

UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC  
Form 10-Q  
June 11, 2009

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended May 2, 2009

OR

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

Commission File Number: 000-21531

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

05-0376157  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

260 Lake Road Dayville, CT  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

06241  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (860) 779-2800

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days:

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "accelerated filer," "large accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting

Edgar Filing: UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC - Form 10-Q

company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

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

Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

As of June 5, 2009 there were 42,999,468 shares of the Registrant’s Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share, outstanding.

---

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I.	Financial Information	
Item 1.	Financial Statements	
	Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited)	3
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (unaudited)	4
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)	5
	Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)	6
Item 2.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	12
Item 3.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	22
Item 4.	Controls and Procedures	22
Part II.	Other Information	
Item 1.	Legal Proceedings	22
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	22
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

## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Financial Statements

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)  
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	May 2, 2009	August 2, 2008
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$6,686	\$25,333
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$6,209 and \$5,535, respectively	197,580	179,063
Notes receivable, trade, net of allowance of \$528 and \$130, respectively	606	1,412
Inventories	418,242	394,364
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	14,626	13,307
Deferred income taxes	14,221	14,221
Total current assets	651,961	627,700
 Property & equipment, net	 241,186	 234,115
Other assets:		
Goodwill	166,471	170,609
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$3,273 and \$1,671, respectively	39,821	33,689
Notes receivable, trade, net of allowance of \$1,415 and \$1,423, respectively	2,242	2,349
Other assets	19,201	16,021
Total assets	\$1,120,882	\$1,084,483
 <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Notes payable	\$248,573	\$288,050
Accounts payable	176,510	160,418
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	73,485	63,308
Current portion of long-term debt	4,911	5,027
Total current liabilities	503,479	516,803
 Long-term debt, excluding current portion	 54,875	 58,485
Deferred income taxes	10,446	9,058
Other long-term liabilities	24,456	20,087
Total liabilities	593,256	604,433
 Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 5,000 shares; none issued or outstanding	-	-
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 100,000 shares; 43,170 issued and 42,942 outstanding shares at May 2, 2009; 43,100 issued and 42,871 outstanding shares at August 2, 2008	432	431
Additional paid-in capital	174,166	169,238
Treasury stock	(6,092 )	(6,092 )

Edgar Filing: UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC - Form 10-Q

Unallocated shares of Employee Stock Ownership Plan	(917 )	(1,040 )
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,876 )	(753 )
Retained earnings	361,913	318,266
Total stockholders' equity	527,626	480,050
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$1,120,882	\$1,084,483

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

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.  
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)  
 (In thousands, except per share data)

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008
Net sales	\$889,538	\$886,962	\$2,601,409	\$2,454,007
Cost of sales	720,787	721,119	2,103,004	1,998,021
Gross profit	168,751	165,843	498,405	455,986
Operating expenses	138,327	141,018	417,082	387,384
Total operating expenses	138,327	141,018	417,082	387,384
Operating income	30,424	24,825	81,323	68,602
Other expense (income):				
Interest expense	1,723	4,186	8,333	12,137
Interest income	11	(140 )	(331 )	(472 )
Other, net	134	80	281	154
Total other expense	1,868	4,126	8,283	11,819
Income before income taxes	28,556	20,699	73,040	56,783
Provision for income taxes	11,777	7,700	29,393	21,123
Net income	\$16,779	\$12,999	\$43,647	\$35,660
Basic per share data:				
Net income	\$0.39	\$0.30	\$1.02	\$0.84
Weighted average basic shares of common stock	42,871	42,727	42,827	42,678
Diluted per share data:				
Net income	\$0.39	\$0.30	\$1.02	\$0.83
Weighted average diluted shares of common stock	42,943	42,847	42,939	42,858

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

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)  
(In thousands)

	Nine months ended	
	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net income	\$43,647	\$35,660
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	20,329	15,694
Loss on disposals of property and equipment	290	8
Provision for doubtful accounts	3,526	1,665
Share-based compensation	4,607	3,503
Gain on forgiveness of loan	-	(157 )
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of acquired companies:		
Accounts receivable	(20,760 )	(15,215 )
Inventories	(21,314 )	(77,007 )
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(1,002 )	119
Notes receivable, trade	369	69
Accounts payable	(1,195 )	2,074
Accrued expenses	12,194	(1,663 )
Income taxes payable	-	923
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	40,691	(34,327 )
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Capital expenditures	(25,421 )	(32,024 )
Purchases of acquired businesses, net of cash acquired	(4,468 )	(107,726 )
Net cash used in investing activities	(29,889 )	(139,750 )
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net (repayments) borrowings under note payable	(39,477 )	175,000
Repayments of long-term debt	(3,726 )	(7,754 )
Increase in bank overdraft	17,152	9,482
Payments on life insurance policy loans	(3,072 )	-
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	188	848
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options	133	171
Capitalized debt issuance costs	(647 )	(1,199 )
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(29,449 )	176,548
<b>NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>(18,647 )</b>	<b>2,471</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	25,333	17,010
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$6,686	\$19,481
<b>Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:</b>		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest, net of amounts capitalized	\$7,713	\$11,431
Federal and state income taxes, net of refunds	\$29,734	\$18,877

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



UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.  
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
May 2, 2009 (Unaudited)

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

United Natural Foods, Inc. (the “Company”) is a leading national distributor and retailer of natural, organic and specialty products. The Company sells its products primarily throughout the United States.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for interim financial information, including the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally required in complete financial statements prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted. In the Company's opinion, these financial statements include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations for the interim periods presented. The results of operations for interim periods, however, may not be indicative of the results that may be expected for a full year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 2, 2008.

Net sales consists primarily of sales of natural, organic and specialty products to retailers, adjusted for customer volume discounts, returns and allowances. Net sales also includes amounts charged by the Company to customers for shipping and handling and fuel surcharges. The principal components of cost of sales include the amounts paid to manufacturers and growers for product sold, plus the cost of transportation necessary to bring the product to the Company's distribution facilities. Cost of sales also includes amounts incurred by the Company's manufacturing subsidiary, Hershey Import Company, Inc. (“Hershey Imports”) for inbound transportation costs, depreciation for manufacturing equipment and consideration received from suppliers in connection with the purchase or promotion of the suppliers' products. Operating expenses include salaries and wages, employee benefits (including payments under the Company's Employee Stock Ownership Plan), warehousing and delivery, selling, occupancy, insurance, administrative, share-based compensation and amortization expense. Other expenses (income) include interest on outstanding indebtedness, interest income and miscellaneous income and expenses.

2. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company has a share-based compensation program that provides its Board of Directors broad discretion in creating employee equity incentives. This program includes incentive and non-statutory stock options, nonvested stock awards (consisting of awards of restricted stock and restricted stock units), and performance-based shares and units. These awards to employees are granted under various plans which are stockholder approved. Stock options are generally time-based, vesting 25% on each annual anniversary of the grant date over four years and generally expire ten years from the grant date. Awards of restricted stock and restricted stock units to employees are generally time-based and vest 25% on each annual anniversary of the grant date over four years. Awards of performance shares and performance share units vest upon the satisfaction of the relevant performance criteria over the performance period established by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors when the award is made. As of May 2, 2009, the Company had approximately 0.4 million shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under its share-based compensation plans.

The Company recognizes share-based compensation expense in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment ("SFAS 123(R)") over the requisite service period of the individual grants, which generally equals the vesting period. The Company recognized share-based compensation expense for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 of \$1.3 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. For the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, the Company recognized \$4.6 million and \$3.5 million, respectively, of share-based compensation expense. The effect on net income from recognizing share-based compensation expense for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 was \$0.8 million, or \$0.02 per basic and diluted share, and \$0.7 million, or \$0.02 per basic and diluted share, respectively. The effect on net income from recognizing share-based compensation expense for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 was \$2.8 million, or \$0.06 per basic and diluted share, and \$2.2 million, or \$0.05 per basic and diluted share, respectively. The Company recorded related tax benefits from stock option exercises for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 of \$0.1 million and \$0.2 million, respectively.

As of May 2, 2009, there was \$12.6 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to outstanding share-based compensation arrangements (including stock option, restricted stock and restricted stock unit awards). This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.6 years.

