APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA INC /MN
Form 10-Q
November 12, 2009
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

x **Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the quarterly period ended October 3, 2009

or

o **Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Commission File No. 0-19621

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Minnesota	**41-1454591**
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

7400 Excelsior Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota	**55426-4517**
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

952-930-9000

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. x Yes o No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such file). o Yes o No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of large accelerated filer , accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

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

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

As of November 9, 2009, there were 4,577,777 outstanding shares of the registrant s Common Stock, without par value.

Table of Contents

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

INDEX TO FORM 10-Q

		Page
PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION		
Item 1.	Financial Statements	3
	Consolidated Balance Sheets as of October 3, 2009 (unaudited) and January 3, 2009	3
	Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008	4
	Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Nine Months Ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008	5
	Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements	6
Item 2.	Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	16
Item 3.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	24
Item 4.	Controls and Procedures	25
PART II. OTHER INFORMATION		
Item 1.	Legal Proceedings	26
Item 2.	Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	26
Item 3.	Defaults Upon Senior Securities	26
Item 4.	Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders	26
Item 5.	Other Information	26
Item 6.	Exhibits	27
SIGNATURES		28

Table of Contents

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(In Thousands)

	October 3, 2009 (unaudited)	January 3, 2009
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 2,707	$ 3,498
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of $39 and $292, respectively	5,589	6,056
Inventories, net of reserves of $360 and $115, respectively	17,979	18,834
Other current assets	687	950
Deferred income taxes	448	448
Total current assets	27,410	29,786
Property and equipment, net	4,321	6,967
Deferred income taxes	199	177
Restricted cash	700	
Other assets	753	485
Total assets	$ 33,383	$ 37,415
Liabilities and Shareholders Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	$ 4,933	$ 4,473
Checks issued in excess of bank balance	516	
Accrued expenses	4,602	4,073
Line of credit	11,539	14,527
Current maturities of long-term obligations	532	579
Income taxes payable	149	362
Total current liabilities	22,271	24,014
Long-term obligations, less current maturities	2,067	4,892
Deferred gain, net of current portion	1,953	
Deferred income tax liabilities	529	520
Total liabilities	26,820	29,426
Commitments and contingencies		
Shareholders equity:		
Common Stock, no par value; 10,000 shares authorized; issued and outstanding: 4,578 shares	16,666	16,221
Accumulated deficit	(9,886)	(7,929)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(217)	(303)

Total shareholders equity		6,563		7,989
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	$	33,383	$	37,415

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 3, 2009	**September 27, 2008**	**October 3, 2009**	**September 27, 2008**
Revenues:				
Retail	$ 17,962	$ 18,724	$ 58,229	$ 58,558
Recycling	7,006	8,759	16,942	21,991
Byproduct	1,037	1,931	2,384	4,229
Total revenues	26,005	29,414	77,555	84,778
Cost of revenues	17,512	19,252	55,148	56,909
Gross profit	8,493	10,162	22,407	27,869
Selling, general and administrative expenses	7,638	8,017	23,378	23,577
Operating income (loss)	855	2,145	(971)	4,292
Other income (expense):				
Interest expense, net	(325)	(316)	(900)	(1,040)
Other expense, net	36	8	(35)	8
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes	566	1,837	(1,906)	3,260
Provision for income taxes	150	560	51	736
Income (loss) from continuing operations	416	1,277	(1,957)	2,524
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax		(136)		(429)
Net income (loss)	$ 416	$ 1,141	$ (1,957)	$ 2,095
Basic income (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	$ 0.09	$ 0.28	$ (0.43)	$ 0.55
Discontinued operations		(0.03)		(0.09)
Net income (loss)	$ 0.09	$ 0.25	$ (0.43)	$ 0.46
Diluted income (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	$ 0.09	$ 0.28	$ (0.43)	$ 0.54
Discontinued operations		(0.03)		(0.09)
Net income (loss)	$ 0.09	$ 0.25	$ (0.43)	$ 0.45
Weighted average number of shares outstanding:				
Basic	4,578	4,578	4,578	4,568
Diluted	4,578	4,608	4,578	4,622

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(In Thousands)

	Nine Months Ended	
	October 3, 2009	September 27, 2008
Operating activities		
Net income (loss)	$ (1,957)	$ 2,095
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash and cash equivalents provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	985	816
Provision for bad debts	69	263
Share-based compensation	445	419
Loss on disposal of assets	56	
Write-off of deferred financing fees	24	
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	398	719
Inventories	900	(2,743)
Other current assets	263	(167)
Other assets	(29)	(21)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	501	(520)
Income taxes payable	(194)	242
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	1,461	1,103
Investing activities		
Increase in restricted cash	(700)	
Purchases of property and equipment	(421)	(508)
Proceeds from sale of building and other equipment	4,638	
Investment in joint venture	(263)	
Net cash flows provided by (used in) investing activities	3,254	(508)
Financing activities		
Checks issued in excess of cash in bank	516	299
Net payments under line of credit	(2,988)	(224)
Payments on long-term obligations	(3,086)	(345)
Proceeds from stock option exercises		217
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation		160
Net cash flows (used in) provided by financing activities	(5,558)	107
Effect of changes in exchange rate on cash and cash equivalents	52	(47)
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(791)	655
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	3,498	2,777
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	$ 2,707	$ 3,432
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information		
Cash payments for interest	$ 902	$ 1,042
Cash payments for income taxes, net	$ 384	$ 334
Non-cash investing and financing activities		
Equipment and displays acquired under capital lease	$ 220	$ 252

Deferred gain on sale-leaseback of building	$	2,441	$

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)

1. Nature of Business and Basis of Presentation

Appliance Recycling Centers of America, Inc. and Subsidiaries (we, the Company or ARCA) are in the business of selling new major household appliances through a chain of Company-owned factory outlet stores under the name ApplianceSmart®. We also provide turnkey appliance recycling and replacement services for electric utilities and other sponsors of energy efficiency programs.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and Article 8 of Regulation S-X promulgated by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, normal and recurring adjustments and accruals considered necessary for a fair presentation for the periods indicated have been included. Operating results for the three-month and nine-month periods ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008 are presented using 13-week and 39-week periods, respectively. The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results for the year.

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company s audited consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto for the year ended January 3, 2009 included in the Company s Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 20, 2009.

Principles of consolidation: The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Appliance Recycling Centers of America, Inc. and our subsidiaries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

ARCA Canada Inc., a Canadian corporation, is a wholly-owned subsidiary. ARCA Canada was formed in September 2006 to provide turnkey recycling services for electric utility energy efficiency programs. The operating results of ARCA Canada are consolidated in our financial statements.

We were a sixty percent owner in North America Appliance Company, LLC (NAACO). NAACO was formed and commenced operations in June 2003 and was a retailer of special-buy appliances in Texas. The operating results of NAACO are consolidated in our financial statements.

We were a sixty percent owner in Productos Duraderos de Norte America (PDN), a Mexican corporation. PDN was acquired in September 2006 and refurbished room air conditioners for sale through our NAACO operation in McAllen, Texas, and through our ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet stores. The operating results of PDN are consolidated in our financial statements.

Discontinued operations: During the fourth quarter of 2008, we planned and executed the shutdown of our NAACO and PDN businesses. NAACO and PDN were not operating as planned and were no longer economically viable.

Reclassifications: Certain prior year items have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation. We reclassified the results of our discontinued operations below income (loss) from continuing operations in the consolidated statements of operations. In Note 12 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, we reclassified certain assets, revenue and operating income items between our retail, recycling and unallocated corporate segments.

2. **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

Accounting Standards Codification and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

On October 3, 2009, we adopted new accounting guidance related to accounting standards codification and the hierarchy of generally accepted accounting principles. The new guidance will become the source of authoritative non-SEC authoritative GAAP. The guidance establishes a two-level GAAP hierarchy for nongovernmental entities:

Table of Contents

authoritative guidance and nonauthoritative guidance. Authoritative guidance consists of the Codification and, for SEC registrants, rules and interpretative releases of the Commission. Nonauthoritative guidance consists of non-SEC accounting literature that is not included in the Codification and has not been grandfathered. The new guidance, including the Codification, is effective for financial statements of interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009. As the Codification was not intended to change or alter existing GAAP it did not have any impact on our consolidated financial statements.

Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities

On January 3, 2010, we plan to adopt new accounting guidance related to consolidation of variable interest entities. The new guidance addresses the effects of eliminating the qualified special purpose entity concept and responds to concerns about the application of accounting guidance related to the consolidation of variable interest entities, including concerns over the transparency of enterprises involvement with Variable Interest Entities. The new guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2009. We do not expect the new guidance to have a material impact on the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

Accounting for Transfers of Financial Assets

On January 3, 2010, we plan to adopt new accounting guidance related to accounting for transfers of financial assets. The new guidance eliminates the concept of a qualified special-purpose entity, changes the requirements for derecognizing financial assets and requires additional disclosures in order to enhance information reported to users of financial statements by providing greater transparency about transfers of financial assets, including securitization transactions, and an entity s continuing involvement in and exposure to the risks related to transferred financial assets. The new guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2009. We do not expect the new guidance to have a material impact on the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

Subsequent Events

On July 4, 2009, we adopted new guidance related to subsequent events. The new guidance requires all public entities to evaluate subsequent events through the date that the financial statements are available to be issued and disclose in the notes the date through which the Company has evaluated subsequent events and whether the financial statements were issued or were available to be issued on the disclosed date. The new guidance defines two types of subsequent events, as follows: the first type consists of events or transactions that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the date of the balance sheet and the second type consists of events that provide evidence about conditions that did not exist at the date of the balance sheet but arose after that date. The new guidance is effective for interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2009 and must be applied prospectively. The adoption of the new guidance did not have a material effect on our results of operations or financial position.

Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

On January 4, 2009, we adopted new accounting guidance related to disclosures about derivative instruments and hedging activities. The new guidance is intended to improve financial reporting about derivative instruments and hedging activities by requiring enhanced disclosures to enable investors to better understand their effects on an entity s financial position, financial performance and cash flows. The new guidance also improves transparency about the location and amounts of derivative instruments in an entity s financial statements; how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for; and how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect its financial position, financial performance and cash flows. The new guidance is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008, with early application encouraged. The adoption of the new guidance did not have a material effect on our results of operations or financial position.

Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements

On January 4, 2009, we adopted new accounting guidance related to noncontrolling interests on consolidated financial statements. The new guidance establishes accounting and reporting standards for noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries and for the deconsolidation of subsidiaries and clarifies that a noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary is an ownership interest in the consolidated entity that should be reported as equity in the consolidated financial statements. The new guidance also requires expanded disclosures that clearly identify and distinguish between the interests of the parent owners and the interests of the noncontrolling owners of a subsidiary. The new guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of the new guidance did not have a material effect on our results of operations or financial position.

Table of Contents

Business Combinations

On January 4, 2009, we adopted new accounting guidance related to business combinations. The new accounting guidance establishes the principles and requirements for how an acquirer in a business combination: recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any noncontrolling interests in the acquiree; recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or the gain from a bargain purchase; and determines what information should be disclosed in the financial statements to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. The new guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of the new guidance did not have a material effect on our results of operations or financial position.

3. Significant Accounting Policies

Trade receivables: We carry unsecured trade receivables at the original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful accounts based on a monthly review of all outstanding amounts. Management determines the allowance for doubtful accounts by regularly evaluating individual customer receivables and considering a customer s financial condition, credit history and current economic conditions. We write off trade receivables when we deem them uncollectible. We record recoveries of trade receivables previously written off when we receive them. We consider a trade receivable to be past due if any portion of the receivable balance is outstanding for more than ninety days. We do not charge interest on past due receivables. Our management considers the allowance for doubtful accounts of $39 and $292 to be adequate to cover any exposure to loss as of October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009, respectively.

Inventories: Inventories, consisting principally of appliances, are stated at the lower of cost, determined on a specific identification basis, or market and consist of:

	October 3, 2009	January 3, 2009
Finished goods	$ 18,339	$ 18,949
Less provision for inventory obsolescence	(360)	(115)
	$ 17,979	$ 18,834

We provide estimated provisions for the obsolescence of our appliance inventories, including adjustments to market, based on various factors, including the age of such inventory and our management s assessment of the need for such provisions. We look at historical inventory agings and margin analysis in determining our provision estimate.

Property and equipment: Property and equipment consists of the following:

	October 3, 2009	January 3, 2009
Land	$ 1,140	$ 2,050

Buildings and improvements		3,007		5,249
Equipment (including computer software)		9,008		9,161
		13,155		16,460
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization		(8,834)		(9,493)
	$	4,321	$	6,967

In September 2009, we wrote-off $528 of fully depreciated assets that were no longer in use. In September 2009, we also reduced land, building and improvements and accumulated depreciation by $910, $2,317 and $1,036, respectively, as a result of the sale-leaseback transaction described in Note 4 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Software development costs: We capitalize software developed for internal use and are amortizing such costs over their estimated useful lives of three to five years. Costs capitalized were $171 and $184 for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, respectively.

Impairment of long-lived assets: We evaluate long-lived assets such as property and equipment for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. We assess impairment based on the estimated future net undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use of the assets,

Table of Contents

including cash flows from disposition. Should the sum of the expected future net cash flows be less than the carrying value, we recognize an impairment loss at that time. We measure an impairment loss by comparing the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the fair value (estimated discounted future cash flows or appraisal of assets) of the long-lived assets. We recognized no impairment charges during the three and nine months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, respectively.

Restricted cash: Restricted cash consists of a reserve account required by our bankcard processor to cover charge backs, adjustments, fees and other charges that may be due from us.

Deferred financing fees: Deferred financing fees are presented in the consolidated balance sheets as a component of other assets and are reported net of accumulated amortization. We record amortization expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the underlying debt. Deferred financing fees, net of accumulated amortization, were $5 and $38 as of October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009, respectively. In September 2009, we wrote off $24 as a result of the sale-leaseback transaction described in Note 4 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Product warranty: We provide a warranty for the replacement or repair of certain defective units, which varies based on the product sold. Our standard warranty policy requires us to repair or replace certain defective units at no cost to our customers. We estimate the costs that may be incurred under our warranty and record an accrual in the amount of such costs at the time we recognize product revenue. Factors that affect our warranty accrual for covered units include the number of units sold, historical and anticipated rates of warranty claims on these units, and the cost of such claims. We periodically assess the adequacy of our recorded warranty accrual and adjust the amounts as necessary.

Changes in our warranty accrual are as follows:

	Three Months Ended		**Nine Months Ended**	
	October 3, 2009	**September 27, 2008**	**October 3, 2009**	**September 27, 2008**
Beginning Balance	$ 82	$ 87	$ 91	$ 80
Standard accrual based on units sold	19	19	60	64
Actual costs incurred	(4)	(1)	(12)	(3)
Periodic accrual adjustments (change in estimate)	(23)	(14)	(65)	(50)
Ending Balance	$ 74	$ 91	$ 74	$ 91

Share-based compensation: We account for share-based compensation using the modified prospective method. Under this method, we recognize compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the vesting period for all share-based awards granted. We use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the fair value of awards at the grant date. We calculate the expected volatility for stock option awards using historical volatility. We estimate a 0%-5% forfeiture rate for stock options issued to all employees and Board of Directors members, but will continue to review these estimates in future periods. The risk-free rates for the expected terms of the stock options are based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of the grant. The expected life represents the period that the stock option awards are expected to be outstanding. The expected dividend yield is zero as we have not paid or declared any cash dividends on our Common Stock. Based on these valuations, we recognized share-based compensation expense of $162 and $181 for the three months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, respectively. For the nine months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, we recognized share-based compensation expense of $445 and $419, respectively. We estimate that the remaining expense for fiscal 2009 and beyond will be approximately $142 and $122, respectively, based on the value of options outstanding as of October 3, 2009. This estimate does not include any expense for additional options

that may be granted after October 3, 2009.

Comprehensive income (loss): Other comprehensive income (loss) refers to revenues, expenses, gains and losses that under GAAP are included in comprehensive income (loss) but are excluded from net income (loss) as these amounts are recorded directly as an adjustment to shareholders equity. Our other comprehensive income (loss) is comprised of foreign currency translation adjustments. The effect of foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax, was income of $112 and not material for the three months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, respectively. The effect of foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax, was income of $86 and a loss of $47 for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, respectively.

