracuda ES drives for the surveillance market with capacities ranging from 250GB to 1TB.

Constellation ES SATA Family. Our Constellation disk drives ship in both 2.5-inch and 3.5-inch and in storage capacities of up to 500GB to 2TB, respectively, at 7,200 RPM. The Constellation is designed for reference data environments that require high capacity density, enterprise reliability, low power consumption and optional security.

Client Compute

Momentum ATA/SATA Family. Our Momentum family of disk drives for mobile computing disk drive products ship in 5,400 and 7,200 RPM and in capacities ranging from 80GB to 640GB. Momentum disk drives are used in notebooks for business, government, education and consumer applications. Consumer uses for Momentum disk drives also include tablet computers and digital audio applications. Our Momentum

Table of Contents

7200.4 is a 7,200 RPM disk drive for high-performance notebooks. In addition, we began shipping our new hybrid drive into the notebook market with the introduction of our Momentus XT product line in the fourth fiscal quarter of 2010. Hybrid disk drives incorporate both a hard disk drive and NAND flash storage. The benefits of such drives are improved performance over hard disk drives, as well as higher capacity and lower cost compared to SSDs alone.

Barracuda ATA/SATA Family. Our Barracuda 3.5-inch disk drive delivers storage capacities of up to 2TB at 7,200 RPM and is designed for applications such as PCs, workstations and personal external storage devices.

Client Non-Compute

Pipeline HD and DB35 SATA Family. We sell our 3.5-inch Pipeline HD and DB35 disk drives primarily for use in DVRs. These disk drives are optimized for leading-edge digital entertainment and range from 160GB to 1TB.

Pipeline Mini SATA Family. We sell our 2.5-inch, 5,400 RPM Pipeline Mini disk drives, with capacities ranging from 160GB up to 500GB, for use in low-profile DVRs, gaming consoles, home entertainment devices and small footprint media PCs.

We ship external backup storage solutions under our Free Agent Go and Free Agent Go Flex product lines. Both of these product lines utilize our 3.5-inch and 2.5-inch disk drives, which are available in capacities up to 2TB and 750GB, respectively.

Customers

We sell our disk drives primarily to major OEMs. We also sell to distributors and retailers under our globally recognized brand names. We have longstanding relationships with many of our OEM customers, such as Hewlett-Packard Company, Dell Inc. and EMC Corporation.

The following table summarizes our disk drive revenue by channel and by geography:

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009	June 27, 2008
<i>Revenues by Channel</i>			
(%)			
OEM	71%	64%	67%
Distributors	21%	27%	26%
Retail	8%	9%	7%
<i>Revenues by Geography (%)</i>			
Americas	26%	28%	30%
EMEA	22%	27%	27%
Asia Pacific	52%	45%	43%

OEM customers typically enter into master purchase agreements with us. These agreements provide for pricing, volume discounts, order lead times, product support obligations and other terms and conditions. The term of these agreements is usually 6 to 24 months; however they are generally cancelable for convenience by either party upon written notice. Our product support obligations generally extend substantially beyond the term of the agreement. These master agreements typically do not commit the customer to buy any minimum quantity of products, or create exclusive relationships. Deliveries are scheduled only after receipt of purchase orders. In addition, with limited lead-time, customers may cancel or defer most purchase orders without significant penalty. Anticipated orders from many of our customers have in the past failed to materialize or OEM delivery schedules have been deferred or altered as a result of changes in their business needs.

Table of Contents

Our distributors generally enter into non-exclusive agreements for the resale of our products. They typically furnish us with a non-binding indication of their near-term requirements and product deliveries are generally scheduled accordingly. The agreements and related sales programs typically provide the distributors with limited right of return and price protection rights. In addition, we offer sales programs to distributors on a quarterly and periodic basis to promote the sale of selected products in the sales channel.

Our retail channel consists of our branded storage products sold to retailers either by us directly or by our distributors. Retail sales made by us or our distributors typically require greater marketing support, sales incentives and price protection periods.

The only customers exceeding 10% of our consolidated revenue for fiscal years 2008 through 2010 were Hewlett-Packard Company and Dell Inc., accounting for approximately 16% and 11%, respectively, of our consolidated revenue in each year. We have master purchase agreements in place with Hewlett-Packard Company and Dell Inc. that are cancelable for convenience by either party upon written notice, and do not require either customer to purchase any minimum or other specified quantity of our products. See "Item 1A. Risk Factors Risks Related to Our Business Dependence on Key Customers We may be adversely affected by the loss of, or reduced, delayed or cancelled purchases by, one or more of our larger customers."

Competition

The markets that we compete in are intensely competitive. Disk drive manufacturers not only compete for a limited number of major disk drive customers but also compete with other companies in the electronic data storage industry that provide alternative storage solutions, such as flash memory, tape, optical and SSDs. Some of the principal factors used by customers to differentiate among electronic data storage solutions manufacturers are storage capacity, price per unit and price per gigabyte, storage/retrieval access times, data transfer rates, product quality and reliability, supply continuity, form factor, warranty and brand. We believe that our disk drive products are competitive with respect to each of these factors in the markets that we currently address.

We summarize below our principal disk drive competitors, other competitors, the effect of competition on price erosion for our products and product life cycles and technology.

Principal Disk Drive Competitors. We have experienced and expect to continue to experience intense competition from a number of domestic and foreign companies, some of which have greater financial and other resources than we have. These competitors include independent disk drive manufacturers such as Western Digital Corporation, as well as large captive manufacturers such as Hitachi Global Storage Technologies, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. and Toshiba Corporation. Because these captive manufacturers produce complete computer systems and other non-compute consumer electronics and mobile devices, they can derive a greater portion of their operating margins from other components, which may reduce their need to realize a profit on the disk drives included in their computer systems and may allow them to sell disk drives to third parties at very low margins. Many captive manufacturers are also formidable competitors because they have more resources and greater access to their internal customers than we do. In addition, competitors such as Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. and Toshiba Corporation are increasingly integrating other storage technologies such as flash memory, hybrid disk drives and SSDs into their product offerings. Not only may they be willing to sell their disk drives at a lower margin to advance their overall business strategy, their portfolio may allow them to be indifferent to which technology prevails over the other as they can offer a broad range of storage media and solutions and focus on those with lowest costs and greatest sales. In addition to competing with our disk drive competitors, we also compete with companies such as Iomega Corporation (an EMC company) and LaCie S.A. that purchase disk drives from us and our competitors for use in their branded storage products.

Other Competitors. We also are experiencing competition from companies that provide alternative storage technologies such as flash memory and SSDs. In the flash memory market, primarily used in lower

Table of Contents

capacity handheld devices, our principal competitors include Micron Technology, Inc., Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., SanDisk Corporation and Toshiba Corporation. In enterprise applications, where SSDs are used for rapid processing and high volume transactions, our principal SSD competitors include Hitachi Global Storage Technologies, Intel Corporation and STEC Inc., with others expected to enter in the near future.

Price Erosion. Our industry has been characterized by price declines for disk drive products with comparable capacity, performance and feature sets ("like-for-like products"). Price declines for like-for-like products ("price erosion") are more pronounced during periods of:

economic contraction or industry consolidation in which competitors may use discounted pricing to attempt to maintain or gain market share;

few new product introductions when multiple competitors have comparable or alternative product offerings;

temporary imbalances between industry supply and demand; and

seasonally weaker demand, which may cause excess supply.

Disk drive manufacturers typically attempt to offset price erosion with an improved mix of disk drive products characterized by higher capacity, better performance and additional feature sets and/or product cost reductions.

We expect price erosion in our industry to continue. To remain competitive, we believe it is necessary for industry participants to continue to introduce new product offerings that utilize advanced technologies ahead of the competition in order to take advantage of potentially higher initial profit margins and reduced cost structures on these new products.

Product Life Cycles and Changing Technology. Our industry has been characterized by significant advances in technology, which have contributed to rapid product life cycles. As a result, success in our industry has been dependent to a large extent on the ability to be the first-to-market with new products, allowing those disk drive manufacturers who introduce new products first to sell those products at a premium until comparable products are introduced. Also, because our industry is characterized by continuous price erosion, the existence of rapid product life cycles has necessitated quick achievement of product cost effectiveness. Changing technology also necessitates on-going investments in research and development, which may be difficult to recover due to rapid product life cycles and economic declines. Further, there is a continued need to successfully execute product transitions and new product introductions, as factors such as quality, reliability and manufacturing yields become of increasing competitive importance.

Seasonality

The disk drive industry traditionally experiences seasonal variability in demand with higher levels of demand in the second half of the calendar year. This seasonality is driven by consumer spending in the back-to-school season from late summer to fall and the traditional holiday shopping season from fall to winter. In addition, corporate demand is typically higher during the second half of the calendar year. For most of fiscal year 2010, our industry observed a muted seasonal pattern as the hard disk drive industry experienced unmet demand due to industry-wide supply constraints, while in the March 2010 quarter supply and demand were relatively balanced. However, in the June 2010 quarter, industry supply exceeded demand, which we believe reflected a return to seasonal patterns typical of a June quarter.

Research and Development

We are committed to developing new component technologies, products and alternative storage technologies, including solid state technology. Our research and development focus is designed to bring

Table of Contents

new products to market in high volume, with quality attributes that our customers expect, before our competitors. Part of our product development strategy is to leverage a design platform and/or subsystem within product families to serve different market needs. This platform strategy allows for more efficient resource utilization, leverages best design practices, reduces exposure to changes in demand, and allows for achievement of lower costs through purchasing economies. Our advanced technology integration effort focuses disk drive and component research on recording subsystems, including read/write heads and recording media, market-specific product technology and technology focused towards new business opportunities. The primary purpose of our advanced technology integration effort is to ensure timely availability of mature component technologies to our product development teams as well as allowing us to leverage and coordinate those technologies in the design centers across our products in order to take advantage of opportunities in the marketplace. During fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008, we had product development expenses of approximately \$877 million, \$953 million and \$1,028 million, respectively, which represented 8%, 10% and 8% of our consolidated revenue, respectively.

Patents and Licenses

As of July 2, 2010, we had 4,149 U.S. patents and 625 patents issued in various foreign jurisdictions as well as 1,232 U.S. and 478 foreign patent applications pending. The number of patents and patent applications will vary at any given time as part of our ongoing patent portfolio management activity. Due to the rapid technological change that characterizes the electronic data storage industry, we believe that, in addition to patent protection, the improvement of existing products, reliance upon trade secrets, protection of unpatented proprietary know-how and development of new products are also important to our business in establishing and maintaining a competitive advantage. Accordingly, we intend to continue our efforts to broadly protect our intellectual property, including obtaining patents, where available, in connection with our research and development program.

The electronic data storage industry is characterized by significant litigation relating to patent and other intellectual property rights. Because of rapid technological development in the electronic data storage industry, some of our products have been, and in the future could be, alleged to infringe existing patents of third parties. From time to time, we receive claims that our products infringe patents of third parties. Although we have been able to resolve some of those claims or potential claims by obtaining licenses or rights under the patents in question without a material adverse affect on us, other claims have resulted in adverse decisions or settlements. In addition, other claims are pending, which if resolved unfavorably to us could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations. For more information on these claims, see "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data Note 13, Legal, Environmental, and Other Contingencies." The costs of engaging in intellectual property litigation in the past have been, and in the future may be, substantial, irrespective of the merits of the claim or the outcome. We have patent licenses with a number of companies. Additionally, as part of our normal intellectual property practices, we may be engaged in negotiations with other major electronic data storage companies and component manufacturers with respect to patent licenses.

Backlog

In view of our customers' rights to cancel or defer orders with little or no penalty, we believe backlog in the disk drive industry is of limited indicative value in estimating future performance and results.

Environmental Matters

Our operations are subject to U.S. and foreign laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment, including those governing discharges of pollutants into the air and water, the management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes and the cleanup of contaminated sites. Some of our operations require environmental permits and controls to prevent and reduce air and water pollution, and these permits are subject to modification, renewal and revocation by issuing authorities.

Table of Contents

We have established environmental management systems and continually update our environmental policies and standard operating procedures for our operations worldwide. We believe that our operations are in material compliance with applicable environmental laws, regulations and permits. We budget for operating and capital costs on an ongoing basis to comply with environmental laws. If additional or more stringent requirements are imposed on us in the future, we could incur additional operating costs and capital expenditures.

Some environmental laws, such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (as amended, the "Superfund" law) and its state equivalents, can impose liability for the cost of cleanup of contaminated sites upon any of the current or former site owners or operators or upon parties who sent waste to these sites, regardless of whether the owner or operator owned the site at the time of the release of hazardous substances or the lawfulness of the original disposal activity. We have been identified as a potentially responsible party at several sites. At each of these sites, we have an assigned portion of the financial liability based on the type and amount of hazardous substances disposed of by each party at the site and the number of financially viable parties. We have fulfilled our responsibilities at some of these sites and remain involved in only a few at this time.

While our ultimate costs in connection with these sites is difficult to predict with complete accuracy, based on our current estimates of cleanup costs and our expected allocation of these costs, we do not expect costs in connection with these sites to be material.

We may be subject to various state, federal and international laws and regulations governing the environment, including those restricting the presence of certain substances in electronic products. For example, the European Union ("EU") enacted the Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment, which prohibits the use of certain substances, including lead, in certain products, including disk drives, put on the market after July 1, 2006. Similar legislation has been or may be enacted in other jurisdictions, including in the United States, Canada, Mexico, China and Japan.

If we or our suppliers fail to comply with the substance restrictions, recycle requirements or other environmental requirements as they are enacted worldwide, it could have a materially adverse effect on our business.

Employees

At July 2, 2010, we employed approximately 52,600 employees, temporary employees and contractors worldwide, of which approximately 45,000 employees were located in our Asian operations. We believe that our future success will depend in part on our ability to attract and retain qualified employees at all levels. We believe that our employee relations are good.

Financial Information

Financial information for our reportable business segment and about geographic areas is set forth in "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data Note 12, Business Segment and Geographic Information."

Corporate Information

We were formed in 2000 as an exempted company incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the Cayman Islands. On July 3, 2010, we consummated our previously announced reorganization pursuant to which Seagate Technology public limited company, a public limited company organized under the laws of Ireland, became the publicly traded parent of the Seagate corporate family.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Available Information

Availability of Reports. We are a reporting company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "1934 Exchange Act"), and we file reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). The public may read and copy any of our filings at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Because we make filings to the SEC electronically, you may access this information at the SEC's Internet site: www.sec.gov. This site contains reports, proxies and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

Web Site Access. Our Internet web site address is www.seagate.com. We make available, free of charge at the "Investor Relations" portion of our web site, Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the 1934 Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Reports of beneficial ownership filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the 1934 Exchange Act are also available on our web site. Information in, or that can be accessed through, our web site is not incorporated into this Form 10-K.

Executive Officers

The following sets forth the name, age and position of each of the persons who were serving as executive officers as of August 13, 2010. There are no family relationships among any of our executive officers.

Name	Age	Positions
Stephen J. Luczo	53	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
Patrick J. O'Malley	48	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Robert W. Whitmore	48	Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer
William D. Mosley	43	Executive Vice President, Sales and Marketing
D. Kurt Richarz	49	Executive Vice President, Sales
Terence R. Cunningham	51	Senior Vice President, i365
Douglas DeHaan	52	Senior Vice President, Operations and Materials
Kenneth M. Massaroni	49	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
David H. Morton Jr.	38	Vice President, Finance, Treasurer and Principal Accounting Officer

Stephen J. Luczo, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Luczo, 53, has served as President and CEO since January 2009, and continues to serve as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Luczo joined Seagate in October 1993 as Senior Vice President of Corporate Development. In September 1997, he was promoted to President and Chief Operating Officer of our predecessor, Seagate Technology, Inc. and, in July 1998, he was promoted to CEO at which time he joined the Board of Directors. He was appointed Chairman of the Board in 2002. Mr. Luczo resigned as CEO effective as of July 3, 2004, but retained his position as Chairman of the Board. He served as non-employee Chairman from October 2006 to January 2009. From October 2006 until he joined us in January 2009, Mr. Luczo was a private investor. Prior to joining Seagate in 1993, Mr. Luczo was Senior Managing Director of the Global Technology Group of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., an investment banking firm, from February 1992 to October 1993.

Patrick J. O'Malley, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. O'Malley, 48, has served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since August 2008. Previously, he served as Senior Vice President, Finance from 2005 to August 2008, and assumed the additional roles of Principal Accounting Officer and Treasurer in 2006. Prior to that, he was Senior Vice President, Consumer Electronics from 2004 to 2005; Senior Vice President, Finance, Manufacturing from 1999 to 2004; Vice President, Finance-Recording Media from 1997 to 1999; Senior Director Finance, Desktop Design, from

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

1996 to 1997; Senior Director, Finance, Oklahoma City Operations from 1994 to 1996; Director/Manager, Corporate Financial Planning & Analysis from 1991 to 1994; Manager, Consolidations & Cost Accounting from 1990 to 1991; Manager, Consolidations from 1988 to 1990; and Senior Financial Analyst in 1988.

Robert W. Whitmore, Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer. Mr. Whitmore, 48, has been Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer since 2007. Prior to that he was Executive Vice President, Product and Process Development from 2006 to 2007; Senior Vice President, Product and Process Development from 2004 to 2006; Senior Vice President, Product Development Engineering from 2002 to 2004; Vice President, Enterprise Storage Design Engineering from 1999 to 2002, Vice President and Executive Director, Twin Cities Manufacturing Operations from 1997 to 1999; Senior Director, Manufacturing Engineering, Singapore Operations from 1995 to 1997; and Senior Manager, Design Engineering, Twin Cities Division from 1992 to 1995.

William D. Mosley, Executive Vice President, Sales and Marketing. Mr. Mosley, 43, has served as Executive Vice President, Sales and Marketing since September 2009. Prior to that, he served as Executive Vice President, Sales, Marketing and Product Line Management from February 2009 to September 2009, Senior Vice President, Global Disk Storage Operations from 2007 to 2009; Vice President, Research and Development, Engineering from 2002 to 2007; Senior Director, Research and Development, Engineering from 2000 to 2002; Director, Research and Development, Engineering from 1998 to 2000; and Manager, Operations and Manufacturing from 1996 to 1998.

D. Kurt Richarz, Executive Vice President, Sales. Mr. Richarz, 49, joined Seagate in May 2006, when we acquired Maxtor Corporation. He has served as our Executive Vice President, Sales since May 2008. Prior to that he was Executive Vice President, Sales and Customer Service Operations since from May 2006 to May 2008; Senior Vice President of Global OEM Sales from 2007 to 2008, and Vice President of Global OEM Sales from 2006 to 2007. At Maxtor Corporation, from 2002 to 2006, he served as Vice President, Global OEM Account Sales and Senior Vice President of Worldwide Sales. From 1990 to 2001, he served in various sales positions at Quantum Corporation.

Terence R. Cunningham, Senior Vice President, i365. Mr. Cunningham, 51, has served as our Senior Vice President of i365 since October 2009. Prior to that, he served as Senior Vice President, Branded Solutions and i365, from when he joined Seagate in March 2009 until September 2009. Mr. Cunningham served as the CEO of Coral8, Inc., a software company from 2003 until 2009, President and CEO of InfoGenesis, a hospitality focused software company from 2005 to 2006, and as Management Advisor and Investor of Rockbridge Consulting, Inc. from 1999 to 2003. Prior to that, he served as President and COO of Veritas Software Corporation, and founded and led Seagate Software, Inc. He is a member of the Board of Directors of QAD, Inc., and several private companies.

Douglas DeHaan, Senior Vice President, Operations and Materials. Mr. DeHaan, 52, has been Senior Vice President, Operations and Materials since February 2009. Previously, he served as Senior Vice President of Quality from 2008 to 2009, Senior Vice President, Enterprise Product Development from December 2006 to April 2008, Senior Vice President of Product and Process Development, Core Products from 2003 to 2006, Senior Vice President Process Development and Product Launch from 2001 to 2003, Vice President, Seagate Factory of the Future Initiative from 1999 to 2001, Vice President, Twin Cities Manufacturing Operations from 1996 to 1999, Vice President, Singapore Operations from 1994 to 1996, and Senior Director, Manufacturing Engineering/Twin Cities Operations from 1992 to 1994.

Kenneth M. Massaroni, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. Mr. Massaroni, 49, has been Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary since April 2008. He served as Vice President and Acting General Counsel from December 2007 to April 2008, and Vice President of Intellectual Property from 2006 to December 2007. Prior to joining Seagate in 2006, Mr. Massaroni was vice president of law, deputy general counsel and assistant secretary at Scientific-Atlanta Inc. from 1997 to 2006. In addition, Mr. Massaroni has also held senior patent counsel positions at Motorola Inc. from 1993 to 1997, served as general counsel and secretary at Optical Imaging Systems, Inc.

Table of Contents

from 1990 to 1992 and as a patent attorney at Energy Conversion Devices Inc. from 1987 to 1990, and as an associate at the law firm of Collier, Shannon, Rill and Scott from 1992 to 1993.

David H. Morton Jr., Vice President, Finance, Treasurer and Principal Accounting Officer. Mr. Morton, 38, joined Seagate in 1995 and has served as our Vice President, Finance, Treasurer and Principal Accounting Officer since October 2009. Prior to that, he served as our Vice President of Finance, Sales and Marketing from March 2009 to October 2009; Vice President of Sales Operations from July 2007 to March 2009; Vice President of Finance, Storage Markets from October 2006 to July 2007; Executive Director of Consumer Electronics Finance from October 2005 to October 2006; and Executive Director of Corporate FP&A from June 2004 to October 2005. Prior to June 2004, Mr. Morton held a variety of progressively senior management positions within our Finance organization.

Table of Contents

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Risks Related to our Business

Current Macroeconomic Conditions *The recent downturn in the macroeconomic environment has, and may continue to, negatively impact our results of operations.*

The recent downturn in global macroeconomic conditions, particularly in Europe, has had a significant effect on the disk drive industry as a whole and the results of our operations. Due to the on-going uncertainty about current macroeconomic conditions, we believe our customers may postpone spending in response to tighter credit, increasing level of unemployment, negative financial news and/or declines in income or asset values, which could have a material adverse effect on the demand for our products. Other factors that could influence demand include conditions in the residential real estate and mortgage markets, labor and healthcare costs, access to credit, consumer confidence and other macroeconomic factors affecting consumer spending behavior. These and other economic factors could have a material adverse effect on demand for our products and on our financial condition and operating results.

In addition, the capital and credit markets continue to experience some measure of volatility and disruption, resulting in a tightening in the credit markets, a low level of liquidity in many financial markets and reduced stability in fixed income, credit, currency and equity markets. There could be a number of follow-on effects from the credit crisis on our business, including the insolvency of key suppliers resulting in product delays and the inability of customers to obtain credit to finance purchases of our products.

Competition *Our industry is highly competitive and our products have experienced and will continue to experience significant price erosion and market share variability.*

The disk drive industry is intensely competitive and vendors typically experience substantial price erosion over the life of a product. Our competitors have historically offered existing products at lower prices as part of a strategy to gain or retain market share and customers, and we expect these practices to continue. We will need to continually reduce our prices for existing products to retain our market share, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

The pricing environment in the first nine months of our 2010 fiscal year was relatively stable owing in part to a favorable supply/demand balance, though in the June 2010 quarter price erosion returned to seasonal patterns typical of a June quarter. We believe price erosion and market share variability will continue, as the industry engages in aggressive pricing actions targeted to shift customer demand to offset lower demand due to the deterioration in business and economic conditions.

Our ability to offset the effect of price erosion through new product introductions at higher average prices is diminished to the extent competitors introduce products into particular markets ahead of our similar, competing products. This risk is particularly pronounced in markets where we have recently experienced lower market share, as is the case in the market for 2.5-inch ATA products. Our ability to offset the effect of price erosion is also diminished during times when product life cycles for particular products are extended, allowing competitors more time to enter the market.

The growth of sales to distributors that serve producers of non-branded products in the personal storage sector may also contribute to increased price erosion. These customers generally have limited product qualification programs, which increases the number of competing products available to satisfy their demand. As a result, purchasing decisions for these customers are based largely on price and terms. Any increase in our average price erosion would have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

Additionally, a significant portion of our success in the past has been a result of increasing our market share at the expense of our competitors, particularly in enterprise markets. Market share for our products can be negatively affected by our customers' diversifying their sources of supply as our competitors enter

Table of Contents

the market for particular products, as well as by our ability to ramp volume production of new product offerings. When our competitors successfully introduce product offerings that are competitive with our recently introduced products, our customers may quickly diversify their sources of supply. Any significant decline in our market share in any of our principal market applications would adversely affect our results of operations.

Principal Competitors *We compete with both independent manufacturers, whose primary focus is producing technologically advanced disk drives, and captive manufacturers, who do not depend solely on sales of disk drives to maintain their profitability.*

We have experienced and expect to continue to experience intense competition from a number of domestic and foreign companies, including other independent disk drive manufacturers, and large captive manufacturers. The term "independent" in this context refers to manufacturers that primarily produce disk drives as a stand-alone product, such as Western Digital Corporation, and the term "captive" in this context refers to manufacturers who themselves or through affiliated entities produce complete computer or other systems that contain disk drives or other electronic data storage products, such as Hitachi Global Storage Technologies, Samsung Electronics Incorporated and Toshiba Corporation.

Captive manufacturers are formidable competitors because they have the ability to determine pricing for complete systems without regard to the margins on individual components. As components other than disk drives generally contribute a greater portion of the operating margin on a complete computer system than do disk drives, captive manufacturers do not necessarily need to realize a profit on the disk drives included in a complete computer system and, as a result, may be willing to sell disk drives to third parties at very low margins. Captive manufacturers are also formidable competitors because they have more substantial resources than we do. Samsung and Hitachi (together with affiliated entities) also sell other products to our customers, including critical components like flash memory, ASICs and flat panel displays, and may be willing to sell their disk drives at a lower margin to advance their overall business strategy. To the extent we are not successful competing with captive or independent disk drive manufacturers, our results of operations will be adversely affected.

