

Super Micro Computer, Inc.
Form 10-Q
November 10, 2008
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 10-Q

x **QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2008

or

.. **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 001-33383

Super Micro Computer, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

77-0353939
(IRS Employer

Identification Number)

980 Rock Avenue

San Jose, CA 95131

(Address of principal executive offices)

(408) 503-8000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

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

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

As of October 31, 2008 there were 34,650,663 shares of the registrant's common stock, \$0.001 par value, outstanding, which is the only class of common or voting stock of the registrant issued.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

FORM 10-Q

SUPER MICRO COMPUTER, INC.

INDEX

	Page Number
PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
ITEM 1: <u>Financial Statements</u>	3
<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited) as of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008</u>	3
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited) for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 and 2007</u>	4
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited) for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 and 2007</u>	5
<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)</u>	6
ITEM 2: <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	20
ITEM 3: <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	31
ITEM 4: <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	32
PART II OTHER INFORMATION	
ITEM 1: <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	33
ITEM 1a: <u>Risk Factors</u>	34
ITEM 2: <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	51
ITEM 3: <u>Defaults upon Senior Securities</u>	51
ITEM 4: <u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	51
ITEM 5: <u>Other Information</u>	51
ITEM 6: <u>Exhibits</u>	52
<u>Signatures</u>	53

Table of Contents**PART I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1.****SUPER MICRO COMPUTER, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****(unaudited)**

	September 30, 2008	June 30, 2008
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 64,774	\$ 51,481
Short-term investments	57	57
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$1,171 and \$1,173 at September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively (including amounts receivable from a related party of \$406 and \$792 at September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively)	46,200	49,501
Inventories, net	100,853	85,683
Deferred income taxes-current	8,652	8,663
Prepaid income taxes	357	2,661
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,628	1,837
Total current assets	222,521	199,883
Long-term investments	15,103	16,106
Property, plant and equipment, net	46,017	45,602
Deferred income taxes-noncurrent	995	939
Restricted assets	1,771	1,728
Other assets	125	127
Total assets	\$ 286,532	\$ 264,385
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable (including amounts due to a related party of \$34,822 and \$27,717 at September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively)	\$ 86,872	\$ 80,962
Accrued liabilities	19,551	14,790
Income taxes payable	261	189
Advances from receivable financing arrangements	1,438	1,173
Current portion of capital lease obligations	46	57
Current portion of long-term debt	304	320
Total current liabilities	108,472	97,491
Long-term capital lease obligations-net of current portion	96	108
Long-term debt-net of current portion	9,923	9,981
Other long-term liabilities	4,771	4,934
Total liabilities	123,262	112,514
Commitments and contingencies (Note 14)		

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock and additional paid-in capital, \$0.001 par value		
Authorized shares: 100,000,000		
Issued and outstanding shares: 33,431,329 and 32,668,731 at September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively		
	73,581	69,434
Deferred stock-based compensation	(502)	(675)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(544)	(451)
Retained earnings	90,735	83,563
Total stockholders' equity	163,270	151,871
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 286,532	\$ 264,385

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**SUPER MICRO COMPUTER, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Net sales (including related party sales of \$1,531 and \$2,119 in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively)	\$ 144,051	\$ 117,949
Cost of sales (including related party purchases of \$31,673 and \$22,108 in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively)	116,215	94,904
Gross profit	27,836	23,045
Operating expenses:		
Research and development	8,085	6,706
Sales and marketing	4,756	3,729
General and administrative	3,155	3,424
Total operating expenses	15,996	13,859
Income from operations	11,840	9,186
Interest income	218	538
Interest expense	(237)	(252)
Income before income tax provision	11,821	9,472
Income tax provision	4,649	3,665
Net income	\$ 7,172	\$ 5,807
Net income per share:		
Basic	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.19
Diluted	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.15
Shares used in per share calculation:		
Basic	33,028,294	30,291,743
Diluted	39,298,993	38,619,263

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**SUPER MICRO COMPUTER, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS****(in thousands)****(Unaudited)**

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Net income	\$ 7,172	\$ 5,807
Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	812	537
Stock-based compensation expense	1,209	870
Allowance for doubtful accounts	3	42
Allowance for sales returns	1,569	1,273
Provision for inventory	575	2,088
Deferred income taxes	15	(1,075)
Gain on short-term investments		(198)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable, net (including changes in related party balances of \$386 and \$(406) during the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively)	1,729	(8,544)
Inventories	(15,745)	(8,743)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	209	(101)
Other assets	1	
Accounts payable (including increases in related party balances of \$7,105 and \$1,712 during the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively)	6,109	7,072
Income taxes payable, net	4,450	1,736
Accrued liabilities	4,761	494
Other long-term liabilities	(163)	2,741
Net cash provided by operating activities	12,706	3,999
INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Restricted assets	(43)	(205)
Proceeds from investments	850	890
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(1,425)	(580)
Purchases of investments		(4,725)
Net cash used in investing activities	(618)	(4,620)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	1,037	290
Repayment of long-term debt	(74)	(76)
Payment of obligations under capital leases	(23)	(45)
Advances under receivable financing arrangements	265	(77)
Payment of deferred offering costs		(20)
Net cash provided by financing activities	1,205	72
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	13,293	(549)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	51,481	50,864

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 64,774	\$ 50,315
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 237	\$ 252
Cash paid for taxes	\$ 359	\$ 5
Non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Equipment purchased under capital leases	\$	\$ 4
Reversal of deferred stock-based compensation for cancellation of stock options	\$ 3	\$ 19
Accrued costs for property, plant and equipment purchases	\$ 456	\$ 1,697
Accrued offering costs	\$	\$ 297
Changes in fair values of investments	\$ (153)	\$

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

SUPER MICRO COMPUTER, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

Note 1. Organization

Super Micro Computer, Inc. was incorporated in California on September 28, 1993 and reincorporated in Delaware on March 19, 2007. Super Micro Computer develops and provides high performance server solutions based upon an innovative, modular and open-standard architecture. Super Micro Computer has wholly owned subsidiaries in the Netherlands, Taiwan, Cayman Islands and California, United States.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by Super Micro Computer, Inc. pursuant to the rules and regulations of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and include the accounts of Super Micro Computer, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively Super Micro or the Company). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The information included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Risk Factors, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk, and the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included in the Super Micro Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2008 (2008 Form 10-K) filed with the SEC.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included herein reflect all adjustments, including normal recurring adjustments, which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation of consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented. The condensed consolidated results of operations for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for future quarters or for the year ending June 30, 2009.

Principles of Consolidation

The condensed consolidated financial statements reflect the condensed consolidated balance sheets, results of operations and cash flows of Super Micro Computer, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

Reclassifications

The provision for inventory had been combined with the change in inventory in the prior period condensed consolidated statement of cash flows and has been reclassified to a separate line item to conform with the current period presentation.

Fair Value Measurements

Effective July 1, 2008, the Company adopted certain provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157), which the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued in September 2006. SFAS 157 establishes specific criteria for the fair value measurement of financial and nonfinancial assets and liabilities that are already subject to fair value under current accounting rules. SFAS 157 also requires expanded disclosures related to fair value measurements. In February 2008, the FASB issued Staff Position (FSP) 157-2, which delays the effective date of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, except for items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value on at least an annual basis. The Company elected to delay the adoption date for the portions of SFAS 157 impacted by FSP 157-2, and, as a result, it adopted a portion of the provisions of SFAS 157. The partial adoption of SFAS 157 was prospective and did not have a significant effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations and financial condition. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of measuring the remaining nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities under FSP No. 157-2 on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

SFAS 157 clarifies that fair value is an exit price, representing the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. SFAS 157 also requires that a fair value measurement reflect the assumptions market

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

participants would use in pricing an asset or liability based on the best information available. Assumptions include the risks inherent in a particular valuation technique (such as a pricing model) and/or the risks inherent in the inputs to the model. The adoption of SFAS 157 did not have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements.

SFAS 157 establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and

Table of Contents

the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under SFAS 157 are described below:

Level 1- Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities;

Level 2 - Quoted prices in markets that are not active or financial instruments for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3 - Prices or valuations that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable. A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Note 3. Recently Issued Accounting Standards

EITF 07-3

Effective July 1, 2008, the Company adopted Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) Abstract No. 07-3, *Accounting for Nonrefundable Advance Payments for Goods or Services Received for Use in Future Research and Development Activities* (EITF 07-3). EITF 07-3 requires that nonrefundable advance payments for goods or services that will be used or rendered for future research and development activities be deferred and capitalized and recognized as an expense as the goods are delivered or the related services are performed. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

SFAS No. 159

Effective July 1, 2008, the Company adopted SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities-including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115* (SFAS 159), which the FASB issued in February 2007. SFAS 159 expands the use of fair value accounting but does not affect existing standards, which require assets or liabilities to be carried at fair value. Under SFAS 159, an entity may elect to use fair value to measure certain eligible items. The fair value option may be elected generally on an instrument-by-instrument basis as long as it is applied to the instrument in its entirety, even if an entity has similar instruments that it elects not to measure based on fair value. Upon adoption, the Company did not elect to adopt the fair value option on eligible items under SFAS 159.