Table of Contents

Basic and diluted income (loss) per share: Basic income (loss) per share is computed based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted income (loss) per share is computed based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding adjusted by the number of additional shares that would have been outstanding had the potentially dilutive common shares been issued. Potentially dilutive shares of Common Stock include unexercised stock options. Diluted per share amounts assume the conversion, exercise or issuance of all potential Common Stock instruments unless their effect is anti-dilutive, thereby reducing the loss or increasing the income per common share. In calculating diluted weighted average shares and per share amounts, we included stock options with exercise prices below average market prices, for the respective reporting periods in which they were dilutive, using the treasury stock method. We calculated the number of additional shares by assuming the outstanding stock options were exercised and that the proceeds from such exercises were used to acquire Common Stock at the average market price during the year. For the three and nine months ended October 3, 2009, we excluded all options from the diluted weighted average share outstanding calculation as the effect of these options are anti-dilutive because the options were granted at a price higher than the average market price for the quarter and because of our net loss, respectively. As of September 27, 2008, we excluded 223 options from the diluted weighted-average share outstanding calculation because the stock options were granted at a price higher than the average market price.

A reconciliation of the denominator in the basic and diluted income or loss per share is as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 3, 2009	**September 27, 2008**	**October 3, 2009**	**September 27, 2008**
Numerator:				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	$ 416	$ 1,277	$ (1,957)	$ 2,524
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income taxes		(136)		(429)
Net income (loss)	$ 416	$ 1,141	$ (1,957)	$ 2,095
Denominator:				
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic	4,578	4,578	4,578	4,568
Employee stock options		30		54
Weighted average shares outstanding diluted	4,578	4,608	4,578	4,622
Basic income (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	$ 0.09	$ 0.28	$ (0.43)	$ 0.55
Discontinued operations		(0.03)		(0.09)
Net income (loss)	$ 0.09	$ 0.25	$ (0.43)	$ 0.46
Diluted income (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	$ 0.09	$ 0.28	$ (0.43)	$ 0.54
Discontinued operations		(0.03)		(0.09)
Net income (loss)	$ 0.09	$ 0.25	$ (0.43)	$ 0.45

4. Sale-Leaseback Transaction

On September 25, 2009, we completed the sale-leaseback of our St. Louis Park building. The building is a 126,458-square-foot facility that includes our corporate office, a processing and recycling center, and an ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet store. Pursuant to the agreement entered into on August 11, 2009, we sold the St. Louis Park building for $4,632, net of fees, and leased the building back over an initial lease term of five years. The sale of the building provided the Company with $2,037 in cash after repayment of the $2,595 mortgage. The sale-leaseback transaction resulted in an adjustment of $2,191 to the net book value related to the land and building and we recorded a deferred gain of $2,441.

Under the terms of the lease agreement, we are classifying the lease as an operating lease and amortizing the gain on a straight-line basis over the initial term of five years.

Table of Contents

5. Investment

On June 1, 2009, we completed a $263 investment in Diagnostico y Administracion de Logistica Inversa, S.A. de C.V. (DALI), a Mexican company. DALI is a joint venture that operates a refrigerator recycling program sponsored by the Mexican government. Our investment represents a 46.3% ownership in the joint venture. The DALI joint venture is accounted for under the equity method and is presented in the consolidated balance sheets as a component of other assets. The recycling program is a four-year program that is funded annually, with plans to recycle a total of 1.6 million refrigerators. The results of the joint venture were immaterial for the three and nine months ended October 3, 2009.

6. Line of Credit

We have an $18,000 line of credit with a lender. The line was increased from $16,000 to $18,000 on February 5, 2008. The interest rate on the line as of October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009 was 6.25% (the greater of prime plus 3.00 percentage points or 6.25%). The amount of borrowings available under the line of credit is based on a formula using receivables and inventories. Our unused borrowing capacity under this line was $2,551 and $384 as of October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009, respectively. We may not have access to the full $18.0 million line of credit due to the formula using our receivables and inventories. The line of credit has a stated maturity date of December 31, 2010, if not renewed, and provides that the lender may demand payment in full of the entire outstanding balance of the loan at any time. The line of credit is collateralized by substantially all our assets and requires minimum monthly interest payments of $58, regardless of the outstanding principal balance. The lender is also secured by an inventory repurchase agreement with Whirlpool Corporation for purchases from Whirlpool only. The loan requires that we meet certain financial covenants, provides payment penalties for noncompliance and prepayment, limits the amount of other debt we can incur, limits the amount of spending on fixed assets and prohibits payments of dividends. As of January 3, 2009, we were not in compliance with certain financial covenants of the loan agreement and received a waiver from the lender. As of October 3, 2009, we were in compliance with the financial covenants of the loan agreement.

7. Long-Term Obligations

Long-term debt and capital lease obligations consisted of the following:

	October 3, 2009	January 3, 2009
Adjustable rate mortgage, due in monthly installments, adjusted weekly based on 30-day LIBOR plus 2.70 percentage points (3.38% as of January 3, 2009) on a 20-year amortization due October 2012, collateralized by land and building	$	$ 2,747
6.85% mortgage, due in monthly installments of $15, including interest, due January 2012, collateralized by land and building	1,605	1,659
Capital leases and other financing obligations (see below)	994	1,065
	2,599	5,471
Less current maturities	532	579
	$ 2,067	$ 4,892

In September 2009, we paid off our adjustable rate mortgage as a result of the sale-leaseback transaction described in Note 4 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Capital leases and other financing obligations: We acquire certain equipment under capital leases and other financing obligations. The cost of the equipment was approximately $1,580 and $1,396 at October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009, respectively. Accumulated amortization at October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009 was approximately $693 and $387, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense is included in cost of revenues and selling, general and administrative expenses.

In September 2008, we entered into a master equipment lease with a lender providing up to $250 in available funds. We utilized the entire lease line to fund equipment for the new retail outlets opened in December 2008 and January 2009.

Table of Contents

In March 2009, we entered into a master equipment lease with a lender providing up to $100 in available funds. We utilized the entire lease line in March 2009 to fund equipment for our retail outlet stores.

In June 2009, we entered into a master equipment lease with a lender providing up to $88 in available funds. We utilized the entire lease line in June 2009 to fund equipment and displays for our retail outlet stores.

8. Accrued Expenses

Accrued expenses were as follows:

		October 3, 2009		January 3, 2009
Compensation and benefits	$	1,309	$	1,565
Accrued recycling incentive checks		1,232		1,110
Accrued rent		661		461
Warranty expense		74		91
Accrued payables		353		509
Current portion of deferred gain on sale-leaseback of building		488		
Other		485		337
	$	4,602	$	4,073

9. Commitments and Contingencies

Contracts: We have entered into contracts with five appliance manufacturers. Under the agreements there are no minimum purchase commitments; however, we have agreed to indemnify the manufacturers for certain claims, allegations or losses with respect to appliances we sell.

Litigation: In December 2004, we filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California alleging that JACO Environmental, Inc. (JACO) and one of our former consultants fraudulently obtained U.S. Patent No. 6,732,416 in May 2004 covering appliance recycling methods and systems that were originally developed by us beginning in 1987 and used in serving more than forty-five electric utility appliance recycling programs up to the time the suit was filed. We sought an injunction to prevent JACO from claiming that it obtained a valid patent on appliance recycling processes that we believe is based on methods and processes we invented. In addition, we asked the Court to find that the patent obtained by JACO is unenforceable due to inequitable conduct before the United States Patent Office. We also asked the court for unspecified damages related to charges that JACO, in using the patent to promote its services, engaged in unfair competition and false and misleading advertising under federal and California statutes.

In September 2005, we received a legally binding document in which JACO stated it would not sue us or any of our customers for violating the JACO patent. Further, the defendants in the case did not assert any counterclaims against ARCA.

In January 2009, the Court granted JACO a summary judgment in ARCA s lawsuit against the parties. The ruling was made by the same judge who had earlier denied summary judgment to the defendants. Even though the Court s ruling will have no impact on our method of recycling or ability to conduct existing or future business, we filed an appeal with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in California in February 2009 seeking to have the court set aside the summary judgment. We believe the decision by the trial judge was in error and contrary to the law relating to unfair competition and false advertising. We believe we are entitled to our day in court against JACO for damages caused by their actions, but we do not yet have a timeline on a decision of the appeal.