The weighted average grant-date fair value of options granted during the three months ended May 2, 2009 was \$5.78. No options were granted during the three months ended April 26, 2008. The weighted average grant-date fair value of options granted during the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 was \$6.86 and \$7.34, respectively. The fair value of stock option awards was estimated using the Black-Scholes model with the following weighted-average assumptions for the three and nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively:

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008
Expected volatility	44.1%	-	38.5%	32.7%
Dividend yield	0.0%	-	0.0%	0.0%
Risk free interest rate	1.3%	-	2.1%	3.1%
Expected life	3.0 years	-	3.0 years	3.0 years

The computation of expected volatility is based on the historical volatility of the Company's stock price. The computation of expected life is based on historical exercise patterns and other factors. The interest rate for periods within the contractual life of the award is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant.

### 3. ACQUISITIONS

During the nine months ended May 2, 2009, the Company acquired substantially all of the assets and liabilities of three branded products companies, which the Company includes in the other category. See Note 7 "Business Segments" for a description of the Company's reportable segment and the "other" category. The total cash consideration paid for these product lines was approximately \$5.0 million, including approximately \$0.5 million of holdbacks currently held in escrow. No goodwill was recorded in connection with the acquisitions. The cash paid was financed by borrowings under the Company's existing revolving credit facility.

The Company has completed the final purchase price allocation for its acquisition of Distribution Holdings, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiary Millbrook Distribution Services, Inc. with the assistance of a third-party valuation firm's independent appraisal of the fair value of certain assets acquired. As a result of the final purchase price allocation, during the nine months ended May 2, 2009 goodwill decreased by approximately \$4.1 million, due primarily to a reclassification of \$5.6 million to the valuation of customer list intangibles offset by an increase in related deferred tax liabilities.

### 4. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Following is a reconciliation of the basic and diluted number of shares used in computing earnings per share:

(In thousands)	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	42,871	42,727	42,827	42,678

Net effect of dilutive stock awards based upon the treasury stock method	72	120	112	180
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	42,943	42,847	42,939	42,858

There were 1,664,294 and 895,218 anti-dilutive share-based payment awards outstanding for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. For the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, there were 1,461,756 and 892,218 anti-dilutive share-based payment awards outstanding, respectively. These anti-dilutive share-based payment awards were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share.

## 5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

On August 1, 2005, the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement effective July 29, 2005. The agreement provides for the Company to pay interest for a seven-year period at a fixed rate of 4.70% on an initial amortizing notional principal amount of \$50.0 million while receiving interest for the same period at the one-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) on the same notional principal amount. The swap has been entered into as a hedge against LIBOR movements on current variable rate indebtedness at one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%, thereby fixing its effective rate on the notional amount at 5.70%. The swap agreement qualified as an “effective” hedge under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities (“SFAS 133”). One-month LIBOR was 0.41% and 2.88% as of May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively.

The interest rate swap is designated as a cash flow hedge and is reflected at fair value in the Company’s consolidated balance sheet as a component of other long-term liabilities, and related gains or losses, net of income taxes, are deferred in stockholders’ equity as a component of accumulated other comprehensive loss. The Company does not enter into derivative agreements for trading purposes.

As of August 3, 2008, the Company adopted SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (“SFAS 157”), for financial assets and liabilities and for non-financial assets and liabilities that we recognize or disclose at fair value on at least an annual basis. SFAS 157 defines fair value as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities required or permitted to be recorded at fair value, the Company considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact and considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, such as inherent risk, transfer restrictions, and risk of nonperformance. SFAS 157 establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. SFAS 157 establishes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 Inputs – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 Inputs – Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are either directly or indirectly observable through correlation with market data. These include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; and inputs to valuation models or other pricing methodologies that do not require significant judgment because the inputs used in the model, such as interest rates and volatility, can be corroborated by readily observable market data.
- Level 3 Inputs – One or more significant inputs that are unobservable and supported by little or no market activity, and that reflect the use of significant management judgment. Level 3 assets and liabilities include those whose fair value measurements are determined using pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies or similar valuation techniques, and significant management judgment or estimation.

The following table provides the fair values hierarchy for financial assets and liabilities (in millions) measured on a recurring basis:

Fair Value at May 2, 2009		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3

## Description

## Liabilities

Interest Rate Swap	-	\$3.1	-
Total	-	\$3.1	-

The Company's determination of the fair value of its interest rate swap is calculated using a discounted cash flow analysis based on the terms of the swap contract and the observable interest rate curve. The Company had no commodity swap agreements during the nine months ended May 2, 2009 or April 26, 2008.

#### 6. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Total comprehensive income for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 amounted to approximately \$16.8 million and \$13.3 million, respectively. Total comprehensive income for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 was approximately \$42.5 million and \$34.2 million, respectively. Comprehensive income is comprised of net income plus the change in the fair value of the interest rate swap agreement. For the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, the change in fair value of this financial instrument was a pre-tax gain of less than \$0.1 million ( after-tax gain of less than \$0.1 million) and a \$0.5 million pre-tax gain (\$0.3 million after-tax gain), respectively. The change in fair value of this derivative financial instrument was a \$1.9 million pre-tax loss (\$1.1 million after-tax loss) and a \$2.3 million pre-tax loss (\$1.4 million after-tax loss) for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively.

7.

## BUSINESS SEGMENTS

The Company has several operating divisions aggregated under the wholesale segment, which is the Company's only reportable segment. These operating divisions have similar products and services, customer channels, distribution methods and historical margins. The wholesale segment is engaged in national distribution of natural, organic and specialty foods, produce, and related products in the United States. The Company has additional operating divisions that do not meet the quantitative thresholds for reportable segments. Therefore, these operating divisions are aggregated under the caption of "Other" with corporate operating expenses that are not allocated to operating divisions. Non-operating expenses that are not allocated to the operating divisions are under the caption of "Unallocated Expenses." "Other" includes a retail division, which engages in the sale of natural foods and related products to the general public through retail storefronts on the east coast of the United States, a manufacturing division, which engages in importing, roasting and packaging nuts, seeds, dried fruit and snack items through Hershey Imports, and our Blue Marble branded product lines. "Other" also includes corporate expenses, which consist of salaries, retainers, and other related expenses of officers, directors, corporate finance (including professional services), governance, human resources and internal audit that are necessary to operate the Company's headquarters located in Dayville, Connecticut.

Following is business segment information for the periods indicated (in thousands):

	Wholesale	Other	Eliminations	Unallocated Expenses	Consolidated
Three months ended May 2, 2009:					
Net sales	\$872,432	\$39,411	\$ (22,305 )		\$ 889,538
Operating income (loss)	38,245	(7,965 )	144		30,424
Interest expense				\$1,723	1,723
Interest income				11	11
Other, net				134	134
Income before income taxes					28,556
Depreciation and amortization	5,459	1,581			7,040
Capital expenditures	7,028	1,381			8,409
Goodwill	149,982	16,489			166,471
Total assets	1,013,731	115,302	(8,151 )		1,120,882
Three months ended April 26, 2008:					
Net sales	\$870,188	\$39,026	\$ (22,252 )		\$ 886,962
Operating income (loss)	27,496	(1,890 )	(781 )		24,825
Interest expense				\$4,186	4,186
Interest income				(140 )	(140 )
Other, net				80	80
Income before income taxes					20,699
Depreciation and amortization	5,246	289			5,535
Capital expenditures	10,135	424			10,559
Goodwill	165,203	16,489			181,692
Total assets	975,827	118,780	(9,997 )		1,084,610

9

	Wholesale	Other	Eliminations	Unallocated Expenses	Consolidated
Nine months ended May 2, 2009:					
Net sales	\$2,555,381	\$107,889	\$ (61,861 )		\$ 2,601,409
Operating income (loss)	95,922	(15,701 )	1,102		81,323
Interest expense				\$8,333	8,333
Interest income				(331 )	(331 )
Other, net				281	281
Income before income taxes					73,040
Depreciation and amortization	17,661	2,668			20,329
Capital expenditures	22,048	3,373			25,421
Goodwill	149,982	16,489			166,471
Total assets	1,013,731	115,302	(8,151 )		1,120,882
Nine months ended April 26, 2008:					
Net sales	\$2,414,195	\$101,926	\$ (62,114 )		\$ 2,454,007
Operating income (loss)	70,890	(1,050 )	(1,238 )		68,602
Interest expense				\$12,137	12,137
Interest income				(472 )	(472 )
Other, net				154	154
Income before income taxes					56,783
Depreciation and amortization	14,823	871			15,694
Capital expenditures	31,183	841			32,024
Goodwill	165,203	16,489			181,692
Total assets	975,827	118,780	(9,997 )		1,084,610