SFAS No. 162

In May 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 162, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* (SFAS 162). SFAS 162 identifies a consistent framework, or hierarchy, for selecting accounting principles to be used in preparing financial statements that are presented in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for non-governmental entities. SFAS 162 is effective 60 days following the Securities and Exchange Commission's approval of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board amendments to AU Section 411, *The Meaning of Presenting Fairly in Conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* . The Company is assessing the impact of the adoption of SFAS 162 on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Table of Contents**Note 4. Stock-based Compensation and Stockholders' Equity*****Stock Option Plan***

In August 2006, the Board of Directors approved the 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2006 Plan") and reserved for issuance 4,000,000 shares of common stock for the granting of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock awards, restricted stock units and other equity-based awards. The number of shares reserved automatically increase on July 1, 2007 and each subsequent anniversary through 2016, by an amount equal to the smaller of (a) three percent of the number of shares of stock issued and outstanding on the immediately preceding June 30, or (b) a lesser amount determined by the Board of Directors. The 2006 Plan was approved by the stockholders of the Company in January 2007. The exercise price per share for options granted to employees and consultants owning shares representing more than 10% of the Company at the time of grant cannot be less than 110% of the fair value. Incentive and nonqualified stock options granted to all other persons shall be granted at a price not less than 100% of the fair value. Options generally expire ten years after the date of grant and options vest over four years; 25% at the end of one year and one sixteenth per quarter thereafter. In the three months ended September 30, 2008, the Company granted options for the purchase of 419,840 shares under the 2006 Plan. At September 30, 2008, 3,765,502 shares of common stock are available for future grant.

Restricted Stock Awards

Restricted stock awards are share awards that provide the rights to a set number of shares of the Company's stock on the grant date. In August 2008, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Committee") approved the terms of an agreement (the "Option Exercise Agreement") with Charles Liang, a director and President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, pursuant to which Mr. Liang exercised an option previously granted to him for the purchase of 925,000 shares. The option was exercised using a "net-exercise" procedure in which he was issued a number of shares representing the spread between the option exercise price and the then current market value of the shares subject to the option (898,205 shares based upon the market value as of the date of exercise). The shares issued upon exercise of the option are subject to vesting over a five year vesting period. Vesting of the shares subject to the award may accelerate in certain circumstances pursuant to the terms of the Option Exercise Agreement. The Company determined that there is no incremental fair value of the option exchanged for the award.

Stock-Based Compensation

The Company adopted SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment* ("SFAS 123(R)"), effective July 1, 2006 using the prospective transition method. Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), the Company accounted for its stock options issued to employees in accordance with Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees* ("APB 25"), and related interpretations rather than the alternative fair value accounting provided for under SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* ("SFAS 123"), as amended by SFAS No. 148. Under APB 25, when the exercise price of the Company's employee and director stock options is equal to or greater than the market price of the underlying stock on the date of grant, no compensation expense is recognized.

Determining Fair Value

Valuation and amortization method The Company estimates the fair value of stock options granted using the Black-Scholes-option-pricing formula and a single option award approach. This fair value is then amortized ratably over the requisite service periods of the awards, which is generally the vesting period.

Expected Term The Company's expected term represents the period that the Company's stock-based awards are expected to be outstanding and was determined based on an analysis of the relevant peer companies' post-vest termination rates and the exercise factors.

Expected Volatility Expected volatility is based on a combination of the implied and historical volatility for its peer group.

Expected Dividend The Black-Scholes valuation model calls for a single expected dividend yield as an input and the Company has no plans to pay dividends.

Risk-Free Interest Rate The risk-free interest rate used in the Black-Scholes valuation method is based on the U.S. Treasury zero coupon issues in effect at the time of grant for periods corresponding with the expected term of option.

Estimated Forfeitures The estimated forfeiture rate is based on the Company's historical forfeiture rates and the estimate is revised in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from the estimate.

Table of Contents

The fair value of stock option grants for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 under SFAS 123(R) was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following assumptions:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Risk-free interest rate	3.09%	4.58%
Expected life	4.35 years	4.32 years
Dividend yield		
Volatility	48.16%	45.41%
Estimated forfeitures	2.48% - 14.16%	3.30% - 15.16%
Weighted-average fair value	\$3.37	\$3.90

The following table shows total stock-based compensation expense included in the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the three month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 (in thousands).

	Three Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2008	2007
Cost of sales	\$ 133	\$ 112
Research and development	551	349
Sales and marketing	191	144
General and administrative	334	265
Stock-based compensation expense before taxes	1,209	870
Income tax benefit	(52)	(119)
Stock-based compensation expense, net	\$ 1,157	\$ 751

SFAS 123(R) requires the cash flows resulting from the tax benefits for tax deductions resulting from the exercise of stock options in excess of the compensation expense recorded for those options (excess tax benefits) accounted for under SFAS 123(R) to be classified as cash from financing activities. The Company had no excess tax benefits in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 for options accounted for under SFAS 123(R). Excess tax benefits for stock options accounted for under APB 25 continue to be classified as cash from operating activities.

Table of Contents**Stock Option and Awards Activity**

The following table summarizes stock option activity during the three months ended September 30, 2008 under all stock option plans (in thousands, except share and per share amounts):

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (in years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at July 1, 2008	13,300,972	\$ 3.48		
Granted	419,840	\$ 7.91		
Exercised	(1,687,598)	\$ 0.78		
Forfeited or cancelled	(149,632)	\$ 9.92		
Outstanding at September 30, 2008	11,883,582	\$ 3.94	5.78	\$ 64,593
Vested and expected to vest at September 30, 2008	11,459,981	\$ 3.76	0.21	\$ 64,189
Exercisable at September 30, 2008	9,268,043	\$ 2.65	4.91	\$ 61,426

The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$15,662,000 and \$1,275,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Stock-based compensation expense accounted for in accordance with SFAS 123(R) in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 was \$1,039,000 and \$656,000, respectively. As of September 30, 2008, the Company's total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock-based awards granted since July 1, 2006 to employees and non-employee directors was \$9,318,000, which will be recognized over a weighted-average vesting period of approximately 3.75 years.

The weighted-average fair value per share of options granted during fiscal year 2005 and 2006, and accounted for using the intrinsic value measurement provisions of APB 25, was \$4.58. The intrinsic value per share is being recognized as compensation expense over the applicable vesting period (which equals the service period). The Company amortized \$170,000 and \$213,000 of stock-based compensation in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. At September 30, 2008, the Company had deferred stock-based compensation under APB 25 of \$502,000, which is comprised primarily of employee and director stock option grants prior to July 1, 2006 and is expected to be fully amortized in 2010.

The following table summarizes the Company's restricted stock award activity for the three months ended September 30, 2008 (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Restricted Stock Awards Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Nonvested stock at July 1, 2008		\$
Granted	898,205	10.66
Vested		
Forfeited		
Nonvested stock at September 30, 2008	898,205	\$ 10.66

None of the intrinsic value of the restricted stock award vested in the three months ended September 30, 2008. The total intrinsic value of the outstanding restricted stock award was \$9,575,000 as of September 30, 2008. There is no incremental fair value of restricted stock award of 898,205 shares.

Table of Contents**Note 5. Comprehensive Income**

The components of comprehensive income, net of taxes, are as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Net income	\$ 7,172	\$ 5,807
Unrealized loss on investments, net of taxes	(93)	
Total comprehensive income	\$ 7,079	\$ 5,807

Note 6. Net Income Per Share

Basic net income per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period.

Diluted net income per share is computed by dividing the net income for the period by the weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding during the period. Potentially dilutive securities, comprised of incremental common shares, issuable upon the exercise of stock options are included in diluted net income per share, using the treasury stock method, to the extent such shares are dilutive.

Table of Contents

A reconciliation of shares used in the calculation of basic and diluted net income per share is as follows (in thousands, except for per share amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Numerator:		
Net income	\$ 7,172	\$ 5,807
Denominator:		
Basic weighted-average number of common shares outstanding	33,028	30,292
Dilutive common stock options and awards	6,271	8,327
Diluted weighted-average number of common shares outstanding	39,299	38,619
Basic net income per share	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.19
Diluted net income per share	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.15

For the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, the Company had stock options outstanding that could potentially dilute basic earnings per share in the future, but were excluded from the computation of diluted net income per share in the periods presented, as their effect would have been anti-dilutive. The shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of such outstanding stock options were 3,446,000 and 2,078,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Note 7. Balance Sheet Components (in thousands)**Inventories:**

	September 30, 2008	June 30, 2008
Finished goods	\$ 68,541	\$ 54,385
Work in process	2,178	648
Purchased parts and raw materials	30,134	30,650
Total inventories, net	\$ 100,853	\$ 85,683

The Company recorded a provision for excess and obsolete inventory totaling \$575,000 and \$2,088,000 in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Table of Contents**Property, Plant and Equipment:**

	September 30, 2008	June 30, 2008
Land	\$ 19,220	\$ 19,220
Buildings	19,108	19,108
Building and leasehold improvements	3,093	3,063
Machinery and equipment	9,042	8,424
Furniture and fixtures	2,566	2,212
Purchased software	1,426	1,203
	54,455	53,230
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(8,438)	(7,628)
Property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 46,017	\$ 45,602

The costs of assets under capital leases were \$411,000 as of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively, and accumulated amortization was \$136,000 and \$115,000, respectively.

Restricted Assets:

The restricted assets consist primarily of certificates of deposits secured for two irrevocable letters of credit of \$121,000 and \$1,540,000 as of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008. In February 2008, the Company obtained an irrevocable standby letter of credit required by the landlord of its office lease totaling \$121,000. In March 2008, the Company posted a bond in the amount of \$3,080,000 required by the Paris Court of Appeals related to the Digitechnic lawsuit (see Note 14). The bond was collateralized by an irrevocable standby letter of credit totaling \$1,540,000.