10. Income Taxes

We recorded a provision for income taxes of $150 and $560 for the three months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, respectively. For the nine months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, we recorded a provision for income taxes of $51 and $736, respectively. In the second quarter of 2009, we recorded a discrete item related to additional Canadian tax deductions determined by completing a detailed transfer pricing study. We recognized a tax benefit of approximately $183 related solely to our Canadian operations compared to the original tax provision estimate

Table of Contents

for fiscal 2008. We also recorded a provision for taxes for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 of $195 related to our Canadian operations, which offsets the impact of the discrete item recognized in the second quarter of 2009. We did not record a provision for or benefit from income taxes for our U.S. subsidiaries because we have available net operating losses to offset future taxable income and we have recorded full valuation allowances against our U.S. net deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of their realization. The realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon sufficient future taxable income during the periods when deductible temporary differences and carryforwards are expected to be available to reduce taxable income.

We account for uncertain tax positions and recognize the financial statement benefit of a tax position only after determining that the relevant tax authority would more likely than not sustain the position. For tax positions meeting the more-likely-than-not threshold, the amount recognized in the financial statements is the largest benefit that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with the relevant tax authority. As of October 3, 2009, we did not have any material uncertain tax positions.

It is our practice to recognize interest related to income tax matters as a component of interest expense and penalties as a component of selling, general and administrative expense. As of October 3, 2009, we had an immaterial amount of accrued interest and penalties.

We are subject to income taxes in the U.S. federal jurisdiction, foreign jurisdictions and various state jurisdictions. Tax regulations from each jurisdiction are subject to the interpretation of the related tax laws and regulations and require significant judgment to apply. With few exceptions, we are no longer subject to U.S. federal, foreign, state or local income tax examinations by tax authorities for the years before 2006. We are not currently under examination by any taxing jurisdiction.

We had no significant unrecognized tax benefits as of October 3, 2009 that would reasonably be expected to affect our effective tax rate during the next twelve months.

11. Shareholders Equity

Stock options: Our 2006 Stock Option Plan (the 2006 Plan) permits the granting of incentive stock options meeting the requirements of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and nonqualified options that do not meet the requirements of Section 422. The 2006 Plan has 600 shares available for grant. As of October 3, 2009, 352 options were outstanding to employees and non-employee directors and 15 options have been exercised under the 2006 Plan. Our Restated 1997 Stock Option Plan (the 1997 Plan) has expired, but the options outstanding under the expired 1997 Plan continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms. As of October 3, 2009, options to purchase an aggregate of 34 shares were outstanding under the 1997 Plan. Options granted to employees typically vest over two years while grants to non-employee directors vest in six months.

During the second quarter of 2009, we granted 52 stock options with an exercise price of $1.87, vesting periods ranging from six months to two years and a fair value of $1.59.

The following table summarizes the assumptions used to estimate the fair value of options granted during the second quarter of 2009 using the Black-Scholes Model:

Expected dividend yield	0.0%
Expected stock price volatility	104.8%
Risk-free interest rate	2.6%
Expected life of options	7 years

Preferred Stock: Our amended Articles of Incorporation authorize two million shares of Preferred Stock that may be issued from time to time in one or more series having such rights, powers, preferences and designations as the Board of Directors may determine. To date no such preferred shares have been issued.

Table of Contents

12. Segment Information

We operate within targeted markets through two reportable segments: retail and recycling. The retail operation is comprised of income generated through our ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet stores, which includes appliance sales and byproduct revenues from collected appliances. The recycling operation includes all fees charged and costs incurred for collecting, recycling and installing appliances for utilities and other customers and includes byproduct revenue, which is primarily generated through the recycling of appliances. The nature of products, services and customers for both segments varies significantly. As such, the segments are managed separately. Our Chief Executive Officer has been identified as the Chief Operating Decision Maker (CODM). The CODM evaluates performance and allocates resources based on sales and income from operations of each segment. Income from operations represents revenues less cost of revenues and operating expenses, including certain allocated selling, general and administrative costs. There are no inter-segment sales or transfers. During 2009, we modified the way we report byproduct revenues, recycling revenues and recycling costs in order to more accurately report the activity within our two reportable segments. Although not material, comparable period revenue and operating income items have been reclassified between our retail and recycling segments to conform to our current year presentation.

The following table presents our segment information for periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 3, 2009	September 27, 2008	October 3, 2009	September 27, 2008
Revenues:				
Retail	$ 18,123	$ 18,987	$ 58,561	$ 59,109
Recycling	7,882	10,427	18,994	25,669
Total revenues	$ 26,005	$ 29,414	$ 77,555	$ 84,778
Operating income (loss):				
Retail	$ (161)	$ (87)	$ (2,126)	$ 1,782
Recycling	1,064	2,648	1,207	3,800
Unallocated corporate costs	(48)	(416)	(52)	(1,290)
Total operating income (loss)	$ 855	$ 2,145	$ (971)	$ 4,292
Assets:				
Retail	$ 19,693	$ 19,792	$ 19,693	$ 19,792
Recycling	7,810	10,653	7,810	10,653
Corporate assets not allocable	5,880	7,635	5,880	7,635
Total assets	$ 33,383	$ 38,080	$ 33,383	$ 38,080
Cash capital expenditures:				
Retail	$ 41	$ 107	$ 170	$ 286
Recycling	5	19	9	93
Corporate assets not allocable	18	12	242	129
Total cash capital expenditures	$ 64	$ 138	$ 421	$ 508
Depreciation:				
Retail	$ 108	$ 75	$ 315	$ 203
Recycling	87	74	241	216
Corporate assets not allocable	142	127	429	397
Total depreciation	$ 337	$ 276	$ 985	$ 816
Interest expense:				

Retail	$ 201	$ 198	$ 592	$ 636
Recycling	55	56	165	183
Corporate assets not allocable	69	64	145	223
Total interest expense	$ 325	$ 318	$ 902	$ 1,042

Table of Contents

13. Subsequent Events

The Company has evaluated subsequent events occurring through November 12, 2009, the date on which this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q was issued.

On October 21, 2009, we entered into an Appliance Sales and Recycling Agreement (the Agreement). Under the Agreement, our client will sell all of its recyclable appliances generated in the northeastern United States to us, and we will collect, process and recycle such recyclable appliances. The Agreement requires that we will only recycle, and will not sell for re-use or resale, the recyclable appliances purchased from our client. We will establish a regional processing center (RPC) located in the northeastern United States at which the recyclable appliances will be processed.

The term of the Agreement is for a period of six years from the first date of collection of recyclable appliances. We expect that the first date of collection will be in late January 2010.

In conjunction with the Agreement, on October 21, 2009, we issued a warrant to purchase 248,189 shares of Common Stock at a price of $0.75 per share. The fair market value of the warrant issued was $479 and will be recorded as an intangible asset and amortized over the initial term of the Agreement. The warrant is exercisable in full at any time during a term of ten years. The exercise price may be reduced and the number of shares of Common Stock that may be purchased under the warrant may be increased if the Company issues or sells additional shares of Common Stock at a price lower than the then-current warrant exercise price or the then-current market price of the Common Stock.

In connection with the Agreement described above, we entered into a Joint Venture Agreement with 4301 Operations, LLC, to establish and operate the northeastern RPC. 4301 Operations has substantial experience in the recycling of major household appliances and will contribute their existing business to the joint venture. Under the Joint Venture Agreement, the parties will form a new entity to be known as ARCA Advanced Processing, LLC (AAP), which will be owned 50% by us and 50% by 4301 Operations. Each party will be entitled to 50% of the net profits of AAP. If additional RPCs are established, AAP will establish the next two RPCs and will have a right of first refusal to establish subsequent RPCs. We plan to raise debt and/or equity financing to fund our share of the capital required to form the joint venture. We plan to contribute $2,000 cash and the Appliance Sales and Recycling Agreement to the joint venture and 4301 Operations plans to contribute the equipment and existing business to the joint venture. We anticipate that the RPC will commence operations in late 2009, however, there is no assurance that operations will commence or that financing will be available on terms satisfactory to us or permitted by our current debt agreement.

The joint venture expects to purchase and install UNTHA Recycling Technology (URT) Equipment by the end of 2010, enhancing the capabilities of the RPC. We are the exclusive distributor of URT Equipment for North America**.** The joint venture plans to raise additional debt financing to purchase the URT equipment but there is no assurance that the financing will be available or on terms acceptable to the joint venture.