In response to customer demand for high-quality, high-volume and low-cost disk drives, manufacturers of disk drives have had to develop large, and in some cases global, production facilities with highly developed technological capabilities and internal controls. The development of these large production facilities combined with industry consolidation can further increase the intensity of competition.

We also face indirect competition from present and potential customers who evaluate from time to time whether to manufacture their own disk drives or other electronic data storage products.

We also experience competition from other companies that produce alternative storage technologies like flash memory, where increasing capacity, decreasing cost, lower power consumption and improvements in performance ruggedness have resulted in competition with our lower capacity, smaller form factor disk drives. While this competition has traditionally been in the markets for handheld consumer electronics applications, these competitors have announced solid state drives (SSDs) for netbook, notebook and enterprise compute applications. Some of these companies, like Samsung, also sell disk drives. Certain customers for both notebook and enterprise compute applications are evaluating and may adopt SSDs as alternatives to hard drives in certain applications.

Table of Contents

Volatility of Quarterly Results *Our quarterly results of operations fluctuate, sometimes significantly, from period to period, and may cause our share price to decline.*

In the past, our quarterly revenue and results of operations have fluctuated, sometimes significantly, from period to period. These fluctuations, which we expect to continue, may be occasioned by a variety of factors, including:

current uncertainty in global economic conditions may pose a risk to the overall economy;

adverse changes in the level of economic activity in the major regions in which we do business, for example Europe in the June 2010 quarter;

competitive pressures resulting in lower selling prices by our competitors targeted to encourage shifting of customer demand;

delays or problems in our introduction of new products, particularly new disk drives with lower cost structures, the inability to achieve high production yields or delays in customer qualification or initial product quality issues;

changes in purchasing patterns by our distributor customers;

increased costs or adverse changes in availability of supplies of raw materials or components, especially in light of recent consolidation among component suppliers, building inflationary pressure and the relative volatility of the U.S. dollar as compared to other currencies;

the impact of corporate restructuring activities that we have and may continue to engage in;

changes in the demand for the computer systems, storage subsystems and consumer electronics that contain our disk drives, due to seasonality, economic conditions and other factors;

changes in purchases from period to period by our primary customers, particularly as our competitors are able to introduce and produce in volume competing disk drive solutions or alternative storage technology solutions, such as flash memory or SSDs;

shifting trends in customer demand which, when combined with overproduction of particular products, particularly when the industry is served by multiple suppliers, results in unfavorable supply/demand imbalances;

our high proportion of fixed costs, including research and development expenses; and

announcements of new products, services or technological innovations by us or our competitors.

As a result, we believe that quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our revenue and results of operations may not be meaningful, and that these comparisons may not be an accurate indicator of our future performance. Our results of operations in one or more future quarters may fail to meet the expectations of investment research analysts or investors, which could cause an immediate and significant decline in the trading price

of our ordinary shares.

New Product Offerings *Market acceptance of new product introductions cannot be accurately predicted, and our results of operations will suffer if there is less demand for our new products than is anticipated.*

We are continually developing new products with the goal that we will be able to introduce technologically advanced and lower cost disk drives into the marketplace ahead of our competitors.

The success of our new product introductions is dependent on a number of factors, including market acceptance, our ability to manage the risks associated with product transitions, the effective management of inventory levels in line with anticipated product demand and the risk that our new products will have quality problems or other defects in the early stages of introduction that were not anticipated in the design

Table of Contents

of those products. Accordingly, we cannot accurately determine the ultimate effect that our new products will have on our results of operations.

In addition, the success of our new product introductions is dependent upon our ability to qualify as a primary source of supply with our OEM customers. In order for our products to be considered by our customers for qualification, we must be among the leaders in time-to-market with those new products. Once a product is accepted for qualification testing, any failure or delay in the qualification process or a requirement that we requalify can result in our losing sales to that customer until new products are introduced. The limited number of high-volume OEMs magnifies the effect of missing a product qualification opportunity. These risks are further magnified because we expect competitive pressures to result in declining sales, eroding prices, and declining gross margins on our current generation products. We cannot assure that we will be among the leaders in time-to-market with new products or that we will be able to successfully qualify new products with our customers in the future. If we cannot successfully deliver competitive products, our future results of operations may be adversely affected.

Smaller Form Factor Disk Drives *If we do not continue to successfully market smaller form factor disk drives, our business may suffer.*

The disk drive industry is experiencing significant increases in sales of smaller form factor disk drives for an expanding number of applications, in particular notebook computers and consumer electronic devices, but also in personal computers and enterprise storage applications. Our future success will depend on our ability to develop and introduce smaller form factor drives at desired price and capacity points faster than our competitors.

We have experienced competition from other companies that produce alternative storage technologies like solid state or flash memory, where increased capacity, improving cost, lower power consumption and performance ruggedness have resulted in flash memory largely replacing disk drives in handheld applications. We believe that the demand for disk drives to store or back up related media content from such handheld devices, however, continues to grow. While this competition has traditionally been limited to the markets for handheld consumer electronics applications, these competitors have announced SSDs for netbook, notebook and enterprise compute applications.

If we do not suitably adapt our product offerings to successfully introduce additional smaller form factor disk drives or alternative storage products based on flash storage technology, or if our competitors are successful in achieving customer acceptance of SSD products for netbook, notebook and enterprise compute applications, then our customers may decrease the amounts of our products that they purchase, which would adversely affect our results of operations.

Seasonality *Because we experience seasonality in the sales of our products, our results of operations will generally be adversely impacted during the second half of our fiscal year.*

Sales of computer systems, storage subsystems and consumer electronics tend to be seasonal, and therefore we expect to continue to experience seasonality in our business as we respond to variations in our customers' demand for disk drives. In particular, we anticipate that sales of our products will continue to be lower during the second half of our fiscal year. In the client compute and client non-compute market applications of our business, this seasonality is partially attributable to the historical trend in our results derived from our customers' increased sales of desktop computers, notebook computers, and consumer electronics during the back-to-school and winter holiday season. In the enterprise market our sales are seasonal because of the capital budgeting and purchasing cycles of our end users. Since our working capital needs peak during periods in which we are increasing production in anticipation of orders that have not yet been received, our results of operations will fluctuate seasonally even if the forecasted demand for our products proves accurate. Furthermore, it is difficult for us to evaluate the degree to which this seasonality may affect our business in future periods because of the rate and unpredictability of product transitions

Table of Contents

and new product introductions, particularly in the client non-compute market, as well as macro-economic conditions.

Difficulty in Predicting Quarterly Demand *If we fail to predict demand accurately for our products in any quarter, we may not be able to recapture the cost of our investments.*

The disk drive industry operates on quarterly purchasing cycles, with much of the order flow in any given quarter typically coming at the end of that quarter. Our manufacturing process requires us to make significant product-specific investments in inventory in each quarter for that quarter's production. Since we typically receive the bulk of our orders late in a quarter after we have made our investments, there is a risk that our orders will not be sufficient to allow us to recapture the costs of our investment before the products resulting from that investment have become obsolete. We cannot assure you that we will be able to accurately predict demand in the future.

The difficulty in forecasting demand also increases the difficulty in anticipating our inventory requirements, which may cause us to over-produce finished goods, resulting in inventory write-offs, or under-produce finished goods, affecting our ability to meet customer requirements. Additionally, the risk of inventory write-offs could increase if we were to continue to hold higher inventory levels. We cannot be certain that we will be able to recover the costs associated with increased inventory.

Other factors that may negatively impact our ability to recapture the cost of investments in any given quarter include:

the impact of variable demand and an aggressive pricing environment for disk drives;

the impact of competitive product announcements and possible excess industry supply both with respect to particular disk drive products and with respect to competing alternative storage technology solutions such as SSDs in netbook, notebook and enterprise compute applications;

our inability to reduce our fixed costs to match sales in any quarter because of our vertical manufacturing strategy, which means that we make more capital investments than we would if we were not vertically integrated;

dependence on our ability to successfully qualify, manufacture and sell in increasing volumes on a cost-effective basis and with acceptable quality our disk drive products, particularly the new disk drive products with lower cost structures;

variations in the cost of components for our products, especially during periods when the U.S. dollar is relatively volatile as compared to other currencies;

uncertainty in the amount of purchases from our distributor customers who from time to time constitute a large portion of our total sales;

our product mix and the related margins of the various products;

accelerated reduction in the price of our disk drives due to technological advances and/or an oversupply of disk drives in the market, a condition that is exacerbated when the industry is served by multiple suppliers and shifting trends in demand which can create supply and demand imbalances;

manufacturing delays or interruptions, particularly at our manufacturing facilities in China, Malaysia, Northern Ireland, Singapore, Thailand or the United States;

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

limited access to components that we obtain from a single or a limited number of suppliers;

the impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates on the cost of producing our products and the effective price of our products to foreign consumers; and

operational issues arising out of the increasingly automated nature of our manufacturing processes.

Table of Contents

Dependence on Supply of Components, Equipment and Raw Materials *If we experience shortages or delays in the receipt of, or cost increases in, critical components, equipment or raw materials necessary to manufacture our products, we may suffer lower operating margins, production delays and other material adverse effects.*

The cost, quality and supply of components, certain equipment and raw materials used to manufacture disk drives and key components like recording media and heads are critical to our success. The equipment we use to manufacture our products and components is frequently custom made and comes from a few suppliers and the lead times required to obtain manufacturing equipment can be significant. Particularly important components for disk drives include read/write heads, aluminum or glass substrates for recording media, ASICs, spindle motors, printed circuit boards, and suspension assemblies. We rely on sole suppliers or a limited number of suppliers for some of these components that we do not manufacture, including aluminum and glass substrates, read/write heads, ASICs, spindle motors, printed circuit boards, and suspension assemblies. If our vendors for these components are unable to meet our cost, quality, and supply requirements, we could experience a shortage in supply or an increase in production costs, which would adversely affect our results of operations.

In addition, the recent increases in demand for small form factor mobile products have led to shortages in glass substrates, a component used in smaller form factor disk drives to make the recording media for such drives. If our vendors for glass substrates are unable to meet our demand, or are unable to invest sufficient capital to expand capacity to meet the industry's increasing unit growth in small form factor mobile disk drives, we could experience a shortage in the supply of this critical component, which could limit our ability to meet our customer's demand for smaller form factor disk drives.

In the past, we have experienced increased costs and production delays when we were unable to obtain the necessary equipment or sufficient quantities of some components and/or have been forced to pay higher prices or make volume purchase commitments or advance deposits for some components, equipment or raw materials that were in short supply in the industry in general.

Consolidation among component manufacturers may result in some component manufacturers exiting the industry or not making sufficient investments in research to develop new components.

If there is a shortage of, or delay in supplying us with, critical components, equipment or raw materials, then:

it is likely that our suppliers would raise their prices and, if we could not pass these price increases to our customers, our operating margin would decline;

we might have to reengineer some products, which would likely cause production and shipment delays, make the reengineered products more costly and provide us with a lower rate of return on these products;

we would likely have to allocate the components we receive to certain of our products and ship less of others, which could reduce our revenues and could cause us to lose sales to customers who could purchase more of their required products from manufacturers that either did not experience these shortages or delays or that made different allocations; and

we might be late in shipping products, causing potential customers to make purchases from our competitors, thus causing our revenue and operating margin to decline.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain critical components in a timely and economic manner.

Table of Contents

Importance of Time-to-Market *Our results of operations may depend on our being among the first-to-market with new product offerings and achieving sufficient production volume with our new products.*

To achieve consistent success with our OEM customers, it is important that we be an early provider of new types of disk drives featuring leading, high-quality technology and lower per gigabyte storage cost. Historically, our results of operations have substantially depended upon our ability to be among the first-to-market with new product offerings. Our market share and results of operations in the future may be adversely affected if we fail to:

consistently maintain our time-to-market performance with our new products;

produce these products in sufficient volume;

qualify these products with key customers on a timely basis by meeting our customers' performance and quality specifications; or

achieve acceptable manufacturing yields, quality and costs with these products.

If the delivery of our products is delayed, our OEM customers may use our competitors' products to meet their production requirements. If the delay of our products causes delivery of those OEMs' computer systems into which our products are integrated to be delayed, consumers and businesses may purchase comparable products from the OEMs' competitors.

We face the related risk that consumers and businesses may wait to make their purchases if they want to buy a new product that has been shipped or announced but not yet released. If this were to occur, we may be unable to sell our existing inventory of products that may be less efficient and cost effective compared to new products. As a result, even if we are among the first-to-market with a given product, subsequent introductions or announcements by our competitors of new products could cause us to lose revenue and not achieve a positive return on our investment in existing products and inventory.

Industry Demand *Poor global economic conditions and changes in demand for computer systems and storage subsystems may cause in the future a decline in demand for our products.*

Our disk drives are components in computers, computer systems, storage subsystems and consumer electronics devices. The demand for these products has been volatile. During times of poor global economic conditions, consumer spending tends to decline and retail demand for personal computers and consumer electronics devices tends to decrease, as does enterprise demand for computer systems and storage subsystems. Moreover, unexpected slowdowns in demand for computer systems, storage subsystems or consumer electronics devices generally cause sharp declines in demand for disk drive products. The decline in consumer spending could have a material adverse effect on demand for our products and services and on our financial condition and results of operations.

Additional causes of declines in demand for our products in the past have included announcements or introductions of major new operating systems or semiconductor improvements or changes in consumer preferences, such as the shift from desktop to notebook computers. We believe these announcements and introductions have from time to time caused consumers to defer their purchases and made inventory obsolete. Whenever an oversupply of disk drives causes participants in our industry to have higher than anticipated inventory levels, we experience even more intense price competition from other disk drive manufacturers than usual.

Dependence on Distributors *We are dependent on sales to distributors and retailers, which may increase price erosion and the volatility of our sales.*

A substantial portion of our sales has been to distributors of disk drive products. Certain of our distributors may also market other products that compete with our products. Product qualification programs in this distribution channel are limited, which increases the number of competing products that

Table of Contents

are available to satisfy demand, particularly in times of lengthening product cycles. As a result, purchasing decisions in this channel are based largely on price, terms and product availability. Sales volumes through this channel are also less predictable and subject to greater volatility than sales to our OEM customers. In addition, deterioration in business and economic conditions could exacerbate price erosion and volatility as distributors lower prices to compensate for lower demand and higher inventory levels. Our distributors ability to access credit for purposes of funding their operations may also affect purchases of our products by these customers.

If distributors reduce their purchases of our products or prices decline significantly in the distribution channel or if distributors experience financial difficulties or terminate their relationships with us, our revenues and results of operations would be adversely affected.

Dependence on Sales of Disk Drives in Client Non-Compute Applications *Our sales of disk drives for client non-compute applications, which have contributed significant revenues to our results, can experience significant volatility due to seasonal and other factors, which could materially adversely impact our future results of operations.*

Sales of disk drives for client non-compute applications have contributed significant revenues to our results. Consumer spending on client non-compute has however, and may continue to, deteriorate significantly in many countries and regions, including the United States, due to poor global economic conditions and increasing levels of unemployment. This could have a material adverse effect on demand for our products and services and on our financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, the demand for client non-compute products can be even more volatile and unpredictable than the demand for client compute products. In some cases, our products manufactured for client non-compute applications are uniquely configured for a single customer's application, which creates a risk of unwanted and unsellable inventory if the anticipated volumes are not realized. This potential for unpredictable volatility is increased by the possibility of competing alternative storage technologies like flash memory meeting the customers' cost and capacity metrics, resulting in a rapid shift in demand from our products and disk drive technology, generally, to alternative storage technologies. Unpredictable fluctuations in demand for our products or rapid shifts in demand from our products to alternative storage technologies in new client non-compute applications could materially adversely impact our future results of operations.

Dependence on Sales of Disk Drives Directly to Consumers Through Retail Outlets *Our sales of disk drives directly to consumers through retail outlets can experience significant volatility due to seasonal and other factors, which could materially adversely impact our future results of operations.*

We believe that industry demand for storage products in the long-term is increasing due to the proliferation of media-rich digital content in consumer applications and is fuelling increased consumer demand for storage. This has led to the expansion of solutions such as external storage products to provide additional storage capacity and to secure data in case of disaster or system failure, or to provide independent storage solutions for multiple users in home or small business environments. Consumer spending on retail sales of our branded solutions has deteriorated in some markets and may continue to do so if poor global economic conditions continue and higher levels of unemployment persist. This could have a material adverse effect on demand for our products and services and on our financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, such retail sales of our branded solutions traditionally experience seasonal variability in demand with higher levels of demand in the first half of our fiscal year driven by consumer spending in the back-to-school season from late summer to fall and the traditional holiday shopping season from fall to winter. Additionally, our ability to reach such consumers depends on our maintaining effective working relationships with major retailers and distributors. Failure to anticipate consumer demand for our branded

Table of Contents

solutions as well as an inability to maintain effective working relationships with retail and online distributors may adversely impact our future results of operations.

Importance of Controlling Operating Costs *If we do not control our operating expenses, we will not be able to compete effectively in our industry.*

Our strategy involves, to a substantial degree, increasing revenue and product volume while at the same time controlling operating expenses. If we do not control our operating expenses, our ability to compete in the marketplace may be impaired. In the past, activities to reduce operating costs have included closures and transfers of facilities, significant personnel reductions and efforts to increase automation. The reduction of personnel and closure of facilities may adversely affect our ability to manufacture our products in required volumes to meet customer demand and may result in other disruptions that affect our products and customer service. In addition, the transfer of manufacturing capacity of a product to a different facility frequently requires qualification of the new facility by some of our OEM customers. We cannot assure you that these activities and transfers will be implemented on a cost-effective basis without delays or disruption in our production and without adversely affecting our customer relationships and results of operations.

Impairment Charges *We may be required to record additional impairment charges for other long-lived assets.*

We are required to test other long-lived assets, including acquired intangible assets and property, equipment and leasehold improvements, for recoverability and impairment whenever there are indicators of impairment, such as an adverse change in business climate.

Adverse changes in business conditions could materially impact our estimates of future operations and result in impairment charges to our long lived assets. If our long-lived assets were to become further impaired, our results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Dependence on Key Customers *We may be adversely affected by the loss of, or reduced, delayed or cancelled purchases by, one or more of our larger customers.*

Some of our key customers, including Hewlett-Packard Company, Dell Inc. and EMC Corporation, account for a large portion of our disk drive revenue. While we have longstanding relationships with many of our customers, if any of our key customers were to significantly reduce their purchases from us, our results of operations would be adversely affected. While sales to major customers may vary from period to period, a major customer that permanently discontinues or significantly reduces its relationship with us could be difficult to replace. In line with industry practice, new customers usually require that we pass a lengthy and rigorous qualification process at the customer's cost. Accordingly, it may be difficult or costly for us to attract new major customers. Additionally, mergers, acquisitions, consolidations or other significant transactions involving our customers generally entail risks to our business. If a significant transaction involving any of our key customers results in the loss of or reduction in purchases by these key customers, it could have a materially adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

Impact of Technological Change *Increases in the areal density of disk drives may outpace customers' demand for storage capacity.*

The rate of increase in areal density, or storage capacity per square inch on a disk, may be greater than the increase in our customers' demand for aggregate storage capacity, particularly in certain market applications like client compute. As a result, our customers' storage capacity needs may be satisfied with lower priced, low capacity disk drives. These factors could decrease our sales, especially when combined with continued price erosion, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

Table of Contents

Changes in Electronic Data Storage Products *Future changes in the nature of electronic data storage products may reduce demand for traditional disk drive products.*

We expect that in the future, new personal computing devices and products will be developed, some of which, such as Internet appliances, iPad-like tablet computing devices, netbooks or mobile phones with advanced capabilities, or "smartphones", may not contain a disk drive. While we are investing development resources in designing disk drives for these new applications, it is too early to assess the impact of these new applications on future demand for disk drive products. Products using alternative technologies, such as flash memory, optical storage and other storage technologies, are becoming increasingly common and could become a significant source of competition to particular applications of our products, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

New Product Development and Technological Change *If we do not develop products in time to keep pace with technological changes, our results of operations will be adversely affected.*

Our customers have demanded new generations of disk drive products as advances in computer hardware and software have created the need for improved storage products, with features such as increased storage capacity, improved performance and reliability and lower cost. We, and our competitors, have developed improved products, and we will need to continue to do so in the future. Such product development requires significant investments in research and development. We cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully complete the design or introduction of new products in a timely manner, that we will be able to manufacture new products in sufficient volumes with acceptable manufacturing yields, that we will be able to successfully market these new products or that these products will perform to specifications on a long-term basis. In addition, the impact of slowing areal density growth may adversely impact our ability to be successful.

When we develop new products with higher capacity and more advanced technology, our results of operations may decline because the increased difficulty and complexity associated with producing these products increases the likelihood of reliability, quality or operability problems. If our products suffer increases in failures, are of low quality or are not reliable, customers may reduce their purchases of our products and our manufacturing rework and scrap costs and service and warranty costs may increase. In addition, a decline in the reliability of our products may make us less competitive as compared with other disk drive manufacturers or competing technologies.

Substantial Leverage *Our substantial leverage may place us at a competitive disadvantage in our industry.*

We are leveraged and have significant debt service obligations. Our significant debt and debt service requirements could adversely affect our ability to operate our business and may limit our ability to take advantage of potential business opportunities. For example, our high level of debt presents the following risks:

we are required to use a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to pay principal and interest on our debt, thereby reducing the availability of our cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures, product development efforts, strategic acquisitions, investments and alliances, and other general corporate requirements;

our substantial leverage increases our vulnerability to economic downturns and adverse competitive and industry conditions and could place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to those of our competitors that are less leveraged;

our debt service obligations could limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and our industry and could limit our ability to pursue other business opportunities, borrow more money for operations or capital in the future and implement our business strategies;

Table of Contents

our level of debt may restrict us from raising additional financing on satisfactory terms to fund working capital, capital expenditures, product development efforts, strategic acquisitions, investments and alliances, and other general corporate requirements; and

covenants in our debt instruments limit our ability to pay future dividends or make other restricted payments and investments.

In the event that we need to refinance all or a portion of our outstanding debt as it matures, we may not be able to obtain terms as favorable as the terms of our existing debt or refinance our existing debt at all. If prevailing interest rates or other factors existing at the time of refinancing result in higher interest rates upon refinancing, then the interest expense relating to the refinanced debt would increase. Furthermore, if any rating agency changes our credit rating or outlook, our debt and equity securities could be negatively affected, which could adversely affect our ability to refinance existing debt or raise additional capital.

Significant Debt Service Requirements *Servicing our debt requires a significant amount of cash and our ability to generate cash may be affected by factors beyond our control.*

Our business may not generate cash flow in an amount sufficient to enable us to pay the principal of, or interest on, our indebtedness or to fund our other liquidity needs, including working capital, capital expenditures, product development efforts, strategic acquisitions, investments and alliances and other general corporate requirements.

Our ability to generate cash is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control. We cannot assure you that:

our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations;

we will continue to realize the cost savings, revenue growth and operating improvements that result from the execution of our long-term strategic plan; or

future sources of funding will be available to us in amounts sufficient to enable us to fund our liquidity needs.

If we cannot fund our liquidity needs, we will have to take actions such as reducing or delaying capital expenditures; product development efforts, strategic acquisitions, investments and alliances, and other general corporate requirements. We cannot assure you that any of these remedies could, if necessary, be effected on commercially reasonable terms, or at all, or that they would permit us to meet our scheduled debt service obligations. In addition if we incur additional debt, the risks associated with our substantial leverage, including the risk that we will be unable to service our debt or generate enough cash flow to fund our liquidity needs, could intensify.

Restrictions Imposed by Debt Covenants *Restrictions imposed by the indenture governing our 10% Senior Secured Second-Priority Notes due 2014 may limit our ability to finance future operations or capital needs or engage in other business activities that may be in our interest.*

The indenture governing our 10% Senior Secured Second-Priority Notes due 2014 (the "10% Notes") impose, and the terms of any future debt may impose, operating and other restrictions on us. The indenture limits, among other things, our ability to:

incur additional indebtedness and issue certain preferred stock;

create liens;

pay dividends or make distributions in respect of our capital stock;

redeem or repurchase capital stock or debt;

Table of Contents

make certain investments or other restricted payments;

sell assets;

issue or sell capital stock of subsidiaries;

enter into transactions with affiliates;

engage to any material extent in business other than our current business; and

effect a consolidation or merger.

Substantially all of our Assets are Pledged as Collateral to Secure Certain Indebtedness *Since substantially all of our assets are used to secure portions of our existing debt obligations, we may be limited in our ability to incur additional indebtedness or to provide additional credit support, and if we fail to meet our payment or other obligations under certain of our existing debt obligations, the lenders thereunder could foreclose on, and acquire control of, substantially all of our assets.*

Substantially all our assets and the assets of our significant subsidiaries organized in the United States, the Cayman Islands, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland and Singapore, as well as certain assets located in the United States, the Cayman Islands, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland and Singapore owned by other significant subsidiaries, and all proceeds therefrom, are pledged as security for borrowings under our 10% Notes, as well as obligations under our hedging agreements, cash management arrangements and certain metal leasing arrangements. Since substantially all of our assets are used to secure portions of our existing debt obligations, we have a limited amount of collateral that is available for future secured debt or credit support. As a result, we may be limited in our ability to incur additional indebtedness or to provide additional credit support for our existing indebtedness. In addition, our failure to comply with the terms of the indenture governing our 10% Notes would entitle the lenders thereunder to declare all funds borrowed thereunder to be immediately due and payable. If we were unable to meet these payment obligations, the lenders could foreclose on, and acquire control of, substantially all our assets that serve as collateral.