Product Warranties:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Balance as of beginning of period	\$ 2,920	\$ 2,243
Provision for warranties	2,013	1,169
Costs charged to accrual	(1,678)	(1,138)
Change in estimated liability for pre-existing warranties	342	
Balance as of end of period	\$ 3,597	\$ 2,274

Note 8. Long-term Investments

As of September 30, 2008, the Company held approximately \$15.1 million of long-term auction-rate securities (auction rate securities), net of unrealized losses, representing its interest in auction rate preferred shares in a closed end mutual fund invested in municipal securities and student loans guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP); such auction rate securities were rated AAA at September 30, 2008. These auction rate preferred shares have no stated maturity date and the stated maturity dates for these auction rate student loans range from 2010 to 2040.

During February 2008, the auctions for these auction rate securities began to fail to obtain sufficient bids to establish a clearing rate and the securities were not saleable in the auction, thereby losing the short-term liquidity previously provided by the auction process. As a result, the auction rate securities have been classified as long-term investments available-for-sale as of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008.

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

The Company has used a discounted cash flow model to estimate the fair value of the auction rate securities. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates for interest rates which among other things incorporate, as applicable, creditworthiness of the associated insurers, timing of cash flows and expected holding periods of the auction-rate securities. Based on this assessment of fair value, for the three months ended September 30, 2008, the Company determined there was a decline in fair value of its auction rate securities of \$153,000 during the three month period and a total decline of \$897,000 which was deemed temporary. That amount has been recorded net of tax, as a component of other comprehensive income.

Table of Contents

Additionally, the Company has the financial ability and intent to hold these investments in auction rate securities until successful auctions occur, a buyer is found to purchase the securities at par outside of the auction process or the preferred shares are redeemed. The Company plans to continue to monitor the liquidity situation in the marketplace and the creditworthiness of its holdings and will perform periodic impairment analysis.

Note 9. Fair Value Disclosure

The financial assets of the Company measured at fair value on a recurring basis are cash equivalents, short-term and long-term investments. The Company's money market funds are classified within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy and certificates of deposits are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The Company's long-term investments are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. Refer to Note 2.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of the Company's policies regarding the fair value hierarchy.

The following table sets forth the Company's cash equivalents, short-term and long-term investments as of September 30, 2008 which are measured at fair value on a recurring basis by level within the fair value hierarchy. As required by SFAS 157, these are classified based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement, (in thousands):

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Asset at Fair Value
Money market funds	\$ 9,282	\$	\$	\$ 9,282
Certificates of deposits		1,831		1,831
Auction rate securities			15,103	15,103
Total	\$ 9,282	\$ 1,831	\$ 15,103	\$ 26,216

The above table excludes \$55,487,000 of cash held by the Company.

The Company's Level 3 assets consist of long-term auction-rate securities for which the Company used a discounted cash flow model to value these investments (See Note 8).

The following table provides a reconciliation of the Company's financial assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis, consisting of long-term auction rate securities, using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the three months ended September 30, 2008 (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2008
Balance as of beginning of period	\$ 16,106
Total realized gains or (losses) included in net income	
Total unrealized losses included in other comprehensive income	(153)
Purchases, sales and settlements, net at par	(850)
Transfers in and/or out of Level 3	
Balance as of end of period	\$ 15,103

The Company measures the fair value of outstanding debt on a recurring basis and its long-term debt of \$10.2 million is reported at amortized cost. The fair value of long-term debt is based on quoted market prices (Level 2) which approximates its fair value based on borrowing rates currently available to the Company for loans with similar terms.

Note 10. Advances from Receivable Financing Arrangements

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

The Company has accounts receivable financing agreements with certain financing companies whereby the financing companies pay the Company for sales transactions that have been pre-approved by these financing companies. The financing company then collects the receivable from the customer. Such sales transactions totaled approximately \$5,907,000 and \$5,044,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. At September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, approximately \$1,438,000 and \$1,173,000, respectively, remained uncollected from customers subject to these arrangements. Such amounts have been recorded as advances from receivable financing arrangements as the Company has obligations to repurchase inventories seized by the financing companies from defaulting customers. Historically, the Company has not been required to repurchase inventories from the financing companies. These financing arrangements bear interest at rates ranging from 11.70% to 14.76% and 11.70% to 21.48% per annum, depending on the customers' credit ratings, at September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively.

Table of Contents**Note 11. Long-term Obligations**

Long-term obligations consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2008	June 30, 2008
Building loans	\$ 10,227	\$ 10,301
Capital leases (Note 14)	142	165
Total	10,369	10,466
Current portion, debt and capital leases	(350)	(377)
Long-term portion, debt and capital leases	\$ 10,019	\$ 10,089

In April 2004, the Company borrowed \$4,275,000 from a bank to purchase a building in San Jose, California. The loan is secured by the property purchased and principal and interest are payable monthly through May 1, 2029. As of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, the total outstanding borrowings were \$3,891,000 and \$3,912,000, respectively, with interest at 7.23% per annum through July 2012 and then it is adjusted every five years to equal the index of 5-Year United States Treasury Notes as published in the Wall Street Journal plus 2.75% per annum.

In September 2005, the Company borrowed \$6,930,000 from a bank to purchase a building in San Jose, California. The loan is secured by the property purchased. The loan is repayable in equal monthly installments through September 2010. As of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, the total outstanding borrowings were \$6,336,000 and \$6,389,000, respectively, with interest at 5.77% per annum through September 2010, and then it is adjusted every five years to equal the index of 5-Year United States Treasury Notes plus 1.65% per annum.

As of September 30, 2008, the gross cost and net book value of the land, building and related improvements collateralizing the borrowings were approximately \$17,134,000 and \$16,340,000, respectively. As of June 30, 2008, the gross cost and net book value of the land, building and related improvements collateralizing the borrowings were approximately \$17,111,000 and \$16,375,000, respectively.

In February 2008, the Company obtained an irrevocable standby letter of credit required by the landlord of its office lease totaling \$121,000 that expires on September 1, 2009. As of September 30, 2008, the Company had an unused revolving line of credit totaling \$5,000,000 that expired on November 1, 2008. This line of credit has been extended to December 1, 2008 with interest rate at Prime Rate plus 0.5% per annum. As of September 30, 2008, the Company was in compliance with the financial covenants associated with the line of credit.

Table of Contents

Note 12. Related-party and Other Transactions

Ablecom Technology Inc. Ablecom, a Taiwan corporation, together with its subsidiaries (Ablecom), is one of the Company's major contract manufacturers. Ablecom's chief executive officer, Steve Liang, is the brother of Charles Liang, the Company's President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors, and owns approximately 2.6% of the Company's common stock. Charles Liang served as a Director of Ablecom during the Company's fiscal 2006, but is no longer serving in such capacity. In addition, Charles Liang and his wife, also an officer of the Company, collectively own approximately 30.7% of Ablecom and Yih-Shyan (Wally) Liaw, an officer and director of the Company, and his spouse collectively own approximately 5.2% of Ablecom, while Steve Liang and other family members own approximately 49.3% of Ablecom at September 30, 2008.

The Company has product design and manufacturing services agreements (product design and manufacturing agreements) and a distribution agreement (distribution agreement) with Ablecom.

Under the product design and manufacturing agreements, the Company outsources a portion of its design activities and a significant part of its manufacturing of components such as server chassis to Ablecom. Ablecom agrees to design products according to the Company's specifications. Additionally, Ablecom agrees to build the tools needed to manufacture the products. Under the product design and manufacturing agreements, the Company commits to purchase a minimum quantity over a set period. The purchase price of the products manufactured by Ablecom is negotiated on a purchase order by purchase order basis at each purchase date. However, a fixed charge is added to the price of each unit purchased until the agreed minimum number of units is purchased. In August 2007, the Company entered into a new product development, manufacturing and service agreement with Ablecom. Under the new agreement, the Company has agreed to pay for the cost of blade server tooling and engineering services and will pay for those items when the work has been completed. In this case no fixed charge is added to future purchases for reimbursement of tooling costs. The Company made payments for tooling assets of \$11,000 in the three months ended September 30, 2008. The Company made payments for tooling assets of \$1,438,000 and engineering services of \$708,000 from Ablecom in the three months ended September 30, 2007.

Under the distribution agreement, Ablecom purchases server products from the Company for distribution in Taiwan. The Company believes that the pricing and terms under the distribution agreement are similar to the pricing and terms of distribution arrangements the Company has with similar, third party distributors.

Ablecom's net sales to the Company and its net sales of the Company's products to others comprise a substantial majority of Ablecom's net sales. The Company purchased products from Ablecom totaling approximately \$31,673,000 and \$22,108,000, and sold products to Ablecom totaling approximately \$1,531,000 and \$2,119,000, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Amounts owed to the Company by Ablecom as of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, were approximately \$406,000 and \$792,000, respectively. Amounts owed to Ablecom by the Company as of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, were approximately \$34,822,000 and \$27,717,000, respectively. Historically, the Company has paid Ablecom the majority of invoiced dollars between 65 and 118 days of invoice. For the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, the Company received \$0 and \$70,000, respectively, from Ablecom for penalty charges. For the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, the Company paid approximately \$520,000 and \$2,311,000, respectively, in tooling assets and miscellaneous costs to Ablecom which included \$11,000 of tooling for blade servers for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and \$1,438,000 of tooling and \$708,000 of engineering services for the blade servers for the three months ended September 30, 2007 referred to above. Penalty charges are assessments relating to delayed deliveries or quality issues.

The Company's exposure to loss as a result of its involvement with Ablecom is limited to (a) potential losses on its purchase orders in the event of an unforeseen decline in the market price and/or demand of the Company's products such that the Company incurs a loss on the sale or cannot sell the products and (b) potential losses on outstanding accounts receivable from Ablecom in the event of an unforeseen deterioration in the financial condition of Ablecom such that Ablecom defaults on its payable to the Company. Outstanding purchase orders with Ablecom were \$26.5 million and \$28.0 million at September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively, representing the maximum exposure to loss relating to (a) above. The Company does not have any direct or indirect guarantees of losses, if any, of Ablecom.