#### 8. NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS 157. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires enhanced disclosures about fair value measurements under other accounting pronouncements, but does not change the existing guidance as to whether or not an instrument is carried at fair value. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-2, Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157 ("FSP 157-2") which delays the effective date of SFAS 157 by one year for nonfinancial assets and liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on at least an annual basis. In October 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-3, Determining the Fair Value of a Financial Asset When the Market for That Asset is Not Active ("FSP 157-3"), which clarifies the application of SFAS 157 in an inactive market and illustrates how an entity would determine fair value when the market for a financial asset is not active. In April 2009, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-4, Determining Fair Value When the Volume and Level of Activity for the Asset or Liability Have Significantly Decreased and Identifying Transactions That Are Not Orderly ("FSP 157-4"), which provides additional guidance for estimating fair value in accordance with SFAS 157 when the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability have significantly decreased. FSP 157-4 also includes guidance on identifying circumstances that indicate a transaction is not orderly. FSP 157-4 is effective for interim and annual reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009, and is to be applied prospectively. Early adoption is permitted for periods ending after March 15, 2009. The Company adopted SFAS 157 and FSP 157-3 effective August 3, 2008, which did not have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements. In accordance with FSP 157-2, the Company has delayed the implementation of the provisions of SFAS 157 related to the fair value of goodwill, other intangible assets, and non-financial long-lived assets until its 2010 fiscal year. The Company does not expect the full adoption of SFAS 157 in accordance with FSP 157-2 and FSP



157-4 to have a material effect on the disclosures that accompany its consolidated financial statements. Refer to Note 5 for further discussion regarding the adoption of SFAS 157.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities ("SFAS 159"). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value, and establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. Unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected are reported in earnings. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. As of May 2, 2009, the Company has not elected to adopt the fair value option under SFAS 159 for any financial instruments or other items.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combinations (“SFAS 141(R)”), which is a revision of SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations. SFAS 141(R) continues to require the purchase method of accounting for business combinations and the identification and recognition of intangible assets separately from goodwill. SFAS 141(R) requires, among other things, the buyer to: (1) account for the fair value of assets and liabilities acquired as of the acquisition date (i.e., a “fair value” model rather than a “cost allocation” model); (2) expense acquisition-related costs; (3) recognize assets or liabilities assumed arising from contractual contingencies at the acquisition date using acquisition-date fair values; (4) recognize goodwill as the excess of the consideration transferred plus the fair value of any noncontrolling interest over the acquisition-date fair value of net assets acquired; (5) recognize at acquisition any contingent consideration using acquisition-date fair values (i.e., fair value earn-outs in the initial accounting for the acquisition); and (6) eliminate the recognition of liabilities for restructuring costs expected to be incurred as a result of the business combination. SFAS 141(R) also defines a “bargain” purchase as a business combination where the total acquisition-date fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired exceeds the fair value of the consideration transferred plus the fair value of any noncontrolling interest. Under this circumstance, the buyer is required to recognize such excess (formerly referred to as “negative goodwill”) in earnings as a gain. In addition, if the buyer determines that some or all of its previously booked deferred tax valuation allowance is no longer needed as a result of the business combination, SFAS 141(R) requires that the reduction or elimination of the valuation allowance be accounted as a reduction of income tax expense. SFAS 141(R) is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The Company will apply SFAS 141(R) to any acquisitions that are made on or after August 2, 2009.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an Amendment of ARB No. 51 (“SFAS 160”). This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for the non-controlling interest in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS 160 to have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities-an Amendment of SFAS No. 133 (“SFAS 161”). SFAS 161 enhances required disclosures regarding derivatives and hedging activities, including enhanced disclosures regarding how: (a) an entity uses derivative instruments; (b) derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS No. 133; and (c) derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS 161 is effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008 and early adoption is permitted. The Company adopted SFAS 161 effective May 2, 2009, which did not have a material effect on the disclosures that accompany its consolidated financial statements.

In April 2008, the FASB staff issued FASB Staff Position No. 142-3, Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets (“FSP 142-3”). FSP 142-3 amends the factors that should be considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under FASB Statement No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. The intent of FSP 142-3 is to improve the consistency between the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under Statement 142 and the period of expected cash flows used to measure the fair value of the asset under SFAS 141(R). FSP 142-3 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is prohibited. The Company does not expect the adoption of FSP 142-3 to have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

In June 2008, the FASB staff issued FASB Staff Position Emerging Issues Task Force 03-6-1, Determining Whether Instruments Granted in Share-Based Payment Transactions are Participating Securities (“FSP EITF 03-6-1”). FSP EITF 03-6-1 provides that unvested share-based payment awards that contain nonforfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents (whether paid or unpaid) are participating securities and shall be included in the computation of earnings per share pursuant to the two-class method. FSP EITF 03-6-1 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal

years beginning after December 15, 2008, and interim periods within those years. FSP EITF 03-6-1 requires that all earnings per share data presented for prior periods be adjusted retrospectively (including interim financial statements, summaries of earnings, and selected financial data) to conform with the provisions of the Staff Position. Early adoption is not permitted. The Company does not expect the adoption of FSP EITF 03-6-1 to have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB staff issued FASB Staff Position 107-1 and Accounting Principals Board 28-1, Interim Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments (“FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1”). FSP FAS 107-1 and APB 28-1 amends SFAS No. 107, “Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments (“SFAS 107”), to require disclosures about fair value of financial instruments not measured on the balance sheet at fair value in interim financial statements as well as in annual financial statements. Prior to FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1, fair values for these assets and liabilities were only disclosed annually. FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1 applies to all financial instruments within the scope of SFAS 107 and requires all entities to disclose the method(s) and significant assumptions used to estimate the fair value of financial instruments. FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1 is effective for interim periods ending after June 15, 2009. The Company does not expect the adoption of FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1 to have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

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

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. In some cases you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “should,” “will,” and “would,” or similar words. You should read statements that contain these words carefully because they discuss future expectations, contain projections of future results of operations or of financial condition or state other “forward-looking” information. The risk factors listed in Item 1A of Part II of this report, as well as any cautionary language elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, provide examples of risks, uncertainties and events that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations described in these forward-looking statements. You should be aware that the occurrence of the events described in the risk factors in Item 1A of Part II of this report and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Any forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ from those envisaged by such forward-looking statements, possibly materially. We do not undertake any obligation to update any information in this report until the effective date of our future reports required by applicable laws. Any projections of future results of operations should not be construed in any manner as a guarantee that such results will in fact occur. These projections are subject to change and could differ materially from final reported results. We may from time to time update these publicly announced projections, but we are not obligated to do so.

### Overview

We are a leading national distributor of natural, organic and specialty foods and non-food products in the United States. We carry more than 60,000 high-quality natural, organic and specialty foods and non-food products, consisting of national brand, regional brand, private label and master distribution products, in six product categories: grocery and general merchandise, produce, perishables and frozen foods, nutritional supplements, bulk and food service products and personal care items. We serve more than 17,000 customers primarily located across the United States, the majority of which can be classified into one of the following categories: independently owned natural products retailers; supernatural chains, which are comprised of large chains of natural foods supermarkets; and conventional supermarkets. Our other distribution channels include food service, international and buying clubs.

Our operations are comprised of three principal operating divisions. These operating divisions are:

- our wholesale division, which includes our broadline natural and organic distribution business, UNFI Specialty Distribution Services (“UNFI Specialty”), which is our specialty distribution business, Albert’s Organics, Inc., which is a leading distributor of organically grown produce and perishable items, and Select Nutrition, which distributes vitamins, minerals and supplements;
- our retail division, consisting of the Natural Retail Group, which operates our 13 natural products retail stores; and
- our manufacturing division, which is comprised of Hershey Import Company, Inc. (“Hershey Imports”), which specializes in the international importation, roasting and packaging of nuts, dried fruit, seeds, trail mixes, natural and organic products, and confections, and our Blue Marble branded product lines.

In recent years, our sales to existing and new customers have increased through the continued growth of the natural and organic products industry in general; our commitment to high quality service; broader product selection the acquisition of, or merger with, natural and specialty products distributors; the expansion of our existing distribution centers; the construction of new distribution centers; and the development of our own line of natural and organic

branded products. Through these efforts, we believe that we have been able to increase our market share.