Volatile Public Markets *The price of our ordinary shares may be volatile and could decline significantly.*

The stock market, in general, and the market for technology stocks in particular, has recently experienced volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of companies. If these market or industry-based fluctuations continue, the trading price of our ordinary shares could decline significantly independent of our actual operating performance, and you could lose all or a substantial part of your investment. The market price of our ordinary shares could fluctuate significantly in response to several factors, including among others:

general uncertainty in stock market conditions occasioned by global economic conditions, negative financial news and the continued instability of several large financial institutions;

actual or anticipated variations in our results of operations;

announcements of innovations, new products or significant price reductions by us or our competitors, including those competitors who offer alternative storage technology solutions;

our failure to meet the performance estimates of investment research analysts;

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

the timing of announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts or acquisitions;

general stock market conditions;

the occurrence of major catastrophic events;

changes in financial estimates by investment research analysts;

changes in the credit ratings of our indebtedness by rating agencies; and

the sale of our ordinary shares held by certain equity investors or members of management.

Table of Contents

Purchase Commitments to Certain Suppliers *If revenues fall or customer demand decreases significantly, we may not meet all of our purchase commitments to certain suppliers.*

From time to time, we enter into long-term, non-cancelable purchase commitments with certain suppliers in order to secure certain components for the production of our products or to supplement our internal manufacturing capacity for certain components. If our actual revenues in the future are lower than our projections or if customer demand decreases significantly below our projections, we may not meet all of our purchase commitments with these suppliers. As a result, it is possible that we will have to shift output from our internal manufacturing facilities to these suppliers or make penalty-type payments under these contracts.

Perpendicular Recording Technology *Products based on perpendicular technology require increased quantities of precious metals and scarce alloys like platinum and ruthenium, which increase the risks of higher costs and production delays that could adversely impact our results of operations.*

Perpendicular recording technology requires recording media with more layers, which requires the use of more precious metals and scarce alloys like platinum and ruthenium to create such layers. These precious metals and scarce alloys could become increasingly expensive and, at times, difficult to acquire. Accordingly, we will be exposed to the increased risk that higher costs or reduced availability of these precious metals and scarce alloys could adversely impact our results of operations.

Risks Associated with Future Strategic Alliances, Joint Ventures or Investments *We may not be able to identify suitable strategic alliances, acquisitions, joint ventures or investment opportunities, or successfully acquire and integrate companies that provide complementary products or technologies.*

Our growth strategy may involve pursuing strategic alliances with, making acquisitions of, forming joint ventures with or making investments in other companies that are complementary to our business. There is substantial competition for attractive strategic alliance, acquisition, joint venture and investment candidates. Accordingly, we may not be able to identify suitable strategic alliances, acquisition, joint venture, or investment candidates. Even if we can identify them, we cannot assure you that we will be able to partner with, acquire or invest in suitable candidates, or integrate acquired technologies or operations successfully into our existing technologies and operations. Moreover, our ability to finance potential strategic alliances, acquisitions, joint ventures or investments will be limited by our high degree of leverage, the covenants contained in the indentures that govern our outstanding indebtedness, and any agreements governing any other debt we may incur.

If we are successful in forming strategic alliances or acquiring, forming joint ventures or making investments in other companies, any of these transactions may have an adverse effect on our results of operations, particularly while the operations of an acquired business are being integrated. It is also likely that integration of acquired companies would lead to the loss of key employees from those companies or the loss of customers of those companies. In addition, the integration of any acquired companies would require substantial attention from our senior management, which may limit the amount of time available to be devoted to our day-to-day operations or to the execution of our strategy. Growth by strategic alliance, acquisition, joint venture or investment involves an even higher degree of risk to the extent we combine new product offerings and enter new markets in which we have limited experience, and no assurance can be given that acquisitions of entities with new or alternative business models will be successfully integrated or achieve their stated objectives.

Furthermore, the expansion of our business involves the risk that we might not manage our growth effectively, that we would incur additional debt to finance these acquisitions or investments, that we may have impairment of goodwill or acquired intangible assets associated with these acquisitions and that we would incur substantial charges relating to the write-off of in-process research and development, similar to

Table of Contents

that which we incurred in connection with several of our prior acquisitions. Each of these items could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, we could issue additional ordinary shares in connection with future strategic alliances, acquisitions, joint ventures or investments. Issuing shares in connection with such transactions would have the effect of diluting your ownership percentage of the ordinary shares and could cause the price of our ordinary shares to decline.

Risk of Intellectual Property Litigation Our products may infringe the intellectual property rights of others, which may cause us to incur unexpected costs or prevent us from selling our products.

We cannot be certain that our products do not and will not infringe issued patents or other intellectual property rights of others. We may not be aware of currently filed patent applications that relate to our products or technology. If patents are later issued on these applications, we may be liable for infringement. We may be subject to legal proceedings and claims, including claims of alleged infringement of the patents, trademarks and other intellectual property rights of third parties by us, or our customers, in connection with their use of our products.

We are currently subject to lawsuits involving intellectual property claims which could cause us to incur significant additional costs or prevent us from selling our products, and which could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition: actions brought in the United States by Convolve, Inc. and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and by Qimonda AG; and an action brought in Northern Ireland by Siemens AG.

Intellectual property litigation is expensive and time-consuming, regardless of the merits of any claim, and could divert our management's attention from operating our business. In addition, intellectual property lawsuits are subject to inherent uncertainties due to the complexity of the technical issues involved, and we cannot assure you that we will be successful in defending ourselves against intellectual property claims. Patent litigation has increased due to the current uncertainty of the law and the increasing competition and overlap of product functionality in the field. If we were to discover that our products infringe the intellectual property rights of others, we would need to obtain licenses from these parties or substantially reengineer our products in order to avoid infringement. We might not be able to obtain the necessary licenses on acceptable terms, or at all, or be able to reengineer our products successfully. Moreover, if we are sued for patent infringement and lose the suit, we could be required to pay substantial damages and/or be enjoined from using or selling the infringing products or technology. Any of the foregoing could cause us to incur significant costs and prevent us from selling our products, which could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. See Part II, Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data Note 13, Legal, Environmental, and Other Contingencies of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for a description of pending intellectual property proceedings.

System Failures System failures caused by events beyond our control could adversely affect computer equipment and electronic data on which our operations depend.

Our operations are dependent upon our ability to protect our computer equipment and the electronic data stored in our databases from damage by, among other things, earthquake, fire, natural disaster, power loss, telecommunications failures, unauthorized intrusion and other catastrophic events. As our operations become more automated and increasingly interdependent, our exposure to the risks posed by these types of events will increase. While we continue to improve our disaster recovery processes, system failures and other interruptions in our operations could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Table of Contents

Economic Risks Associated with International Operations *Our international operations subject us to risks related to currency exchange fluctuations, longer payment cycles for sales in foreign countries, seasonality and disruptions in foreign markets, tariffs and duties, price controls, potential adverse tax consequences, increased costs, our customers' credit and access to capital and health-related risks.*

We have significant operations in foreign countries, including manufacturing facilities, sales personnel and customer support operations. We have manufacturing facilities in China, Malaysia, Northern Ireland, Singapore and Thailand, in addition to those in the United States. A substantial portion of our client compute disk drive assembly occurs in our facility in China.

Our international operations are subject to economic risks inherent in doing business in foreign countries, including the following:

Disruptions in Foreign Markets. Disruptions in financial markets and the deterioration of the underlying economic conditions in the past in some countries, including those in Asia, have had an impact on our sales to customers located in, or whose end-user customers are located in, these countries.

Fluctuations in Currency Exchange Rates. Prices for our products are denominated predominately in U.S. dollars, even when sold to customers that are located outside the United States. Currency instability in Asia and other geographic markets may make our products more expensive than products sold by other manufacturers that are priced in the local currency. Moreover, many of the costs associated with our operations located outside the United States are denominated in local currencies. As a consequence, the increased strength of local currencies against the U.S. dollar in countries where we have foreign operations would result in higher effective operating costs and, potentially, reduced earnings. From time to time, fluctuations in foreign exchange rates have negatively affected our operations and profitability and there can be no assurance that these fluctuations will not adversely affect our operations and profitability in the future.

Longer Payment Cycles. Our customers outside of the United States are often allowed longer time periods for payment than our U.S. customers. This increases the risk of nonpayment due to the possibility that the financial condition of particular customers may worsen during the course of the payment period.

Seasonality. Seasonal reductions in the business activities of our customers during the summer months, particularly in Europe, typically result in lower earnings during those periods.

Tariffs, Duties, Limitations on Trade and Price Controls. Our international operations are affected by limitations on imports, currency exchange control regulations, transfer pricing regulations, price controls and other restraints on trade. In addition, the governments of many countries, including China, Malaysia, Northern Ireland, Singapore and Thailand, in which we have significant operating assets, have exercised and continue to exercise significant influence over many aspects of their domestic economies and international trade.

Potential Adverse Tax Consequences. Our international operations create a risk of potential adverse tax consequences, including imposition of withholding or other taxes on payments by subsidiaries.

Increased Costs. The shipping and transportation costs associated with our international operations are typically higher than those associated with our U.S. operations, resulting in decreased operating margins in some foreign countries.

Credit and Access to Capital Risks. Our international customers could have reduced access to working capital due to higher interest rates, reduced bank lending resulting from contractions in the money supply or the deterioration in the customer's or its bank's financial condition, or the inability to access other financing.

Table of Contents

Global Health Outbreaks. The occurrence of a pandemic disease may adversely impact our operations, and some of our key customers. Such diseases could also potentially disrupt the timeliness and reliability of the distribution network we rely on.

Political Risks Associated with International Operations *Our international operations subject us to risks related to political unrest and terrorism.*

We have manufacturing facilities in parts of the world that periodically experience political unrest, with Thailand being a recent example. This could disrupt our ability to manufacture important components as well as cause interruptions and/or delays in our ability to ship components to other locations for continued manufacture and assembly. Any such delays or interruptions could result in delays in our ability to fill orders and have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. U.S. and international responses to the ongoing hostilities in Afghanistan and Iraq and the risk of terrorist attacks or hostilities elsewhere in the world could exacerbate these risks.

Legal and Operational Risks Associated with International Operations *Our international operations subject us to risks related to staffing and management, legal and regulatory requirements and the protection of intellectual property.*

Operating outside of the United States creates difficulties associated with staffing and managing our international manufacturing facilities, complying with local legal and regulatory requirements and protecting our intellectual property. We cannot assure you that we will continue to be found to be operating in compliance with applicable customs, currency exchange control regulations, transfer pricing regulations or any other laws or regulations to which we may be subject. We also cannot assure you that these laws will not be modified.

SOX 404 Compliance *While we believe that we currently have adequate internal control procedures in place, we are still exposed to future risks of non-compliance and will continue to incur costs associated with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.*

Annually we complete an evaluation of our internal control over financial reporting as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Although our assessment, testing, and evaluation resulted in our conclusion that as of July 2, 2010, our internal control over financial reporting was effective, we cannot predict the outcome of our testing in future periods. If our internal controls are ineffective in future periods, our financial results or the market price of our shares could be adversely affected. We will incur additional expenses and commitment of management's time in connection with further evaluations.

Dependence on Key Personnel *The loss of key executive officers and employees could negatively impact our business prospects.*

Our future performance depends to a significant degree upon the continued service of key members of management as well as marketing, sales and product development personnel. The loss of one or more of our key personnel may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. We believe our future success will also depend in large part upon our ability to attract, retain and further motivate highly skilled management, marketing, sales and product development personnel. We have experienced intense competition for personnel, and we cannot assure you that we will be able to retain our key employees or that we will be successful in attracting, assimilating and retaining personnel in the future.

Table of Contents

Suspension of Paying Quarterly Dividends *Our policy of not paying dividends could result in a persistently low market valuation of our ordinary shares.*

On April 13, 2009, we announced that we had adopted a policy of no longer paying a quarterly dividend to our ordinary shareholders to enhance liquidity. Our policy of not paying a quarterly dividend could result in a persistently low market valuation of our ordinary shares.

Our ability to pay quarterly dividends in the future will be subject to, among other things, general business conditions within the disk drive industry, our financial results, the impact of paying dividends on our credit ratings and legal and contractual restrictions on the payment of dividends by our subsidiaries to us or by us to our ordinary shareholders.

Potential Governmental Action *Governmental action against companies located in offshore jurisdictions may lead to a reduction in the demand for our ordinary shares.*

Recent U.S. federal and state legislation has been proposed, and additional legislation may be proposed in the future which, if enacted, could have an adverse tax impact on either Seagate or its shareholders.

Securities Litigation *Significant fluctuations in the market price of our ordinary shares could result in securities class action claims against us.*

Significant price and value fluctuations have occurred with respect to the publicly traded securities of disk drive companies and technology companies generally. The price of our ordinary shares is likely to be volatile in the future. In the past, following periods of decline in the market price of a company's securities, class action lawsuits have often been pursued against that company. If similar litigation were pursued against us, it could result in substantial costs and a diversion of management's attention and resources, which could materially adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity.

Current Global Credit and Financial Market Conditions *Current global credit and financial market conditions could negatively impact the value of our current portfolio of cash equivalents, short-term investments or auction rate securities and our ability to meet our financing objectives.*

Our cash and cash equivalents are maintained in highly liquid investments with remaining maturities of 90 days or less at the time of purchase. Our short-term investments consist primarily of readily marketable debt securities with remaining maturities of more than 90 days at the time of purchase. Our investment policy has as its principal objectives the preservation of principal and maintenance of liquidity. We mitigate default risk by investing in high-quality investment grade securities, limiting the time to maturity and by monitoring the counter-parties and underlying obligors closely.

As of July 2, 2010, we continued to hold auction rate securities with a par value of approximately \$19 million, all of which are collateralized by student loans guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program. Beginning in the March 2008 quarter, these securities have continuously failed to settle at auction. As of July 2, 2010, the estimated fair value of these auction rate securities was \$17 million. We believe that the impairments totaling \$2 million are temporary as we do not intend to sell these securities and have concluded it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the securities before the recovery of the amortized cost basis.

While as of the date of this filing, we are not aware of any other material downgrades, losses, or other significant deterioration in the fair value of our cash equivalents or short-term investments or auction rate securities since July 2, 2010, no assurance can be given that further deterioration in conditions of the global credit and financial markets would not negatively impact our current portfolio of cash equivalents, short-term investments or auction rate securities or our ability to meet our financing objectives.

Table of Contents

Environmental Regulations Failure to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

The sale and manufacturing of products in certain states and countries may subject us to environmental and other regulations including, in some instances, the responsibility for environmentally safe disposal or recycling. For example, the EU has enacted the Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment directive, which prohibits the use of certain substances in electronic equipment, and the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment directive, which obligates parties that place electrical and electronic equipment onto the market in the EU to put a clearly identifiable mark on the equipment, register with and report to EU member countries regarding distribution of the equipment, and provide a mechanism to take-back and properly dispose of the equipment. Similar legislation may be enacted in other locations where we manufacture or sell our products. Although we do not anticipate any material adverse effects based on the nature of our operations and the focus of such legislation, we will need to ensure that we comply with these laws and regulations as they are enacted and that our suppliers also comply with these laws and regulations. If we fail to timely comply with the legislation, our customers may refuse to purchase our products, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. In addition, if we were found to be in violation of these laws or noncompliance with these initiatives or standards of conduct, we could be subject to governmental fines, liability to our customers and damage to our reputation, which would also have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

Table of Contents**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

On July 3, 2010, our company headquarters were relocated to Ireland, while our U.S. executive offices remained in Scotts Valley, California. Our principal manufacturing facilities are located in China, Malaysia, Northern Ireland, Singapore, Thailand and in Minnesota. Our principal product development facilities are located in California, Colorado, Minnesota, Massachusetts and Singapore. Our leased facilities are occupied under leases that expire at various times through 2022.

Our material manufacturing, product development and marketing and administrative facilities at July 2, 2010 are as follows:

Location	Building(s) Owned or Leased	Approximate Square Footage	Use
United States			
<i>California</i>			
Scotts Valley	Owned/Leased	251,866	Marketing and administrative
Fremont	Leased	157,925	Product development
<i>Colorado</i>			
	Owned/Leased	528,479	Product development
<i>Minnesota</i>			
	Owned	1,125,219	Manufacture of recording heads and product development
<i>Oklahoma</i>			
	Owned/Leased	274,637	Administrative
<i>Massachusetts</i>			
	Leased	125,672	Product development
Europe			
<i>Northern Ireland</i>			
Springtown	Owned	478,800	Manufacture of recording heads
Asia			
<i>China</i>			
<i>Suzhou</i>			
	Owned ⁽¹⁾	958,341	Manufacture of drives
<i>Wuxi</i>			
	Leased	704,231	Manufacture of drives and drive subassemblies
<i>Malaysia</i>			
<i>Johor</i>			
	Owned ⁽¹⁾	630,500	Manufacture of substrates
<i>Penang</i>			
	Owned ⁽¹⁾	390,254	Manufacture of drive subassemblies
<i>Singapore</i>			
<i>Ang Mo Kio</i>			
	Owned ⁽¹⁾	1,050,000	Manufacture of drives and product development
<i>Woodlands</i>			
	Owned ⁽¹⁾	1,404,049	Manufacture of media
<i>Thailand</i>			
<i>Korat</i>			
	Owned	1,162,846	Manufacture of drives and drive subassemblies
<i>Teparuk</i>			
	Owned	362,028	Manufacture of drive subassemblies

(1) Land leases for these facilities expire at varying dates through 2067.

As of July 2, 2010, we owned or leased a total of approximately 11.9 million square feet of space worldwide. We occupied approximately 7.0 million square feet for the purpose of manufacturing, 1.3 million square feet for product development, 1.5 million square feet for marketing and administrative purposes and subleased 0.8 million. Included in the 11.9 million square feet of owned or leased space is a total of 1.3 million square feet that is currently unoccupied primarily as a result of site closures at our facilities in Longmont, Milpitas and Pittsburgh. We believe that our existing properties are in good operating condition and are suitable and adequate for the operations for which they are used. As of July 2, 2010, all of our material manufacturing facilities are operating at normal utilization levels and none of our manufacturing facilities are experiencing significant underutilization.

On August 4, 2009, we announced that we will close our Ang Mo Kio (AMK) facility in Singapore during fiscal year 2011. Our hard drive manufacturing operations will be relocated to other existing facilities and our Asia International Headquarters (IHQ) will remain in Singapore. We do not expect the closure to meaningfully change production capacity.

Table of Contents

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

See Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data Note 13, Legal, Environmental, and Other Contingencies.

ITEM 4. (REMOVED AND RESERVED)

Table of Contents**PART II****ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S SHARES, RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES****Market Information**

Our shares have traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "STX" since September 16, 2008, and previously traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "STX" since December 11, 2002. Prior to that time there was no public market for our shares. The high and low sales prices of our shares, as reported by both the NASDAQ and the New York Stock Exchange, are set forth below for the periods indicated.

Fiscal Quarter	Price Range	
	High	Low
Quarter ended October 3, 2008	\$ 19.54	\$ 10.79
Quarter ended January 2, 2009	\$ 11.00	\$ 3.67
Quarter ended April 3, 2009	\$ 6.80	\$ 2.98
Quarter ended July 3, 2009	\$ 10.85	\$ 5.61
Quarter ended October 2, 2009	\$ 16.16	\$ 9.25
Quarter ended January 1, 2010	\$ 18.59	\$ 13.78
Quarter ended April 2, 2010	\$ 21.58	\$ 16.47
Quarter ended July 2, 2010	\$ 20.90	\$ 12.69

As of August 12, 2010 there were approximately 1,478 holders of record of our ordinary shares. We did not sell any of our equity securities during fiscal year 2010 that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Table of Contents

Performance Graph

The performance graph below shows the cumulative total shareholder return on our common shares for the period from July 1, 2005 to July 2, 2010. This is compared with the cumulative total return of the Dow Jones US Computer Hardware Index and the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index over the same period. The graph assumes that on July 1, 2005, \$100 was invested in our common shares and \$100 was invested in each of the other two indices, with dividends reinvested on the date of payment without payment of any commissions. Dollar amounts in the graph are rounded to the nearest whole dollar. The performance shown in the graph represents past performance and should not be considered an indication of future performance.

**COMPARISON OF 60 MONTH
CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN*
Among Seagate Technology, The S&P 500 Index
And The Dow Jones US Computer Hardware Index**

	7/1/05	6/30/06	6/29/07	6/27/08	7/03/09	7/02/10
Seagate Technology	100.00	132.64	129.72	118.24	65.05	83.34
S&P 500	100.00	106.34	125.86	107.03	75.05	85.61
Dow Jones US Computer Hardware	100.00	101.68	144.54	145.51	115.95	164.79

*
\$100 invested on 7/1/2005 in stock and in index, including reinvestment of dividends.

Copyright© 2010 Bloomberg Finance L.P. All rights reserved.

Table of Contents**Dividends**

In 2009, we adopted a policy of no longer paying a quarterly dividend to our shareholders to enhance liquidity. The suspension of paying quarterly dividends could cause the market price of our ordinary shares to decline significantly and our failure or inability to resume paying dividends at historical levels could result in a persistently low market valuation of our ordinary shares. We currently do not anticipate paying a dividend for the foreseeable future.

Our ability to pay quarterly dividends in the future will be subject to, among other things, general business conditions within the disk drive industry, our financial results, the impact of paying dividends on our credit ratings and legal and contractual restrictions on the payment of dividends by our subsidiaries to us or by us to our ordinary shareholders, including restrictions imposed by covenants in our debt instruments.

Since the closing of our initial public offering in December 2002 up to our policy change in 2009, we have paid dividends, pursuant to our quarterly dividend policy then in effect, totaling approximately \$952 million in the aggregate. The following are dividends paid in the last two fiscal years:

Record Date	Paid Date	Dividend per Share
August 1, 2008	August 15, 2008	\$ 0.12
November 7, 2008	November 21, 2008	\$ 0.12
February 6, 2009	February 20, 2009	\$ 0.03

Repurchases of Our Equity Securities

On January 27, 2010, our Board of Directors authorized an Anti-Dilution Share Repurchase Program, which was publicly announced on February 1, 2010. The repurchase program authorizes us to repurchase our shares to offset increases in diluted shares, such as those caused by employee stock plans and convertible debt, used in the determination of diluted net income per share. The timing and number of shares to be repurchased by us will be dependent on general business and market conditions, cash flows generated by future operations, the price of our shares, cash requirements for other investing and financing activities, and maintaining compliance with our debt covenants. Repurchases may be made through open market or in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plans or other available means, such as by way of an accelerated share repurchase program, through block trades or through the purchase of call options or the sale of put options. Additionally, there is no minimum or maximum number of shares to be repurchased under the program and the authority for the Anti-Dilution Share Repurchase Program will continue until terminated by our Board of Directors.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth information with respect to repurchases of our shares made during fiscal year 2010:

January 2010 Anti-Dilution Share Repurchase Program

(In millions, except average price paid per share)	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased Under Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
January 2, 2010 through January 29, 2010		\$		\$
January 30, 2010 through February 26, 2010	13.5	18.53	13.5	251
February 27, 2010 through April 2, 2010				
Through 3rd Quarter of Fiscal Year 2010	13.5	\$ 18.53	13.5	\$ 251
April 3, 2010 through April 30, 2010	1.5	19.22	1.5	29
May 1, 2010 through May 28, 2010	17.4	17.52	17.4	304
May 29, 2010 through July 2, 2010				
Total Through 4th Quarter of Fiscal Year 2010	32.4	\$ 18.02	32.4	\$ 584

Table of Contents**ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

The following selected consolidated financial data set forth below for each of the last five fiscal years, is not necessarily indicative of results of future operations, and should be read in conjunction with "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes thereto included in "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, which are incorporated herein by reference, to fully understand factors that may affect the comparability of the information presented below.

The Consolidated Statements of Operations data for the years ended July 2, 2010, July 3, 2009 and June 27, 2008 and the Consolidated Balance Sheet data at July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009, are derived from our audited Consolidated Financial Statements appearing elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Consolidated Statements of Operations data for the years ended June 29, 2007 and June 30, 2006, and the Consolidated Balance Sheet data at June 27, 2008, June 29, 2007 and June 30, 2006, are derived from our audited Consolidated Financial Statements that are not included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	Fiscal Years Ended				
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾	June 29, 2007 ⁽¹⁾	June 30, 2006 ⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾
Revenue	\$ 11,395	\$ 9,805	\$ 12,708	\$ 11,360	\$ 9,206
Gross margin	3,204	1,410	3,205	2,185	2,137
Income (loss) from operations	1,740	(2,665)	1,376	614	874
Net income (loss)	1,609	(3,125)	1,251	933	839
Total assets	8,247	7,087	10,150	9,502	9,544
Total debt	2,502	2,697	1,978	2,000	897
Shareholders' equity	\$ 2,724	\$ 1,554	\$ 4,667	\$ 4,829	\$ 5,285
Net income (loss) per share:					
Basic	\$ 3.28	\$ (6.40)	\$ 2.44	\$ 1.67	\$ 1.69
Diluted	3.14	(6.40)	2.33	1.59	1.60
Number of shares used in per share computations:					
Basic	491	488	512	558	495
Diluted	514	488	538	587	524
Cash dividends declared per share	\$	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.32

- (1) As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.
- (2) Includes the effect of a \$2.3 billion impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets.
- (3) Seagate Technology's results include Maxtor Corporation's results beginning May 19, 2006.

Table of Contents

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following is a discussion of the financial condition and results of operations for the fiscal years ended July 2, 2010, July 3, 2009, and June 27, 2008. References to "\$" are to United States dollars.

You should read this discussion in conjunction with "Item 6. Selected Financial Data" and "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" included elsewhere in this report. Except as noted, references to any fiscal year mean the twelve-month period ending on the Friday closest to June 30 of that year.

Some of the statements and assumptions included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 or Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, each as amended, including, in particular, statements about our plans, strategies and prospects and estimates of industry growth for the fiscal year ending July 1, 2011 and beyond. These statements identify prospective information and include words such as "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "projects," and similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are based on information available to us as of the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Current expectations, forecasts and assumptions involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Such risks, uncertainties and other factors may be beyond our control. In particular, the uncertainty in global economic conditions continues to pose a risk to our operating and financial performance as consumers and businesses may defer purchases in response to tighter credit and negative financial news. Such risks and uncertainties also include the impact of the variable demand and the adverse pricing environment for disk drives, particularly in view of current business and economic conditions; dependence on our ability to successfully qualify, manufacture and sell our disk drive products in increasing volumes on a cost-effective basis and with acceptable quality, particularly the new disk drive products with lower cost structures; the impact of competitive product announcements and possible excess industry supply with respect to particular disk drive products; and our ability to achieve projected cost savings in connection with restructuring plans. Information concerning risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements is also set forth in "Item 1A. Risk Factors" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, which we encourage you to carefully read. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing our views as of any subsequent date and we undertake no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date they were made. The following is a discussion of the financial condition and results of operations for the fiscal years ended July 2, 2010, July 3, 2009 and June 27, 2008.