Table of Contents

Note 13. Income Taxes

The Company recorded provisions for income taxes of \$4,649,000 and \$3,665,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2008 differs from the federal and state statutory rate primarily due to tax exempt interest income, research and development credits, domestic production activities deduction and certain stock compensation expenses for which deferred tax assets cannot be recorded in accordance with SFAS 123(R).

As of September 30, 2008, the Company had a liability for gross unrecognized tax benefits of \$5,036,000, substantially all of which, if recognized, would affect the Company's effective tax rate. During the three months ended September 30, 2008, there was no material change in the amount of the liability for gross unrecognized tax benefits.

At September 30, 2008, the Company had a liability for accrued interest and penalties related to the unrecognized tax benefits of \$587,000. During the three months ended September 30, 2008, there was no material change in the total amount of the liability for accrued interest and penalties related to the unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company files U.S. federal, U.S. state, and foreign income tax returns. The Company is generally no longer subject to tax examinations for years prior to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002.

In connection with the regular examination of the Company's California tax returns for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2002 and 2003 the Franchise tax board has presented certain adjustments to the amounts reflected by the Company on those returns. Although the timing of the resolution and/or closure on audits is highly uncertain, the Company does not believe that its unrecognized tax benefits would materially change in the next 12 months.

Table of Contents

Note 14. Commitments and Contingencies

Litigation and Claims The Company has been a defendant in a lawsuit with Digitechnic, S.A., a former customer, before the Bobigny Commercial Court in Paris, France, in which Digitechnic alleged that certain products purchased from the Company were defective. In September 2003, the Bobigny Commercial Court found in favor of Digitechnic and awarded damages totaling \$1,178,000. The Company accrued for these damages in its consolidated financial statements as of June 30, 2004, as the best estimate of its loss in this situation. In February 2005, the Paris Court of Appeals reversed the trial court's ruling, dismissed all of Digitechnic's claims and awarded \$11,000 to the Company for legal expenses. Accordingly, the Company reversed the \$1,178,000 accrued in fiscal 2005. Digitechnic has appealed the Paris Court of Appeals decision to the French Supreme Court and asked for \$2,416,000 for damages. On February 13, 2007, the French Supreme Court reversed the decision of the Paris Court of Appeals, ordering a new hearing before a different panel of the Paris Court of Appeals. Pending a new hearing, the trial court ruling is reinstated. In March 2008, the Company posted a bond in the amount of \$3,040,000 required by the court. The bond was collateralized by an irrevocable standby letter of credit totaling \$1,540,000. Although the Company cannot predict with certainty the final outcome of this litigation, it believes the claim to be without merit and intends to continue to defend it vigorously. Management believes that the ultimate resolution of this matter will not result in a material adverse impact on the Company's results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

In addition to the above, the Company is involved in various legal proceedings arising from the normal course of business activities. In management's opinion, resolution of these matters is not expected to have a material adverse impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations, cash flows or our financial position. However, depending on the amount and timing, an unfavorable resolution of a matter could materially affect the Company's future results of operations, cash flows or financial position in a particular period.

Lease Commitments The Company leases equipment and a warehouse facility under noncancelable operating leases which expire at various dates through 2016. In addition, the Company leases certain of its equipment under capital leases.

Table of Contents

Note 15. Segment Reporting

The Company operates in one operating segment that develops and provides high performance server solutions based upon an innovative, modular and open-standard architecture. The Company's chief operating decision maker is the Chief Executive Officer.

International net sales are based on the country to which the products were shipped. The following is a summary for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, of net sales by geographic region (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Net sales:		
United States	\$ 95,367	\$ 72,735
United Kingdom	5,980	6,056
Germany	7,546	5,647
China	5,417	3,534
Rest of Europe	16,525	13,773
Rest of Asia	10,762	13,366
Other	2,454	2,838
	\$ 144,051	\$ 117,949

The Company's long-lived assets located outside the United States are not significant.

The following is a summary of net sales by product type (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			
	2008		2007	
	Amount	Percent of Revenues	Amount	Percent of Net Sales
Server systems	\$ 55,794	38.7%	\$ 45,587	38.6%
Serverboards and other components	88,257	61.3%	72,362	61.4%
Total	\$ 144,051	100.0%	\$ 117,949	100.0%

Serverboards and other components are comprised of serverboards, chassis and accessories. Server systems constitute an assembly of components done by the Company.

Table of Contents**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

This section and other parts of this Form 10-Q contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended that involve risks and uncertainties. These statements relate to future events or our future financial performance. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology including would, could, may, will, should, expect, intend, plan, anticipate, believe, estimate, predict, potential, or continue, the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. In evaluating these statements, you should specifically consider various factors, including the risks described under Risk Factors below and in other parts of this Form 10-Q as well as in our other filings with the SEC. These factors may cause our actual results to differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. We cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements.

Overview

We design, develop, manufacture and sell application optimized, high performance server solutions based on an innovative, modular and open-standard x86 architecture. Our solutions include a range of complete rackmount and blade server systems, as well as components which can be used by distributors, OEMs and end customers to assemble server systems. To date, we have generated the majority of our net sales from components. Since 2000, we have gradually shifted our focus and resources to designing, developing, manufacturing and selling application optimized server systems. In recent years our growth in net sales has been driven by the growth in the market for application optimized server systems. Net sales of optimized servers were \$55.8 million and \$45.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively, and net sales of serverboards and components were \$88.3 million and \$72.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

We commenced operations in 1993 and have been profitable every year since inception. Our net sales were \$144.1 million and \$117.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Our net income was \$7.2 million and \$5.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

We sell our server systems and components primarily through distributors and to a lesser extent to OEMs as well as through our direct sales force. We derived approximately 62.6% and 60.9% of our net sales from products sold to distributors, and 37.4% and 39.1% from sales to OEMs and to end customers for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. None of our customers accounted for 10% or more of our net sales in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007. We derived approximately 66.2% and 61.7% of our net sales from customers in the United States for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. We derived approximately 33.8% and 38.3% of our net sales from customers outside the United States for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

We perform the majority of our research and development efforts in-house. Research and development expenses represented approximately 5.6% of our net sales for both the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

We use several suppliers and contract manufacturers to design and manufacture components in accordance with our specifications, with most final assembly and testing performed at our manufacturing facility in San Jose, California. This arrangement enables us to maintain our cost structure and to benefit from our suppliers' and contract manufacturers' research and development and economies of scale.

One of our key suppliers is Ablecom, which supplies us with contract design and manufacturing support. For the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, our purchases from Ablecom represented approximately 27.3% and 23.3% of our cost of sales, respectively. The increase in percentage of cost of sales was primarily related to higher chassis and component products purchased from Ablecom to support our growth and our new product introductions. Ablecom's sales to us constitute a substantial majority of Ablecom's net sales. We continue to maintain our manufacturing relationship with Ablecom in Asia in an effort to reduce our product costs. In addition to providing a larger volume of contract manufacturing services for us, Ablecom continues to warehouse for us an increasing number of components and subassemblies manufactured by multiple suppliers prior to shipment to our facilities in the U.S. and Europe. We typically negotiate the price of products that we purchase from Ablecom on a quarterly basis; however, either party may re-negotiate the price of products with each order. As a result of our relationship with Ablecom, it is possible that Ablecom may in the future sell products to us at a price higher or lower than we could obtain from an unrelated third party supplier. This may result in our reporting for one or more periods gross profit as a percentage of net sales less than or in excess of what we might have obtained absent our relationship with Ablecom.

In order to continue to increase our net sales and profits, we believe that we must continue to develop flexible and customizable server solutions and be among the first to market with new features and products. We measure our financial success based on various indicators, including growth in net sales, gross profit as a percentage of net sales, operating income as a percentage of net sales, levels of inventory, and days sales outstanding, or DSOs. In connection with these efforts, we monitor daily and weekly sales and shipment reports. Among the key non-financial indicators of our success is our ability to rapidly introduce new products and deliver the latest application optimized server solutions. In this

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

regard, we work closely with microprocessor and other component vendors to take advantage of new technologies as they are introduced. We also solicit input from our customers to understand their future needs as we design and develop our products.

Table of Contents

Fiscal Year

Our fiscal year ends on June 30. References to fiscal year 2009, for example, refer to the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009.

Revenues and Expenses

Net sales. Net sales consist of sales of our server solutions, including server systems and components. The main factors which impact our net sales are unit volumes shipped and average selling prices. The prices for server systems range widely depending upon the configuration, and the prices for our components vary based on the type of component. As with most electronics-based products, average selling prices typically are highest at the time of introduction of new products which utilize the latest technology and tend to decrease over time as such products mature in the market and are replaced by next generation products.

Cost of sales. Cost of sales primarily consists of the costs to manufacture our products, including the costs of materials, contract manufacturing, shipping, personnel and related expenses, equipment and facility expenses, warranty costs and inventory excess and obsolete provisions. The primary factors that impact our cost of sales are the mix of products sold and cost of materials, which include raw material costs, shipping costs and salary and benefits related to production. We expect cost of sales to increase in absolute dollars in the future from an expected increase in net sales. Cost of sales as a percentage of net sales may increase over time if decreases in average selling prices are not offset by corresponding decreases in our costs. Our cost of sales, as a percentage of net sales, is generally lower on server systems than on components. Because we do not have long-term fixed supply agreements, our cost of sales is subject to change based on market conditions.