We have been the primary distributor to Whole Foods Market, Inc. (“Whole Foods Market”), our largest customer, for more than 10 years. In August 2007, Whole Foods Market acquired Wild Oats Markets, Inc. (“Wild Oats Markets”). We had served as the primary distributor of natural and organic foods and non-food products for Wild Oats Markets prior to the acquisition, and our relationship with Whole Foods Market expanded to cover the former Wild Oats Markets stores retained by Whole Foods Market following the acquisition. Whole Foods Market accounted for approximately 34% and 32% of our net sales for the three months ended May 2, 2009, and April 26, 2008, respectively. On a combined basis and excluding sales to Wild Oats Markets’ former Henry’s and Sun Harvest store locations (which were sold by Whole Foods Market to a subsidiary of Smart & Final Inc. on September 30, 2007), Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets accounted for approximately 33% and 34% of our net sales for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively.

On November 2, 2007, we acquired Distribution Holdings, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiary Millbrook Distribution Services, Inc. (“Millbrook”), which we now refer to as UNFI Specialty. Through UNFI Specialty, we distribute specialty food items (including ethnic, kosher, gourmet, organic and natural foods), health and beauty care items and other non-food items.

We believe that our acquisition of UNFI Specialty accomplished several of our strategic objectives, including accelerating our expansion into a number of high-growth business segments and establishing immediate market share in the fast-growing specialty foods market. We believe that UNFI Specialty’s customer base enhances our conventional supermarket business channel and that the organizations’ complementary product lines present opportunities for cross-selling.

In order to maintain our market leadership and improve our operating efficiencies, we seek to continually:

- expand our marketing and customer service programs across regions;
- expand our national purchasing opportunities;
- offer a broader product selection;
- consolidate systems applications among physical locations and regions;
- increase our investment in people, facilities, equipment and technology;
- integrate administrative and accounting functions; and
- reduce geographic overlap between regions.

Our continued growth has created the need for expansion of existing facilities to achieve maximum operating efficiencies and to assure adequate space for future needs. Our new, 613,000 square foot distribution center in Moreno Valley, California commenced operations in September 2008 and serves our customers in Southern California, Arizona, Southern Nevada, Southern Utah, and Hawaii. Our newly leased, 675,000 square foot distribution center in York, Pennsylvania commenced operations in January 2009 and serves our customers in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia. In April 2009, we successfully relocated our UNFI Specialty distribution facility in East Brunswick, New Jersey to the York, Pennsylvania distribution center, creating our first fully integrated facility offering a full assortment of natural, organic, and specialty foods.

Our net sales consist primarily of sales of natural, organic and specialty products to retailers, adjusted for customer volume discounts, returns and allowances. Net sales also consist of amounts charged by us to customers for shipping and handling and fuel surcharges. The principal components of our cost of sales include the amounts paid to manufacturers and growers for product sold, plus the cost of transportation necessary to bring the product to our distribution facilities. Cost of sales also includes amounts incurred by us at our manufacturing subsidiary, Hershey Imports, for inbound transportation costs and depreciation for manufacturing equipment and consideration received from suppliers in connection with the purchase or promotion of the suppliers’ products. Our gross margin may not be comparable to other similar companies within our industry that may include all costs related to their distribution network in their costs of sales rather than as operating expenses. We include purchasing and outbound transportation expenses within our operating expenses rather than in our cost of sales. Total operating expenses include salaries and wages, employee benefits (including payments under our Employee Stock Ownership Plan), warehousing and delivery, selling, occupancy, insurance, administrative, share-based compensation, depreciation and amortization

expense. Other expenses (income) include interest on our outstanding indebtedness, interest income and miscellaneous income and expenses.

## Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) has defined critical accounting policies as those that are both most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations and require our most difficult, complex or subjective judgments or estimates. Based on this definition, we believe our critical accounting policies include the following: (i) determining our allowance for doubtful accounts, (ii) determining our reserves for the self-insured portions of our workers’ compensation and automobile liabilities and (iii) valuing goodwill and intangible assets. For all financial statement periods presented, there have been no material modifications to the application of these critical accounting policies.

### Allowance for doubtful accounts

We analyze customer creditworthiness, accounts receivable balances, payment history, payment terms and historical bad debt levels when evaluating the adequacy of our allowance for doubtful accounts. In instances where a reserve has been recorded for a particular customer, future sales to the customer are conducted using cash-on-delivery terms or the account is closely monitored so that as agreed upon payments are received, orders are released; a failure to pay results in held or cancelled orders. Our accounts receivable balance was \$197.6 million and \$179.1 million, net of the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$6.2 million and \$5.5 million, as of May 2, 2009 and August 2, 2008, respectively. Our notes receivable balances were \$2.8 million and \$3.8 million, net of the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1.9 million and \$1.6 million, as of May 2, 2009 and August 2, 2008, respectively.

### Insurance reserves

We record the self-insured portions of our workers’ compensation and automobile liabilities based upon actuarial methods of estimating the future cost of claims and related expenses that have been reported but not settled, and that have been incurred but not yet reported. Any projection of losses concerning workers’ compensation and automobile liability is subject to a considerable degree of variability. Among the causes of this variability are unpredictable external factors affecting litigation trends, benefit level changes and claim settlement patterns. If actual claims incurred are greater than those anticipated, our reserves may be insufficient and additional costs could be recorded in our consolidated financial statements. Accruals for workers’ compensation and automobile liabilities totaled \$16.2 million and \$12.5 million as of May 2, 2009 and August 2, 2008, respectively.

### Valuation of goodwill and intangible assets

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (“SFAS”) No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, requires that companies test goodwill for impairment at least annually and between annual tests if events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount. We have elected to perform our annual tests for indications of goodwill impairment during the fourth quarter of each year. Impairment losses are determined based upon the excess of carrying amounts over discounted expected future cash flows of the underlying business. The assessment of the recoverability of goodwill will be impacted if estimated future cash flows are not achieved. For reporting units that indicate potential impairment, we determine the implied fair value of that reporting unit using a discounted cash flow analysis and compare such values to the respective reporting units’ carrying amounts. Total goodwill as of May 2, 2009 and August 2, 2008 was \$166.5 million and \$170.6 million, respectively.

Intangible assets with indefinite lives are tested for impairment at least annually and between annual tests if events occur or circumstances change that would indicate that the value of the asset may be impaired. Impairment is



measured as the difference between the fair value of the asset and its carrying value. Total indefinite-lived intangible assets as of May 2, 2009 and August 2, 2008 were \$28.3 million and \$25.9 million, respectively.

Intangible assets with finite lives are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Cash flows expected to be generated by the related assets are estimated over the asset's useful life based on updated projections. If the evaluation indicates that the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable, the potential impairment is measured based on a projected discounted cash flow model. Total finite-lived intangible assets as of May 2, 2009 and August 2, 2008 were \$11.5 million and \$7.8 million, respectively.

## Results of Operations

The following table presents, for the periods indicated, certain income and expense items expressed as a percentage of net sales:

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008	May 2, 2009	April 26, 2008
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of sales	81.0%	81.3%	80.8%	81.4%
Gross profit	19.0%	18.7%	19.2%	18.6%
Operating expenses	15.5%	15.9%	16.0%	15.8%
Amortization of intangible assets	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Total operating expenses	15.6%	15.9%	16.0%*	15.8%
Operating income	3.4%	2.8%	3.1%*	2.8%
Other expense (income):				
Interest expense	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%
Interest income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other, net	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total other expense	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%
Income before income taxes	3.2%	2.3%	2.8%	2.3%
Provision for income taxes	1.3%	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%
Net income	1.9%	1.5%*	1.7%	1.5%*

\* Total reflects rounding

## Three Months Ended May 2, 2009 Compared To Three Months Ended April 26, 2008

## Net Sales

Our net sales increased approximately 0.3%, or \$2.6 million, to \$889.5 million for the three months ended May 2, 2009, from \$887.0 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008. This increase was primarily due to organic sales growth (sales growth excluding UNFI Specialty) in our wholesale segment of \$26.2 million, partially offset by lower sales within UNFI Specialty due to customer losses that were in process before our acquisition of Millbrook. Our organic growth is due to the continued growth of the natural products industry in general, increased market share as a result of our focus on service and value-added services, and the opening of new, and expansion of existing, distribution centers, which allow us to carry a broader selection of products.