Our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (MD&A) is provided in addition to the accompanying consolidated financial statements and notes to assist readers in understanding our results of operations, financial condition, and cash flows. MD&A is organized as follows:

Our Company. Discussion of our business.

Business Overview. Discussion of industry trends and their impact on our business.

Fiscal Year 2010 Summary. Overview of financial and other highlights affecting us for fiscal year 2010.

Results of Operations. Analysis of our financial results comparing 2010 to 2009 and comparing 2009 to 2008.

Liquidity and Capital Resources. An analysis of changes in our balance sheets and cash flows, and discussion of our financial condition including the credit quality of our investment portfolio and potential sources of liquidity.

Contractual Obligations and Off-Balance-Sheet Arrangements. Overview of contractual obligations and contingent liabilities and commitments outstanding as of July 2, 2010 and an explanation of off-balance-sheet arrangements.

Table of Contents

Critical Accounting Estimates. Accounting estimates that we believe are important to understanding the assumptions and judgments incorporated in our reported financial results.

Our Company

We are the world's leading provider of hard disk drives based on revenue. We design, manufacture, market and sell hard disk drives. Hard disk drives commonly referred to as disk drives, hard drives or HDDs, are devices that store digitally encoded data on rapidly rotating disks with magnetic surfaces. The performance attributes of disk drives, including their cost effectiveness and high storage capacities have resulted in disk drives being used as the primary medium for storing electronic data.

We produce a broad range of disk drive products addressing enterprise applications, where our products are designed for enterprise servers, mainframes and workstations; client compute applications, where our products are designed for desktop and notebook computers; and client non-compute applications, where our products are designed for a wide variety of end user devices such as digital video recorders (DVRs), personal data backup systems, portable external storage systems and digital media systems. In addition to manufacturing and selling disk drives, we provide data storage services for small- to medium-sized businesses, including online backup, data protection and recovery solutions.

Business Overview

Our industry is characterized by several trends and factors that have a material impact on our strategic planning, financial condition and results of operations.

Demand Trends for Disk Drives

We believe the total available market (TAM) for disk drives, in aggregate, increased approximately 22% in fiscal year 2010, over the prior fiscal year. We believe that continued growth in digital content requires increasingly higher storage capacity in order to store, aggregate, host, distribute, manage, back up and use such content, which we believe will continue to result in increased demand for disk drive products. However, the disk drive industry is sensitive to global macroeconomic conditions as experienced in fiscal year 2009.

Historically, the electronic data storage industry has introduced alternative technologies that directly compete with hard disk drives. Solid state drives (SSDs), using NAND flash memory, are a potential alternative to disk drives in certain applications such as consumer handheld devices and portable external storage. NAND flash memory is a type of non-volatile storage technology that does not require power to retain data. However, we believe that in the foreseeable future the traditional enterprise and client compute markets that require high capacity storage solutions as well as the data intensive client non-compute markets, will continue to be best served by hard disk drives based on the industry's ability to deliver reliable, power consumption efficient and cost effective mass storage devices.

Disk Drives for Enterprise Storage. We define enterprise storage as disk drives designed for mission critical applications and nearline applications.

Mission critical applications are defined as applications that are vital to the operation of enterprises, requiring high performance, and high reliability disk drives. We expect the market for mission critical enterprise storage solutions to be driven by enterprises continuing to move network traffic to dedicated storage area networks in an effort to reduce network complexity and increase energy savings. We believe that this transition will lead to an increased demand for more energy efficient, smaller form factor disk drives. These solutions are comprised principally of high performance enterprise class disk drives with sophisticated firmware and communications technologies.

Nearline applications are defined as applications that are less time-critical but capacity-intensive, such as reference data environments or redundancy for recovery purposes, which require high capacity and low power consumption disk drives featuring lower costs per gigabyte. We expect such applications, which

Table of Contents

include storage for cloud computing and backup services, will continue to grow and drive demand for disk drives designed with these attributes as data centers expand and proliferate.

We believe that the enterprise storage TAM increased 21%, as compared to the prior fiscal year, due to the deferral of information technology equipment purchases experienced in fiscal year 2009, when storage utilization rates of existing disk drives in data centers increased.

SSD storage applications have been introduced as a potential alternative to redundant system startup or boot disk drives. In addition, enterprises are beginning to use SSDs in applications where rapid processing and/or lower power consumption is required. The timing of significant adoption of SSDs is dependent on enterprises weighing the pricing and other benefits of mission critical enterprise disk drives against the perceived performance benefits of SSDs.

Disk Drives for Client Compute. We define client compute applications as disk drives designed for the traditional desktop and mobile compute applications. In the near-term, we believe that demand growth in client compute applications will be driven by what we believe to be an accelerating corporate technology refresh cycle. In the long-term, we believe that the proliferation of digital content will drive the demand for the client compute market. We believe that the client compute storage TAM increased 24% as compared to the prior fiscal year mainly due to the strength in consumer spending for technology for most of the 2010 fiscal year.

As the proliferation of client compute applications that require minimal storage such as tablets and netbooks continues, NAND flash technology could become more competitive within the client compute market in the future.

Disk Drives for Client Non-Compute. We define client non-compute applications as disk drives designed for consumer electronic devices and disk drives used for external and network-attached storage (NAS). Disk drives designed for consumer electronic devices are primarily used in applications such as DVRs that require a higher capacity, lower cost-per-gigabyte storage solution. Disk drives for external and NAS devices are designed for purposes such as personal data backup, portable external storage and to augment the consumer's current desktop, notebook or DVR disk drive capacities. Client non-compute applications also include devices designed to display digital media in the home theater. We believe the proliferation of high definition and media-rich digital content will continue to create increasing consumer demand for higher storage solutions, as evidenced by an increase in the client non-compute TAM of 14%, as compared to the prior fiscal year.

Product Life Cycles and Changing Technology

Our industry has been characterized by significant advances in technology, which have contributed to rapid product life cycles. As a result, success in our industry has been dependent to a large extent on the ability to be the first-to-market with new products, allowing those disk drive manufacturers who introduce new products first to sell those products at a premium until comparable products are introduced. Also, because our industry is characterized by continuous price erosion, the existence of rapid product life cycles has necessitated quick achievement of product cost effectiveness. Changing technology also necessitates on-going investments in research and development, which may be difficult to recover due to rapid product life cycles and economic declines. Further, there is a continued need to successfully execute product transitions and new product introductions, as factors such as quality, reliability and manufacturing yields become of increasing competitive importance.

Price Erosion

Our industry has been characterized by price declines for disk drive products with comparable capacity, performance and feature sets ("like-for-like products"). Price declines for like-for-like products ("price erosion") are more pronounced during periods of:

economic contraction or industry consolidation in which competitors may use discounted pricing to attempt to maintain or gain market share;

Table of Contents

few new product introductions when multiple competitors have comparable or alternative product offerings;

temporary imbalances between industry supply and demand; and

seasonally weaker demand, which may cause excess supply.

Disk drive manufacturers typically attempt to offset price erosion with an improved mix of disk drive products characterized by higher capacity, better performance and additional feature sets and/or product cost reductions. To remain competitive, we believe it will be necessary to continue to reduce prices as well as introduce new product offerings that utilize advanced technologies ahead of our competitors in order to take advantage of potentially higher initial profit margins and reduced cost structure on these new products.

We experienced muted price erosion for the first nine months of fiscal year 2010 as our industry experienced unmet demand due to industry-wide supply constraints during the first half of fiscal year 2010, and a relatively balanced supply and demand environment during the March 2010 quarter. However, in the June 2010 quarter, industry supply exceeded demand and resulted in an increase in price erosion to levels typical of a June quarter.

Seasonality

The disk drive industry traditionally experiences seasonal variability in demand with higher levels of demand in the second half of the calendar year. This seasonality is driven by consumer spending in the back-to-school season from late summer to fall and the traditional holiday shopping season from fall to winter. In addition, corporate demand is typically higher during the second half of the calendar year. For most of fiscal year 2010, our industry observed a muted seasonal pattern as the hard disk drive industry experienced unmet demand due to industry-wide supply constraints, while in the March 2010 quarter supply and demand were relatively balanced. However, in the June 2010 quarter, industry supply exceeded demand, which we believe reflected a return to seasonal patterns typical of a June quarter.

Disk Drive Industry Consolidation

Due to the significant challenges posed by the need to continually innovate and improve manufacturing efficiency and the continued demands on capital and research and development investments required to do so, the disk drive industry has undergone significant consolidation as disk drive manufacturers and component manufacturers merged with other companies or exited the industry. The trend toward consolidation is more pronounced during times of macroeconomic contraction. For example, Toshiba Corporation acquired Fujitsu Limited's hard disk drive business in October 2009. The increasing technological challenges, associated levels of investment and competitive necessity of large-scale operations may also drive future industry consolidation. Additionally, we may in the future face indirect competition from customers who from time to time evaluate whether to offer electronic data storage products that may compete with our products.

Suppliers of Components and Industry Constraints

Due to industry consolidation, there are a limited number of independent suppliers of components, such as recording heads and media, available to disk drive manufacturers. Vertically integrated disk drive manufacturers, who manufacture their own components, are less dependent on external component suppliers than less vertically integrated disk drive manufacturers.

We believe the supply chain was generally tight for the industry during most of fiscal year 2010. Availability of glass substrates, finished media and heads improved during the June 2010 quarter. However, supply of these critical components is still expected to be generally tight for the second half of the 2010 calendar year, reflecting typical seasonal patterns.

Table of Contents

Recording Heads and Media

We maintain a highly integrated approach to our business by designing and manufacturing a significant portion of the components we view as critical to our products, such as recording heads and media. A vertically integrated model, however, tends to have less flexibility when demand moderates because it exposes us to higher unit costs as capacity utilization is not optimized. The extent of our use of externally sourced recording heads, media and aluminum substrates varies based on product mix, technology and our internal capacity levels. We purchase from third parties all of our glass substrates, which we use to manufacture disk drives for our 2.5-inch products.

Commodity and Other Manufacturing Costs

The production of disk drives requires precious metals, scarce alloys and industrial commodities, which are subject to fluctuations in prices, and the supply of which has at times been constrained. We believe that currently there is an adequate supply of these precious metals, scarce alloys and industrial commodities. Additionally, volatility in fuel costs may increase our costs related to commodities, manufacturing and freight. As a result, we may increase our use of ocean shipments to help offset any increase in freight costs.

Industry Supply Balance

From time to time the industry has experienced periods of imbalance between supply and demand. To the extent that the disk drive industry builds capacity based on expectations of demand that do not materialize, price erosion may become more pronounced. Conversely, during periods where demand exceeds supply, price erosion is generally muted. For the first half of fiscal year 2010, our industry experienced unmet demand due to industry-wide supply constraints, while in the March 2010 quarter supply and demand were relatively balanced. However, in the June 2010 quarter, industry supply exceeded demand, which we believe reflected a return to seasonal patterns typical of a June quarter.

Fiscal Year 2010 Summary

Revenues for fiscal year 2010 were \$11.4 billion and gross margins were 28%, which represented a 16% increase in revenues and growth in our gross margins from 14% in the prior fiscal year. We shipped 193 million units during fiscal year 2010, which represents an 18% growth over the prior fiscal year. This increase in revenue reflects an industry-wide supply constraint experienced in the first half of fiscal year 2010 and a relatively balanced supply and demand environment during the March 2010 quarter resulting in muted price erosion. However, in the June 2010 quarter, industry supply exceeded demand and resulted in an increase in price erosion to levels typical of a June quarter. Given that over 70% of Seagate's revenues are from sales to OEMs, where pricing agreements are negotiated in advance of the quarter, a large part of our business was insulated from price declines in the June 2010 quarter. In the September 2010 quarter, however, we anticipate the adverse pricing environment will carry through to our entire product portfolio and will have a more pronounced impact on our gross margin.

We continued to strengthen our balance sheet in fiscal year 2010. We generated operating cash flow of \$1,932 million, used approximately \$584 million to repurchase 32.4 million of our common shares and used \$639 million for capital expenditures. In May 2010, we issued \$600 million in aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due May 2020 (the "2020 Notes"). Additionally, we repaid approximately \$827 million in existing debt and short-term borrowings during the year.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations**

The following table summarizes information from our consolidated statements of operations by dollars and as a percentage of revenue:

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾
Revenue	\$ 11,395	\$ 9,805	\$ 12,708
Cost of revenue	8,191	8,395	9,503
Gross margin	3,204	1,410	3,205
Product development	877	953	1,028
Marketing and administrative	437	537	659
Amortization of intangibles	27	55	54
Restructuring and other, net	66	210	88
Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries	57	2,320	
Income (loss) from operations	1,740	(2,665)	1,376
Other income (expense), net	(171)	(149)	(58)
Income (loss) before income taxes	1,569	(2,814)	1,318
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	(40)	311	67
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,609	\$ (3,125)	\$ 1,251

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

(as a percentage of Revenue)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾
Revenue	100%	100%	100%
Cost of revenue	72	86	75
Gross margin	28	14	25
Product development	8	10	8
Marketing and administrative	4	5	5
Amortization of intangibles		1	
Restructuring and other, net	1	2	1
Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries		24	
Income (loss) from operations	15	(28)	11
Other income (expense), net	(1)	(1)	
Income (loss) before income taxes	14	(29)	11
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes		3	1
Net income (loss)	14%	(32)%	10%

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes information regarding volume shipments, average selling prices (ASPs) and revenues by channel and geography:

(In millions, except percentages and ASPs)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009	June 27, 2008
Net Revenue	\$ 11,395	\$ 9,805	\$ 12,708
Unit Shipments:			
Enterprise	25.4	22.3	28.3
Client Compute	135.0	114.9	126.2
Client Non-Compute	32.8	26.6	28.1
Total Units Shipped	193.2	163.8	182.6
ASPs (per unit)	\$ 58	\$ 59	\$ 68
Revenues by Channel (%)			
OEM	71%	64%	67%
Distributors	21%	27%	26%
Retail	8%	9%	7%
Revenues by Geography (%)			
Americas	26%	28%	30%
EMEA	22%	27%	27%
Asia Pacific	52%	45%	43%

Fiscal Year 2010 Compared to Fiscal Year 2009

Revenue

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009	Change	%
Revenue	\$ 11,395	\$ 9,805	\$ 1,590	16%

Revenue in fiscal year 2010 increased approximately 16%, or \$1.6 billion, from fiscal year 2009 primarily due to an 18% increase in the total number of disk drives shipped. This increase in revenue reflects an industry-wide supply constraint experienced in the first half of fiscal year 2010 and a relatively balanced supply and demand environment during the March 2010 quarter resulting in muted price erosion. In the June 2010 quarter, industry supply exceeded demand and resulted in an increase in price erosion to levels typical of a June quarter.

We maintain various sales programs such as point-of-sale rebates, sales price adjustments and price protection, aimed at increasing customer demand. We exercise judgment in formulating the underlying estimates related to distributor and retail inventory levels, sales program participation and customer claims submittals in determining the provision for such programs. Sales programs recorded as contra revenue were approximately 6% and 12% of our gross revenue for fiscal years 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Gross Margin

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009	Change	%
Cost of revenue	\$ 8,191	\$ 8,395	\$ (204)	(2)%
Gross margin	\$ 3,204	\$ 1,410	\$ 1,794	127%
Gross margin percentage	28%	14%		

Table of Contents

For fiscal year 2010, gross margin as a percentage of revenue increased to 28% from 14% in the prior fiscal year primarily as a result of an 18% increase in drive shipments, muted price erosion, a more cost-effective product mix and a substantial improvement in manufacturing capacity utilization.

Operating Expenses

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			% Change
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	Change	
Product development	\$ 877	\$ 953	\$ (76)	(8)%
Marketing and administrative	437	537	(100)	(19)%
Amortization of intangibles	27	55	(28)	(51)%
Restructuring and other, net	66	210	(144)	(69)%
Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries	57	2,320	(2,263)	(98)%
Operating expenses	\$ 1,464	\$ 4,075	\$ (2,611)	

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

Product Development Expense. Product development expenses for fiscal year 2010 decreased approximately 8% from fiscal year 2009 primarily due to restructuring and other cost reduction efforts, and the effect of an additional week of compensation expenses in fiscal year 2009, which was a 53-week fiscal year. These cost reduction efforts resulted in decreases of \$66 million in headcount related expenses in fiscal year 2010, \$38 million due to the cessation of certain product development activities, and \$26 million due to the non-recurrence of accelerated depreciation expense related to the closure of our Pittsburgh facility. These decreases were partially offset by increases of \$48 million for variable performance-based compensation expense recorded in fiscal year 2010 compared to none in fiscal year 2009, and a \$16 million benefit related to our deferred compensation plan recorded in fiscal year 2009.

Marketing and Administrative Expense. Marketing and administrative expenses for fiscal year 2010 decreased approximately 19% from fiscal year 2009 primarily due to restructuring and other cost reduction efforts, and the effect of an additional week of compensation expenses in fiscal year 2009, which was a 53-week fiscal year. These cost reduction efforts resulted in decreases of \$69 million in headcount related expenses, \$26 million in advertising costs, and \$29 million in legal expenses. These decreases were partially offset by increases of \$28 million for variable performance-based compensation expense recorded in fiscal year 2010 compared to none in fiscal year 2009, and a \$9 million benefit related to our deferred compensation plan recorded in fiscal year 2009.

Amortization of Intangibles. Amortization of intangibles for fiscal year 2010 decreased approximately 51% from fiscal year 2009 as certain intangibles relating to the Maxtor Corporation ("Maxtor") and MetaLINCS, Inc. acquisitions have been fully amortized.

Restructuring and Other, net. During fiscal year 2010, we recorded restructuring and other charges of \$66 million mainly comprised of charges related to our AMK restructuring plan announced in August 2009 and additional restructuring charges related to our Pittsburgh facility and facilities acquired as a part of the Maxtor acquisition.

Restructuring and Other, net decreased approximately \$144 million when compared to the prior fiscal year, which include restructuring plans announced in January and May 2009 that were intended to realign our cost structure with the fiscal year 2009 macroeconomic business environment. See prior year explanation for further details.

Table of Contents

Impairment of Goodwill and Other Long-Lived Assets, net of Recoveries. During fiscal year 2010, we committed to a plan to sell certain equipment related to certain research activities that had ceased. In connection with this plan, we reclassified these assets as held for sale and recorded a net impairment charge of approximately \$57 million to adjust the carrying value of these assets to the estimated fair value, less cost to sell.

Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries decreased approximately \$2.2 billion when compared to the prior fiscal year due to the non-recurrence of the \$2.3 billion impairment charge we recorded in fiscal year 2009 as a result of the significant adverse change to our business climate. See prior year explanation for further details.

Other Income (Expense), net

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	Change	% Change
Other income (expense), net	\$ (171)	\$ (149)	\$ (22)	15%

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

The change in Other income (expense), net for fiscal year 2010 compared to fiscal year 2009 was primarily due to a \$31 million increase in interest expense resulting from higher average borrowing costs, a decrease in gains from foreign currency remeasurements of \$15 million, a \$13 million write-down of an equity investment in fiscal year 2010, a \$12 million decrease in interest income as a result of lower yields on our cash and investments and an \$8 million non-recurring gain recognized on the sale of an equity investment in fiscal year 2009. These were partially offset by a \$44 million loss related to our deferred compensation plan assets recorded in fiscal year 2009.

Income Taxes

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	Change	% Change
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	\$ (40)	\$ 311	\$ (351)	(113)%

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

We recorded an income tax benefit of \$40 million for fiscal year 2010 compared to a provision for income taxes of \$311 million for fiscal year 2009. Our fiscal year 2009 provision for income taxes included \$271 million of income tax expense recorded in the second quarter associated with an increase in our valuation allowance for U.S. deferred tax assets related to a reduction in our forecasted U.S. taxable income.

In connection with our previously announced plans to move our corporate headquarters to Ireland, we initiated certain pre-reorganization steps which resulted in our existing Cayman parent holding company becoming an Irish tax resident in fiscal year 2010. Our Irish tax resident parent holding company owns various U.S. and non-U.S. subsidiaries that operate in multiple non-Irish taxing jurisdictions. Our worldwide operating income is either subject to varying rates of tax or is exempt from tax due to tax holidays or tax incentive programs we operate under in China, Malaysia, Singapore, Switzerland and Thailand. These tax holidays or incentives are scheduled to expire in whole or in part at various dates through 2020.

Table of Contents

Since we became an Irish tax resident in fiscal year 2010, the Irish statutory rate of 25% is used for purposes of the reconciliation between the provision for income taxes at the statutory rate and our effective tax rate. For fiscal years 2009 and 2008, a notional 35% statutory rate was used.

Our income tax benefit recorded for fiscal year 2010 differed from the provision (benefit) for income taxes that would be derived by applying the Irish statutory rate of 25% to income before income taxes primarily due to the net effect of (i) tax benefits related to earnings in countries where we have tax holidays and tax incentive programs which are indefinitely reinvested outside of Ireland, (ii) a decrease in valuation allowance for certain deferred tax assets, (iii) non-U.S. losses with no tax benefit, and (iv) tax expense related to intercompany transactions. Our provision for income taxes recorded for the comparative fiscal year ended July 3, 2009 differed from the provision for income taxes that would be derived by applying a notional U.S. 35% rate to income before income taxes primarily due to the net effect of (i) non-deductible goodwill impairments, (ii) an increase in our valuation allowance for certain deferred tax assets, (iii) non-U.S. losses with no tax benefit, (iv) tax benefits related to tax holiday and tax incentive programs, and (v) tax expense related to intercompany transactions.

Based on our non-U.S. ownership structure and subject to (i) potential future increases in our valuation allowance for deferred tax assets; and (ii) a future change in our intention to indefinitely reinvest earnings our subsidiaries outside of Ireland, we anticipate that our effective tax rate in future periods will generally be less than the Irish statutory rate. Dividend distributions received from our U.S. subsidiaries may be subject to U.S. withholding taxes when and if distributed.

The amount of temporary differences (including undistributed earnings) related to outside basis differences in the stock of non-Irish resident subsidiaries considered indefinitely reinvested outside of Ireland for which Irish income taxes have not been provided was approximately \$2.7 billion. The determination of the amount of Irish tax that would accrue if such amount was remitted into Ireland is not practicable.

At July 2, 2010, our deferred tax asset valuation allowance was approximately \$1.2 billion reflecting a decrease of approximately \$133 million in fiscal year 2010. The decrease in the valuation allowance includes a \$55 million reversal of a portion of the U.S. valuation allowance recorded in fiscal year 2009 associated with revisions to our forecasts of U.S. taxable income and a decrease associated with the utilization of tax net operating loss carry forwards in fiscal year 2010. As of July 3, 2009, the deferred tax asset valuation allowance was approximately \$1.3 billion reflecting an increase of approximately \$864 million in fiscal year 2009. The increase in valuation allowance resulted primarily from the liquidation of our wholly owned subsidiary, Maxtor, effective June 1, 2009 and represented the net effects of the extinguishment of all deferred tax assets related to historical carryover tax attributes of Maxtor and the increase in deferred tax assets related to tax net operating losses incurred in connection with the liquidation transaction.

At July 2, 2010, we had net deferred tax assets of \$505 million. The realization of \$473 million of these deferred tax assets is primarily dependent on our ability to generate sufficient U.S. and certain non-U.S. taxable income in future periods. Although realization is not assured, we believe that it is more likely than not that these deferred tax assets will be realized. The amount of deferred tax assets considered realizable, however, may increase or decrease in subsequent periods when we re-evaluate the underlying basis for our estimates of future U.S. and certain non-U.S. taxable income.

During fiscal year ended July 2, 2010, an enacted legislative change in U.S. tax law was taken into account in computing our income tax provision. The Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009, was enacted on November 6, 2009. This law allowed us to elect an increased carryback period for net operating losses incurred in 2008 or 2009 from two years to three, four or five years at our option. We recorded an \$11 million income tax benefit as a result of the increased carryback period.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Approximately \$461 million and \$93 million of our U.S. net operating loss and tax credit carry forwards, respectively, are subject to an annual limitation of \$44.8 million pursuant to U.S. tax law.

Effective at the beginning of fiscal year 2008, we adopted the authoritative guidance on accounting for uncertain tax positions in income taxes. This guidance contains a two-step approach to recognizing and measuring uncertain tax positions. The first step is to evaluate the tax position for recognition by determining if the weight of available evidence indicates that it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on audit, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes. The second step is to measure the tax benefit as the largest amount that is more than 50% likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement.

As a result of the implementation of the guidance, we increased our liability for net unrecognized tax benefits at the date of adoption. We accounted for the increase primarily as a cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle that resulted in a decrease to retained earnings of \$3 million and an increase to goodwill of \$25 million. The total amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits as of the date of adoption was \$385 million excluding interest and penalties.

As of July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009, we had approximately \$115 million and \$118 million, respectively, in unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties. The unrecognized tax benefits that, if recognized, would impact the effective tax rate were \$115 million and \$118 million as of July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009, respectively, subject to certain future valuation allowance reversals.

It is our policy to include interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in the provision for taxes on the Consolidated Statements of Operations. During fiscal year 2010, we recognized a net benefit for interest and penalties of \$1 million as compared to a net benefit of \$6 million during fiscal year 2009. As of July 2, 2010, we had \$15 million of accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as compared to \$16 million as of July 3, 2009.