Research and development expenses. Research and development expenses consist of the personnel and related expenses of our research and development teams, and materials and supplies, consulting services, third party testing services and equipment and facility expenses related to our research and development activities. All research and development costs are expensed as incurred. We occasionally receive non-recurring engineering, or NRE funding from certain suppliers and customers towards our development efforts. Under these programs, we are reimbursed for certain research and development costs that we incur as part of the joint development of our products and those of our suppliers and customers. These amounts offset a portion of the related research and development expenses and have the effect of reducing our reported research and development expenses. We expect that research and development expenses will continue to increase in absolute dollars in the future as we increase our investment in developing new products and adding new features in current products, but such expenditures may fluctuate as a percentage of net sales.

Sales and marketing expenses. Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of salaries and commissions for our sales and marketing personnel, costs for tradeshows, independent sales representative fees and marketing programs. From time to time, we receive cooperative marketing funding from certain suppliers. Under these programs, we are reimbursed for certain marketing costs that we incur as part of the joint promotion of our products and those of our suppliers. These amounts offset a portion of the related expenses and have the effect of reducing our reported sales and marketing expenses. Similarly, we from time to time offer our distributors cooperative marketing funding which has the effect of increasing our expenses. The timing, magnitude and estimated usage of our programs and those of our suppliers can result in significant variations in reported sales and marketing expenses from period to period. Spending on cooperative marketing, either by us or our suppliers, typically increases in connection with significant product releases by us or our suppliers. We expect sales and marketing expenses to continue to increase in absolute dollars, but that such expenditures will decline as a percentage of net sales.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses consist primarily of general corporate costs, including personnel expenses, financial reporting, corporate governance and compliance and outside legal, audit and tax fees. Although we expect such expenses to increase to support our anticipated growth, for fiscal 2009 we expect such expenses will be offset in part due to the expected reduction of compliance costs related to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Table of Contents

Interest and other income, net. Interest and other income, net represents the net of our interest income on investments or interest expense on the building loans for our owned facilities offset by interest earned on our cash balances.

Income tax provision. Our income tax provision is based on our taxable income generated in the jurisdictions in which we operate, currently primarily the United States and the Netherlands and to a lesser extent, Taiwan. Our effective tax rate differs from the statutory rate primarily due to the tax benefit of tax exempt interest income, research and development tax credits and the domestic production activities deduction.

Critical Accounting Policies

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amount of assets, allowances for doubtful accounts and sales returns, liabilities, revenues and expenses. We evaluate our estimates on an on-going basis, including those related to cooperative marketing accruals, investment valuations, inventory valuations, income taxes, warranty obligations and stock-based compensation. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making the judgments we make about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Because these estimates can vary depending on the situation, actual results may differ from the estimates.

We believe the following are our most critical accounting policies as they require our more significant judgments in the preparation of our financial statements.

Revenue recognition. We account for revenue under the provisions of Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 104, *Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements*. Under the provisions of SAB No. 104, we recognize revenue from sales of products, when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, shipment has occurred and title has transferred, the sales price is fixed or determinable, collection of the resulting receivable is reasonably assured, and all significant obligations have been met. Generally this occurs at the time of shipment when risk of loss and title has passed to the customer. Our standard arrangement with our customers includes a signed purchase order or contract, free-on-board shipping point terms, except for a few customers who have free-on-board destination terms and revenue is recognized when the products arrive at the destination, 30 to 60 days payment terms, and no customer acceptance provisions. We generally do not provide for non-warranty rights of return except for products which have Out-of-box failure, where customers could return these products for credit within 30 days of receiving the items. Certain distributors and OEMs are also permitted to return products in unopened boxes, limited to purchases over a specified period of time, generally within 60 to 90 days of the purchase, or to products in the distributor's or OEM's inventory at certain times (such as the termination of the agreement or product obsolescence). In addition, we have a sale arrangement with an OEM that has limited product return rights. To estimate reserves for future sales returns, we regularly review our history of actual returns for each major product line. We also communicate regularly with our distributors to gather information about end customer satisfaction, and to determine the volume of inventory in the channel. Reserves for future returns are adjusted as necessary, based on returns experience, returns expectations and communication with our distributors.

Probability of collection is assessed on a customer-by-customer basis. Customers are subjected to a credit review process that evaluates the customer's financial position and ability to pay. If it is determined from the outset of an arrangement that collection is not probable based upon the review process, the customers are required to pay cash in advance of shipment. We provide for price protection to certain distributors. We assess the market competition and product technology obsolescence, and make price adjustments based on our judgment. Upon each announcement of price reductions, the accrual for price protection is calculated based on our distributor's inventory on hand. Such reserves are recorded as a reduction to revenue at the time we reduce the product prices in accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 01-9, *Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products)*. Credits that we issued pursuant to these provisions were \$94,000 and \$64,000, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. We do not commit to future price reductions with any of our customers.

Table of Contents

We have an immaterial amount of service revenue relating to non-warranty repairs, which is recognized upon shipment of the repaired units to customers. Service revenue has been less than 10% of net sales for all periods presented and is not separately disclosed.

Cooperative marketing accruals. We follow Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) Issue No. 01-9, *Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products)*. We have arrangements with resellers of our products to reimburse the resellers for cooperative marketing costs meeting specified criteria. In accordance with EITF Issue No. 01-9, we record advertising costs meeting such specified criteria within sales and marketing expenses in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations. For those advertising costs that do not meet the criteria set forth in EITF Issue No. 01-9, the amounts are recorded as a reduction to sales in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations.

Valuation of long-term investments. Valuation of long-term investments relates to the unrealized loss on the carrying value of our investments in auction-rate securities; such securities were rated AAA at the date of purchase. The liquidity and fair value of these securities has been negatively impacted by the uncertainty in the credit markets and the exposure of these securities to the financial condition of bond insurance companies. We have received all interest payments due on these instruments on a timely basis. Each of these securities had been subject to auction processes for which there had been insufficient bidders on the scheduled rollover dates and the auctions have subsequently failed. When these securities lost the short-term liquidity previously provided by the auction processes, we reclassified these securities as long-term investments. We have used a discounted cash flow model to estimate the fair value of these investments as of September 30, 2008. The factors used in such models are subject to judgment by management. Changes in these estimates or in the market conditions for these investments may affect the fair value of these long-term investments.

Product warranties. We offer product warranties ranging from 15 to 39 months against any defective product. We accrue for estimated returns of defective products at the time revenue is recognized, based on historical warranty experience and recent trends. We monitor warranty obligations and may make revisions to our warranty reserve if actual costs of product repair and replacement are significantly higher or lower than estimated. Accruals for anticipated future warranty costs are charged to cost of sales and included in accrued liabilities.

Inventory valuation. Inventory is valued at the lower of cost or market. We evaluate inventory on a quarterly basis for excess and obsolescence and write-down the valuation of units that are unlikely to be sold based upon estimated demand for the following twelve months. This evaluation may take into account matters including expected demand, anticipated sales price, product obsolescence and other factors. If actual future demand for our products is less than currently forecasted, additional inventory adjustments may be required. Once a reserve is established, it is maintained until the product to which it relates is sold or scrapped. If a unit that has been written down is subsequently sold, the cost associated with the revenue from this unit is reduced to the extent of the write down, resulting in an increase in gross profit.

Accounting for income taxes. We account for income taxes under an asset and liability approach. Deferred income taxes reflect the impact of temporary differences between assets and liabilities recognized for financial reporting purposes and such amounts recognized for income tax reporting purposes, net operating loss carry-forwards and other tax credits measured by applying currently enacted tax laws. Valuation allowances are provided when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to an amount that is more likely than not to be realized.

Effective July 1, 2007, we adopted FASB Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainties in Income Taxes – An Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109* (FIN 48). FIN 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition of tax benefits, classification on the balance sheet, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. As a result of the implementation of FIN 48, we recognize the tax liability for uncertain income tax positions on the income tax return based on the two-step process prescribed in the interpretation. The first step is to determine whether it is more likely than not that each income tax position would be sustained upon audit. The second step is to estimate and measure the tax benefit as the amount that has a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with the tax authority. Estimating these amounts requires us to determine the probability of various possible outcomes. We evaluate these uncertain tax positions on a quarterly basis. This evaluation is based on the consideration of several factors, including changes in facts or circumstances, changes in applicable tax law, settlement of issues under audit and new exposures. If we later determine that our exposure is lower or that the liability is not sufficient to cover our revised expectations, we adjust the liability and effect a related change in our tax provision during the period in which we make such determination. See Note 13 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for the impact of FIN 48 on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

Stock-based compensation. Effective July 1, 2006, we adopted the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*, using the prospective transition method, which establishes standards for the accounting for transactions in which an entity exchanges its equity instruments for goods or services, primarily focusing on accounting for transactions where an entity obtains employee services in share-based payment transactions. Prior to July 1, 2006, we accounted for stock-based compensation awards issued to our employees using the intrinsic value measurement provisions of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, or Opinion 25. Accordingly, we have recorded compensation expense for stock options granted prior to the adoption of SFAS No. 123(R) with exercise prices

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

less than the fair value of the underlying common stock at the option grant date. Amortization of deferred stock compensation, resulting from such stock options granted to employees and directors, when the exercise price of our stock options was less than the deemed market price of the underlying stock on the date of the grant, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, was both \$0.2 million. Compensation expense under SFAS No. 123(R) for options granted to employees after July 1, 2006, was \$1.0 million and \$0.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. SFAS No. 123(R) requires enterprises to measure the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments, including stock options, based on the grant-date fair value of the award. That cost will be recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide services in exchange for the award, known as the requisite service period (usually the vesting period). SFAS No. 123(R) supersedes our previous accounting under APB No. 25 for periods beginning in fiscal year 2007.