Whole Foods Market accounted for approximately 34% and 32% of our net sales for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. Whole Foods Market is our only supernatural chain customer following its acquisition of Wild Oats Markets in August 2007.

Edgar Filing: UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC - Form 10-Q

The following table lists the percentage of sales by customer type for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008:

Customer type	Percentage of Net Sales	
	2009	2008
Independently owned natural products retailers	41%	41%
Supernatural chains	34%	32%
Conventional supermarkets	20%	22%
Other	5%	5%

Compared to sales for the three months ended April 26, 2008, sales in the conventional supermarket channel for the three months ended May 2, 2009 were negatively impacted by customer losses within UNFI Specialty that were in process before our acquisition of Millbrook.

#### Gross Profit

Our gross profit increased approximately 1.8%, or \$2.9 million, to \$168.8 million for the three months ended May 2, 2009, from \$165.8 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008. Our gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 19.0% and 18.7% for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales during the three months ended May 2, 2009 was positively impacted by sales from Albert's Organics and UNFI Specialty, partially offset by reduced fuel surcharge revenues.

We expect UNFI Specialty's full service supermarket model to generate a higher gross margin over the long-term in our core distribution business; however, we also expect to incur higher operating expenses in providing those services. Under this model, we provide services typically performed by supermarket employees to our customers, such as stocking shelves, placing sales orders and rotating out damaged and expired products. We continue to focus on increasing our branded product revenues through our Blue Marble Brands division, which we believe will allow us to generate higher gross margins over the long-term, as branded product revenues generally yield higher margins.

#### Operating Expenses

Our total operating expenses decreased approximately 1.9%, or \$2.7 million, to \$138.3 million for the three months ended May 2, 2009, from \$141.0 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008. The decrease in total operating expenses for the three months ended May 2, 2009 was primarily due to lower diesel fuel costs as well as operational improvements and expense control programs across all of our divisions. During the quarter ended May 2, 2009, we incurred \$1.2 million of labor and other duplicate expenses associated with the January 2009 relocation of our New Oxford, Pennsylvania facility to a new facility in York, Pennsylvania and the April 2009 relocation of our UNFI Specialty facility in East Brunswick, New Jersey to our newly leased facility in York, Pennsylvania. Total operating expenses for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 includes share-based compensation expense of \$1.3 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. See Note 2 to our condensed consolidated financial statements for a discussion of our share-based compensation expense.

As a percentage of net sales, total operating expenses decreased to approximately 15.6% for the three months ended May 2, 2009, from approximately 15.9% for the three months ended April 26, 2008. The decrease in total operating expenses as a percentage of net sales was primarily attributable to lower diesel fuel expenses and expense control programs across all of our divisions.

#### Operating Income

Operating income increased approximately 22.6%, or \$5.6 million, to \$30.4 million for the three months ended May 2, 2009 from \$24.8 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008. As a percentage of net sales, operating income was 3.4% for the three months ended May 2, 2009, compared to 2.8% for the three months ended April 26, 2008. The increase in operating income as a percentage of net sales is attributable to the increase in gross margin as a percentage of sales, the smaller operating loss within UNFI Specialty as well as the decrease in total operating expenses as a percentage of net sales for the three months ended May 2, 2009, compared to the three months ended April 26, 2008.

#### Other Expense (Income)

Other expense (income) decreased \$2.3 million to \$1.9 million for the three months ended May 2, 2009, from \$4.1 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008. Interest expense of \$1.7 million for the three months ended May 2, 2009 represented a decrease of 58.9% from the three months ended April 26, 2008 due primarily to lower interest rates, as well as lower average debt levels during the three months ended May 2, 2009.

#### Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective income tax rate was 41.2% and 37.2% for the three months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. The increase in the effective income tax rate was primarily due to the fiscal 2008 benefit of tax credits associated with the solar panel installation projects at our Rocklin, California and Dayville, Connecticut distribution facilities, as well as increases in state tax rates due to changes in apportionment factors. Our effective income tax rate was also affected by share-based compensation for incentive stock options and the timing of disqualifying dispositions of certain share-based compensation awards. SFAS 123(R) provides that the tax effect of the book compensation cost previously recognized for an incentive stock option that an employee does not retain for the minimum holding period required by the Internal Revenue Code (a "disqualified disposition") is recognized as a tax benefit in the period the disqualifying disposition occurs. Our effective income tax rate will continue to be effected by the tax impact related to incentive stock options and the timing of tax benefits related to disqualifying dispositions.

## Net Income

Net income increased \$3.8 million to \$16.8 million, or \$0.39 per diluted share, for the three months ended May 2, 2009, compared to \$13.0 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, for the three months ended April 26, 2008.

## Nine Months Ended May 2, 2009 Compared To Nine Months Ended April 26, 2008

### Net Sales

Our net sales increased approximately 6.0%, or \$147.4 million, to \$2,601 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, from \$2,454 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. This increase was primarily due to organic sales growth in our wholesale segment of \$129.0 million. Additionally, net sales from UNFI Specialty were \$161.7 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, as compared to net sales of \$149.6 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. We acquired UNFI Specialty on November 2, 2007, and our results for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 include amounts attributable to this business for only approximately six months. Our organic growth is due to the continued growth of the natural products industry in general, increased market share as a result of our focus on service and added value services, and the opening of new, and expansion of existing, distribution centers, which allow us to carry a broader selection of products.

On a combined basis, and excluding sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations, Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets accounted for approximately 33% and 34% of our net sales for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. Whole Foods Market is our only supernatural chain customer following its acquisition of Wild Oats Markets in August 2007.

The following table lists the percentage of sales by customer type for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008:

Customer type	Percentage of Net Sales	
	2009	2008
Independently owned natural products retailers	42%	42%
Supernatural chains	33%	34%
Conventional supermarkets	20%	20%
Other	5%	4%

### Gross Profit

Our gross profit increased approximately 9.3%, or \$42.4 million, to \$498.4 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, from \$456.0 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. Our gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 19.2% and 18.6% for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales during the nine months ended May 2, 2009 was positively impacted by sales from UNFI Specialty, as well as increased fuel surcharge revenues and an increased focus on enhancing efficiencies such as through forward buying by our purchasing teams. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales during the nine months ended April 26, 2008 was negatively impacted by missed forward buying opportunities in that period.

We expect UNFI Specialty's full service supermarket model to continue to generate a higher gross margin over the long-term in our core distribution business; however, we also expect to incur higher operating expenses in providing those services. Under this model, we provide services typically performed by supermarket employees to our customers, such as stocking shelves, placing sales orders and rotating out damaged and expired products. We continue to focus on increasing our branded product revenues through our Blue Marble Brands division, which we believe will allow us to generate higher gross margins over the long-term, as branded product revenues generally yield higher margins.

### Operating Expenses

Our total operating expenses increased approximately 7.7%, or \$29.7 million, to \$417.1 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, from \$387.4 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. The increase in total operating expenses for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 was primarily due to increases of approximately \$14.7 million in infrastructure, diesel fuel and other distribution expenses in our wholesale segment to support our sales growth and UNFI Specialty's higher cost supermarket model. During the nine months ended May 2, 2009, we incurred \$6.2 million of labor and other duplicate expenses associated with the September 2008 relocation of our Fontana, California facility to a new facility in Moreno Valley, California and the January 2009 relocation of our New Oxford, Pennsylvania facility and April 2009 relocation of our East Brunswick, New Jersey facility to a new facility in York, Pennsylvania. Total operating expenses for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 included \$66.2 million of infrastructure and personnel costs within our wholesale segment as a result of our acquisition of UNFI Specialty and our continued sales growth, and \$3.3 million of costs associated with opening our Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington facilities. Total operating expenses for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008 includes share-based compensation expense of \$4.6 million and \$3.5 million, respectively. See Note 2 to our condensed consolidated financial statements for a discussion of our share-based compensation expense.

As a percentage of net sales, total operating expenses increased to approximately 16.0% for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, from approximately 15.8% for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. The increase in total operating expenses as a percentage of net sales was primarily attributable to UNFI Specialty, as well as increased diesel fuel expenses and labor and other duplicate expenses related to the opening of our Moreno Valley, California and York, Pennsylvania distribution facilities. Despite the inefficiencies associated with opening our Moreno Valley, California and York, Pennsylvania distribution facilities, we expect that the opening of these new facilities will lead to lower operating expenses as a percentage of sales over the long-term.