During the fiscal year ended July 2, 2010, our unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties decreased by approximately \$3 million primarily due to (i) reductions associated with the expiration of certain statutes of limitation of \$3 million, (ii) reductions associated with effectively settled positions of \$4 million, (iii) a reduction of \$5 million associated with interpretation of tax law as a result of the final 9th Circuit Court of Appeals' decision relating to stock based compensation deductions, (iv) increases in current year unrecognized tax benefits of \$6 million, and (v) increases from other activity, including non-U.S. exchange losses, of \$3 million.

During the 12 months beginning July 3, 2010, we expect to reduce our unrecognized tax benefits by approximately \$5 million as a result of the expiration of certain statutes of limitation. We do not believe it is reasonably possible that other unrecognized tax benefits will materially change in the next 12 months. However, the resolution and/or timing of closure on open audits are highly uncertain as to when these events occur.

We file U.S. federal, U.S. state, and non-U.S. tax returns. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is currently examining fiscal years 2005 through 2007. For state and non-U.S. tax returns, we are generally no longer subject to tax examinations for years prior to fiscal year 2001. The statute of limitation for U.S. Federal returns is open for fiscal year 2005 and forward.

Fiscal Year 2009 Compared to Fiscal Year 2008

Revenue

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			
	July 3, 2009	June 27, 2008	Change	% Change
Revenue	\$ 9,805	\$ 12,708	\$ (2,903)	(23)%

Table of Contents

Revenue in fiscal year 2009 decreased approximately 23%, or \$2.9 billion, from fiscal year 2008 primarily due to declining global macroeconomic conditions. These conditions resulted in a 10% decrease in the number of disk drives shipped and a 13% reduction in our ASP from \$68 to \$59 per unit. The decrease in our ASP, as compared to fiscal year 2008, resulted from an unfavorable product mix, as higher-priced enterprise drives comprised a smaller percentage of the units shipped, and a near double-digit price erosion during each of the first two quarters of fiscal year 2009. The near double-digit price erosion we experienced was due to time-to-market delays in certain markets and a supply and demand imbalance resulting from a sharp decline in the TAM in the December 2008 quarter. Sales programs recorded as contra revenue were approximately 12% and 9% of our gross revenue, for fiscal years 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Gross Margin

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			% Change
	July 3, 2009	June 27, 2008	Change	
Cost of revenue	\$ 8,395	\$ 9,503	\$ (1,108)	(12)%
Gross margin	\$ 1,410	\$ 3,205	\$ (1,795)	(56)%
Gross margin percentage	14%	25%		

For fiscal year 2009, gross margin as a percentage of revenue decreased 1100 basis points primarily due to price erosion, lower capacity utilization, particularly in the December 2008 and the March 2009 quarters, and the delay in transitioning to more market-competitive and cost-efficient products in certain markets due to the residual effects of fiscal year 2008 execution issues. In the December 2008 quarter, the supply and demand imbalance resulted in a very competitive pricing environment and significant price erosion, especially in the 3.5-inch and 2.5-inch ATA markets.

Operating Expenses

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			% Change
	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾	Change	
Product development	\$ 953	\$ 1,028	\$ (75)	(7)%
Marketing and administrative	537	659	(122)	(19)%
Amortization of intangibles	55	54	1	2%
Restructuring and other, net	210	88	122	139%
Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets	2,320		2,320	100%
Operating expenses	\$ 4,075	\$ 1,829	\$ 2,246	

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

Product Development Expense. The decrease in product development expense for fiscal year 2009 was primarily due to \$82 million of variable performance-based compensation expense in fiscal year 2008 while none was recognized in fiscal year 2009. Restructuring and other cost reduction efforts contributed to a further \$35 million reduction in product development expenses, as compared to fiscal year 2008. These cost reduction measures included the closure of the Pittsburgh facility, headcount reductions and wage decreases that took place in the second half of fiscal year 2009. In addition, other employee benefits decreased by \$20 million due to changes in deferred compensation plan liabilities and a \$13 million research grant was received in fiscal year 2009. These decreases were partially offset by a \$23 million increase in payroll expense due to annual wage increases and a 53-week fiscal year in 2009 compared to

Table of Contents

52 weeks in fiscal year 2008, \$20 million in operating expenses resulting from increased product development and licensing activities, and \$26 million of accelerated depreciation expense related to the closure of our Pittsburgh facility.

Marketing and Administrative Expense. The decrease in marketing and administrative expense for fiscal year 2009 was primarily due to \$53 million of variable performance-based compensation expense in fiscal year 2008 while none was recognized in fiscal year 2009. In the second half of the fiscal year 2009, restructuring and other cost reduction efforts contributed to further reductions of \$25 million in wages, \$29 million for reduced use of consultants and outside services, and \$15 million as a result of reduced travel. Additionally, other employee benefits decreased by \$11 million due to changes in deferred compensation plan liabilities. These decreases were partially offset by a \$14 million increase in payroll expense due to annual wage increases and a 53-week fiscal year in 2009 compared to 52 weeks in fiscal year 2008.

Amortization of Intangibles. Amortization of intangibles was relatively flat for fiscal year 2009 when compared to fiscal year 2008.

Restructuring and Other, net. During fiscal year 2009, we recorded restructuring and other charges of \$210 million comprised mainly of charges related to the restructuring plans announced in January and May 2009, both intended to realign our cost structure with the macroeconomic business environment. These charges consisted of \$173 million of employee termination benefits, \$31 million related to lease obligations associated with the site closures and \$6 million of other exit costs. As of the dates we committed to these restructuring plans we estimated annual savings upon completion of \$130 million and \$125 million from the January and May 2009 restructuring plans, respectively, and \$30 million, \$42 million and \$34 million from the Pittsburgh, Milpitas and Limavady site closures, respectively.

Impairment of Goodwill and Other Long-Lived Assets. During the December 2008 quarter, we determined that a significant adverse change to our business climate had occurred, which required that we evaluate the carrying value of our goodwill and other long-lived assets, principally intangible assets and property, equipment and leasehold improvements, for impairment. We made this determination as evidence of a sustained and sharp deterioration in the general business environment, and specifically, all of our major markets, was building rapidly through the quarter. Several of our customers and other technology companies in the supply chain of our customers, as well as our competitors, reduced their financial outlook and/or otherwise disclosed that they were experiencing very challenging market conditions with little visibility of a rebound. In addition, prior to the start of the December quarter, the TAM was estimated to be approximately 156 million units. At about eight weeks into the quarter, the outlook for the TAM had decreased to be approximately 135 million units. After the close of the quarter, preliminary industry data indicated actual shipments for the December quarter were approximately 123 million units. In response to these adverse business indicators and the rapidly declining revenue trends experienced during our fiscal second quarter, we reduced our near-term and long-term financial projections. Consequently, we performed an analysis of goodwill for impairment, and of the recoverability and impairment of other long-lived assets, in accordance with the guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board's (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 350, *Intangibles Goodwill and Other* (previously Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 142 *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*) and ASC 360, *Property, Plant, and Equipment* (previously SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*), respectively. Based on these analyses, we recorded impairment charges of \$2.3 billion for goodwill and \$3 million for other long-lived assets. See Critical Accounting Policies herein for further details.

Table of Contents*Other Income (Expense), net*

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			
	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾	Change	% Change
Other income (expense), net	\$ (149)	\$ (58)	\$ (91)	157%

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

The change in Other income (expense), net was primarily due to a \$40 million decrease in interest income as a result of lower yields on cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments, and a \$38 million decline in the value of the deferred compensation plan assets. The corresponding gain or loss on deferred compensation plan liabilities is primarily reported in operating expenses.

Income Taxes

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended			
	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾	Change	% Change
Provision for income taxes	\$ 311	\$ 67	\$ 244	364%

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

We recorded a provision for income taxes of \$311 million for fiscal year 2009 compared to a provision for income taxes of \$67 million for fiscal year 2008. Our fiscal year 2009 provision for income taxes included \$271 million of income tax expense recorded in the second quarter associated with an increase in our valuation allowance for U.S. deferred tax assets related to a reduction in our forecasted U.S. taxable income.

We were a non-U.S. holding company incorporated in the Cayman Islands with U.S. and non-U.S. subsidiaries that operate in multiple taxing jurisdictions. As a result, our worldwide operating income was either subject to varying rates of tax or was exempt from tax due to tax holidays or tax incentive programs we operated under in China, Malaysia, Singapore, Switzerland and Thailand. These tax holidays or incentives were scheduled to expire in whole or in part at various dates through 2020.

Our provision for income taxes for fiscal year 2009 differed from the provision for income taxes that would be derived by applying a notional U.S. 35% rate to income before income taxes primarily due to the net effect of (i) non-deductible goodwill impairments, (ii) an increase in our valuation allowance for certain deferred tax assets, (iii) non-U.S. losses with no tax benefit, (iv) tax benefits related to tax holiday and tax incentive programs, and (v) tax expense related to intercompany transactions. Our provision for income taxes recorded for fiscal year ended June 27, 2008 differed from the provision for income taxes that would be derived by applying a notional U.S. 35% rate to income before income taxes primarily due to the net effect of (i) tax benefits related to tax holiday and tax incentive programs, (ii) a decrease in our valuation allowance for certain deferred tax assets, and (iii) tax expense related to intercompany transactions.

In fiscal year 2009, the deferred tax asset valuation allowance was approximately \$1.3 billion. The valuation allowance for deferred tax assets increased by approximately \$864 million in fiscal year 2009. The increase in valuation allowance resulted primarily from the liquidation of our wholly owned subsidiary, Maxtor, effective June 1, 2009 and represented the net effects of the extinguishment of all deferred tax assets related to historical carryover tax attributes of Maxtor and the increase in deferred tax assets related to losses incurred in connection with the liquidation transaction. As of June 27, 2008, the deferred tax asset valuation allowance was \$433 million. Approximately \$22 million of this amount was related to deferred tax assets acquired in the Maxtor acquisition for which the related benefit would have been credited to goodwill if realized. The net increase in the valuation allowance in fiscal year 2008 was \$34 million.

Table of Contents

At July 3, 2009, we had net deferred tax assets of \$469 million. The realization of \$416 million of these deferred tax assets was primarily dependent on our ability to generate sufficient U.S. and certain non-U.S. taxable income in future periods. Although realization was not assured, we believed that it was more likely than not that these deferred tax assets would be realized.

During fiscal year, 2009, several enacted U.S. tax law changes were taken into account in computing our income tax provision as follows. On July 30, 2008, the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 was enacted. Under this law, we could elect to accelerate a portion of our unused AMT and research tax credits in lieu of the 50-percent "bonus" depreciation enacted in February 2008. On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) was enacted to extend the acceleration of AMT and research credits in lieu of bonus depreciation based on qualified capital additions through the end of calendar year 2009. We concluded that we qualified for and recorded income tax benefits of approximately \$17 million related to these accelerated credits. On October 3, 2008, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 was signed into law. Under this law, the research credit was retroactively extended through December 31, 2009 from December 31, 2007. This extension had no immediate impact on our tax provision due to valuation allowances that were recorded for the U.S. deferred tax assets related to these additional credits.

As of July 3, 2009 and June 27, 2008, we had approximately \$118 million and \$374 million, respectively, in unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties. The unrecognized tax benefits that, if recognized, would impact the effective tax rate were \$118 million and \$68 million as of July 3, 2009 and June 27, 2008, respectively, subject to certain future valuation allowance reversals. As a result of the adoption of ASC 805, *Business Combinations* in fiscal year 2010, the amount of unrecognized tax benefits as of July 3, 2009 that would impact the effective tax rate was approximately \$118 million.

It is our policy to include interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in the provision for taxes on the Consolidated Statements of Operations. During fiscal year 2009, we recognized a net benefit for interest and penalties of \$6 million as compared to an expense of \$3 million during fiscal year 2008. As of July 3, 2009, we had \$16 million of accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as compared to \$22 million as of June 27, 2008.

During fiscal year 2009, our unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties decreased by approximately \$256 million primarily due to (i) reductions associated with audit activity of \$6 million, (ii) reductions associated with the expiration of certain statutes of limitation of \$23 million, (iii) reductions associated with the Maxtor liquidation transactions of \$232 million, (iv) increases in current year unrecognized tax benefits of \$13 million, and (v) reductions from non-U.S. exchange gains of \$8 million. Approximately \$21 million of reduction in unrecognized tax benefits during the period was recorded as a reduction to goodwill.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The following sections discuss the effects of changes in our balance sheet and cash flows, contractual obligations, and other commitments on our liquidity and capital resources.

Cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, and restricted cash and investments

(Dollars in millions)	July 2, 2010	As of July 3, 2009	Change
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,263	\$ 1,427	\$ 836
Short-term investments	252	114	138
Restricted cash and investments	114	508	(394)
Total	\$ 2,629	\$ 2,049	\$ 580

Table of Contents

The increase in cash and cash equivalents was primarily a result of cash provided by operating activities of \$1,932 million, the issuance of the 2020 Notes for an aggregate principal amount of \$600 million, and \$86 million in proceeds from the exercise of stock options and employee stock purchases, partially offset by the repayment of \$350 million of our amended credit facility, \$77 million for the repayment of our 6.8% Convertible Senior Notes due April 2010 (the "6.8% Notes"), capital expenditures of \$639 million, approximately \$584 million to repurchase 32.4 million of our common shares and a \$138 million net increase in short-term investments.

Our cash and cash equivalents are maintained in highly liquid investments with remaining maturities of 90 days or less at the time of purchase. Our short-term investments consist primarily of readily marketable debt securities with remaining maturities of more than 90 days at the time of purchase. As stated in our investment policy, we are averse to principal loss and seek to ensure the safety and preservation of our invested funds by limiting default risk and market risk. We mitigate default risk by maintaining portfolio investments in diversified, high-quality investment grade securities with limited time to maturity. We monitor our investment portfolio and position our portfolio to respond appropriately to a reduction in credit rating of any investment issuer, guarantor or depository. We intend to maintain a highly liquid portfolio by investing only in those marketable securities that we believe have active secondary or resale markets. We believe our cash equivalents and short-term investments are liquid and accessible. We operate in some countries that may have restrictive regulations over the movement of cash and/or foreign exchange across their borders. These restrictions have not impeded our ability to conduct business in those countries, nor do we expect them to in the next 12 months. We are not aware of any downgrades, losses or other significant deterioration in the fair value of our cash equivalents or short-term investments and accordingly, we do not believe the fair value of our short-term investments has significantly changed from the values reported as of July 2, 2010.

The change in restricted cash and investments from the fiscal year ended July 3, 2009, was primarily due to the repayment of our \$300 million Floating Rate Senior Notes due 2009 at maturity and approximately \$80 million of open market purchases of our 6.8% Notes and 6.375% Senior Notes due October 2011 (the "2011 Notes").

The following table summarizes results of statement of cash flows for the periods indicated:

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009	June 27, 2008
Net cash flow provided by (used in):			
Operating activities	\$ 1,932	\$ 823	\$ 2,538
Investing activities	(752)	(618)	(991)
Financing activities	(344)	232	(1,545)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	\$ 836	\$ 437	\$ 2

Cash Provided by Operating Activities

Cash provided by operating activities for fiscal year 2010 was approximately \$1,932 million and includes the effects of net income adjusted for non-cash items including depreciation, amortization, stock-based compensation, impairment of long-lived assets, and:

an increase of \$367 million in accounts receivable due to an increase in revenue; and

an increase of \$170 million in inventories due to an increase in production requirements.

Cash provided by operating activities for fiscal year 2009 was approximately \$823 million and includes the effects of a net loss adjusted for non-cash items including depreciation, amortization, stock-based

Table of Contents

compensation, impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets and the income tax provision related to a change in our valuation allowance for deferred tax assets, and:

a decrease of \$372 million in accounts receivable due to a decrease in revenue, improved sales linearity and a shift in channel mix;

a decrease of \$358 million in inventories due to improved inventory and build schedule management and supply chain improvements; and

a decrease of \$296 million in accrued employee compensation primarily due to no variable performance-based compensation expense in fiscal year 2009.

Cash provided by operating activities for fiscal year 2008 was approximately \$2.5 billion and includes the effects of our net income adjusted for non-cash items including depreciation, amortization, and stock-based compensation, and:

an increase of \$351 million in accounts payable, primarily as a result of outsourcing the manufacture of certain sub-assemblies to third parties;

an increase of \$238 million in vendor non-trade receivables, primarily as a result of outsourcing the manufacture of certain sub-assemblies to third parties (see Item 8. Note 2. Balance Sheet Information);

an increase of \$151 million in inventories, principally raw materials and finished goods; and

an increase of \$288 million in accrued expenses and employee compensation.

Cash Used in Investing Activities

In fiscal year 2010, we used \$752 million for net cash investing activities, which was primarily attributable to payments for property, equipment and leasehold improvements of approximately \$639 million.

In fiscal year 2009, we used \$618 million for net cash investing activities, which was primarily attributable to payments for property, equipment and leasehold improvements of approximately \$633 million.

In fiscal year 2008, we used \$991 million for net cash investing activities, which was primarily attributable to expenditures for property, equipment and leasehold improvements of approximately \$930 million and \$74 million for the acquisition of MetaLINCS.

Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities of \$344 million for fiscal year 2010 was primarily attributable to the repayment of \$350 million of our amended credit facility, the repayment of our \$300 million in aggregate principal amount of Floating Rate Senior Notes due October 2009, approximately \$80 million of open market purchases of our 6.8% Notes and 2011 Notes. The repayment and repurchase of the Floating Rate Senior Notes and the open market purchases were paid with approximately \$379 million of restricted cash, previously held in escrow. We also paid \$77 million in aggregate principal amount of our 6.8% Notes, and approximately \$584 million to repurchase 32.4 million of our common shares, which was partially offset by \$587 million in net proceeds from the issuance of our 2020 Notes and \$86 million in proceeds from the exercise of stock options and employee stock purchases.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Net cash provided by financing activities for fiscal year 2009 was primarily attributable to \$399 million in net proceeds from the issuance of our 10% Senior Secured Second-Priority Notes due May 2014 (the "10% Notes") and \$350 million drawn on our credit facility. Cash proceeds from financing activities were offset by \$132 million in dividends paid to our shareholders and \$55 million, including \$19 million proceeds

Table of Contents

from the issuance of our 10% Notes, paid to repurchase and retire our debt. The remaining proceeds of \$380 million from the issuance of our 10% Notes were held in escrow for the repayment or repurchase of our debt.

In 2009, we adopted a policy of not paying a quarterly dividend.

Net cash used in financing activities of approximately \$1.5 billion for fiscal year 2008 was primarily attributable to the repurchases of our common shares totaling \$1.5 billion. Additionally, we paid approximately \$216 million in dividends to our shareholders, repaid \$34 million of our long-term debt and received approximately \$178 million in cash from employee stock option exercises and employee stock purchases.

Liquidity Sources, Cash Requirements and Commitments

Our primary sources of liquidity as of July 2, 2010, consisted of approximately \$2.5 billion in cash, cash equivalents, and short-term investments and cash we expect to generate from operations. We also had \$114 million in restricted cash and investments of which \$76 million was related to our employee deferred compensation liabilities under our non-qualified deferred compensation plan.

Our liquidity requirements are primarily to meet our working capital, research and development, and capital expenditure needs, and to service our debt. Our ability to fund these requirements and comply with the financial covenants under our debt agreements will depend on our future operations, performance and cash flow and is subject to prevailing global macroeconomic conditions and financial, business and other factors, some of which are beyond our control. We believe that our sources of cash will be sufficient to fund our operations and meet our cash requirements for at least the next 12 months.

The carrying value of debt as of July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009 was \$2,500 million and \$2,697 million, respectively. The table below presents the principal amounts of our outstanding debt in order of maturity:

(Dollars in millions)	July 2, 2010	As of July 3, 2009	Change
LIBOR Based Credit Facility	\$	\$ 350	\$ (350)
Floating Rate Senior Notes due October 2009		300	(300)
6.8% Convertible Senior Notes due April 2010		116	(116)
6.375% Senior Notes due October 2011	560	600	(40)
5.75% Subordinated Debentures due March 2012	33	40	(7)
2.375% Convertible Senior Notes due August 2012	326	326	
10.0% Senior Secured Second-Priority Notes due May 2014	430	430	
6.8% Senior Notes due October 2016	600	600	
6.875% Senior Notes due May 2020	600		600
Total	\$ 2,549	\$ 2,762	\$ (213)

On June 25, 2010, we gave notice to the holders of our 2.375% Convertible Senior Notes due August 2012 (the "2.375% Redemption Notice") and our 5.75% Subordinated Debentures due March 2012 (the "5.75% Debentures") that we will call for redemption these notes. As of

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

July 3, 2010, the Share Price Condition for the 2.375% Notes was no longer satisfied and the conversion value did not exceed the principal value; however, the 2.375% Convertible Senior Notes due August 2012 (the "2.375% Notes") continue to be convertible in accordance with their terms as a result of the 2.375% Redemption Notice. Included in the Current portion of long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheet as of July 2, 2010 were \$298 million (\$326 million principal balance) of our 2.375% Notes and \$31 million (\$33 million principal balance) of our 5.75% Debentures. Subsequent to our fiscal year end, we repaid approximately

Table of Contents

\$362 million to retire our 2.375% Notes and 5.75% Debentures. During fiscal year 2010, we terminated our credit facility, having repaid the previously drawn \$350 million earlier in the fiscal year. In addition, our \$300 million Floating Rate Senior Notes were due and paid on October 1, 2009. We also repurchased approximately \$80 million of various debt issuances on the open market to reduce our outstanding debt obligations, and repaid our 6.8% Notes for \$77 million at maturity.

On May 13, 2010, we issued the 2020 Notes for an aggregate principal amount of \$600 million. The 2020 Notes were offered in a private placement exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The 2020 Notes were issued by Seagate HDD Cayman, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Seagate Technology-Cayman, and guaranteed by Seagate Technology-Cayman on a full and unconditional basis. On July 3, 2010, we became a guarantor under the 2020 Notes. We intend to use the proceeds from the debt issuance to redeem, repay or repurchase existing debt and for general corporate purposes.

On January 27, 2010, our Board of Directors authorized an Anti-Dilution Share Repurchase Program, which was publicly announced on February 1, 2010. The repurchase program authorizes us to repurchase our ordinary shares to offset increases in diluted shares, such as those caused by employee stock plans and convertible debt, used in the determination of diluted net income per share. The timing and number of shares to be repurchased by us will be dependent on general business and market conditions, cash flows generated by future operations, the price of our ordinary shares, cash requirements for other investing and financing activities, and maintaining compliance with our debt covenants. Repurchases may be made through open market or in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plans or other available means, such as by way of an accelerated share repurchase program, through block trades or through the purchase of call options or the sale of put options. Additionally, there is no minimum or maximum number of shares to be repurchased under the program and the authority for the Anti-Dilution Share Repurchase Program will continue until terminated by our Board of Directors.

During fiscal year 2010, we repurchased approximately 32.4 million of our common shares. See Item 5. Market for Registrant's Shares, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities Repurchases of Our Equity Securities.

For fiscal year 2011, we are targeting capital investment to be in the range of 6-8% of revenue. We require substantial amounts of cash to fund scheduled payments of principal and interest on our indebtedness, future capital expenditures and any increased working capital requirements. We will continue to evaluate and manage the retirement and replacement of existing debt and associated obligations, including the issuance of new debt securities, exchanging existing debt securities for other debt securities and retiring debt pursuant to privately negotiated transactions, open market purchases or otherwise. In addition, we may selectively pursue strategic alliances, acquisitions and investments, which may require additional capital.

Table of Contents**Contractual Obligations and Commitments**

Our contractual cash obligations and commitments as of July 2, 2010, have been summarized in the table below:

(Dollars in millions)	Total	Fiscal Year(s)			
		2011	2012- 2013	2014- 2015	Thereafter
Contractual Cash Obligations:					
Debt ⁽¹⁾	\$ 2,549	\$ 359	\$ 560	\$ 430	\$ 1,200
Interest payments on debt	907	165	268	207	267
Capital expenditures	326	322	4		
Operating leases ⁽²⁾	229	48	69	31	81
Purchase obligations ⁽³⁾	735	606	129		
Subtotal	4,746	1,500	1,030	668	1,548
Commitments:					
Letters of credit or bank guarantees	29	29			
Total	\$ 4,775	\$ 1,529	\$ 1,030	\$ 668	\$ 1,548

- (1) Included in debt for fiscal year 2011 is the principal amount of \$326 million related to our 2.375% Notes and the principal amount of \$33 million related to our 5.75% Debentures. On June 25, 2010, we issued a notice of redemption to the holders of the 2.375% Notes and the 5.75% Debentures. Therefore, the 2.375% Notes and 5.75% Debentures have been reclassified as Current portion of long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheet at July 2, 2010. In addition, under the terms of the 2.375% indenture the notes were convertible up to the redemption date. We redeemed the entire outstanding aggregate principal amount of the 2.375% Notes and 5.75% Debentures in our first quarter of fiscal year 2011.
- (2) Includes total future minimum rent expense under non-cancelable leases for both occupied and vacated facilities (rent expense is shown net of sublease income).
- (3) Purchase obligations are defined as contractual obligations for the purchase of goods or services, which are enforceable and legally binding on us, and that specify all significant terms.

As of July 2, 2010, we had a liability for unrecognized tax benefits and an accrual for the payment of related interest totaling \$59 million, none of which is expected to be paid within one year. We are unable to make a reasonably reliable estimate of when cash settlement with a taxing authority will occur.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of July 2, 2010, we did not have any material off-balance sheet arrangements (as defined in Item 303(a)(4)(ii) of Regulation S-K).

Critical Accounting Policies

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

The methods, estimates and judgments we use in applying our most critical accounting policies have a significant impact on the results we report in our consolidated financial statements. The SEC has defined the most critical accounting policies as the ones that are most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and operating results, and require us to make our most difficult and subjective judgments, often as a result of the need to make estimates of matters that are highly uncertain at the time of estimation. Based on this definition, our most critical policies include: establishment of sales program accruals, establishment of warranty accruals, accounting for income taxes, and the accounting for goodwill and other long-lived assets. Below, we discuss these policies further, as well as the estimates and judgments involved. We also have other accounting policies and accounting estimates relating to uncollectible customer accounts, valuation of inventory, valuation of share-based payments and restructuring. We believe that

Table of Contents

these other accounting policies and accounting estimates either do not generally require us to make estimates and judgments that are as difficult or as subjective, or it is less likely that they would have a material impact on our reported results of operations for a given period.