As of September 30, 2008, the total unrecognized compensation cost, adjusted for estimated forfeitures, related to unvested stock options granted since July 1, 2006 to employees and non-employee directors, was \$9.3 million, which is expected to be recognized as an expense over a weighted-average period of approximately 3.75 years. See Note 4 to our condensed consolidated financial statements for additional information.

Table of Contents

We estimated the fair value of stock options granted using a Black-Scholes option-pricing formula and a single option award approach. This model requires us to make estimates and assumptions with respect to the expected term of the option, the expected volatility of the price of our common stock and the expected forfeiture rate. The fair value is then amortized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods of the awards, which is generally the vesting period.

The expected term represents the period that our stock-based awards are expected to be outstanding and was determined based on an analysis of the relevant peer companies' post-vest termination rates and the exercise factors. The expected volatility is based on a combination of the implied and historical volatility of our relevant peer group. In addition, SFAS No. 123(R) requires forfeitures of share-based awards to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. We use historical data to estimate pre-vesting option forfeitures and record stock-based compensation expense only for those awards that are expected to vest.

Variable interest entities. We have analyzed our relationship with Ablecom and its subsidiaries and we have concluded that Ablecom is a variable interest entity as defined by FIN No. 46R; however, we are not the primary beneficiary of Ablecom and, therefore, we do not consolidate Ablecom. In performing our analysis, we considered our explicit arrangements with Ablecom including the supplier and distributor arrangements. Also, as a result of the substantial related party relationship between the two companies, we considered whether any implicit arrangements exist that would cause us to protect those related parties' interests in Ablecom from suffering losses. We determined that no implicit arrangements exist with Ablecom or its shareholders. Such an arrangement would be inconsistent with the fiduciary duty that we have towards our stockholders who do not own shares in Ablecom.

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth our financial results, as a percentage of net sales for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of sales	80.7	80.5
Gross profit	19.3	19.5
Operating expenses:		
Research and development	5.6	5.6
Sales and marketing	3.3	3.2
General and administrative	2.2	2.9
Total operating expenses	11.1	11.7
Income from operations	8.2	7.8
Interest income	0.2	0.4
Interest expense	(0.2)	(0.2)
Income before income tax provision	8.2	8.0
Income tax provision	3.2	3.1
Net income	5.0%	4.9%

Table of Contents

Comparison of Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 and 2007

Net sales. Net sales increased by \$26.1 million, or 22.1%, to \$144.1 million from \$117.9 million, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. This was due primarily to an increase in unit volumes and average selling prices of server systems. For the three months ended September 30, 2008, the approximate number of server system units sold increased 18.4% to 45,000 compared to 38,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2007. The average selling price of server system units increased 8.3% to approximately \$1,300 in the three months ended September 30, 2008 compared to approximately \$1,200 in the three months ended September 30, 2007. Growth in the average selling prices of our server systems was principally driven by an increase in sales of 6000 Series configurations of servers, offset in part by declines in average selling prices of more mature products to OEMs and end customers. Sales of server systems increased by \$10.2 million or 22.4% from the three months ended September 30, 2007 to the three months ended September 30, 2008, primarily due to higher sales of our OEM and bundled server solutions utilizing our high efficiency power supplies and higher sales of 6000 Series configurations of servers. Sales of server systems represented 38.7% of our net sales for the three months ended September 30, 2008 as compared to 38.6% of our net sales for the three months ended September 30, 2007. For the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, we derived approximately 62.6% and 60.9%, respectively, of our net sales from products sold to distributors and we derived approximately 37.4% and 39.1%, respectively, from sales to OEMs and to end customers. For the three months ended September 30, 2008, customers in the United States, Asia, Germany and rest of Europe accounted for approximately 66.2%, 11.3%, 5.2% and 15.6%, of our net sales, respectively, as compared to 61.7%, 14.3%, 4.8% and 16.8%, respectively, for the three months ended September 30, 2007.

Cost of sales. Cost of sales increased by \$21.3 million, or 22.5%, to \$116.2 million from \$94.9 million, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Cost of sales as a percentage of net sales was 80.7% and 80.5% for the three months ended September 20, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The increase in absolute dollars of cost of sales was primarily attributable to the increase in net sales and higher provision for warranty reserve of \$0.8 million offset in part by lower inventory provision of \$1.5 million. The higher cost of sales as a percentage of net sales was primarily due to a decrease in standard gross margin as a result of lower average selling price of mature products. In the three months ended September 30, 2008, we recorded a \$2.0 million expense, or 1.4% of net sales, related to the provision for warranty reserve as compared to \$1.2 million, or 1.0% of net sales, in the three months ended September 30, 2007. The increase in the provision for warranty reserve was primarily due to higher repair costs and the effect of a 90 day extension of our warranty period. In the three months ended September 30, 2008, we recorded a \$0.6 million expense, or 0.4% of net sales, related to the inventory provision as compared to \$2.1 million, or 1.8% of net sales, in the three months ended September 30, 2007. The decrease in the inventory provision was primarily due to our focus on reducing excess and slow moving inventory through product conversion and increasing sales efforts.

Research and development expenses. Research and development expenses increased by \$1.4 million, or 20.6%, to \$8.1 million from \$6.7 million, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Research and development expenses were 5.6% of net sales for both the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The increase in absolute dollars was primarily due to an increase of \$2.0 million in compensation and benefits resulting from growth in research and development personnel, including higher stock-based compensation expense offset in part by a decrease of \$0.8 million in development costs associated with Superblade and an increase of \$0.3 million in non-recurring engineering funding from certain suppliers and customers.

Research and development expenses include stock-based compensation expense of \$551,000 and \$349,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The increase in absolute dollars was primarily due to the growth in research and development personnel.

Sales and marketing expenses. Sales and marketing expenses increased by \$1.0 million, or 27.5%, to \$4.8 million from \$3.7 million, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Sales and marketing expenses were 3.3% and 3.2% of net sales for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The increase in absolute dollars and percentage of net sales was primarily due to an increase of \$0.4 million in compensation and benefits resulting from growth in sales and marketing personnel, including higher stock-based compensation expense and an increase of \$0.2 million in trade show expenses.

Sales and marketing expenses include stock-based compensation expense of \$191,000 and \$144,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses decreased by \$0.3 million, or 7.9%, to \$3.1 million from \$3.4 million, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. General and administrative expenses were 2.2% and 2.9% of net sales for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The decrease in absolute dollars was primarily due to a decrease of \$0.5 million in accrued claims and a decrease of \$0.2 million in consulting fees related to Sarbanes-Oxley 404 (SOX) compliance offset in part by an increase of \$0.2 million in compensation and benefits, including higher stock-based compensation expense and an increase of \$0.1 million in legal expenses primarily associated with our defense of certain litigation matters.

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

General and administrative expenses include stock-based compensation expense of \$334,000 and \$265,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Table of Contents

Interest and other expense, net. Interest and other expense, changed by \$0.3 million, or 106.6%, to \$19,000 from \$(0.3) million, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 compared to the same period in 2007, respectively, of which \$0.2 million and \$0.3 million was interest expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The net increase was due to lower interest income of \$0.3 million from higher cash and cash equivalent and investment balances with lower interest rates. We expect the interest expenses will decrease in the future as we expect to repay one outstanding building loan of \$6.3 million in the quarter ending December 31, 2008.

Provision for income taxes. Provision for income taxes increased by \$1.0 million, or 26.8%, to \$4.6 million from \$3.7 million, for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The effective tax rate was 39.3% and 38.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The increase in the effective tax rate was the result of the expired federal research and development tax credit which was not available for the three months ended September 30, 2008.

Table of Contents**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Since our inception, we have financed our growth primarily with funds generated from operations and from the proceeds of our initial public offering. Our cash and cash equivalents and short term investments were \$64.8 million and \$51.5 million as of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008, respectively.

Operating Activities. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$12.7 million and \$4.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Net cash provided by our operating activities for the three months ended September 30, 2008 was primarily due to our net income of \$7.2 million, an increase in accounts payable of \$6.1 million, an increase in accrued liabilities of \$4.8 million, an increase in income taxes payable of \$4.5 million, a decrease in accounts receivable of \$1.7 million, an allowance for sales returns of \$1.6 million and stock-based compensation expense of \$1.2 million which was substantially offset by an increase in inventories of \$15.7 million. The decreases for the three months ended September 30, 2008 in accounts receivable and sales returns were primarily due to lower net sales during the period and timing of customer payment. The increase for the three months ended September 30, 2008 in inventory was to support our growth and new product introductions. The increases for the three months ended September 30, 2008 in accounts payable and accrued liabilities were primarily due to the timing of inventory received, payments to our vendors and an increase in cooperative marketing accruals to our customers.

Net cash provided by our operating activities for the three months ended September 30, 2007 was primarily due to our net income of \$5.8 million, an increase in accounts payable of \$7.1 million, an increase in other liabilities of \$2.7 million, a provision for inventory of \$2.1 million, an increase in income taxes payable of \$1.7 million and an allowance for sales returns of \$1.3 million which was substantially offset by an increase in accounts receivable of \$8.5 million and an increase in inventory of \$8.7 million. The increases for the three months ended September 30, 2007 in accounts receivable, sales returns, inventory and accounts payable were primarily due to growth in net sales during the period as a result of new product introductions, increased sales of existing rackmount and blade server systems and components and increased purchases from our suppliers.