Table of Contents

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

Forward-Looking and Cautionary Statements

This quarterly report contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The statements contained in this quarterly report that are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Act of 1934, as amended.

Any statements contained in this quarterly report regarding our future operations, performance and results, and anticipated liquidity discussed herein are forward-looking and, therefore, are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, those discussed herein. Any forward-looking information regarding our operations will be affected primarily by the speed at which individual retail outlets reach profitability, the volume of appliance retail sales and the strength of energy conservation recycling programs. Any forward-looking information will also be affected by our continued ability to purchase product from our suppliers at acceptable prices, the ability of individual retail stores to meet planned revenue levels, the rate of growth in the number of retail stores, costs and expenses being realized at higher than expected levels, our ability to secure an adequate supply of special-buy appliances for resale, the ability to secure appliance recycling contracts with sponsors of energy efficiency programs, the ability of customers to supply units under their recycling contracts with us, the continued availability of our current line of credit, and the ability to obtain additional debt and equity financing as necessary to fund our growth objectives.

All of these forward-looking statements are based on information available to us on the date of this quarterly report. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed in this quarterly report. The forward-looking statements contained in this quarterly report, and other written and oral forward-looking statements made by us from time to time, are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, those discussed in Item 1A Risk Factors in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 3, 2009.

The following discussion and analysis provides information that we believe is relevant to an assessment and understanding of our operations and financial condition. This discussion should be read with the consolidated financial statements appearing in Item 1.

Overview

We are in the business of selling new major household appliances through a chain of Company-owned factory outlet stores under the name ApplianceSmart®. We also provide turnkey appliance recycling and replacement services for electric utilities and other sponsors of energy efficiency programs.

Subsidiaries. ARCA Canada Inc., a Canadian corporation, is a wholly-owned subsidiary. ARCA Canada was formed in September 2006 to provide turnkey recycling services for electric utility energy efficiency programs. The operating results of ARCA Canada have been consolidated in our financial statements. We were a sixty percent owner in North America Appliance Company, LLC (NAACO). NAACO was formed and commenced operations in June 2003 and was a retailer of special-buy appliances in Texas. The operating results of NAACO have

been consolidated in our financial statements. We were a sixty percent owner in Productos Duraderos de Norte America (PDN), a Mexican corporation. PDN was acquired in September 2006 and refurbished room air conditioners for sale through our NAACO operation in McAllen, Texas, and through our ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet stores. The operating results of PDN have been consolidated in our financial statements.

Discontinued Operations. During the fourth quarter of 2008, we planned and executed the shutdown of our NAACO and PDN operations. NAACO and PDN were not operating as planned and were no longer economically viable. In 2008, our supply of room air conditioners from a major manufacturer was depleted, no longer providing refurbishment opportunities for PDN and revenues for NAACO, which was the basis for our investment in these businesses. We will not have any continuing involvement or significant continuing cash flows in these businesses. The results of operations for NAACO and PDN were included in our retail segment. All results of operations for periods presented prior to the abandonment date have been reclassified as discontinued operations.

Table of Contents

Reporting Period. Operating results for the three-month and nine-month periods ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008 are presented using 13-week and 39-week periods, respectively. The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results for the year.

Key Components of Results of Operations

Revenues. We generate revenues from three sources: retail, recycling and byproduct. Retail revenues are generated through the sale of new appliances at our ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet stores. Recycling revenues are generated by charging fees for collecting, recycling and installing appliances for utilities and other sponsors of energy efficiency programs. Byproduct revenues are generated by selling recovered materials, such as metals, plastics, and reclaimed chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants, from appliances we collect and recycle, including appliances from our ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet stores.

Cost of Revenues. Cost of revenues includes all costs related to the purchase of inventory, including freight, costs related to receiving and distribution of inventory, and costs related to delivery and service of inventory after it is sold to the consumer. Also, the costs related to recycling appliances, such as customer service, transportation and processing, and the cost of refrigerators used in our replacement programs, are included in the cost of revenues. Depreciation expense related to buildings and equipment from our recycling centers is presented in cost of revenues.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses are comprised primarily of employee compensation and benefits (including share-based compensation), occupancy costs, advertising, bank processing charges, professional services and depreciation.

Interest Expense. Interest expense is comprised of interest charges related to borrowings under our line of credit, mortgages on our Minnesota and California buildings, and other long-term obligations, primarily capital leases. As a result of the sale-leaseback transaction on September 25, 2009, interest related to the mortgage on our Minnesota building is no longer reflected in interest expense.

Segments. We operate two reportable segments: retail and recycling. The retail segment is comprised of income generated through our ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet stores, which includes appliance sales and byproduct revenues from collected appliances. Our recycling segment includes all fees charged and costs incurred for collecting, recycling and installing appliances for utilities and other customers and includes byproduct revenue, which is primarily generated through the recycling of appliances. Retail revenues typically have lower profit margins than recycling revenues.

Retail Segment. We operated eighteen and seventeen factory outlet stores at the end of the third quarters of 2009 and 2008, respectively. Our eighteen factory outlet stores are located in convenient, high-traffic locations in Georgia, Minnesota, Ohio and Texas. In 2008, we opened four new factory outlet stores: two in Minnesota, one in Texas and one in Georgia. In January 2009, we opened one factory outlet store in Georgia. During the third quarter of 2009, we closed one underperforming ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet in the Georgia and one store in Texas when the facility lease expired.

Recycling Segment. We operate six processing and recycling centers, which are located in Minnesota, California, Texas, Illinois, Colorado and Ontario, Canada. We are actively pursuing opportunities to support energy efficiency programs run by electric utility companies. We handle appliance recycling programs for and in the service territories of Southern California Edison; San Diego Gas & Electric; Southern California Public Power Authority; Austin Energy, AEP Texas and Oncor Electric Delivery in Texas; Ameren and City Water Light & Power in Illinois; Wisconsin Public Power; Ontario Power Authority; Minnesota Power, Great River Energy and Otter Tail Power in Minnesota; Xcel Energy in Colorado and New Mexico; Baltimore Gas and Electric in Maryland; Santee Cooper in South Carolina; and several Southern California municipal electric utilities.

Recent Developments

On June 1, 2009, we completed a $0.3 million investment in Diagnostico y Administracion de Logistica Inversa, S.A. de C.V. (DALI), a Mexican company. DALI is a joint venture that operates a refrigerator recycling program sponsored by the Mexican government. Our investment represents a 46.3% ownership in the joint venture. The DALI joint venture is accounted for under the equity method and is presented in the consolidated balance sheets as a component of other assets. The recycling program is a four-year program that is funded annually, with plans to recycle a total of 1.6 million

Table of Contents

refrigerators. The results of the joint venture were immaterial for the three and nine months ended October 3, 2009.

On September 25, 2009, we completed the sale-leaseback of our St. Louis Park building. The building is a 126,458-square-foot facility that includes our corporate office, a processing and recycling center, and an ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet store. Pursuant to the agreement entered into on August 11, 2009, we sold the St. Louis Park building for $4.6 million, net of fees, and leased the building back over an initial lease term of five years. The sale of the building provided the Company with $2.0 million in cash after repayment of the $2.6 million mortgage. The sale-leaseback transaction resulted in an adjustment of $2.2 million to the net book value related to the land and building and we recorded a deferred gain of $2.4 million. Under the terms of the lease agreement, we are classifying the lease as an operating lease and amortizing the gain on a straight-line basis over the initial term of five years.

On October 21, 2009, we entered into an Appliance Sales and Recycling Agreement (the Agreement). Under the Agreement, our client will sell all of its recyclable appliances generated in the northeastern United States to us, and we will collect, process and recycle such recyclable appliances. The Agreement requires that we will only recycle, and will not sell for re-use or resale, the recyclable appliances purchased from our client. We will establish a regional processing center (RPC) located in the northeastern United States at which the recyclable appliances will be processed. The term of the Agreement is for a period of six years from the first date of collection of recyclable appliances. We expect that the first date of collection will be in late January 2010.

In conjunction with the Agreement, on October 21, 2009, we issued a warrant to purchase 248,189 shares of Common Stock at a price of $0.75 per share. The fair market value of the warrant issued was $0.5 million and will be recorded as an intangible asset and amortized over the initial term of the Agreement. The warrant is exercisable in full at any time during a term of ten years. The exercise price may be reduced and the number of shares of Common Stock that may be purchased under the warrant may be increased if the Company issues or sells additional shares of Common Stock at a price lower than the then-current warrant exercise price or the then-current market price of the Common Stock.