### Operating Income

Operating income increased approximately 18.5%, or \$12.7 million, to \$81.3 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 from \$68.6 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. As a percentage of net sales, operating income was 3.1% for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, compared to 2.8% for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. The increase in operating income as a percentage of net sales is attributable to the increase in gross margin as a percentage of net sales for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, compared to the nine months ended April 26, 2008, as well as a smaller operating loss within UNFI Specialty.

### Other Expense (Income)

Other expense (income) decreased \$3.5 million to \$8.3 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, from \$11.8 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. Interest expense of \$8.3 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 represented a decrease of 31.3% from interest expense of \$12.1 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. This decrease was due primarily to lower interest rates, partially offset by higher debt levels during the nine months ended May 2, 2009.

### Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective income tax rate was 40.2% and 37.2% for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. The increase in the effective income tax rate was primarily due to the fiscal 2008 benefit of tax credits associated with the solar panel installation projects at our Rocklin, California and Dayville, Connecticut distribution facilities, as well as increases in state tax rates due to changes in apportionment factors. Our effective income tax rate was also affected by share-based compensation for incentive stock options and the timing of disqualifying dispositions



of certain share-based compensation awards. SFAS 123(R) provides that the tax effect of the book compensation cost previously recognized for an incentive stock option that was subject to a disqualified disposition is recognized as a tax benefit in the period the disqualifying disposition occurs. Our effective income tax rate will continue to be effected by the tax impact related to incentive stock options and the timing of tax benefits related to disqualifying dispositions.

#### Net Income

Net income increased \$8.0 million to \$43.6 million, or \$1.02 per diluted share, for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, compared to \$35.7 million, or \$0.83 per diluted share, for the nine months ended April 26, 2008.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

We finance our operations and growth primarily with cash flows from operations, borrowings under our credit facility, operating leases, trade payables and bank indebtedness. In addition, from time to time, we may issue equity and debt securities.

On November 2, 2007, we amended our \$250 million secured revolving credit facility with a bank group led by Bank of America Business Capital as the administrative agent, to temporarily increase the maximum borrowing base under the credit facility from \$250 million to \$270 million. We used the funds available to us as a result of this amendment to fund a portion of the purchase price for our acquisition of UNFI Specialty. On November 27, 2007, we further amended this facility to increase the maximum borrowing base under the credit facility from \$270 million to \$400 million and provide us with a one-time option, subject to approval by the lenders under the credit facility, to increase the borrowing base by up to an additional \$50 million. Interest accrues on borrowings under the credit facility, at our option, at either the base rate (the applicable prime lending rate of Bank of America Business Capital, as announced from time to time) or at the one-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) plus 0.75%. The \$400 million credit facility matures on November 27, 2012. The amended and restated credit facility supports our working capital requirements in the ordinary course of business and provides capital to grow our business organically or through acquisitions. As of May 2, 2009, our borrowing base, based on accounts receivable and inventory levels, was \$399.1 million, with remaining availability of \$131.9 million.

In April 2003, we executed a term loan agreement in the principal amount of \$30 million, secured by certain real property that was released from the lien under our amended and restated credit facility in accordance with an amendment to the loan and security agreement related to that facility. The term loan is repayable over seven years based on a fifteen-year amortization schedule. Interest on the term loan initially accrued at one-month LIBOR plus 1.50%. On July 29, 2005, we entered into an amended term loan agreement which increased the principal amount of this term loan to up to \$75 million and decreased the rate at which interest accrues to one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%. In connection with the amendments to our amended and restated revolving credit facility described above, effective November 2, 2007 and November 27, 2007, we amended the term loan agreement to conform certain terms and conditions to the corresponding terms and conditions in the credit agreement that establishes our amended and restated revolving credit facility. As of May 2, 2009, approximately \$57.7 million was outstanding under the term loan agreement.

We believe that our capital expenditure requirements for fiscal 2009 will be between \$30 and \$35 million. We expect to finance these requirements with cash generated from operations and borrowings under our existing credit facilities. These projects will provide both expanded facilities and enhanced technology that we believe will provide us with the capacity to continue to support the growth of our customer base. We believe that our future capital expenditure requirements will be lower than our anticipated fiscal 2009 requirements, both in dollars and as a percentage of net sales. Future investments in acquisitions that we may pursue will be financed through our existing credit facilities, equity or long-term debt negotiated at the time of the potential acquisition.

Net cash provided by operations was \$40.7 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, and was the result of net income of \$43.6 million, the change in cash collected from customers net of cash paid to vendors and a \$21.3 million investment in inventory. The increase in inventory levels primarily related to our sales growth as well as the opening of our York, Pennsylvania facility in January 2009, and the subsequent relocation of our East Brunswick, New Jersey facility into the York, Pennsylvania facility in April 2009. Net cash used in operations was \$34.3 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, as the result of net income of \$35.7 million, the change in cash collected from customers net of cash paid to vendors and a \$77.0 million investment in inventory. Days in inventory was 52 days at May 2, 2009 and 51 days at April 26, 2008. Our days in inventory level at May 2, 2009 represents a decrease of 6 days from the days in inventory of 58 at January 31, 2009. Days sales outstanding was approximately 21 days at May

2, 2009, compared to 20 days at April 26, 2008. Working capital increased by \$37.6 million, or 34%, to \$148.5 million at May 2, 2009, compared to working capital of \$110.9 million at August 2, 2008.

Net cash used in investing activities decreased \$109.9 million to \$29.9 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, compared to \$139.8 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. This decrease was primarily due to the cash paid for the acquisition of UNFI Specialty during the nine months ended April 26, 2008.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$29.4 million for the nine months ended May 2, 2009, compared to net cash provided by financing activities of \$176.5 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008. This change in cash provided by financing activities was primarily due to the increase in borrowings under our credit facility to fund our acquisition of UNFI Specialty during the nine months ended April 26, 2008.

In August 2005, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement effective July 29, 2005. This agreement provides for us to pay interest for a seven-year period at a fixed rate of 4.70% on an initial amortizing notional principal amount of \$50 million while receiving interest for the same period at one-month LIBOR on the same notional principal amount. The swap has been entered into as a hedge against LIBOR movements on current variable rate indebtedness at one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%, thereby fixing our effective rate on the notional amount at 5.70%. One-month LIBOR was 0.41% as of May 2, 2009. The swap agreement qualifies as an “effective” hedge under SFAS 133.

#### Contractual Obligations

There have been no material changes to our commitments and contingencies from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 2, 2008, except for an operating lease signed with respect to office space for our new corporate headquarters in Providence, Rhode Island. Commitments related to the lease agreement amount to approximately \$0.7 million in fiscal year 2010, \$0.9 million in fiscal year 2011, \$1.2 million in each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013, and \$7.5 million in the aggregate thereafter.

#### Seasonality

Generally, we do not experience any material seasonality. However, our sales and operating results may vary significantly from quarter to quarter due to factors such as changes in our operating expenses, management’s ability to execute our operating and growth strategies, personnel changes, demand for natural products, supply shortages and general economic conditions.

#### Recently Issued Financial Accounting Standards

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (“SFAS 157”). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires enhanced disclosures about fair value measurements under other accounting pronouncements, but does not change the existing guidance as to whether or not an instrument is carried at fair value. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-2, Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157 (“FSP 157-2”), which delays the effective date of SFAS 157 by one year for nonfinancial assets and liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on at least an annual basis. In October 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-3, Determining the Fair Value of a Financial Asset When the Market for That Asset is Not Active (“FSP 157-3”), which clarifies the application of SFAS 157 in an inactive market and illustrates how an entity would determine fair value when the market for a financial asset is not active. In April 2009, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-4, Determining Fair Value When the Volume and Level of Activity for the Asset or Liability Have Significantly Decreased and Identifying Transactions That Are Not Orderly (“FSP 157-4”), which provides additional guidance for estimating fair value in accordance with SFAS 157 when the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability have significantly decreased. FSP 157-4 also includes guidance on identifying circumstances that indicate a transaction is not orderly. FSP 157-4 is effective for interim and annual reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009, and is to be applied prospectively. Early adoption is permitted for periods ending after March 15, 2009. We adopted SFAS 157 and FSP 157-3 effective August 3, 2008, and it did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements. In accordance with FSP 157-2, we have delayed the implementation of the provisions of SFAS 157 related to the fair value of goodwill, other intangible assets, and non-financial long-lived assets until our fiscal year beginning August 2, 2009. We do not expect the full adoption of SFAS 157 in accordance with FSP 157-2 and FSP 157-4 to have a material effect on the disclosures that accompany our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (“SFAS 159”). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other