Establishment of Sales Program Accruals. We establish certain distributor and OEM sales programs aimed at increasing customer demand. For the distribution channel, these programs typically involve rebates related to a distributor's level of sales, order size, advertising or point of sale activity and price protection adjustments. For OEM sales, rebates are typically based on an OEM customer's volume of purchases from Seagate or other agreed upon rebate programs. We provide for these obligations at the time that revenue is recorded based on estimated requirements. We estimate these contra-revenue rebates and adjustments based on various factors, including price reductions during the period reported, estimated future price erosion, customer orders, distributor sell-through and inventory levels, program participation, customer claim submittals and sales returns. Our estimates reflect contractual arrangements but also our judgment relating to variables such as customer claim rates and attainment of program goals, and inventory and sell-through levels reported by our distribution customers.

While we believe we have sufficient experience and knowledge of the market and customer buying patterns to reasonably estimate such rebates and adjustments, actual market conditions or customer behavior could differ from our expectations. As a result, actual payments under these programs, which may spread over several months after the related sale, may vary from the amount accrued. Accordingly, revenues and margins in the period in which the adjustment occurs may be affected. For example, if the pricing environment is more competitive than we anticipated, accruals for forward price protection rebates may be inadequate. In periods when pricing is less competitive, accruals for forward price protection rebates may exceed actual payments. In addition, during periods in which our distributors' inventories of our products are at higher than historical levels, our contra-revenue estimates are subject to a greater degree of subjectivity and the potential for actual results to vary is accordingly higher. Currently, our distributors' inventories are at the low end of the historical range.

Significant actual variations in any of the factors upon which we base our contra-revenue estimates could have a material effect on our operating results. For fiscal years 2008 and 2009, total sales programs have ranged from 9% to 12% of gross revenues. In fiscal year 2010, sales programs dropped to approximately 6% of gross revenue, reflecting a more stable pricing environment resulting from industry-wide supply constraints during the first half of fiscal year 2010 and a relatively balanced supply and demand environment during the March 2010 quarter. Adjustments to revenues due to under or over accruals for sales programs related to revenues reported in prior quarterly periods have averaged 0.4% of quarterly gross revenue for fiscal years 2008 through 2010. Any future shifts in the industry supply-demand balance as well as other factors may result in a more competitive pricing environment and may cause sales programs as a percentage of gross revenue to increase from the current or historical levels. If such rebates and incentives trend upwards, revenues and margins will be reduced.

Establishment of Warranty Accruals. We estimate probable product warranty costs at the time revenue is recognized. We generally warrant our products for a period of one to five years. Our warranty provision considers estimated product failure rates and trends (including the timing of product returns during the warranty periods), estimated repair or replacement costs and estimated costs for customer compensatory claims related to product quality issues, if any. We use a statistical model to help with our estimates and we exercise considerable judgment in determining the underlying estimates. Should actual experience in any future period differ significantly from our estimates, or should the rate of future product technological advancements fail to keep pace with the past, our future results of operations could be materially affected. Our judgment is subject to a greater degree of subjectivity with respect to newly introduced products because of limited experience with those products upon which to base our warranty estimates.

Table of Contents

The actual results with regard to warranty expenditures could have an adverse or favorable effect on our results of operations if the actual rate of unit failure, the cost to repair a unit, or the actual cost required to satisfy customer compensatory claims differ from those we used in determining the warranty accrual. Since we typically outsource our warranty repairs, our repair cost is subject to periodic negotiations with vendors and may vary from our estimates. We also exercise judgment in estimating our ability to sell certain repaired disk drives. To the extent such sales fall below our forecast, warranty cost will be adversely impacted.

We review our warranty accrual quarterly for products shipped in prior periods and which are still under warranty. Any changes in the estimates underlying the accrual may result in adjustments that impact the current period gross margins and income. Since fiscal year 2008, favorable or unfavorable changes in estimates of prior warranty accruals have approximated 0.5% or less of revenue. Our warranty cost was 2.2% and 2.4% of revenue during fiscal years 2008 and 2009, respectively. Changes in anticipated failure rates of specific products and significant changes in repair or replacement costs have historically been the major reasons for significant changes in prior estimates. In fiscal year 2010, the cost of new warranties issued (exclusive of the impact of any adjustment to prior warranty liabilities) was close to the historical range and amounted to approximately 1.8% of revenue, but total warranty cost decreased to 1.3% of revenue, which is at the low end of the historical range. The decrease in total warranty cost for fiscal year 2010 was due to a favorable adjustment to pre-existing liabilities as a result of changing to a lower cost repair vendor, other efforts to better leverage our warranty service infrastructure, and lower product failure rates. Any future changes in failure rates of certain products as well as in repair or replacement costs may result in increased warranty accruals.

Accounting for Income Taxes. We account for income taxes pursuant to Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 740 (ASC 740), *Income Taxes* (previously Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*). In applying, ASC 740, we make certain estimates and judgments in determining income tax expense for financial statement purposes. These estimates and judgments occur in the calculation of tax credits, recognition of income and deductions and calculation of specific tax assets and liabilities, which arise from differences in the timing of recognition of revenue and expense for tax and financial statement purposes, as well as tax liabilities associated with uncertain tax positions. The calculation of tax liabilities involves uncertainties in the application of complex tax rules and the potential for future adjustment of our uncertain tax positions by the Internal Revenue Service or other tax jurisdictions. If estimates of these tax liabilities are greater or less than actual results, an additional tax benefit or provision will result. The deferred tax assets we record each period depend primarily on our ability to generate future taxable income in the United States and certain non-U.S. jurisdictions. Each period, we evaluate the need for a valuation allowance for our deferred tax assets and, if necessary, we adjust the valuation allowance so that net deferred tax assets are recorded only to the extent we conclude it is more likely than not that these deferred tax assets will be realized. If our outlook for future taxable income changes significantly, our assessment of the need for a valuation allowance may also change.

As a result of improvements in the outlook for our future U.S. taxable income, we completed a reassessment of our valuation allowance against U.S. deferred tax assets. In the June 2010 quarter, we decreased the valuation allowance against our U.S. deferred tax assets.

Accounting for Goodwill, and Other Long-lived Assets. We account for goodwill in accordance with ASC 350, *Intangibles Goodwill and Other* (previously SFAS No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*). As required by ASC 350, we test goodwill of our reporting units annually during our fourth quarter or whenever events occur or circumstances change, such as an adverse change in business climate or a decline in the overall industry, that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount.

In accordance with ASC 360-05-4, *Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets* (previously SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets*), we test other long-lived assets,

Table of Contents

including property, equipment and leasehold improvements and other intangible assets subject to amortization, for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying values of those assets may not be recoverable. We assess the recoverability of an asset group by determining if the carrying value of the asset group exceeds the sum of the projected undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the assets over the remaining economic life of the primary asset in the asset group. If the recoverability test indicates that the carrying value of the asset group is not recoverable, we will estimate the fair value of the asset group using the same approaches indicated above for ASC 360 step two and compare it to its carrying value. The excess of the carrying value over the fair value is allocated pro rata to derive the adjusted carrying value of each asset in the asset group. The adjusted carrying value of each asset in the asset group is not reduced below its fair value.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 1 of our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the effect of new accounting pronouncements on our financial statements.

ITEM 7A. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We have exposure to market risks due to the volatility of interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, equity and bond markets. A portion of these risks are hedged, but fluctuations could impact our results of operations, financial position and cash flows. Additionally, we have exposure to downgrades in the credit ratings of our counterparties as well as exposure related to our credit rating changes.

Interest Rate Risk. Our exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to our investment portfolio. At July 2, 2010, with the exception of our auction rate securities, we had no marketable securities that had been in a continuous unrealized loss position for a period greater than 12 months and determined that no investments were other-than-temporarily impaired. We currently do not use derivative financial instruments in our investment portfolio.

We have fixed rate debt obligations. We enter into debt obligations to support general corporate purposes including capital expenditures and working capital needs. We currently do not use interest rate derivatives to hedge interest rate exposure on our outstanding debt.

The table below presents principal amounts and related weighted average interest rates by year of maturity for our investment portfolio and debt obligations as of July 2, 2010. All short-term investments mature in three years or less. Included in short-term debt for fiscal year 2011 is the principal amount of \$326 million related to our 2.375% Notes and \$33 million related to our 5.75% Debentures. On June 25, 2010, we called for the redemption of the remaining notes for both the 2.375% Notes and the 5.75% Debentures. These notes were retired in the first quarter of fiscal year 2011.

Table of Contents**Fiscal Years Ended**

(Dollars in millions, except percentages)	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Thereafter	Total	Fair Value at July 2, 2010
Assets								
Cash equivalents:								
Fixed rate	\$ 2,101	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101
Average interest rate	0.10%						0.10%	
Short-term investments:								
Fixed rate	\$ 163	\$ 58	\$ 27	\$	\$	\$	\$ 248	\$ 252
Average interest rate	2.02%	3.20%	2.66%				2.37%	
Long-term investments:								
Variable rate	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 19	\$ 19	\$ 17
Average interest rate						0.61%	0.61%	
Total investment securities								
	\$ 2,264	\$ 58	\$ 27	\$	\$	\$ 19	\$ 2,368	\$ 2,370
Average interest rate	0.24%	3.20%	2.66%			0.61%	0.34%	
Debt								
Fixed rate	\$ 359	\$ 560	\$	\$ 430	\$	\$ 1,200	\$ 2,549	\$ 2,590
Average interest rate	2.69%	6.38%		10.00%		6.84%	6.68%	

Foreign Currency Exchange Risk. We may enter into foreign currency forward exchange contracts to manage exposure related to certain foreign currency commitments and anticipated foreign currency denominated expenditures. Our policy prohibits us from entering into derivative financial instruments for speculative or trading purposes. During fiscal years 2010 and 2009, we did not enter into any hedges of net investments in foreign operations.

We also hedge a portion of our foreign currency denominated balance sheet positions with foreign currency forward exchange contracts to reduce the risk that our earnings will be adversely affected by changes in currency exchange rates. The changes in fair value of these hedges are recognized in earnings in the same period as the gains and losses from the remeasurement of the assets and liabilities. These foreign currency forward exchange contracts are not designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* (previously SFAS 161, *Disclosures About Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*). All these forward contracts mature within 12 months.

We evaluate hedging effectiveness prospectively and retrospectively and record any ineffective portion of the hedging instruments in Other income (expense) on the Consolidated Statements of Operations. We did not have any net gains (losses) recognized in Other income (expense) for cash flow hedges due to hedge ineffectiveness during fiscal year 2010, nor did we discontinue any material cash flow hedges for a forecasted transaction in the same period.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

The table below provides information as of July 2, 2010 about our foreign currency forward exchange contracts. The table is provided in U.S. dollar equivalent amounts and presents the notional amounts (at the contract exchange rates) and the weighted average contractual foreign currency exchange rates.

(Dollars in millions, except average contract rate)	Notional Amount	Average Contract Rate	Estimated Fair Value ⁽¹⁾
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts:			
Singapore Dollar	\$ 92	1.41	\$ 2
Thai Baht	569	32.53	5
Japanese Yen	1	93.30	
Czech Koruna	10	20.62	
 Total	 \$ 672		 \$ 7

(1) Equivalent to the unrealized net gain (loss) on existing contracts.

Other Market Risks. We have exposure to counterparty credit downgrades in the form of credit risk related to our accounts receivable balances, our foreign currency forward exchange contracts and our fixed income portfolio. We monitor and limit our credit exposure for both our accounts receivable balances and our foreign currency forward exchange contracts by performing ongoing credit evaluations. We also manage the notional amount of contracts entered into with any one counterparty, and we maintain limits on maximum tenor of contracts based on the credit rating of the financial institutions. Additionally, the investment portfolio is diversified and structured to minimize credit risk. As of July 2, 2010, we had counterparty credit exposure of \$7 million comprised of the mark-to-market valuation related to our foreign currency forward exchange contracts in a gain position. Changes in our corporate issuer credit ratings have minimal impact on our financial results, but downgrades may negatively impact our future transaction costs and our ability to execute transactions with various counterparties.

We have exposure to equity market risks due to changes in the fair value of the notional investments selected by our employees as part of our Non-qualified Deferred Compensation Plan the Seagate Deferred Compensation Plan (the "SDCP"). In the quarter ended July 3, 2009, we entered into a Total Return Swap (TRS) in order to manage the equity market risks associated with the SDCP plan liabilities. We pay a floating rate, based on LIBOR plus a spread, on the notional amount of the TRS. The TRS is designed to substantially offset changes in the SDCP plan liability due to changes in the value of the investment options made by employees. The contract term of the TRS is one year and is settled on a monthly basis therefore limiting counterparty performance risk. The terms of the TRS required us to pledge initial collateral of \$18 million to the counterparty for the term of the contract. Additional collateral may be posted contingent on the counterparty's exposure to the market value of the TRS. As of July 2, 2010, we had \$18 million pledged to the counterparty, recorded as restricted cash.

During fiscal year 2010, approximately \$1 million of our auction rate securities were called by the issuers. As of July 2, 2010, we continued to hold auction rate securities with a par value of approximately \$19 million, all of which are collateralized by student loans guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program. Beginning in the March 2008 quarter, these securities have continuously failed to settle at auction. As of July 2, 2010, the estimated fair value of these auction rate securities was \$17 million. We believe that the impairments totaling \$2 million are temporary as we do not intend to sell these securities and have concluded it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the securities before the recovery of the amortized cost basis. As such, the impairment was recorded in Other comprehensive income (loss) and these securities were classified as long-term investments.

Table of Contents**ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Dollars in millions, except share and per share data)

	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ^(a)
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,263	\$ 1,427
Short-term investments	252	114
Restricted cash and investments	114	508
Accounts receivable, net	1,400	1,033
Inventories	757	587
Deferred income taxes	118	97
Other current assets	514	528
Total current assets	5,418	4,294
Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, net	2,263	2,229
Goodwill and other intangible assets, net	38	73
Deferred income taxes	395	372
Other assets, net	133	119
Total Assets	\$ 8,247	\$ 7,087
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Short-term borrowings	\$	\$ 350
Accounts payable	1,780	1,573
Accrued employee compensation	263	144
Accrued warranty	189	213
Accrued expenses	422	483
Accrued income taxes	14	10
Current portion of long-term debt	329	421
Total current liabilities	2,997	3,194
Long-term accrued warranty	183	224
Long-term accrued income taxes	59	69
Other non-current liabilities	111	120
Long-term debt, less current portion	2,173	1,926
Total Liabilities	5,523	5,533
Commitments and contingencies (See Notes 13 and 14)		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred shares, \$0.00001 par value per share 100 million authorized; no shares issued or outstanding		
Common shares, \$0.00001 par value per share 1,250 million authorized; 470,240,793 issued and outstanding at July 2, 2010 and 493,008,776 issued and outstanding at July 3, 2009		

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Additional paid-in capital	3,851	3,708
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(4)	(6)
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)	(1,123)	(2,148)
Total Shareholders' Equity	2,724	1,554
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$ 8,247	\$ 7,087

-
- (a) As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis (see Note 5).

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ^(a)	June 27, 2008 ^(a)
Revenue	\$ 11,395	\$ 9,805	\$ 12,708
Cost of revenue	8,191	8,395	9,503
Product development	877	953	1,028
Marketing and administrative	437	537	659
Amortization of intangibles	27	55	54
Restructuring and other, net	66	210	88
Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries	57	2,320	
 Total operating expenses	 9,655	 12,470	 11,332
Income (loss) from operations	1,740	(2,665)	1,376
Interest income	6	17	57
Interest expense	(174)	(143)	(137)
Other, net	(3)	(23)	22
 Other income (expense), net	 (171)	 (149)	 (58)
Income (loss) before income taxes	1,569	(2,814)	1,318
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	(40)	311	67
 Net income (loss)	 \$ 1,609	 \$ (3,125)	 \$ 1,251
 Net income (loss) per share:			
Basic	\$ 3.28	\$ (6.40)	\$ 2.44
Diluted	3.14	(6.40)	2.34
 Number of shares used in per share calculations:			
Basic	491	488	512
Diluted	514	488	538
 Cash dividends declared per share	 \$	 \$ 0.27	 \$ 0.42

(a) As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis (see Note 5).

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Dollars in millions)

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ^(a)	June 27, 2008 ^(a)
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,609	\$ (3,125)	\$ 1,251
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash from operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	780	931	844
Stock-based compensation	57	83	113
Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries	57	2,320	
Deferred income taxes	(36)	306	10
Other non-cash operating activities, net	34	8	(4)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(367)	372	(67)
Inventories	(170)	358	(151)
Accounts payable	2	(79)	351
Accrued employee compensation	119	(296)	282
Accrued expenses and warranty	(161)	(117)	(128)
Other assets and liabilities	8	62	37
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,932	823	2,538
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Acquisition of property, equipment and leasehold improvements	(639)	(633)	(930)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	21	7	29
Purchases of short-term investments	(373)	(155)	(486)
Sales of short-term investments	119	89	333
Maturities of short-term investments	114	103	127
(Increase) decrease in restricted cash and investments	15	(128)	
Proceeds from liquidation of deferred compensation plan investments		85	
Proceeds from sale of investments in equity securities		11	
Acquisitions, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired			(78)
Other investing activities, net	(9)	3	14
Net cash used in investing activities	(752)	(618)	(991)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from short-term borrowings	15	350	
Net proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	587	399	
Retirements and maturities of short-term borrowings	(365)		
Retirements and maturities of long-term debt	(462)	(55)	(34)
(Increase) decrease in restricted cash and investments	379	(380)	

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Proceeds from exercise of employee stock options and employee stock purchase plan	86	54	178
Dividends to shareholders		(132)	(216)
Repurchases of common shares	(584)		(1,479)
Other financing activities, net		(4)	6
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(344)	232	(1,545)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	836	437	2
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,427	990	988
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	\$ 2,263	\$ 1,427	\$ 990

Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information

Cash paid for interest	\$ 138	\$ 118	\$ 121
Cash paid for income taxes, net of refunds	(14)	10	34

- (a) As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis (see Note 5).

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

For Fiscal Years Ended July 2, 2010, July 3, 2009 and June 27, 2008
(Dollars in millions)

	Number of Common Shares	Par Value of Shares	Additional Paid-in Capital ^(a)	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings/ (Accumulated Deficit) ^(a)	Total ^(a)
Balance at June 29, 2007	535	\$	\$ 3,277	\$ (4)	\$ 1,556	\$ 4,829
Cumulative effect adjustment to adopt recognition and measurement provisions (See Note 6)					(3)	(3)
Comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:						
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities, net				(9)		(9)
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on cash flow hedges, net				(3)		(3)
Net income					1,251	1,251
Comprehensive income						1,239
Issuance of common shares related to employee stock options and employee stock purchase plan	15		178			178
Dividends to shareholders					(216)	(216)
Tax benefit from stock options			6			6
Repurchases of common shares	(65)				(1,479)	(1,479)
Stock-based compensation			113			113
Balance at June 27, 2008	485		3,574	(16)	1,109	4,667
Comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:						
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on cash flow hedges, net				12		12
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on auction rate securities, net				1		1
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on post-retirement plan costs				(3)		(3)
Net loss					(3,125)	(3,125)
Comprehensive loss						(3,115)
Issuance of common shares related to employee stock options and employee stock purchase plan	8		54			54
Dividends to shareholders					(132)	(132)
Stock-based compensation			83			83
Other, net			(3)			(3)
Balance at July 3, 2009	493		3,708	(6)	(2,148)	1,554
Comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:						
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on cash flow hedges, net				4		4
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on post-retirement plan costs				(2)		(2)

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Net income					1,609	1,609
Comprehensive income						1,611
Issuance of common shares related to employee stock options and employee stock purchase plan	9		86			86
Repurchases of common shares	(32)				(584)	(584)
Stock-based compensation			57			57
Balance at July 2, 2010	470	\$	\$ 3,851	\$	(4)	(1,123) \$ 2,724

(a)

Amounts for 2007, 2008 and 2009 are as adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis (see Note 5).

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations

Effective as of July 3, 2010, Seagate Technology public limited company, an Irish public limited company, ("Seagate-Ireland", "Seagate" or the "Company") became the successor to Seagate Technology, an exempted company incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the Cayman Islands ("Seagate-Cayman") (see Note 18). The Company designs, manufactures, markets and sells hard disk drives. Hard disk drives, which are commonly referred to as disk drives or hard drives, are used as the primary medium for storing electronic data. The Company produces a broad range of disk drive products addressing enterprise applications, where its products are primarily used in enterprise servers, mainframes and workstations; client compute applications, where its products are used in desktop and notebook computers; and client non-compute applications, where its products are used in a wide variety of devices such as digital video recorders (DVRs), and other consumer electronic devices such as personal data backup systems, portable external storage systems and digital media systems. The Company sells its disk drives primarily to major original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), distributors and retailers. In addition to manufacturing and selling disk drives, the Company provides storage services for small- to medium-sized businesses, including online backup, data protection and recovery solutions.

Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates. The methods, estimates and judgments the Company uses in applying its most critical accounting policies have a significant impact on the results the Company reports in its consolidated financial statements. The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") has defined the most critical accounting policies as the ones that are most important to the portrayal of a company's financial condition and results of operations, and require a company to make its most difficult and subjective judgments, often as a result of the need to make estimates of matters that are highly uncertain at the time of estimation. Based on this definition, the Company's most critical policies include: establishment of sales program accruals, establishment of warranty accruals, the accounting for income taxes, and the accounting for goodwill and other long-lived assets. These policies, as well as the estimates and judgments involved, are discussed further below. The Company also has other accounting policies and accounting estimates relating to uncollectible customer accounts, valuation of inventory, valuation of share-based payments (see Note 10) and restructuring and exit costs (see Note 4). The Company believes that these other accounting policies and accounting estimates either do not generally require it to make estimates and judgments that are as difficult or as subjective, or it is less likely that they would have a material impact on the Company's reported results of operations for a given period.

Establishment of Sales Program Accruals. The Company establishes certain distributor and OEM sales programs aimed at increasing customer demand. For the distribution channel, these programs typically involve rebates related to a distributor's level of sales, order size, advertising or point of sale activity and price protection adjustments. For OEM sales, rebates are typically based on an OEM customer's volume of purchases from Seagate or other agreed upon rebate programs. The Company provides for these obligations at the time that revenue is recorded based on estimated requirements. The Company estimates these contra-revenue rebates and adjustments based on various factors, including price reductions during the period reported, estimated future price erosion, customer orders, distributor sell-through and inventory levels, program participation, customer claim submittals and sales returns. The

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Company's estimates reflect contractual arrangements but also its judgment relating to variables such as customer claim rates and attainment of program goals, and inventory and sell-through levels reported by its distribution customers.

Establishment of Warranty Accruals. The Company estimates probable product warranty costs at the time revenue is recognized. The Company generally warrants its products for a period of one to five years. The Company's warranty provision considers estimated product failure rates and trends (including the timing of product returns during the warranty periods), estimated repair or replacement costs and estimated costs for customer compensatory claims related to product quality issues, if any. The Company uses a statistical model to help with its estimates and the Company exercises considerable judgment in determining the underlying estimates. Should actual experience in any future period differ significantly from its estimates, or should the rate of future product technological advancements fail to keep pace with the past, the Company's future results of operations could be materially affected. The Company's judgment is subject to a greater degree of subjectivity with respect to newly introduced products because of limited experience with those products upon which to base its warranty estimates. The Company continually introduces new products.

The actual results with regard to warranty expenditures could have an adverse or favorable effect on the Company's results of operations if the actual rate of unit failure, the cost to repair a unit, or the actual cost required to satisfy customer compensatory claims vary from those estimates which the Company used in determining the warranty accrual. The Company also exercises judgment in estimating its ability to sell certain repaired disk drives. To the extent such sales vary significantly from the Company's forecast, warranty cost will be adversely or favorably impacted.

Accounting for Income Taxes. The Company accounts for income taxes pursuant to Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 740 (ASC 740), *Income Taxes* (previously Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*). In applying ASC 740, the Company makes certain estimates and judgments in determining income tax expense for financial statement purposes. These estimates and judgments occur in the calculation of tax credits, recognition of income and deductions and calculation of specific tax assets and liabilities, which arise from differences in the timing of recognition of revenue and expense for tax and financial statement purposes, as well as tax liabilities associated with uncertain tax positions. The calculation of tax liabilities involves uncertainties in the application of complex tax rules and the potential for future adjustment of the Company's uncertain tax positions by the Internal Revenue Service or other tax jurisdictions. If estimates of these tax liabilities are greater or less than actual results, an additional tax benefit or provision will result. The deferred tax assets the Company records each period depend primarily on the Company's ability to generate future taxable income in the United States and certain non-U.S. jurisdictions. Each period, the Company evaluates the need for a valuation allowance for its deferred tax assets and, if necessary, adjusts the valuation allowance so that net deferred tax assets are recorded only to the extent the Company concludes it is more likely than not that these deferred tax assets will be realized. If the Company's outlook for future taxable income changes significantly, the Company's assessment of the need for a valuation allowance may also change.

Accounting for Goodwill and Other Long-lived Assets. The Company accounts for goodwill in accordance with ASC 350, *Intangibles Goodwill and Other* (previously SFAS No. 142 *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*). As required by ASC 350, the Company tests goodwill of its reporting units for impairment annually during its fourth quarter or whenever events occur or circumstances change, such as an adverse change in business climate or a decline in the overall industry, that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

In accordance with ASC 360-10-20, *Property, Plant, and Equipment Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets* (previously SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets*), the Company tests other long-lived assets, including property, equipment and leasehold improvements and other intangible assets subject to amortization, for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of those assets may not be recoverable. The Company assesses the recoverability of an asset group by determining if the carrying value of the asset group exceeds the sum of the projected undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the assets over the remaining economic life of the primary asset in the asset group. If the recoverability test indicates that the carrying value of the asset group is not recoverable, the Company will estimate the fair value of the asset group using the same approaches indicated above for ASC 350 step two and compare it to its carrying value. The excess of the carrying value over the fair value is allocated pro rata to derive the adjusted carrying value of assets in the asset group. The adjusted carrying value of each asset in the asset group is not reduced below its fair value.