In connection with the Agreement described above, we entered into a Joint Venture Agreement with 4301 Operations, LLC, to establish and operate the northeastern RPC. 4301 Operations has substantial experience in the recycling of major household appliances and will contribute their existing business to the joint venture. Under the Joint Venture Agreement, the parties will form a new entity to be known as ARCA Advanced Processing, LLC (AAP), which will be owned 50% by us and 50% by 4301 Operations. Each party will be entitled to 50% of the net profits of AAP. If additional RPCs are established, AAP will establish the next two RPCs and will have a right of first refusal to establish subsequent RPCs. We plan to raise debt and/or equity financing to fund our share of the capital required to form the joint venture. We plan to contribute $2.0 million cash and the Appliance Sales and Recycling Agreement to the joint venture and 4301 Operations plans to contribute the equipment and existing business to the joint venture. We anticipate that the RPC will commence operations in late 2009, however, there is no assurance that operations will commence or that financing will be available on terms satisfactory to us or permitted by our current debt agreement.

The joint venture expects to purchase and install UNTHA Recycling Technology (URT) Equipment by the end of 2010, enhancing the capabilities of the RPC. We are the exclusive distributor of URT Equipment for North America**.** The joint venture plans to raise additional debt financing to purchase the URT equipment but there is no assurance that the financing will be available or on terms acceptable to the joint venture.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth our consolidated operating results for the periods indicated as a percentage of total revenues:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 3, 2009	September 27, 2008	October 3, 2009	September 27, 2008
Revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of revenues	67.3	65.5	71.1	67.1
Gross profit	32.7	34.5	28.9	32.9
Selling, general and administrative expenses	29.4	27.3	30.1	27.8
Operating income (loss)	3.3	7.2	(1.2)	5.1
Other income (expense):				
Interest expense, net	(1.2)	(1.1)	(1.2)	(1.2)
Other expenses, net	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes	2.2	6.1	(2.4)	3.9
Provision for income taxes	0.6	1.9	0.1	0.9
Income (loss) from continuing operations	1.6	4.2	(2.5)	3.0
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	0.0	(0.5)	0.0	(0.5)
Net income (loss)	1.6%	3.7%	(2.5)%	2.5%

For the Three Months Ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008

The following table sets forth the key results of operations by segment for the three months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008 (dollars in millions):

	2009	2008	% Change
Revenues:			
Retail	$ 18.1	$ 19.0	(4.6)%
Recycling	7.9	10.4	(24.4)%
Total revenues	$ 26.0	$ 29.4	(11.6)%
Operating income (loss):			
Retail	$ (0.2)	$ (0.1)	(85.1)%
Recycling	1.1	2.6	(59.8)%
Unallocated corporate costs		(0.4)	100.0%
Total operating income (loss)	$ 0.9	$ 2.1	(60.1)%

***Revenues*.** Revenues for the three months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008 are as follows (dollars in millions):

	2009	2008	% Change
Retail	$ 18.0	$ 18.7	(4.1)%
Recycling	7.0	8.8	(20.0)%
Byproduct	1.0	1.9	(46.3)%
	$ 26.0	$ 29.4	(11.6)%

Our total revenues of $26.0 million for the third quarter of 2009 decreased $3.4 million or 11.6% from $29.4 million in the third quarter of 2008. Retail revenues accounted for 69% of total revenues for the third quarter of 2009 compared to 64% in the third quarter of 2008.

Table of Contents

Retail Revenues. Our retail revenues of $18.0 million for the third quarter of 2009 decreased $0.7 million or 4.1% from $18.7 million in the third quarter of 2008. The decrease in retail revenues was due primarily to price compression on product to remain competitive with retailers in the current economic environment and lower customer traffic in our stores. Our third quarter comparable store revenues from the ApplianceSmart Factory Outlets open for the past twelve months decreased 12.3% or $2.2 million. We opened five new factory outlet stores throughout 2008 and early in 2009. These new stores contributed $1.9 million of additional revenues in the third quarter of 2009 compared to the third quarter of 2008. At the end of August 2009, we closed one underperforming ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet in Georgia and one store in Texas when the facility lease expired. During the third quarter of 2009, these two stores combined generated $0.6 million in retail revenues. We expect the economic slowdown and cutback in consumer spending to continue through 2009, negatively impacting our sales. In November 2009, we plan to open an ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet in Cumming, Georgia, to serve the northeast suburbs of the Atlanta metropolitan area. We are also evaluating several underperforming stores and determining the best course of action, including negotiating lease concessions and closing underperforming stores during the fourth quarter of 2009.

Recycling Revenues. Our recycling revenues of $7.0 million for the third quarter of 2009 decreased $1.8 million or 20.0% from $8.8 million in the third quarter of 2008. The decrease was due primarily to recycling fewer appliances under our California contracts in 2009 compared to 2008. Our contract with Southern California Edison was reduced by 25% in 2009. During the third quarter, we signed new appliance recycling contracts to support programs sponsored by Xcel Energy and Baltimore Gas and Electric. These programs commenced operations in the third quarter of 2009 and generated an immaterial amount of revenues. During October 2009, we signed a new appliance recycling contract with Santee Cooper in South Carolina and have begun operation there. We are aggressively pursuing new appliance recycling programs but cannot predict if we will be successful in signing new contracts or renewing existing contracts.

Byproduct Revenues. Our byproduct revenues of $1.0 million for the third quarter of 2009 decreased $0.9 million or 46.3% from $1.9 million in the third quarter of 2008. The decrease was due primarily to lower recycling volumes and lower scrap metal prices compared to the third quarter of 2008. We expect that scrap material prices will stay depressed throughout 2009 compared to 2008.

***Gross Profit*.** Our overall gross profit of $8.5 million for the third quarter decreased $1.7 million or 16.4% from $10.2 million in the third quarter of 2008. Our gross profit as a percentage of total revenues for the third quarter of 2009 was 32.7% compared to 34.5% in the third quarter of 2008. The decrease in gross profit was related primarily to our retail segment and attributed to price compression on product, lower comparable store sales and a sales shift from out-of-the-box product to in-the-box product. Our retail segment gross profit as a percentage of related revenues for the third quarter of 2009 was 28.4% compared to 30.1% for the third quarter of 2008. Our retail margins on out-of-the box product are typically higher than in-the-box product. Our recycling segment gross profit as a percentage of related revenues for the third quarter of 2009 was 42.5% compared to 42.6% for the third quarter of 2008. Recycling gross profit percentages are typically higher than retail gross profit percentages.

***Selling, General and Administrative Expenses*.** Our selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses of $7.6 million for the third quarter of 2009 decreased $0.4 million or 4.7% from $8.0 million in the third quarter of 2008. Our SG&A expenses as a percentage of total revenues for the third quarter of 2009 were 29.4% compared to 27.3% for the third quarter of 2008. Selling expenses increased $0.1 million to $5.1 million in the third quarter of 2009 from $5.0 million in the third quarter of 2008. The increase in selling expenses was due primarily to new factory outlet stores open during the third quarter of 2009 compared to the third quarter of 2008. The increase in selling expenses was partially offset by closing two factory outlet locations and cost containment initiatives. General and administrative expenses decreased $0.5 million to $2.6 million in the third quarter of 2009 from $3.1 million in the third quarter of 2008. The decrease was due primarily to cost-saving initiatives implemented in the third quarter of 2009. We expect general and administrative expenses to continue to be lower compared to 2008 as a result of cumulative cost-saving initiatives implemented throughout 2009.

***Interest Expense*.** Interest expense of $0.3 million in the third quarter of 2009 was comparable to the third quarter of 2008. We cannot predict what will happen with interest rates throughout the remainder of 2009, however, we expect that interest expense will decrease as a result of paying off the mortgage on our Minnesota building and paying down our line of credit balance by approximately $2.0 million.

Table of Contents

Provision for (Benefit from) Income Taxes. We recorded a provision for income taxes of $0.2 million for the third quarter of 2009 compared to $0.6 million for the third quarter of 2008. The provision for income taxes in the third quarter 2009 related primarily to taxable income from our Canadian operation. We did not record a provision for or benefit from income taxes for our U.S. subsidiaries because we have available net operating losses to offset future taxable income and we have recorded full valuation allowances against our U.S. net deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of their realization. The realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon sufficient future taxable income during the periods when deductible temporary differences and carryforwards are expected to be available to reduce taxable income.