items at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value, and establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. Unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected are reported in earnings. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. As of May 2, 2009, we have not elected to adopt the fair value option under SFAS 159 for any financial instruments or other items.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combinations (“SFAS 141(R)”), which is a revision of SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations. SFAS 141(R) continues to require the purchase method of accounting for business combinations and the identification and recognition of intangible assets separately from goodwill. SFAS 141(R) requires, among other things, the buyer to: (1) fair value assets and liabilities acquired as of the acquisition date (i.e., a “fair value” model rather than a “cost allocation” model); (2) expense acquisition-related costs; (3) recognize assets or liabilities assumed arising from contractual contingencies at the acquisition date using acquisition-date fair values; (4) recognize goodwill as the excess of the consideration transferred plus the fair value of any noncontrolling interest over the acquisition-date fair value of net assets acquired; (5) recognize at acquisition any contingent consideration using acquisition-date fair values (i.e., fair value earn-outs in the initial accounting for the acquisition); and (6) eliminate the recognition of liabilities for restructuring costs expected to be incurred as a result of the business combination. SFAS 141(R) also defines a “bargain” purchase as a business combination where the total acquisition-date fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired exceeds the fair value of the consideration transferred plus the fair value of any noncontrolling interest. Under this circumstance, the buyer is required to recognize such excess (formerly referred to as “negative goodwill”) in earnings as a gain. In addition, if the buyer determines that some or all of its previously booked deferred tax valuation allowance is no longer needed as a result of the business combination, SFAS 141(R) requires that the reduction or elimination of the valuation allowance be accounted as a reduction of income tax expense. SFAS 141(R) is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. We will apply SFAS 141(R) to any acquisitions that are made on or after August 2, 2009.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an Amendment of ARB No. 51 (“SFAS 160”). This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for the non-controlling interest in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. We do not expect the adoption of SFAS 160 to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities-an Amendment of SFAS No. 133 (“SFAS 161”). SFAS 161 enhances required disclosures regarding derivatives and hedging activities, including enhanced disclosures regarding how: (a) an entity uses derivative instruments; (b) derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities; and (c) derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS 161 is effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008 and early adoption is permitted. We adopted SFAS 161 effective May 2, 2009, which did not have a material effect on the disclosures that accompany our consolidated financial statements.

In April 2008, the FASB staff issued FASB Staff Position No. 142-3, Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets (“FSP 142-3”). FSP 142-3 amends the factors that should be considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under FASB Statement No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. The intent of FSP 142-3 is to improve the consistency between the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under Statement 142 and the period of expected cash flows used to measure the fair value of the asset under SFAS 141(R). FSP 142-3 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is prohibited. We do not expect the adoption of FSP 142-3 to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In June 2008, the FASB staff issued FASB Staff Position Emerging Issues Task Force 03-6-1, Determining Whether Instruments Granted in Share-Based Payment Transactions are Participating Securities (“FSP EITF 03-6-1”). FSP EITF 03-6-1 provides that unvested share-based payment awards that contain nonforfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents (whether paid or unpaid) are participating securities and shall be included in the computation of earnings per share pursuant to the two-class method. FSP EITF 03-6-1 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and interim periods within those years. FSP EITF 03-6-1 requires that all

earnings per share data presented for prior periods be adjusted retrospectively (including interim financial statements, summaries of earnings, and selected financial data) to conform with the provisions of the Staff Position. Early adoption is not permitted. We do not expect the adoption of FSP EITF 03-6-1 to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB staff issued FASB Staff Position 107-1 and Accounting Principals Board 28-1, Interim Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments (“FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1”). FSP FAS 107-1 and APB 28-1 amends SFAS No. 107, “Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments,” (SFAS 107) to require disclosures about fair value of financial instruments not measured on the balance sheet at fair value in interim financial statements as well as in annual financial statements. Prior to FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1, fair values for these assets and liabilities were only disclosed annually. FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1 applies to all financial instruments within the scope of SFAS 107 and requires all entities to disclose the method(s) and significant assumptions used to estimate the fair value of financial instruments. FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1 is effective for interim periods ending after June 15, 2009. We do not expect the adoption of FSP 107-1 and APB 28-1 to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our exposure to market risk results primarily from fluctuations in interest rates on our borrowings and price increases in diesel fuel. As more fully described in Note 5 to the condensed consolidated financial statements, we use an interest rate swap agreement to modify variable rate obligations to fixed rate obligations for a portion of our debt. In addition, from time to time we use commodity swap agreements to hedge a portion of our expected diesel fuel usage. There have been no material changes to our exposure to market risks from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 2, 2008.

### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

- (a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures. We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report on Form 10-Q (the "Evaluation Date"). Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the Evaluation Date, our disclosure controls and procedures are effective.
- (b) Changes in internal controls. There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the third fiscal quarter of 2009 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Not applicable.

### Item 1A. Risk Factors

Our business, financial condition and results of operations are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including those described below and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. This section discusses factors that, individually or in the aggregate, we think could cause our actual results to differ materially from expected and historical results. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks.

We note these factors for investors as permitted by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You should understand that it is not possible to predict or identify all such factors. Consequently, you should not consider the following to be a complete discussion of all potential risks or uncertainties applicable to our business. See "Part I. Item 2, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

We depend heavily on our principal customer.

Our ability to maintain a close, mutually beneficial relationship with our largest customer, Whole Foods Market, is an important element to our continued growth. In October 2006, we announced a seven-year distribution agreement with Whole Foods Market, which commenced on September 26, 2006, under which we serve as the primary U.S. distributor to Whole Foods Market in the regions where we previously served. In January 2007, we expanded our Whole Foods Market relationship in the Southern Pacific region of the United States. In August 2007, Whole Foods



Market and Wild Oats Markets completed their merger, as a result of which, Wild Oats Markets became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Whole Foods Market. We service all of the stores previously owned by Wild Oats Markets and now owned by Whole Foods Market under the terms of our distribution agreement with Whole Foods Market. Whole Foods Market accounted for approximately 33% and 34% of our net sales for the nine months ended May 2, 2009 and April 26, 2008, respectively. As a result of this concentration of our customer base, the loss or cancellation of business from Whole Foods Market, including from increased distribution to their own facilities or store closures, could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our operations are sensitive to economic downturns.

The grocery industry is sensitive to national and regional economic conditions and the demand for our products may be adversely affected from time to time by economic downturns, such as the current recessionary environment, that impact consumer spending, including discretionary spending. Future economic conditions such as employment levels, business conditions, interest rates, energy and fuel costs and tax rates could reduce consumer spending or change consumer purchasing habits. Among these changes could be a reduction in the number of organic products that consumers purchase where there are non-organic (or “conventional”) alternatives, given that many organic products, and particularly organic foods, often have higher retail prices than do their conventional counterparts. In addition, consumers may choose to purchase private label organic products rather than branded organic products, which have higher retail prices than do their private label counterparts.

Our customers generally are not obligated to continue purchasing products from us.

We generally sell products under purchase orders, and we generally do not have agreements with or commitments from our customers for the purchase of products. We cannot assure you that our customers will maintain or increase their sales volumes or orders for the products supplied by us or that we will be able to maintain or add to our existing customer base. Decreases in our customers’ sales volumes or orders for products supplied by us may have an adverse affect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our profit margins may decrease due to consolidation in the grocery industry.

The grocery distribution industry generally is characterized by relatively high volume with relatively low profit margins. The continuing consolidation of retailers in the natural products industry and the growth of supernatural chains may reduce our profit margins in the future as more customers qualify for greater volume discounts, and we experience pricing pressures from both ends of the supply chain.

Our acquisition strategy may adversely affect our business.

We continually evaluate opportunities to acquire other companies. To the extent that our future growth includes acquisitions, we cannot assure you that we will successfully identify suitable acquisition candidates, consummate such potential acquisitions, integrate any acquired entities or successfully expand into new markets as a result of our acquisitions. We believe that there are risks related to acquiring companies, including overpaying for acquisitions, losing key employees of acquired companies and failing to achieve potential synergies. Additionally, our business could be adversely affected if we are unable to integrate the companies acquired in our acquisitions and mergers.