Investing activities. Net cash used in our investing activities was \$0.6 million and \$4.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. In the three months ended September 30, 2008, \$1.4 million was related to the purchase of property, plant and equipments to support our growth offset in part by the redemption of investments in auction rate securities of \$0.9 million. In the three months ended September 30, 2007, \$4.7 million was related to the purchase of investments in auction rate securities and variable rate demand notes. We have historically owned our manufacturing facilities and have leased off-shore offices. The expansion of our manufacturing capability has to date not been capital intensive as our internal manufacturing is limited to assembly and test. We expect to continue to make significant capital investments in the future as we expand our assembly and test capabilities and invest in our infrastructure in order to improve our controls and procedures in anticipation of growing our business.

Financing activities. Net cash provided by our financing activities was \$1.2 million and \$0.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. In the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, \$1.0 million and \$0.3 million, respectively was related to the proceeds from exercise of stock options. We repaid \$0.1 million in loans for both the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007.

We have historically generated cash from our operating activities as we have grown. We expect to experience continued growth in our working capital requirements as we continue to expand our business. We intend to fund this continued expansion though cash generated by operations. We anticipate that working capital will constitute a material use of our cash resources. We have sufficient cash on hand to continue to operate in the next 12 months.

Other factors affecting liquidity and capital resources

We have entered into two building loans to purchase two facilities located in San Jose, California. Total balance outstanding on these loans was \$10.2 million as of September 30, 2008. The first loan was entered into in April 2004 under which we borrowed \$4.3 million. The second loan was entered into in September 2005 under which we borrowed a total of \$6.9 million. We intend to repay the second outstanding building loan of \$6.3 million in the quarter ending December 31, 2008. The loans require us to comply with customary covenants related to business and financial condition. They also have customary restrictions on business and financial activity in which we cannot engage without the prior written consent of the bank. For example, under the terms

Table of Contents

of the building loans, we generally may not, without the lenders' prior written consent, incur certain indebtedness and liens, engage in business activities substantially different from our present business, liquidate or dissolve our business, lease or dispose of all or a substantial part of our business or assets, sell assets for less than fair market price, enter into any consolidation, merger or other business combination, or make certain loans, acquisitions and guaranties.

As of September 30, 2008, we have an unused revolving line of credit totaling \$5,000,000 that expired on November 1, 2008. This line of credit has been extended to December 1, 2008 with interest rate at Prime Rate plus 0.5% per annum.

In addition, we have historically paid our contract manufacturers within 39 to 75 days of invoice and Ablecom between 65 and 118 days of invoice. Ablecom, a Taiwan corporation, is one of our major contract manufacturers and a related party. As of September 30, 2008 and June 30, 2008 amounts owed to Ablecom by us were approximately \$34.8 million and \$27.7 million, respectively.

Our long-term future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including our level of revenues, the timing and extent of spending to support our product development efforts, the expansion of sales and marketing activities, the timing of our introductions of new products, the costs to ensure access to adequate manufacturing capacity and the continuing market acceptance of our products. We could be required, or could elect, to seek additional funding through public or private equity or debt financing and additional funds may not be available on terms acceptable to us or at all.

In February 2008, we leased an office building of approximately 246,000 square feet in Fremont, California with total payment obligations of approximately \$10.9 million over the next 6.8 years as of September 30, 2008. We also obtained an irrevocable standby letter of credit required by the landlord of its office lease totaling \$121,000 that expires on September 1, 2009.

In March 2008, we posted a bond in the amount of \$3,080,000 required by the Paris Court of Appeals related to the Digitechnic lawsuit (see Note 14 of the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements). The bond was collateralized by an irrevocable standby letter of credit totaling \$1,540,000. This amount has been classified as restricted assets as of September 30, 2008.

As of September 30, 2008, we held approximately \$15.1 million of long-term auction-rate securities (auction rate securities), net of unrealized losses, representing our interest in auction rate preferred shares in a closed end mutual fund invested in municipal securities and auction rate student loans guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP); such auction rate securities were rated AAA at September 30, 2008. These auction rate preferred shares have no stated maturity date and stated maturity dates for these auction rate student loans range from 2010 to 2040.

During February 2008, the auctions for these auction rate securities began to fail to obtain sufficient bids to establish a clearing rate and were not saleable in the auction, thereby losing the short-term liquidity previously provided by the auction process. As a result, the auction rate securities have been classified as non-current investments available-for-sale as of September 30, 2008 and we have recorded an accumulated unrealized loss of \$897,000 on such securities.

Although we have the financial ability and intent to hold these investments in auction rate securities until successful auctions occur, a buyer is found to purchase the securities at par outside of the auction process or the preferred shares are redeemed, these investments are not currently liquid and in the event we need to access these funds, we will not be able to do so without a loss of principal. There can be no assurances that these investments will be settled in the short term or that they will not become other-than-temporarily impaired subsequent to September 30, 2008, as the market for these investments is presently uncertain. In any event, we do not have a present need to access these funds for operational purposes. We will continue to monitor and evaluate these investments as there is no assurance as to when the market for these investments will allow us to liquidate them. We may be required to record impairment charges in periods subsequent to September 30, 2008 with respect to these securities and, if a liquid market does not develop for these investments, we could be required to hold them to maturity.

Table of Contents**Contractual Obligations**

The following table describes our contractual obligations as of September 30, 2008:

	Payments Due by Period				Total
	Less Than 1 Year	1 to 3 Years	3 to 5 Years	More Than 5 Years	
	(in thousands)				
Operating leases	\$ 4,178	\$ 8,006	\$ 7,889	\$ 8,416	\$ 28,489
Capital leases, including interest	50	71	34		155
Building loans, including interest	953	1,906	1,906	12,924	17,689
License arrangement	608	911	911	570	3,000
Purchase commitments	41,725				41,725
Total	\$ 47,514	\$ 10,894	\$ 10,740	\$ 21,910	\$ 91,058

The table above excludes \$5.0 million of liabilities under FIN 48. As discussed in Note 13 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, we adopted the provisions of FIN 48 as of July 1, 2007. At September 30, 2008, we had a liability for unrecognized tax benefits and an accrual for the related interest totaling \$5.0 million. The Company has not provided a detailed estimate of the payment timing due to the uncertainty of when the related tax settlements are due.

We expect to fund these obligations from our ongoing operations and existing cash and cash equivalents on hand.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements*EITF 07-3*

Effective July 1, 2008, we adopted EITF 07-3, *Accounting for Nonrefundable Advance Payments for Goods or Services Received for Use in Future Research and Development Activities* (EITF 07-3). EITF 07-3 requires that nonrefundable advance payments for goods or services that will be used or rendered for future research and development activities be deferred and capitalized and recognized as an expense as the goods are delivered or the related services are performed. The adoption did not have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

SFAS No. 159

Effective July 1, 2008, we adopted SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities-including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115* (SFAS 159), which the FASB issued in February 2007. SFAS 159 expands the use of fair value accounting but does not affect existing standards, which require assets or liabilities to be carried at fair value. Under SFAS 159, an entity may elect to use fair value to measure certain eligible items. The fair value option may be elected generally on an instrument-by-instrument basis as long as it is applied to the instrument in its entirety, even if an entity has similar instruments that it elects not to measure based on fair value. Upon adoption, we did not elect to adopt the fair value option on eligible items under SFAS 159.

Table of Contents

SFAS No. 162

In May 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 162, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* (SFAS 162). SFAS 162 identifies a consistent framework, or hierarchy, for selecting accounting principles to be used in preparing financial statements that are presented in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for non-governmental entities. SFAS 162 is effective 60 days following the Securities and Exchange Commission's approval of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board amendments to AU Section 411, *The Meaning of Presenting Fairly in Conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* . We are assessing the impact of the adoption of SFAS 162 on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Table of Contents

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risks **Interest Rate Risk**

The primary objectives of our investment activities are to preserve principal, provide liquidity and maximize income without significantly increasing the risk. Some of the securities we invest in are subject to market risk. This means that a change in prevailing interest rates may cause the principal amount of the investment to fluctuate. To minimize this risk, we maintain our portfolio of cash equivalents and short-term investments in money market funds and certificates of deposit. Since our results of operations are not dependent on investments, the risk associated with fluctuating interest rates is limited to our investment portfolio, and we believe that a 10% change in interest rates would not have a significant impact on our results of operations. As of September 30, 2008, our investments were in money market funds, certificates of deposit and auction rate securities (see Liquidity Risk below).

We had \$10.2 million of indebtedness under our credit facilities as of September 30, 2008 and \$10.3 million of indebtedness under our credit facilities as of June 30, 2008. The annual interest rate on our credit facilities is based on various indexes as defined in the loan agreements. At September 30, 2008, the interest rates ranged from 5.77% to 7.23%. An immediate 10% increase in the index rates would not have a material effect on our interest expense.

Liquidity Risk

As of September 30, 2008, we held approximately \$15.1 million of long-term auction-rate securities (auction rate securities), net of unrealized losses, representing our interest in auction rate preferred shares in a closed end mutual fund invested in municipal securities and auction rate student loans guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP); such auction rate securities were rated AAA at September 30, 2008. These auction rate preferred shares have no stated maturity date and the stated maturity dates for these auction rate student loans range from 2010 to 2040. During February 2008, the auctions for these auction rate securities began to fail to obtain sufficient bids to establish a clearing rate and were not saleable in the auction, thereby losing the short-term liquidity previously provided by the auction process. As a result, the auction rate securities have been classified as non-current investments available-for-sale as of September 30, 2008 and we have recorded an accumulated unrealized loss of \$897,000 on such securities.