Basis of Presentation and Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and all its wholly-owned subsidiaries, after elimination of intercompany transactions and balances. The consolidated financial statements reflect, in the opinion of management, all material adjustments necessary to present fairly the consolidated financial position, results of operations, cash flows and shareholders' equity for the periods presented.

The Company operates and reports financial results on a fiscal year of 52 or 53 weeks ending on the Friday closest to June 30. Accordingly, fiscal year 2010 was comprised of 52 weeks and ended on July 2, 2010. Fiscal year 2009 was comprised of 53 weeks and ended on July 3, 2009. Fiscal year 2008 was comprised of 52 weeks and ended on June 27, 2008. All references to years in these Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements represent fiscal years unless otherwise noted. Fiscal year 2011 will be 52 weeks and will end on July 1, 2011.

Cash, Cash Equivalents and Short-Term Investments. The Company considers all highly liquid investments with a remaining maturity of 90 days or less at the time of purchase to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are carried at cost, which approximates fair value. The Company's short-term investments are primarily comprised of readily marketable debt securities with remaining maturities of more than 90 days at the time of purchase. With the exception of restricted cash and investments, the Company has classified its entire investment portfolio as available-for-sale and it is stated at fair value with unrealized gains and losses included in Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), which is a component of Shareholders' Equity. The amortized cost of debt securities is adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts to maturity. Such amortization and accretion are included in interest income. Realized gains and losses are included in Other, net. The cost of securities sold is based on the specific identification method.

Restricted Cash and Investments. Restricted cash and investments represents cash and investments that are restricted as to withdrawal or use for other than current operations (see Note 2).

Allowances for Doubtful Accounts. The Company maintains an allowance for uncollectible accounts receivable based upon expected collectibility. This reserve is established based upon historical trends, global macroeconomic conditions and an analysis of specific exposures. The provision for doubtful accounts is recorded as a charge to general and administrative expense (see Note 2).

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Inventory. Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (which approximates actual cost using the first-in, first-out method) or market. Market value is based upon an estimated average selling price reduced by estimated cost of completion and disposal.

Property, Equipment and Leasehold Improvements. Property, equipment and leasehold improvements are stated at cost. Equipment and buildings are depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Leasehold improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of the estimated life of the asset or the remaining term of the lease. The costs of additions and substantial improvements to property, equipment and leasehold improvements, which extend the economic life of the underlying assets, are capitalized. The cost of maintenance repairs to property, equipment and leasehold improvements is expensed as incurred.

Derivative Financial Instruments. The Company applies the requirements of ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* (previously SFAS No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities* and SFAS No. 149, *Amendment of Statement 133 on Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*). ASC 815 requires that all derivatives be recorded on the balance sheet at fair value and establishes criteria for designation and effectiveness of hedging relationships (see Note 7).

Strategic Investments. The Company enters into certain strategic investments for the promotion of business and strategic objectives. Strategic investments are included in the accompanying balance sheets in Other assets, net, are recorded at cost and are periodically analyzed to determine whether or not there are indicators of impairment. The carrying value of the Company's strategic investments at July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009 totaled \$28 million and \$32 million, respectively.

Revenue Recognition, Sales Returns and Allowances, and Sales Incentive Programs. The Company's revenue recognition policy complies with Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 104, *Revenue Recognition*. Revenue from sales of products, including sales to distribution customers, is generally recognized when title and risk of loss has passed to the buyer, which typically occurs upon shipment from the Company or third party warehouse facilities, persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, including a fixed or determinable price to the buyer, and when collectibility is reasonably assured. Revenue from sales of products to direct retail customers and to customers in certain indirect retail channels is recognized on a sell-through basis.

The Company records estimated product returns at the time of shipment. The Company also estimates reductions to revenue for sales incentive programs, such as price protection, and volume incentives, and records such reductions when revenue is recorded. Marketing development programs are either recorded as a reduction to revenue or as an addition to marketing expense depending on the contractual nature of the program.

Shipping and Handling. The Company includes costs related to shipping and handling in Cost of revenue for all periods presented.

Restructuring Costs. The Company records restructuring activities, including costs for one-time termination benefits, in accordance with ASC 420, *Restructuring* (previously SFAS No. 146, *Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities*). Severance costs accounted for under ASC 420 are recognized when management, having the appropriate authorization, has committed to a restructuring plan and has communicated those actions to employees. Employee termination benefits covered by existing benefit arrangements are recorded in accordance with ASC 712, *Non-retirement Postemployment Benefits* (previously SFAS No. 112, *Employers' Accounting for Postemployment Benefits*). These costs are

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

recognized when management has committed to a restructuring plan and the severance costs are probable and estimable.

Advertising Expense. The cost of advertising is expensed as incurred. Advertising costs were approximately \$23 million, \$48 million and \$55 million in fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Stock-Based Compensation. The Company accounts for stock-based compensation under the fair value recognition provisions of ASC 718, *Compensation-Stock Compensation* (previously SFAS No. 123 (Revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*, (SFAS No. 123(R)). The Company has elected to apply the with-and-without method to assess the realization of excess tax benefits.

Foreign Currency Remeasurement and Translation. The U.S. dollar is the functional currency for substantially all of the Company's foreign operations. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are remeasured into U.S. dollars at the balance sheet date. The gains and losses from the remeasurement of foreign currency denominated balances into U.S. dollars are included in net income (loss) for those operations.

Concentration of Credit Risk. The Company's customer base for disk drive products is concentrated with a small number of OEMs and distributors. The Company does not generally require collateral or other security to support accounts receivable. To reduce credit risk, the Company performs ongoing credit evaluations on its customers' financial condition. The Company establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of customers, historical trends and other information. Hewlett-Packard Company and Dell Inc. each accounted for more than 10 percent of the Company's accounts receivable as of July 2, 2010.

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash equivalents, short-term investments and foreign currency forward exchange contracts. The Company further mitigates concentrations of credit risk in its investments through diversification, by limiting its investments in the debt securities of a single issuer, and investing in highly rated securities.

In entering into foreign currency forward exchange contracts, the Company assumes the risk that might arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The counterparties to these contracts are major multinational commercial banks, and the Company has not incurred and does not expect any losses as a result of counterparty defaults.

Supplier Concentration. Certain of the raw materials, components and equipment used by the Company in the manufacture of its products are available from a sole supplier or a limited number of suppliers. Shortages could occur in these essential materials and components due to an interruption of supply or increased demand in the industry. If the Company were unable to procure certain materials, components or equipment at acceptable prices, it would be required to reduce its manufacturing operations, which could have a material adverse effect on its results of operations. In addition, the Company has made prepayments to certain suppliers. Should these suppliers be unable to deliver on their obligations or experience financial difficulty, the Company may not be able to recover these prepayments.

Newly Adopted and Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2009, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2009-17, *Consolidations Improvements to Financial Reporting by Enterprises with Variable Interest Entities*, and update to ASC 810, *Consolidation*, which amends consolidation analysis guidance for variable interest entities, or VIE's. ASC 810 is effective for annual periods beginning after November 15, 2009. The

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Company is currently evaluating the impact of this update and the pending adoption of ASC 810 on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-16, *Transfers and Servicing Accounting for Transfers of Financial Assets*, an update to ASC 860, which amends de-recognition guidance for transfers of financial assets. ASC 860 is effective for annual periods beginning after November 15, 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this update and the pending adoption of ASC 860 on its consolidated financial statements.

In October 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-14, *Software (ASC Topic 985) Certain Revenue Arrangements That Include Software Elements*, a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force. This guidance modifies the scope of ASC subtopic 985-605, *Software-Revenue Recognition* to exclude from its requirements (a) non-software components of tangible products and (b) software components of tangible products that are sold, licensed, or leased with tangible products when the software components and non-software components of the tangible product function together to deliver the tangible product's essential functionality. This update requires expanded qualitative and quantitative disclosures and is effective for the Company's first quarter of fiscal year 2011. The Company does not expect the adoption to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

In October 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-13, *Revenue Recognition (ASC Topic 605) Multiple-Deliverable Revenue Arrangements*, a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force. This guidance modifies the fair value requirements of ASC subtopic 605-25, *Revenue Recognition-Multiple Element Arrangements* by allowing the use of the "best estimate of selling price" in addition to vendor-specific objective evidence (VSOE) and verifiable objective evidence (VOE) (now referred to as TPE standing for third-party evidence) for determining the selling price of a deliverable. A vendor is now required to use its best estimate of the selling price when VSOE or TPE of the selling price cannot be determined. In addition, the residual method of allocating arrangement consideration is no longer permitted. This update requires expanded qualitative and quantitative disclosures and is effective for the Company's first quarter of fiscal year 2011. The Company does not expect the adoption to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

In January 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-06, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (ASC Topic 820) Improving Disclosures About Fair Value Measurements*. The ASU requires new disclosures about transfers into and out of Levels 1 and 2 and separate disclosures about purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements relating to Level 3 measurements. It also clarifies existing fair value disclosures about the level of disaggregation and about inputs and valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The new disclosures and clarifications of existing disclosures are effective for the Company's third quarter of fiscal year 2010, except for the disclosures about purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements relating to Level 3 measurements, which are effective for the Company's first quarter of fiscal year 2012. Other than requiring additional disclosures, the adoption of this new guidance did not and will not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

2. Balance Sheet Information

Investments

The following is a summary of the fair value of available-for-sale securities at July 2, 2010:

(Dollars in millions)	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	Fair Value
Commercial paper	\$ 1,231	\$	\$ 1,231
Money market funds	833		833
U.S. treasuries and agency bonds	154	1	155
Asset-backed securities	45		45
Corporate bonds	41		41
Certificates of deposit	25		25
Auction rate securities	19	(2)	17
International treasuries	20		20
Municipal bonds	3		3
 Total	 \$ 2,371	 \$ (1)	 \$ 2,370
Included in Cash and cash equivalents			\$ 2,101
Included in Short term investments			252
Included in Other assets, net			17
 Total			 \$ 2,370

At July 2, 2010, with the exception of the Company's auction rate securities, the Company had no marketable securities that had been in a continuous unrealized loss position for a period greater than 12 months and determined no investments were other-than-temporarily impaired (see Note 8).

The fair value of the Company's investment in debt securities at July 2, 2010, by remaining contractual maturity, was as follows:

(Dollars in millions)	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	Fair Value
Due in less than 1 year	\$ 2,265	\$ 1	\$ 2,266
Due in 1 to 3 years	87		87
Thereafter	19	(2)	17
 Total	 \$ 2,371	 \$ (1)	 \$ 2,370

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The following is a summary of the fair value of available-for-sale securities at July 3, 2009:

(Dollars in millions)	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	Fair Value
Money market funds	\$ 914	\$	\$ 914
Commercial paper	348		348
U.S. treasuries and agency bonds	52	1	53
Certificates of deposit	50		50
Auction rate securities	21	(3)	18
Corporate bonds	16		16
Municipal bonds	14		14
Total	\$ 1,415	\$ (2)	\$ 1,413
Included in Cash and cash equivalents			\$ 1,281
Included in Short term investments			114
Included in Other assets, net			18
Total			\$ 1,413

Restricted Cash and Investments

As of July 2, 2010, the Company's restricted cash and investments of \$114 million consisted of \$76 million cash held in trust for payment of its deferred compensation plan liabilities and \$38 million in cash and investment collateral held at banks for various performance obligations. As of July 3, 2009, the Company's restricted cash and investments of \$508 million consisted primarily of \$380 million of proceeds from the issuance of the Company's 10% Senior Secured Second-Priority Notes due May 2014 (the "10% Notes") held in escrow for repayment or repurchase of debt, \$85 million of cash held in trust for payment of its deferred compensation plan liabilities, and \$43 million in cash collateral held at banks for various performance obligations.

Accounts Receivable, net

(Dollars in millions)	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009
Accounts receivable	\$ 1,410	\$ 1,043
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(10)	(10)
	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,033

Activity in the allowance for doubtful accounts is as follows:

(Dollars in millions)	Balance at Beginning of Period	Charges to Operations	Deductions ⁽¹⁾	Balance at End of Period
-----------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------------

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Fiscal year ended June 27, 2008	\$	50	\$	(3)	\$	(41)	\$	6
Fiscal year ended July 3, 2009	\$	6	\$	4	\$		\$	10
Fiscal year ended July 2, 2010	\$	10	\$	1	\$	(1)	\$	10

(1) Uncollectible accounts written off, net of recoveries.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Inventories

(Dollars in millions)	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009
Raw materials and components	\$ 263	\$ 201
Work-in-process	145	120
Finished goods	349	266
	\$ 757	\$ 587

Other Current Assets

(Dollars in millions)	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009
Vendor non-trade receivables	\$ 351	\$ 326
Other	163	202
	\$ 514	\$ 528

Other current assets include non-trade receivables from certain manufacturing vendors resulting from the sale of components to these vendors who manufacture and sell completed sub-assemblies back to the Company. The Company does not reflect the sale of these components in Revenue and does not recognize any profits on these sales. The costs of the completed sub-assemblies are included in inventory upon purchase from the vendors.

Property, Equipment and Leasehold Improvements, net

(Dollars in millions)	Useful Life in Years	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009
Land		\$ 22	\$ 22
Equipment	3 5	5,309	5,034
Building and leasehold improvements	Up to 48	1,164	1,083
Construction in progress		347	128
		6,842	6,267
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization		(4,579)	(4,038)
		\$ 2,263	\$ 2,229

Depreciation expense, which includes amortization of leasehold improvements, was \$745 million, \$862 million and \$750 million for fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. Additionally, depreciation expense in fiscal year 2009 included \$57 million of accelerated depreciation charges related primarily to the closure of the Milpitas and Pittsburgh facilities.

Interest on borrowings related to eligible capital expenditures is capitalized as part of the cost of the qualified assets and amortized over the estimated useful lives of the assets. During fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008, the Company capitalized interest of \$3 million, \$6 million and \$10 million, respectively.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****3. Impairment of Goodwill and Other Long-lived Assets***Goodwill*

The Company tests goodwill for impairment on an annual basis and, if required, at an interim date should events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of goodwill below its carrying value.

During fiscal year 2009, the Company observed a sharp deterioration in the general business environment and in all of its major markets. The Company determined that a significant adverse change in its business climate had occurred, and completed a review of goodwill for impairment.

As a result, the Company recorded impairment charges of \$2.1 billion for the goodwill of the Hard Disk Drive reporting unit, representing 100% of its carrying value, and \$150 million for the goodwill of the Services reporting unit reducing the carrying value to \$31 million. These impairment charges were included in Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries in the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill by reporting units for fiscal years 2010 and 2009 were as follows:

(Dollars in millions)	Hard Disk		Total
	Drive	Services	
Balance at June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 2,199	\$ 183	\$ 2,382
Goodwill adjustments ⁽²⁾	(32)	(2)	(34)
Impairment charges ⁽¹⁾	(2,167)	(150)	(2,317)
Balance at July 3, 2009	\$	\$ 31	\$ 31
Balance at July 2, 2010	\$	\$ 31	\$ 31

(1) As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

(2) Goodwill adjustments during fiscal year 2009 included an aggregate \$25 million reduction in unrecognized tax benefits during the period, which was recorded as a reduction to goodwill.

In accordance with its policy, the Company performed an annual impairment review of the remaining goodwill during its fourth quarter of fiscal year 2010. The Company concluded that goodwill in the amount of \$31 million, which relates entirely to the Company's Services reporting unit, was not impaired at July 2, 2010.

Other Long-lived Assets (Property, equipment, leasehold improvements, and other intangible assets)

The Company tests other long-lived assets, including property, equipment and leasehold improvements and other intangible assets, subject to amortization, for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstance indicate that their carrying value may not be recoverable.

During fiscal year 2010, the Company committed to a plan to sell certain equipment related to certain research activities that have ceased. The Company recorded a charge of \$57 million in order to write down the carrying amount of these assets to estimated fair value less costs to sell. The Company has substantially completed the sale of these assets.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

During fiscal year 2009, the Company determined that the adverse change in the business climate discussed under "Goodwill" above was also an indicator requiring the testing of its other long-lived assets for recoverability. The Company determined that the asset group to be tested for recoverability was at the reporting unit level as it was the lowest level at which cash flows were identifiable. The Company tested the other long-lived assets of both the Hard Disk Drive and Services reporting units for recoverability and concluded that the carrying value of the Hard Disk Drive reporting unit was recoverable while that of the Services reporting unit was not.

The Company recorded impairment charges of \$3 million for the property and equipment and intangible assets of the Services reporting unit during fiscal year 2009. The Company recorded these impairment charges in Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets, net of recoveries in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. No impairment charge was recorded for the intangible assets or property, equipment and leasehold improvements of the Hard Disk Drive reporting unit.

Other intangible assets consist primarily of existing technology, customer relationships and trade names acquired in business combinations. Acquired intangibles are amortized on a straight-line basis over the respective estimated useful lives of the assets. Amortization of the existing technology intangible asset is charged to Cost of revenue while the amortization of the other intangible assets is included in Operating expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. In fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008, amortization expense for other intangible assets was \$35 million, \$69 million and \$94 million, respectively.

The carrying value of intangible assets as of July 2, 2010 is set forth in the following table:

(Dollars in millions, except years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Weighted Average Remaining Useful Life
Existing technology	\$ 181	\$ (177)	\$ 4	0.6
Customer relationships	156	(153)	3	0.9
Trade names	37	(37)		
Patents and licenses	9	(9)		
Total acquired identifiable intangible assets	\$ 383	\$ (376)	\$ 7	1.0

The carrying value of intangible assets as of July 3, 2009 is set forth in the following table:

(Dollars in millions, except years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Weighted Average Remaining Useful Life
Existing technology	\$ 181	\$ (169)	\$ 12	1.5
Customer relationships	156	(134)	22	1.2
Trade names	37	(29)	8	0.9
Patents and licenses	9	(9)		
Total acquired identifiable intangible assets	\$ 383	\$ (341)	\$ 42	1.3

4. Restructuring and Exit Costs

During fiscal year 2010, the Company recorded restructuring and other charges of \$66 million mainly comprised of charges related to its AMK restructuring plan announced in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010 and additional restructuring charges related to its Pittsburgh facility and facilities acquired as a part of the Maxtor Corporation ("Maxtor") acquisition. The Company's significant restructuring plans are

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

described below. All restructuring charges are reported in Restructuring and other, net on the Consolidated Statement of Operations, unless otherwise noted.

2010 Plan. During fiscal year 2010, the Company recorded \$4 million related to employee termination costs for a new plan as a result of the Company's ongoing focus on cost efficiencies in all areas of its business. The Company made cash payments of \$2 million relating to this plan during fiscal year 2010. The 2010 Plan is expected to be completed by the end of the Company's first quarter of fiscal year 2011.

AMK Plan. In August 2009, the Company announced that it will close its AMK facility in Singapore. The Company expects to complete the closure during fiscal year 2011. The hard drive manufacturing operations will be relocated to other existing Seagate facilities and the Company's Asia International Headquarters (IHQ) will remain in Singapore. This closure and relocation is part of the Company's ongoing focus on cost efficiencies in all areas of its business and is intended to facilitate leveraging manufacturing investments across fewer sites. The Company does not expect the closure to meaningfully change production capacity. The Company currently estimates total restructuring charges of approximately \$60 million, all in cash, including approximately \$40 million for post-employment benefits, approximately \$10 million for the relocation of manufacturing equipment, and approximately \$10 million for other plant closure and relocation costs. During fiscal year 2010, the Company accrued total restructuring charges of \$38 million related to post-employment benefits and \$1 million related to other exit costs. The Company made cash payments of \$3 million relating to this plan during fiscal year 2010.

January and May 2009 Plans. From inception of the Company's restructuring plans announced in January and May of 2009 through July 2, 2010, the Company has recorded restructuring charges of approximately \$167 million primarily related to post employment benefits. The Company made cash payments of \$60 million relating to these plans during fiscal year 2010. The January and May 2009 Plans were substantially complete by the end of the Company's third quarter of fiscal year 2010.

Site Closures. The Company announced the closure of its research facility in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and its media manufacturing facility in Milpitas, California in September 2008 and July 2008, respectively. Operations at these facilities had ceased as of the end of the Company's fiscal year 2009. From the inception of these plans through July 2, 2010, the Company has recorded restructuring related charges of approximately \$117 million, including \$18 million of restructuring costs recorded in fiscal year 2010 when the estimated lease obligations were revised based on current market conditions. These closures are currently expected to result in total charges of approximately \$140 million. The Company made cash payments of \$9 million relating to these plans during fiscal year 2010. The remaining balance of \$18 million as of July 2, 2010 is associated with facility lease obligations that are expected to continue through the end of fiscal year 2017.

Maxtor and Other. Through July 2, 2010, the Company recorded certain exit costs aggregating \$269 million related to its acquisition of Maxtor, including \$4 million in fiscal year 2010 relating to adjustments to previously recorded restructuring charges to reflect its revised sub-lease expectations for its Maxtor facilities closure. During fiscal year 2010, the Company made cash payments on these restructuring plans of \$9 million. The remaining balance of \$24 million, as of July 2, 2010, is primarily associated with the exit of certain facilities. Payment of these exit costs are expected to continue through the end of fiscal year 2016.

During fiscal year 2009, the Company recorded restructuring and other charges of \$210 million, comprised mainly of charges related to the May 2009 Plan and January 2009 Plan, both intended to realign its cost structure with the macroeconomic business environment.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

During fiscal year 2008, the Company recorded restructuring charges of \$79 million, comprised mainly of charges related to the planned closures of its Limavady, Northern Ireland and Milpitas, California operations.

The following table summarizes the Company's restructuring activities for fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008.

(Dollars in millions)	Post-Employee Benefits	Operating Leases	Other Exit Costs	Impaired Equipment and Other Intangible Assets	Total
All Restructuring Activities					
Accrual balances at					
June 29, 2007	\$ 10	\$ 28	\$ 4	\$	\$ 42
Restructuring charges	58		18	3	79
Cash payments	(16)	(11)	(4)		(31)
Non-cash charges				(3)	(3)
Accrual balances at					
June 27, 2008	\$ 52	\$ 17	\$ 18	\$	\$ 87
Restructuring charges	176	12	15		203
Cash payments	(164)	(8)	(24)		(196)
Adjustments	(3)	19	(9)		7
Accrual balances at July 3,					
2009	\$ 61	\$ 40	\$	\$	\$ 101
Restructuring charges	42	15	7		64
Cash payments	(62)	(14)	(7)		(83)
Adjustments	(3)	5			2
Accrual balances at July 2,					
2010	\$ 38	\$ 46	\$	\$	\$ 84

Of the accrued restructuring balance of approximately \$84 million at July 2, 2010, \$51 million is included in Accrued expenses and \$33 million is included in Other non-current liabilities on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet. Of the accrued restructuring balance of approximately \$101 million at July 3, 2009, \$72 million is included in Accrued expenses and \$29 million is included in Other non-current liabilities on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet.

5. Debt and Convertible Notes*Long-Term Debt*

\$600 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of 6.375% Senior Notes due October 2011 (the "2011 Notes"). The 2011 Notes bear interest at the rate of 6.375% per year, payable semi-annually on April 1 and October 1 of each year. The obligations under the 2011 Notes are unconditionally guaranteed by certain of the Company's significant subsidiaries. The 2011 Notes are redeemable at the option of the Company in whole or in part, on not less than 30, nor more than 60 days notice, at a "make-whole" premium redemption price. The "make-whole" redemption price will be equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the notes being redeemed, or (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the 2011 Notes being redeemed, discounted at the redemption date on a semi-annual basis at a rate equal to the sum of the applicable Treasury rate plus 50 basis points.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

\$430 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of 10% Senior Secured Second-Priority Notes due May 2014 (the "10% Notes"). On May 1, 2009, the Company's subsidiary, Seagate Technology International, completed the sale of \$430 million aggregate principal amount of the 10% Notes, in a private placement exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The obligations under the 10% Notes are unconditionally guaranteed by the Company and certain of its significant subsidiaries. In addition, the obligations under the 10% Notes are secured by a second-priority lien on substantially all of the Company's tangible and intangible assets. The indenture governing the 10% Notes contains covenants that limit the Company's ability, and the ability of certain of its subsidiaries, (subject to certain exceptions) to: incur additional debt or issue certain preferred shares, create liens, pay dividends, redeem or repurchase debt or shares, and enter into certain transactions with the Company's shareholders or affiliates.

\$600 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of 6.8% Senior Notes due October 2016 (the "2016 Notes"). The 2016 Notes bear interest at the rate of 6.8% per year, payable semi-annually on April 1 and October 1 of each year. The obligations under the 2016 Notes are unconditionally guaranteed by certain of the Company's significant subsidiaries. The 2016 Notes are redeemable at the option of the Company in whole or in part, on not less than 30, nor more than 60 days notice, at a "make-whole" premium redemption price. The "make-whole" redemption price will be equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the notes being redeemed, or (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the 2016 Notes being redeemed, discounted at the redemption date on a semi-annual basis at a rate equal to the sum of the applicable Treasury rate plus 50 basis points.