For the Nine Months Ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008

The following table sets forth the key results of operations by segment for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008 (dollars in millions):

		2009		2008	% Change
Revenues:					
Retail	$	58.6	$	59.1	(0.9)%
Recycling		19.0		25.7	(26.0)%
Total revenues	$	77.6	$	84.8	(8.5)%
Operating income (loss):					
Retail	$	(2.1)	$	1.8	(219.3)%
Recycling		1.2		3.8	(68.2)%
Unallocated corporate costs		(0.1)		(1.3)	96.0%
Total operating income (loss)	$	(1.0)	$	4.3	(122.6)%

Revenues. Revenues for the three months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008 are as follows (dollars in millions):

		2009		2008	% Change
Retail	$	58.2	$	58.6	(0.6)%
Recycling		16.9		22.0	(23.0)%
Byproduct		2.4		4.2	(43.6)%
	$	77.6	$	84.8	(8.5)%

Our total revenues of $77.6 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 decreased $7.2 million or 8.5% from $84.8 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. Retail revenues accounted for 75% and 69% of total revenues for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 and September 27, 2008, respectively.

Retail Revenues. Our retail revenues of $58.2 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 decreased $0.4 million or 0.6% from $58.6 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The decrease in retail revenues was due primarily to lower comparable store sales and closing two ApplianceSmart Factory Outlets and was partially offset by opening new factory outlet stores throughout 2008 and early in 2009. New factory outlet stores contributed $8.0 million of additional revenues in 2009 compared to 2008. Our comparable store revenues of the ApplianceSmart Factory Outlets open during the last twelve months were down 13.9% or $7.7 million. The decrease in comparable store revenues was due primarily to price compression on product to remain competitive with other retailers in the current economic environment and

to lower customer traffic in our stores. At the end of August 2009, we closed one underperforming ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet in Georgia and one store in Texas when the facility lease expired. Through eight months of operation in 2009, these two stores combined generated $3.2 million in retail revenues. We expect the economic slowdown and cutback in consumer spending to continue through 2009, negatively impacting our sales. In November 2009, we plan to open an ApplianceSmart Factory Outlet in Cumming, Georgia, to serve the northeast suburbs of the Atlanta metropolitan area. We are also evaluating several underperforming stores and determining the best course of action, including negotiating lease concessions and closing underperforming stores during the fourth quarter of 2009.

Table of Contents

Our factory outlets carry a wide range of new in-the-box and special-buy appliances, which include manufacturer closeouts, factory overruns, floor samples, returned or exchanged items, open-carton items, and scratch-and-dent appliances. All these appliances are new. Some are in the carton while others are out of the carton.

We continue to purchase the majority of both new in-the-box and special-buy appliances from five major manufacturers. We have no minimum purchase requirements with any of these manufacturers. We believe purchases from these five manufacturers will provide an adequate supply of high-quality appliances for our retail factory outlets; however, there is a risk that one or more of these sources could be curtailed or lost.

Recycling Revenues. Our recycling revenues of $16.9 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 decreased $5.1 million or 23.0% from $22.0 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The decrease was due primarily to recycling fewer appliances under our California contracts in 2009 compared to 2008. Our contract with Southern California Edison was reduced by 25% in 2009. Additionally, the revenues from our refrigerator replacement program with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power were down due to lower volumes and the contract not being renewed until the fourth week of January 2009. We expect recycling revenues to continue to lag behind 2008 for the remainder of 2009. However, we are aggressively pursuing new appliance recycling programs but cannot predict if we will be successful in signing new contracts or renewing existing contracts.

Byproduct Revenues. Our byproduct revenues of $2.4 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 decreased $1.8 million or 43.6% from $4.2 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The decrease was due primarily to lower volumes and lower scrap metal prices compared to 2008. We expect that scrap material prices will stay depressed and byproduct revenues will lag behind 2008 throughout the remainder of 2009.

Gross Profit. Our overall gross profit of $22.4 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 decreased $5.5 million or 19.6% from $27.9 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. Our gross profit as a percentage of total revenues for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 was 28.9% compared to 32.9% for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The decrease in gross profit was related primarily to our retail segment and attributed to price compression on product, lower comparable store sales and a sales shift from out-of-the-box product to in-the-box product. Our retail segment gross profit as a percentage of related revenues for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 was 26.8% compared to 32.7% for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. Our retail margins on out-of-the box product are typically higher than in-the-box product. Our recycling segment gross profit as a percentage of related revenues for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 was 35.4% compared to 33.3% for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The increase in the recycling gross profit percentage was due primarily to cost-saving initiatives in several areas. Recycling gross profit percentages are typically higher than retail gross profit percentages. Our gross profit as a percentage of total revenues for future periods can be affected favorably or unfavorably by numerous factors, including:

1. The mix of retail products we sell.

2. The prices at which we purchase product from the major manufacturers who supply product to us.

3. The volume of appliances we receive through our recycling contracts.

4. The volume and price of scrap metals, plastics and reclaimed CFCs.

Unless we can significantly increase our appliance purchasing volume, resulting in a higher level rebates, or sign substantial recycling contracts utilizing our current recycling facilities, overall gross profit percentages are expected to remain flat or slightly lower in 2009 compared to 2008.

***Selling, General and Administrative Expenses*.** Our selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses of $23.4 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 decreased $0.2 million or 0.8% from $23.6 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. Our SG&A expenses as a percentage of total revenues for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 were 30.1% compared to 27.8% for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. Selling expenses increased $1.2 million to $16.0 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 from $14.8 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The increase in selling expenses was due primarily to the new factory outlet stores opened over the last twelve months. General and administrative expenses decreased $1.4 million to $7.3 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 from $8.7 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The decrease was due primarily to cost containment initiatives implemented throughout 2009. We expect these cost containment initiatives to generate annualized savings of approximately $2.6 million. Additionally, we have engaged the services of a consultant with retail lease expertise to negotiate lease concessions related to underperforming stores.

Table of Contents

Interest Expense. Interest expense decreased $0.1 million to $0.9 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 compared to $1.0 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The decrease was due primarily to the decline in the weighted average interest rate on our line of credit. We cannot predict what will happen with interest rates throughout the remainder of 2009, however, we expect that interest expense will decrease as a result of paying off the mortgage on our Minnesota building and paying down our line of credit balance by approximately $2.0 million.

Provision for Income Taxes. We recorded a provision for income taxes of $0.1 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 compared to a provision for income taxes of $0.7 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. In the second quarter of 2009, we recorded a discrete item related to additional Canadian tax deductions determined by completing a detailed transfer pricing study. We recognized a tax benefit of approximately $0.2 million related solely to our Canadian operations compared to the original tax provision estimate for fiscal 2008. We also recorded a provision for income taxes of $0.2 million related to the 2009 taxable income from our Canadian operation, which offsets the discrete item recognized in the second quarter of 2009. We did not record a provision for or benefit from income taxes for our U.S. subsidiaries because we have available net operating losses to offset future taxable income and we have recorded full valuation allowances against our U.S. net deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of their realization. The realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon sufficient future taxable income during the periods when deductible temporary differences and carryforwards are expected to be available to reduce taxable income.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Principal Sources and Uses of Liquidity. Our principal sources of liquidity are cash from operations and borrowings under our line of credit. Our principal liquidity requirements consist of long-term debt and capital lease obligations, capital expenditures and working capital. Our cash and cash equivalents as of October 3, 2009 were $2.7 million compared to $3.5 million as of January 3, 2009. Our working capital decreased to $5.1 million as of October 3, 2009 compared to $5.8 million as of January 3, 2009.

Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities. Our net cash provided by operating activities was $1.5 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 compared to $1.1 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The increase in cash provided by operating activities was due primarily to reducing inventories and receivables offset by lower revenue and retail gross profit percentages.

Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities. Our net cash provided by investing activities was $3.3 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 compared to net cash used in investing activities of $0.5 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The increase in net cash provided by investing activities was due primarily to selling our St. Louis Park building for $4.6 million. The cash provided by selling the St. Louis Park building was partially offset by $0.7 million related to a reserve account required by our bankcard processor, a $0.3 million investment in DALI that was completed on June 1, 2009 and $0.4 million related to purchases of property and equipment. We did not have any material purchase commitments for assets as of October 3, 2009.