A significant portion of our past growth has been achieved through acquisitions of or mergers with other distributors of natural products. The successful integration of any acquired entity is critical to our future operating and financial performance. Integration requires, among other things:

- maintaining the customer base;
- optimizing delivery routes;
- coordinating administrative, distribution and finance functions; and
- integrating management information systems and personnel.

The integration process has diverted and could divert the attention of management and any difficulties or problems encountered in the transition process could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. In particular, the integration process may temporarily redirect resources previously focused on reducing product cost, resulting in lower gross profits in relation to sales. In addition, the process of combining companies has caused and could cause the interruption of, or a loss of momentum in, the activities of the respective businesses, which could have an adverse effect on their combined operations. For example, our acquisition of UNFI Specialty has diverted the attention of management away from our core business, and not yet fully produced the purchasing efficiencies and other synergies we expect to result from the acquisition, which has negatively affected our operating income. Although we expect to achieve efficiencies from this acquisition in future periods, we cannot assure you that we will realize any of the anticipated benefits of this or other mergers.

We may have difficulty managing our growth.

The growth in the size of our business and operations has placed, and is expected to continue to place, a significant strain on our management. Our future growth may be limited by our inability to acquire new distribution facilities or expand our existing distribution facilities, make acquisitions, successfully integrate acquired entities, implement information systems or adequately manage our personnel. Our future growth is limited in part by the size and location of our distribution centers. We cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully expand our existing distribution facilities or open new distribution facilities in new or existing markets to facilitate growth. Even if we are able to expand our distribution network, our ability to compete effectively and to manage future growth, if any, will depend on our ability to continue to implement and improve operational, financial and management information systems on a timely basis and to expand, train, motivate and manage our work force. We cannot assure you that our existing personnel, systems, procedures and controls will be adequate to support the future growth of our operations. Our inability to manage our growth effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We have significant competition from a variety of sources.

We operate in competitive markets and our future success will be largely dependent on our ability to provide quality products and services at competitive prices. Our competition comes from a variety of sources, including other distributors of natural products and specialty grocery and mass market grocery distributors. We cannot assure you that mass market grocery distributors will not further increase their emphasis on natural products and more directly compete with us or that new competitors will not enter the market. These distributors may have been in business longer than we have, may have substantially greater financial and other resources than we have and may be better established in their markets. We cannot assure you that our current or potential competitors will not provide products or services comparable or superior to those provided by us or adapt more quickly than we do to evolving industry trends or changing market requirements. It is also possible that alliances among competitors may develop and rapidly acquire significant market share or that certain of our customers will increase distribution to their own retail facilities. Increased competition may result in price reductions, reduced gross margins and loss of market share, any of which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations. We cannot assure you that we will be able to compete effectively against current and future competitors.

Increased fuel costs may have a negative impact on our results of operations.

Increased fuel costs may have a negative impact on our results of operations. The high cost of diesel fuel can increase the price we pay for products as well as the costs we incur to deliver products to our customers. These factors, in turn, may negatively impact our net sales, margins, operating expenses and operating results. To manage this risk, we have in the past periodically entered, and may in the future periodically enter, into heating oil derivative contracts to hedge a portion of our projected diesel fuel requirements. Heating crude oil prices have a highly correlated relationship to fuel prices, making these derivatives effective in offsetting changes in the cost of diesel fuel. We are not party to any commodity swap agreements and, as a result, our exposure to volatility in the price of diesel fuel has increased relative to our exposure to volatility in prior periods in which we had outstanding heating oil derivative contracts. We do not enter into fuel hedge contracts for speculative purposes. We also have maintained a fuel surcharge program since fiscal 2005 which allows us to pass some of our higher fuel costs through to our customers. We cannot guarantee that we will continue to be able to pass a comparable proportion or any of our higher fuel costs to our customers in the future.

The cost of the capital available to us and any limitations on our ability to access additional capital may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We have an amended \$400 million secured revolving credit facility, which matures on November 27, 2012, and under which borrowings accrue interest, at our option, at either (i) the base rate (the applicable prime lending rate of Bank of America Business Capital, as announced from time to time) or (ii) one-month LIBOR plus 0.75%. As of May 2, 2009, our borrowing base, based on accounts receivable and inventory levels, was \$399.1 million, with remaining availability of \$131.9 million.

We have a term loan agreement in the principal amount of \$75 million secured by certain real property. The term loan is repayable over seven years based on a fifteen-year amortization schedule. Interest on the term loan accrues at one-month LIBOR plus 1.0%. As of May 2, 2009, \$57.7 million was outstanding under the term loan agreement.

In order to maintain our profit margins, we rely on strategic investment buying initiatives, such as discounted bulk purchases, which require spending significant amounts of working capital. In the event that our cost of capital increases, or our ability to borrow funds or raise equity capital is limited, we could suffer reduced profit margins and be unable to grow our business organically or through acquisitions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our operating results are subject to significant fluctuations.

Our operating results may vary significantly from period to period due to:

- demand for natural products;
- changes in our operating expenses, including in fuel and insurance expenses;
- management's ability to execute our business and growth strategies;
- general economic conditions;
- changes in customer preferences, including levels of enthusiasm for health, fitness and environmental issues;
- fluctuation of natural product prices due to competitive pressures;
- personnel changes;
- difficulties with the collectability of accounts receivable;
- difficulties with inventory control;
- supply shortages, including a lack of an adequate supply of high-quality agricultural products due to poor growing conditions, natural disasters or otherwise;
- volatility in prices of high-quality agricultural products resulting from poor growing conditions, natural disasters or otherwise; and
- future acquisitions, particularly in periods immediately following the consummation of such acquisition transactions while the operations of the acquired businesses are being integrated into our operations.

Due to the foregoing factors, we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our operating results may not necessarily be meaningful and that such comparisons cannot be relied upon as indicators of future performance. In addition, we cannot assure you that one or more of such factors will not materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We are subject to significant governmental regulation.

Our business is highly regulated at the federal, state and local levels and our products and distribution operations require various licenses, permits and approvals. In particular:

- our products are subject to inspection by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration;
- our warehouse and distribution facilities are subject to inspection by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and state health authorities; and
- our trucking operations are regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Federal Highway Administration.

The loss or revocation of any existing licenses, permits or approvals or the failure to obtain any additional licenses, permits or approvals in new jurisdictions where we intend to do business could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. In addition, as a distributor and manufacturer of natural, organic, and specialty foods, we are subject to increasing governmental scrutiny of and public awareness regarding food safety. If we were to manufacture or distribute foods that are or are perceived to be contaminated, any resulting product recalls, such as the peanut-related recall in January 2009, could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We are dependent on a number of key executives.

Management of our business is substantially dependent upon the services of certain key management employees. Loss of the services of any officers or any other key management employee could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Union-organizing activities could cause labor relations difficulties.

As of May 2, 2009, we had approximately 6,000 full and part-time employees. An aggregate of approximately 7% of our total employees, or approximately 398 of the employees at our Auburn, Washington, Edison, New Jersey, Iowa City, Iowa and Leicester, Massachusetts facilities, are covered by collective bargaining agreements. The Edison, New Jersey; Leicester, Massachusetts and Iowa City, Iowa agreements expire in June 2011, March 2013 and July 2009, respectively. The Auburn, Washington agreement expired in February 2009, and is currently in the process of negotiation. In the past we have been the focus of union-organizing efforts. As we increase our employee base and broaden our distribution operations to new geographic markets, our increased visibility could result in increased or expanded union-organizing efforts. Although we have not experienced a work stoppage to date, if additional employees were to unionize or we are not successful in reaching agreement with these employees, we could be subject to work stoppages and increases in labor costs, either of which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

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

None.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

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

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.



Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
10.63	Amendment to Lease between Principal Life Insurance Company, and the Registrant, dated April 23, 2008.
10.64	Sixth Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement as of February 25, 2009.
10.65	Ninth Amendment to Term Loan Agreement with Bank of America, N.A. as successor to Fleet Capital Corporation, dated February 25, 2009.
10.66	Form Indemnification Agreement for Directors and Officers
31.1	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CEO
31.2	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CFO
32.1	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CEO
32.2	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CFO

\* \* \*

We would be pleased to furnish a copy of this Form 10-Q to any stockholder who requests it by writing to:

United Natural Foods, Inc.  
Investor Relations  
260 Lake Road  
Dayville, CT 06241

SIGNATURES

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

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.

/s/ Mark E. Shamber  
Mark E. Shamber  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Dated: June 11, 2009