\$600 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of 6.875% Senior Notes due May 2020 (the "2020 Notes"). On May 13, 2010, the Company's subsidiary, Seagate HDD Cayman, completed the sale of \$600 million aggregate principal amount of the 2020 Notes, in a private placement exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The obligations under the 2020 Notes are fully and unconditionally guaranteed, on a senior unsecured basis, by the Company. The net proceeds from the offering of the 2020 Notes were approximately \$587 million, which will be used to repay, redeem and/or repurchase a portion of the Company's outstanding indebtedness and for general corporate purposes. The 2020 Notes bear interest at the rate of 6.875% per year, payable semi-annually on May 1 and November 1 of each year. The 2020 Notes are redeemable any time after May 1, 2015 at the option of the Company in whole or in part, on not less than 30, nor more than 60 days notice, at a "make-whole" premium redemption price. The "make-whole" redemption price will be equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the notes being redeemed, or (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the 2020 Notes being redeemed, discounted at the redemption date on a semi-annual basis at a rate equal to the sum of the applicable Treasury rate plus 50 basis points.

\$55 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of 5.75% Subordinated Debentures due March 2012 (the "5.75% Debentures"). The 5.75% Debentures require semi-annual interest payments on March 1 and September 1 and annual sinking fund payments of \$5 million or repurchases of \$5 million in principal amount of debentures in lieu of sinking fund payments. On June 25, 2010, the Company gave notice to the holders of its 5.75% Debentures that it will call for redemption the entire \$33 million outstanding aggregate principal amount of the 5.75% Debentures. As a result, the 5.75% Debentures are classified as Current portion of long-term debt on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet at July 2, 2010. Subsequently, the 5.75% Debentures were redeemed for cash on July 27, 2010 at 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

\$300 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of Floating Rate Senior Notes due October 2009 (the "2009 Notes"). The 2009 Notes matured and were repaid on October 1, 2009.

Convertible Notes

On July 4, 2009, the Company implemented a change in accounting in accordance with ASC 470-20, *Debt with Conversion and Other Options* (formerly FSP APB 14-1, *Accounting for Convertible Debt Instruments That May Be Settled in Cash upon Conversion (Including Partial Cash Settlement)*), for its convertible debt instruments on a retrospective basis to separately account for its convertible debt in two parts, (i) a debt component which was recorded upon acquisition at the estimated fair value of a similar debt instrument without the debt-for-equity conversion feature; and (ii) an equity component that was included in paid-in capital and represents the estimated fair value of the conversion feature at issuance. The bifurcation of the debt and equity components resulted in a discounted carrying value of the debt component compared to the principal amount. The discount is accreted to the carrying value of the debt component through interest expense over the expected life of the debt using the effective interest method.

\$135 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of 6.8% Convertible Senior Notes due April 2010 (the "6.8% Notes"). The 6.8% Notes require semi-annual interest payments payable on April 30 and October 30. The 6.8% Notes were originally assumed in the business combination with Maxtor on May 19, 2006 and were recorded as long-term debt at a par value of \$135 million and a substantial premium of \$18 million, which was recorded to Additional paid-in capital. The debt component of the 6.8% Notes at acquisition was determined to be \$135 million, based on the contractual cash flows discounted at 6.8%, which was the estimated rate of a comparable non-convertible debt instrument as of May 19, 2006. As a result, implementation of the new requirements of ASC 470-20 had no effect on the accounting for the 6.8% Notes. On April 30, 2010, the Company repaid the remaining 6.8% Notes for \$77 million at maturity.

\$326 Million Aggregate Principal Amount of 2.375% Convertible Senior Notes due August 2012 (the "2.375% Notes"). The 2.375% Notes require semi-annual interest payments payable on February 15 and August 15. The 2.375% Notes were originally assumed in the business combination with Maxtor on May 19, 2006 and were recorded as Current portion of long-term debt at par value of \$326 million and a substantial premium of \$157 million, which was recorded to Additional paid-in capital. The debt component of the 2.375% Notes at acquisition was determined to be \$252 million, based on the contractual cash flows discounted at 6.9%, which was the estimated rate of a comparable non-convertible debt instrument as of May 19, 2006. As a result of implementing ASC 470-20, \$74 million was recorded as an increase to Additional paid-in capital and a corresponding debt discount as of the date of acquisition. The 2.375% Notes may, subject to certain conditions, be converted into the Company's common shares based on a conversion rate of 60.6968 shares, per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, which represents a conversion price of approximately \$16.48 per share. Effective April 3, 2010, the 2.375% Notes became convertible during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2010 as the Company's shares traded above 110% of the conversion price for at least 20 consecutive trading days of the last 30 trading days of the previous fiscal quarter (the "Share Price Condition"). On June 25, 2010, the Company issued a notice of redemption to the holders of its 2.375% Notes to call the entire \$326 million outstanding aggregate principal amount of the 2.375% Notes (the "2.375% Redemption Notice"). As of July 3, 2010, the Share Price Condition was no longer satisfied and the conversion value did not exceed the principal value on the 2.375% Notes; however, the 2.375% Notes continue to be convertible in accordance with their terms as a result of the 2.375% Redemption Notice. As a result, the 2.375% Notes are classified as Current portion of long-term debt on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet at July 2, 2010. All outstanding 2.375% Notes were redeemed for cash on August 20, 2010 at a redemption price equal to 100.68% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The 2.375% Notes and 5.75% Debentures are included in future principal payments on debt for fiscal year 2011 in the table below. At July 2, 2010, future principal payments on short-term and long-term debt were as follows (in millions):

Fiscal Year	
2011	\$ 359
2012	560
2013	
2014	430
2015	
Thereafter	1,200
	\$ 2,549

The following illustrates the retrospective impact of implementing the provisions of the change in accounting for convertible debt on the previously stated Consolidated Statement of Operations for the fiscal years ended July 3, 2009 and June 27, 2008:

(Dollars in millions)	Retrospective Impact on the Consolidated Statement of Operations					
	Fiscal Year Ended July 3, 2009			Fiscal Year Ended June 27, 2008		
	As Originally Stated	Effect of Change in Accounting	Restated	As Originally Stated	Effect of Change in Accounting	Restated
Impairment of goodwill and long-lived assets	\$ 2,290	\$ 30	\$ 2,320	\$	\$	\$
Interest expense	(134)	(9)	(143)	(126)	(11)	(137)
Net income (loss)	(3,086)	(39)	(3,125)	1,262	(11)	1,251
Net income (loss) per share:						
Basic	\$ (6.32)	\$ (0.08)	\$ (6.40)	\$ 2.46	\$ (0.02)	\$ 2.44
Diluted	(6.32)	(0.08)	(6.40)	2.36	(0.02)	2.34

There was no net impact resulting from this accounting change on the Company's cash flows from operating activities, investing activities or financing activities as reflected in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The following table presents information regarding the equity and liability components of the 2.375% and 6.8% Notes as of July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009:

(Dollars in millions)	As of	
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 Restated
2.375% Notes		
Principal amount	\$ 326	\$ 326
Unamortized discount	(28)	(40)
Liability component	\$ 298	\$ 286
Equity component	\$ 231	\$ 231
6.8% Notes		
Principal amount and liability component	\$	\$ 116
Equity component	\$	\$ 17

The remaining discount on the 2.375% Notes continued to be amortized through the redemption date on August 20, 2010. The effective interest rate, contractual interest expense and amortization of debt discount for the 2.375% Notes for the fiscal years ended July 2, 2010, July 3, 2009 and June 27, 2008 were as follows:

(Dollars in millions, except for percentages)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 Restated	June 27, 2008 Restated
Effective interest rate	6.9%	6.9%	6.9%
Interest expense contractual	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8
Interest expense amortization of debt discount due to change in accounting	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 11

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

6. Income Taxes

The provision for (benefit from) income taxes consisted of the following:

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾
Current tax expense (benefit):			
U.S. Federal	\$ (14)	\$ 2	\$ 8
U.S. State	1	3	10
Non-U.S.	9		26
Total Current	(4)	5	44
Deferred tax expense (benefit):			
U.S. Federal	(37)	291	34
U.S. State	2	4	3
Non-U.S.	(1)	11	(14)
Total Deferred	(36)	306	23
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	\$ (40)	\$ 311	\$ 67

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

Income (loss) before income taxes consisted of the following:

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾
U.S.	\$ 58	\$ (354)	\$ 79
Non-U.S.	1,511	(2,460)	1,239
	\$ 1,569	\$ (2,814)	\$ 1,318

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

All fiscal year 2008 and fiscal year 2009 information in this Note 6 has been retroactively restated for the impacts of ASC 470-20, *Debt with Conversion and Other Options*.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

U.S. federal current tax benefit of \$14 million included the \$11 million benefit from the net operating loss ("NOL") Carryback described below. The Company did not record an excess tax benefit associated with stock option deductions in fiscal year 2010 or 2009. For fiscal year 2008, there were \$6 million of excess tax benefits recorded to Additional paid-in capital associated with stock option deductions.

The U.S. federal and state net deferred tax benefit recorded in fiscal year 2010 of \$35 million includes \$55 million of deferred tax benefit from the reversal of a portion of the U.S. valuation allowance recorded in fiscal year 2009. The valuation allowance reversal recorded in fiscal year 2010 resulted from revisions to the Company's forecasts of U.S. taxable income. The U.S. federal and state deferred tax expense in fiscal year 2009 of \$295 million resulted primarily from recording additional valuation allowance for U.S. federal and state deferred tax assets.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. The significant components of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities were as follows:

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended	
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾
Deferred tax assets		
Accrued warranty	\$ 137	\$ 162
Inventory valuation accounts	54	44
Receivable reserves	16	16
Accrued compensation and benefits	147	132
Depreciation	145	140
Restructuring accruals	15	17
Other accruals and deferred items	51	67
Net operating losses and tax credit carry-forwards	1,085	1,151
Other assets	12	12
Total Deferred tax assets	1,662	1,741
Valuation allowance	(1,164)	(1,297)
Net Deferred tax assets	498	444
Deferred tax liabilities		
Unremitted earnings of certain non-U.S. entities	(3)	(1)
Acquired intangible assets	(3)	(11)
Debt discount	(10)	(16)
Depreciation	(9)	
Total Deferred tax liabilities	(25)	(28)
Net Deferred tax assets	473	416
Deferred taxes on inter-company transactions	32	53
Total Deferred tax assets	\$ 505	\$ 469
As Reported on the Balance Sheet		
Current assets - Deferred income taxes	\$ 118	\$ 97
Non-current assets - Deferred income taxes	395	372
Other current liabilities	(8)	
Total Deferred income taxes	\$ 505	\$ 469

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

At the beginning of fiscal year 2010, the Company established deferred tax liabilities associated with accounting changes relating to convertible debt pursuant to ASC 470-20 (see Note 5). Fiscal year 2009 amounts in the table above for deferred tax liabilities, valuation allowance, current assets and non-current assets were restated to reflect the retrospective impact of the ASC 470-20 accounting change.

At July 2, 2010, the deferred tax asset valuation allowance was approximately \$1.2 billion reflecting a decrease of approximately \$133 million in fiscal year 2010. The decrease in valuation allowance includes a \$55 million reversal of a portion of the U.S. valuation allowance recorded in fiscal year 2009 associated

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

with revisions by the Company to forecasts of U.S. taxable income and a decrease associated with the utilization of tax net operating loss carry forwards in fiscal year 2010. At July 3, 2009, the deferred tax asset valuation allowance was approximately \$1.3 billion reflecting an increase of approximately \$864 million in fiscal year 2009. The increase in valuation allowance resulted primarily from the liquidation of the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, Maxtor, effective June 1, 2009 and represented the net effects of the extinguishment of all deferred tax assets related to historical carryover tax attributes of Maxtor and the increase in deferred tax assets related to tax net operating losses incurred in connection with the liquidation transaction. The net increase in the valuation allowance in fiscal year 2008 was \$34 million.

At July 2, 2010, the Company had \$505 million of net deferred tax assets. The realization of \$473 million of these deferred tax assets is primarily dependent on the Company's ability to generate sufficient U.S. and certain non-U.S. taxable income in future periods. Although realization is not assured, the Company's management believes that it is more likely than not that these deferred tax assets will be realized. The amount of deferred tax assets considered realizable, however, may increase or decrease in subsequent periods when the Company reevaluates the underlying basis for its estimates of future U.S. and certain non-U.S. taxable income.

At July 2, 2010, the Company had U.S. federal, state and non-U.S. tax net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$2.7 billion, \$1.9 billion and \$589 million, respectively, which will expire at various dates beginning in fiscal year 2011, if not utilized. At July 2, 2010, the Company had U.S. federal and state tax credit carryforwards of \$256 million and \$69 million, respectively, which will expire at various dates beginning in fiscal year 2011, if not utilized. Certain of these tax net operating losses and tax credit carryforwards have not been audited by the relevant tax authorities and could be subject to adjustment on examination. Of the \$2.7 billion of loss carryovers noted above, approximately \$753 million will be credited to Additional paid-in capital upon recognition.

Approximately \$461 million and \$93 million of the Company's U.S. NOL and tax credit carryforwards, respectively, are subject to an annual limitation of \$44.8 million pursuant to U.S. tax law.

During the fiscal year ended July 2, 2010, an enacted legislative change in U.S. tax law was taken into account in computing the Company's income tax provision. The Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009 was enacted on November 6, 2009. This law allowed the Company to elect an increased carryback period for net operating losses incurred in 2008 or 2009 from two years to three, four, or five years at the Company's option. The Company recorded an \$11 million income tax benefit as result of the increased carryback period.

In connection with the Company's previously announced plans to move its corporate headquarters to Ireland, the Company initiated certain pre-reorganization steps which resulted in its existing Cayman parent holding company becoming an Irish tax resident in fiscal year 2010. As a result of the Company becoming an Irish tax resident in fiscal year 2010, the Irish statutory rate of 25% is used in fiscal year 2010

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

for purposes of the reconciliation between the provision for income taxes at the statutory rate and the effective tax rate. For fiscal years 2009 and 2008, a notional 35% statutory rate is used.

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009 ⁽¹⁾	June 27, 2008 ⁽¹⁾
Provision (benefit) at statutory rate	\$ 392	\$ (985)	\$ 461
Net U.S. state income tax provision	3	6	12
Permanent differences	2	9	10
Non-deductible goodwill impairments		813	
Valuation allowance	(77)	310	(37)
Non-U.S. losses with no tax benefits	31	263	46
Non-U.S. earnings taxed at less than statutory rate	(393)	(138)	(452)
Tax expense related to intercompany transactions	26	27	24
Other individually immaterial items	(24)	6	3
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	\$ (40)	\$ 311	\$ 67

(1)

As adjusted due to a required change in the accounting for convertible debt instruments implemented in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010, applied on a retrospective basis.

A substantial portion of the Company's operations in China, Malaysia, Singapore, Switzerland and Thailand operate under various tax holidays and tax incentive programs, which expire in whole or in part at various dates through 2020. Certain of the tax holidays may be extended if specific conditions are met. The net impact of these tax holidays and tax incentive programs was to increase the Company's net income by approximately \$307 million in fiscal year 2010 (\$0.60 per share, diluted), to decrease the Company's net loss by approximately \$79 million in fiscal year 2009 (\$0.16 per share, diluted), and to increase the Company's net income by \$214 million in fiscal year 2008 (\$0.40 per share, diluted).

Since establishing Irish tax residency in fiscal year 2010 as a result of the implementation of certain pre-reorganization steps in connection with the Company's previously announced plan to move its corporate headquarters to Ireland, the Company consists of an Irish tax resident parent holding company with various U.S. and non-U.S. subsidiaries that operate in multiple non-Irish taxing jurisdictions. The amount of temporary differences (including undistributed earnings) related to outside basis differences in the stock of non-Irish resident subsidiaries considered indefinitely reinvested outside of Ireland for which Irish income taxes have not been provided was approximately \$2.7 billion. The determination of the amount of Irish tax that would accrue if such amount was remitted into Ireland is not practicable.

Effective at the beginning of fiscal year 2008, the Company adopted the authoritative guidance on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. This guidance contains a two-step approach to recognizing and measuring uncertain tax positions. The first step is to evaluate the tax position for recognition by determining if the weight of available evidence indicates that it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on audit, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes. The second step is to measure the tax benefit as the largest amount that is more than 50% likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement.

As a result of the implementation of the guidance, the Company increased its liability for net unrecognized tax benefits at the date of adoption. The Company accounted for the increase primarily as a cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle that resulted in a decrease to retained earnings of

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

\$3 million and an increase to goodwill of \$25 million. The total amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits as of the date of adoption was \$385 million excluding interest and penalties.

As of July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009, the Company had approximately \$115 million and \$118 million, respectively, in unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties. The amount of unrecognized tax benefits, if recognized, that would impact the effective tax rate were \$115 million and \$118 million as of July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009, respectively, subject to certain future valuation allowance reversal.

The following table summarizes the activity related to the Company's gross unrecognized tax benefits:

(Dollars in millions)	Fiscal Years Ended		
	July 2, 2010	July 3, 2009	July 3, 2008
Balance of unrecognized tax benefits at the beginning of the year	\$ 118	\$ 374	\$ 385
Gross increase for tax positions of prior years	2	49	3
Gross decrease for tax positions of prior years	(5)	(287)	(13)
Gross increase for tax positions of current year	6	13	12
Gross decrease for tax positions of current year			(3)
Settlements	(4)		(1)
Lapse of statutes of limitation	(3)	(23)	(9)
Non-U.S. exchange (gain)/loss	1	(8)	
Balance of unrecognized tax benefits at the end of the year	\$ 115	\$ 118	\$ 374

It is the Company's policy to include interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in the provision for taxes on the Consolidated Statements of Operations. During fiscal year 2010, the Company recognized a net benefit for interest and penalties of \$1 million as compared to a net benefit of \$6 million during fiscal year 2009 and an expense of \$3 million during fiscal year 2008. As of July 2, 2010, the Company had \$15 million of accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as compared to \$16 million as of July 3, 2009.

During the fiscal year ended July 2, 2010, the Company's unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties decreased by approximately \$3 million primarily due to (i) reductions associated with the expiration of certain statutes of limitation of \$3 million, (ii) reductions associated with effectively settled positions of \$4 million, (iii) a reduction of \$5 million associated with interpretation of tax law as a result of the final 9th Circuit Court of Appeals' decision relating to stock based compensation deductions, (iv) increases in current year unrecognized tax benefits of \$6 million, and (v) increases from other activity, including non-U.S. exchange losses, of \$3 million.

During the 12 months beginning July 3, 2010, the Company expects to reduce its unrecognized tax benefits by approximately \$5 million as a result of the expiration of certain statutes of limitation. The Company does not believe it is reasonably possible that other unrecognized tax benefits will materially change in the next 12 months. However, the resolution and/or timing of closure on open audits are highly uncertain as to when these events occur.

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

The Company files U.S. federal, U.S. state, and non-U.S. tax returns. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is currently examining fiscal years 2005 through 2007. For state and non-U.S. tax returns, the Company is generally no longer subject to tax examinations for years prior to fiscal year 2001. The statute of limitation for U.S. Federal returns is open for fiscal year 2005 and forward.

7. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company is exposed to foreign currency exchange rate, interest rate, and to a lesser extent, equity price risks relating to its ongoing business operations. The Company enters into foreign currency forward exchange contracts in order to manage the foreign currency exchange rate risk on forecasted expenses denominated in foreign currencies and to mitigate the remeasurement risk of certain foreign currency denominated liabilities. The Company's accounting policies for these instruments are based on whether the instruments are designated as hedge or non-hedge instruments. The Company records all derivatives on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value. The effective portions of cash flow hedges are recorded in other comprehensive income until the hedged item is recognized in earnings. Derivatives that are not designated as hedging instruments and the ineffective portions of cash flow hedges are adjusted to fair value through earnings.

The Company's unrealized net gains (losses) on cash flow hedges are included as a component of Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) at July 2, 2010 and July 3, 2009 and were not material.

The Company dedesignates its cash flow hedges when the forecasted hedged transactions are realized or it is probable the forecasted hedged transaction will not occur in the initially identified time period. At such time, the associated gains and losses deferred in Other comprehensive income (loss) (OCI) are reclassified into earnings in the same period that the underlying hedged transaction is included in earnings. Any subsequent changes in the fair value of such derivative instruments are immediately reflected in earnings. As of July 2, 2010, the Company's existing foreign currency forward exchange contracts are expected to mature within 12 months. The deferred amount currently recorded in Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) expected to be recognized into earnings over the next 12 months is \$4 million.

As of July 2, 2010, the total notional value of the Company's outstanding foreign currency forward exchange contracts was:

(Dollars in millions)	Contracts Qualifying as Hedges		Contracts Not Qualifying as Hedges	
	Under ASC 815		Under ASC 815	
Thai baht	\$	406	\$	163
Singapore dollars		84		8
Yen		1		
Czech koruna				10
	\$	491	\$	181

The Company is subject to equity market risks due to changes in the fair value of the notional investments selected by its employees as part of its Non-qualified Deferred Compensation Plan the Seagate Deferred Compensation Plan (the "SDCP"). In the quarter ended July 3, 2009, the Company entered into a Total Return Swap (TRS) in order to manage the equity market risks associated with the SDCP liabilities. The Company pays a floating rate, based on LIBOR plus an interest rate spread, on the notional amount of the TRS. The TRS is designed to substantially offset changes in the SDCP liability due to changes in the value of the investment options made by employees. As of July 2, 2010, the notional investments underlying the TRS amounted to \$68 million. The contract term of the TRS is approximately one year and is settled on a monthly basis, therefore limiting counterparty performance risk. The terms of

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

the TRS required the Company to pledge initial collateral of \$18 million to the counterparty for the term of the contract. Additional collateral may be posted contingent on the counterparty's exposure to the market value of the TRS. The cash pledged is recorded as restricted cash. The Company did not designate the TRS as a hedge. Rather, the Company records all changes in the fair value of the TRS to earnings to offset the market value changes of the SDCP liabilities.

The following table shows the Company's derivative instruments measured at gross fair value as reflected in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of July 2, 2010:

Fair Values of Derivative Instruments

(Dollars in millions)	Asset Derivatives		Liability Derivatives	
	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815:				
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts	Other current assets	\$ 5	Accrued expenses	\$
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815:				
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts	Other current assets	\$ 2	Accrued expenses	\$
Total return swap	Other current assets		Accrued expenses	(1)
Total derivatives		\$ 7		\$ (1)

The following tables show the effect of the Company's derivative instruments on Other comprehensive income (loss) (OCI) and the Consolidated Statement of Operations for the fiscal year ended July 2, 2010:

(Dollars in millions)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in OCI on Derivative (Effective Portion)	Location of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing) ^(a)
Derivatives Designated as Cash Flow Hedges under ASC 815					
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts	\$ 14	Cost of revenue	\$ 10	Cost of revenue	\$ 1

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments under Statement ASC 815	Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts	Other, net	\$ 14

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Total return swap	Operating expenses	9
		\$ 23

(a) The amount of gain or (loss) recognized in income represents \$0 related to the ineffective portion of the hedging relationships and \$1 million related to the amount excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness, for the fiscal year ended July 2, 2010, respectively.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

As of July 3, 2009, the total notional value of the Company's outstanding foreign currency forward exchange contracts was:

(Dollars in millions)	Contracts Qualifying as Hedges Under ASC 815		Contracts Not Qualifying as Hedges Under ASC 815	
Thai baht	\$	104	\$	64
Singapore dollars		24		3
Czech koruna				8
	\$	128	\$	75

The following table shows the Company's derivative instruments measured at gross fair value as reflected in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of July 3, 2009:

Fair Values of Derivative Instruments

(Dollars in millions)	Asset Derivatives Balance Sheet Location		Fair Value	Liability Derivatives Balance Sheet Location		Fair Value
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815:						
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts	Other current assets		\$ 1	Accrued expenses		\$
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815:						
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts	Other current assets		\$	Accrued expenses		\$
Total return swap	Other current assets			Accrued expenses		(1)
Total derivatives			\$ 1			\$ (1)

Table of Contents

SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

The following tables show the effect of the Company's derivative instruments on OCI and the Consolidated Statement of Operations for the fiscal year ended July 3, 2009:

(Dollars in millions)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in OCI on Derivative (Effective Portion)	Location of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in
					Income (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing) ^(a)
Derivatives Designated as Cash Flow Hedges under ASC 815					
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts	\$ (24)	Cost of revenue	\$ (36)	Cost of revenue	\$ (1)
Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments under ASC 815					
Foreign currency forward exchange contracts		Other, net		\$ (18)	
Total return swap		Operating expenses			(1)
				\$	(19)

(a) The amount of gain or (loss) recognized in income represents \$0 related to the ineffective portion of the hedging relationships and \$(1) million related to the amount excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness, for the fiscal year ended July 3, 2009, respectively.

8. Fair Value*Measurement of Fair Value*

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities required to be recorded at fair value, the Company considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact and it considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability.

Fair Value Hierarchy

A fair value hierarchy is based on whether the market participant assumptions used in determining fair value are obtained from independent sources (observable inputs) or reflects the Company's own assumptions of market participant valuation (unobservable inputs). A financial instrument's categorization within the fair value hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets that are unadjusted and accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities;

Edgar Filing: Seagate Technology plc - Form 10-K

Level 2 Quoted prices for identical assets and liabilities in markets that are inactive; quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets or financial instruments for which significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly; or

Level 3 Prices or valuations that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

Table of Contents**SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Company considers an active market to be one in which transactions for the asset or liability occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis, and views an inactive market as one in which there are few transactions for the asset or liability, the prices are not current, or price quotations vary substantially either over time or among market makers. Where appropriate the Company's or the counterparty's non-performance risk is considered in determining the fair values of liabilities and assets, respectively.

Items Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

The following table presents the Company's assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis, excluding accrued interest components, as of July 2, 2010:

(Dollars in millions)	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			Total Balance
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Instruments (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
Assets:				
Money market funds	\$ 833	\$	\$	\$ 833
Commercial paper		1,231		1,231
U.S. treasuries and agency bonds		155		155
Certificates of deposit		25		25
Asset-backed securities		45		45
Corporate bonds		41		41
International treasuries		20		20
Municipal bonds		3		3
Total Cash Equivalents and Marketable Securities	833	1,520		2,353
Restricted Cash and Investments:				
Money market funds	76			76
Certificates of deposit		5		5
Auction rate securities			17	17
Derivative assets		7		7