Net Cash (Used in) Provided by Financing Activities. Our net cash used in financing activities was $5.6 million for the nine months ended October 3, 2009 compared to net cash provided by financing activities of $0.1 million for the nine months ended September 27, 2008. The net cash used in financing activities in 2009 was due primarily to net payments on our line of credit, paying off our adjustable rate mortgage in conjunction with the sale of the St. Louis Park building and payments on our long-term obligations.

Outstanding Indebtedness. We have an $18.0 million line of credit with a lender. The line was increased from $16.0 million to $18.0 million on February 5, 2008. The interest rate on the line as of October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009 was 6.25% (the greater of prime plus 3.00 percentage points or 6.25%). The amount of borrowings available under the line of credit is based on a formula using receivables and inventories. Our unused borrowing capacity under this line was $2.6 million and $0.4 million as of October 3, 2009 and January 3, 2009, respectively. We may not have access to the full $18.0 million line of credit due to the formula using our receivables and inventories. The line of credit has a stated maturity date of December 31, 2010, if not renewed, and provides that the lender may demand payment in full of the entire outstanding balance of the loan at any time. The line of credit is collateralized by substantially all our assets and requires minimum monthly interest payments of $58,000, regardless of the outstanding principal balance. The lender is also secured by an inventory repurchase agreement with Whirlpool Corporation for purchases from Whirlpool only. The loan requires

Table of Contents

that we meet certain financial covenants, provides payment penalties for noncompliance and prepayment, limits the amount of other debt we can incur, limits the amount of spending on fixed assets and prohibits payments of dividends. As of January 3, 2009, we were not in compliance with certain financial covenants of the loan agreement and received a waiver from the lender. As of October 3, 2009, we were in compliance with the financial covenants of the loan agreement.

In September 2008, we entered into a master equipment lease with a lender providing up to $0.3 million in available funds. We utilized the entire lease line to fund equipment for the new retail outlets opened in December 2008 and January 2009.

In March 2009, we entered into a master equipment lease with a lender providing up to $0.1 million in available funds. We utilized the entire lease line in March 2009 to fund equipment for our retail outlet stores.

In June 2009, we entered into a master equipment lease with a lender providing up to $0.1 million in available funds. We utilized the entire lease line in June 2009 to fund equipment and displays for our retail outlet stores.

As of October 3, 2009, we had long-term obligations of $2.6 million consisting of a mortgage on our California building along with various financings, primarily consisting of capital leases.

We believe that based on our cost containment initiatives; the sale-leaseback of our St. Louis Park building; close evaluation of our underperforming stores and obtaining lease concessions or closing underperforming stores; the anticipated sales per retail store; the anticipated revenues from our recycling contracts; our anticipated gross profit; our cash balance; our anticipated funds generated from operations; and our current line of credit will be sufficient to finance our operations, long-term obligations and capital expenditures for at least the next twelve months. Our total capital requirements for 2009 will depend upon, among other things as discussed below, the number and size of retail stores operating during the fiscal year and the recycling volumes generated from recycling contracts in 2009. Currently, we have eighteen retail stores and six recycling centers in operation. We may need additional capital to finance our operations if our profits are lower than anticipated or if we pursue new opportunities. Sources of additional financing, if needed in the future, may include further debt financing or the sale of equity (Common or Preferred Stock) or other financing opportunities. There can be no assurance that such additional sources of financing will be available on terms satisfactory to us or permitted by our current debt agreement.

As discussed in the Recent Developments , we entered into a Joint Venture Agreement with 4301 Operations, LLC, to establish and operate the northeastern RPC for our Sales and Recycling Agreement with General Electric. We plan to raise $2.0 million debt and/or equity financing to fund our share of the capital required to form the joint venture. There is no assurance that such financing will be available on terms satisfactory to us or permitted by our current debt agreement.

The joint venture expects to purchase and install UNTHA Recycling Technology (URT) Equipment by the end of 2010, enhancing the capabilities of the RPC. We are the exclusive distributor of URT Equipment for North America**.** The joint venture plans to raise additional debt financing to purchase the URT equipment but there is no assurance that the financing will be available or on terms acceptable to the joint venture.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Market Risk and Impact of Inflation

Interest Rate Risk. We do not believe there is any significant risk related to interest rate fluctuations on our long-term fixed-rate debt. There is interest rate risk on the line of credit, since our interest rate floats with prime. The outstanding balance on our line of credit as of October 3, 2009 was $11.5 million. Although the $11.5 million line of credit is subject to a minimum interest rate of 6.25%, based on average floating rate borrowings of $11.5 million, a hypothetical 100 basis point change in the applicable interest rate would have caused our interest expense to change by immaterial amounts for the three- and nine-month periods ended October 3, 2009.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk. We currently generate revenues in Canada. The reporting currency for our consolidated financial statements is U.S. dollars. It is not possible to determine the exact impact of foreign currency exchange rate changes; however, the effect on reported revenue and net earnings can be estimated. We estimate that the overall strength of the U.S. dollar against the Canadian dollar had an unfavorable impact on revenues in the amounts of

Table of Contents

approximately $0.3 million and $0.9 million for the three and nine months ended October 3, 2009, respectively. In addition, we estimate that such strength had an unfavorable impact of approximately $0.1 million and $0.3 million on our net income for the three and nine months ended October 3, 2009, respectively. We do not currently hedge foreign currency fluctuations and do not intend to do so for the foreseeable future.

We do not hold any derivative financial instruments nor do we hold any securities for trading or speculative purposes.

Also, we believe the decline in the housing and credit markets could adversely affect buying habits of our customers throughout at least the remainder of 2009.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We have established disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act), as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission s rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our Board of Directors and senior management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

Based on their evaluation, of our disclosure controls and procedures conducted as of October 3, 2009, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the Company have concluded, pursuant to the Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(b), that as of that date our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

During the third quarter of fiscal 2009, there was no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) that materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Table of Contents

PART II. Other Information

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

In December 2004, we filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California alleging that JACO Environmental, Inc. (JACO) and one of our former consultants fraudulently obtained U.S. Patent No. 6,732,416 in May 2004 covering appliance recycling methods and systems that were originally developed by us beginning in 1987 and used in serving more than forty-five electric utility appliance recycling programs up to the time the suit was filed. We sought an injunction to prevent JACO from claiming that it obtained a valid patent on appliance recycling processes that we believe is based on methods and processes we invented. In addition, we asked the Court to find that the patent obtained by JACO is unenforceable due to inequitable conduct before the United States Patent Office. We also asked the court for unspecified damages related to charges that JACO, in using the patent to promote its services, engaged in unfair competition and false and misleading advertising under federal and California statutes.

In September 2005, we received a legally binding document in which JACO stated it would not sue us or any of our customers for violating the JACO patent. Further, the defendants in the case did not assert any counterclaims against ARCA.

In January 2009, the Court granted JACO a summary judgment in ARCA s lawsuit against the parties. The ruling was made by the same judge who had earlier denied summary judgment to the defendants. Even though the Court s ruling will have no impact on our method of recycling or ability to conduct existing or future business, we filed an appeal with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in California in February 2009 seeking to have the court set aside the summary judgment. We believe the decision by the trial judge was in error and contrary to the law relating to unfair competition and false advertising. We believe we are entitled to our day in court against JACO for damages caused by their actions, but we do not yet have a timeline on a decision of the appeal.

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

On October 21, 2009, we issued a warrant to purchase 248,189 shares of Common Stock at a price of $0.75 per share. The warrant is exercisable in full at any time during a term of ten years. The exercise price may be reduced and the number of shares of Common Stock that may be purchased under the warrant may be increased if the Company issues or sells additional shares of Common Stock at a price lower than the then-current warrant exercise price or the then-current market price of the Common Stock. The warrant was issued pursuant to exemption from registration under Section 4(2) of the Securities Act.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
10.36*	Purchase agreement for sale of St. Louis Park building.
10.37*	Lease agreement for leaseback of St. Louis Park building.
31.1*	Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2*	Certification by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2	Certification by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

* Filed herewith.

Furnished herewith.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

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

Dated: November 12, 2009

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.
(Registrant)

By /s/ Edward R. Cameron
Edward R. Cameron
President and Chief Executive Officer

By /s/ Peter P. Hausback
Peter P. Hausback
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and
Principal Financial and Accounting Officer