Although we have the financial ability and intent to hold our investments in auction rate securities until successful auctions occur, a buyer is found to purchase the securities at par outside of the auction process or the preferred shares are redeemed, these investments are not currently liquid and in the event we need to access these funds, we will not be able to do so without a loss of principal. There can be no assurances that these investments will be settled in the short term or that they will not become other-than-temporarily impaired subsequent to September 30, 2008, as the market for these investments is presently uncertain. In any event, we do not have a present need to access these funds for operational purposes. We will continue to monitor and evaluate these investments as there is no assurance as to when the market for these investments will allow us to liquidate them. We may be required to record impairment charges in periods subsequent to September 30, 2008 with respect to these securities and, if a liquid market does not develop for these investments, we could be required to hold them to maturity.

Foreign Currency Risk

To date, our international customer agreements have been denominated solely in U.S. dollars, and accordingly, we have not been exposed to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations from customer agreements, and do not currently engage in foreign currency hedging transactions. However, the functional currency of our operations in Netherlands and Taiwan is the U.S. dollar and our local accounts are maintained in the local currency in the Netherlands and Taiwan, respectively, and thus we are subject to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations associated with re-measurement to U.S. dollars. Such fluctuations have not been significant historically. For example, foreign exchange gain or (loss) for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 was \$19,000 and \$(23,000), respectively.

Table of Contents

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, the Company evaluated the effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). The evaluation considered the procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports filed or submitted by the Company under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms and communicated to our management as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable assurance level as of September 30, 2008.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f) during the three months ended September 30, 2008 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II: OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

We are subject to a suit brought by Digitechnic, S.A. which was filed in the Bobigny Commercial Court in Paris, France in 1999. The claims involve allegations of damages stemming from allegedly defective products. In September 2003, the Bobigny Commercial Court awarded damages of approximately \$1.2 million against us. In February 2005, the Paris Court of Appeals reversed the trial court's ruling, dismissed all of Digitechnic's claims and awarded costs to us. Digitechnic appealed the decision to the French Supreme Court and asked for \$2,416,000 for damages. On February 13, 2007, the French Supreme Court reversed the decision of the Paris Court of Appeals, ordering a new hearing before a different panel of the Paris Court of Appeals. Pending a new hearing, the trial court ruling is reinstated. In March 2008, we posted a bond in the amount of \$3,040,000 required by the court. The bond was collateralized by an irrevocable standby letter of credit totaling \$1,540,000. Although we cannot predict with certainty the final outcome of this litigation, we believe the claim to be without merit and intend to continue to defend it vigorously.

In addition to the above, from time to time, we may be involved in various legal proceedings arising from the normal course of business activities. In our opinion, resolution of the above matters is not expected to have a material adverse impact on our consolidated results of operations, cash flows or our financial position. However, depending on the amount and timing, an unfavorable resolution of a matter could materially affect our future results of operations, cash flows or financial position in a particular period.

Table of Contents

Item 1a. Risk Factors.

The Risk Factors included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2008 have not materially changed except for the addition of a new risk factor relating to the uncertain global economic environment. You should carefully consider the following risk factors, as well as the other information in this Form 10-Q, before deciding whether to invest in shares of our common stock. If any of the following risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition and results of operations would suffer. In this case, the trading price of our common stock would likely decline and you might lose all or part of your investment in our common stock. Additional risks that we currently do not know about or that we currently believe to be immaterial may also impair our business operations.

Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

Our operating results may be adversely affected by a downturn in the global economic environment

The ongoing crises in global credit and capital markets are expected to lead to reduced economic activity. Although we cannot predict the level of such reductions or the impact on our business, such reduced economic activity could lead to:

Reduced demand for our products as a result of continued constraints on IT-related capital spending and limitations on available financing;

Increased price competition for our products;

Risk of excess and obsolete inventories;

Excess facilities and manufacturing capacity ; and

Higher overhead costs as a percentage of revenue and higher interest expense

Our operating results may also be affected by uncertain or changing economic conditions relating to specific geographical or product market segments. If global economic and market conditions, or economic conditions in the United States or other key markets, remain uncertain or persist, spread, or deteriorate further, we may experience material impacts on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Our recent significant growth makes it difficult to evaluate our current business and future prospects and may increase the risk of your investment.

Although we have been operating since 1993, our revenues have grown substantially in recent periods, which makes it difficult to evaluate our current business and future prospects. You must consider our business and prospects in light of the risks and difficulties we encounter as a rapidly growing technology company in a very competitive market. These risks and difficulties include, but are not limited to, the risks identified in this section and in particular the following factors:

our focus on a single market, the market for application optimized server systems and components;

our increasing focus on the sales of server systems as compared to components;

the success of our blade server systems, which were first introduced in September 2007;

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

the difficulties we face in managing rapid growth in personnel and operations;

the timing and success of new products and new technologies introduced by us and our competitors;

our ability to build brand awareness in a highly competitive market; and

our ability to market new and existing products on our own and with our partners.

We may not be able to successfully address any of these risks or others. Failure to do so adequately could seriously harm our business and cause our operating results to suffer.

Our quarterly operating results will likely fluctuate in the future, which could cause rapid declines in our stock price.

As our business continues to grow, we believe that our quarterly operating results will be subject to greater fluctuation due to various factors, many of which are beyond our control. Factors that may affect quarterly operating results in the future include:

our ability to attract new customers, retain existing customers and increase sales to such customers;

Table of Contents

unpredictability of the timing and size of customer orders, since most of our customers purchase our products on a purchase order basis rather than pursuant to a long term contract;

fluctuations in availability and costs associated with materials needed to satisfy customer requirements;

variability of our margins based on the mix of server systems and components we sell;

variability of operating expenses as a percentage of net sales;

the timing of the introduction of new products by leading microprocessor vendors and other suppliers;

our ability to introduce new and innovative server solutions that appeal to our customers;

our ability to address technology issues as they arise, improve our products' functionality and expand our product offerings;

changes in our product pricing policies, including those made in response to new product announcements and pricing changes of our competitors;

Table of Contents

mix of whether customer purchases are of full systems or components and whether made directly or through indirect sales channels;

fluctuations based upon seasonality;

the rate of expansion, domestically and internationally;

the effectiveness of our sales force and the efforts of our distributors;

the effect of mergers and acquisitions among our competitors, suppliers or partners;

general economic conditions in our geographic markets; and

impact of regulatory changes on our cost of doing business.

Accordingly, it is difficult for us to accurately forecast our growth and results of operations on a quarterly basis. If we fail to meet expectations of investors or analysts, our stock price may fall rapidly and without notice. Furthermore, the fluctuation of quarterly operating results may render less meaningful period-to-period comparisons of our operating results, and you should not rely upon them as an indication of future performance.

If the demand for application optimized server solutions does not continue to develop as we anticipate, demand for our server solutions may not grow as we expect.

The success of our business depends on the continued adoption of application optimized server solutions by businesses for running their critical business applications. The market for application optimized server solutions has begun to develop in recent years. As the market for general purpose servers has grown and matured, leading general purpose server vendors have focused on providing a limited range of models that could be mass produced, thereby creating an opportunity for the development of a market focused on more application optimized servers. This new market has been marked by frequent introductions of new technologies and products. Many of these technologies and products have not yet gained, and may not gain, significant customer acceptance. We expect to devote significant resources to identifying new market trends and developing products to meet anticipated customer demand for application optimized server solutions. Ultimately, however, customers may not purchase application optimized server solutions and instead select general purpose lower-cost servers and components. We are also part of a broader market for server solutions and demand for these server solutions may decline or fail to grow as we expect. Accordingly, we can not assure you that demand for the type of server solutions we offer and plan to offer will continue to develop as we anticipate, or at all.

Our future financial performance will depend on the timely introduction and widespread acceptance of new server solutions and increased functionality of our existing server solutions.

Our future financial performance will depend on our ability to meet customer specifications and requirements by enhancing our current server solutions and developing server solutions with new and better functionality. The success of new features and new server solutions depends on several factors, including their timely introduction and market acceptance. We may not be successful in developing enhancements or new server solutions, or in timely bringing them to market. Customers may also defer purchases of our existing products pending the introduction of anticipated new products. If our new server solutions are not competitive with solutions offered by other vendors, we may not be perceived as a technology leader and could miss market opportunities. If we are unable to enhance the functionality of our server solutions or introduce new server solutions which achieve widespread market acceptance, our reputation will be damaged, the value of our brand will diminish, and our business will suffer. In addition, uncertainties about the timing and nature of new features and products could result in increases in our research and development expenses with no assurance of future sales.

We may not be able to successfully manage our planned growth and expansion.

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

We are pursuing new customers and expanding our product offerings to grow our business rapidly. In connection with this growth, we expect that our annual operating expenses will increase significantly during the foreseeable future as we invest in sales and marketing, research and development, manufacturing and production infrastructure, and strengthen customer service and support resources for our customers. Our failure to expand

Table of Contents

operational and financial systems timely or efficiently could result in additional operating inefficiencies, which could increase our costs and expenses more than we had planned and prevent us from successfully executing our business plan. We may not be able to offset the costs of operation expansion by leveraging the economies of scale from our growth in negotiations with our suppliers and contract manufacturers. Additionally, if we do increase our operating expenses in anticipation of the growth of our business and this growth does not meet our expectations, our financial results will be negatively impacted.

If our business grows, we will have to manage additional product design projects, materials procurement processes, and sales efforts and marketing for an increasing number of SKUs, as well as expand the number and scope of our relationships with suppliers, distributors and end customers. If we fail to manage these additional responsibilities and relationships successfully, we may incur significant costs, which may negatively impact our operating results.

Additionally, in our efforts to be first to market with new products with innovative functionality and features, we may devote significant research and development resources to products and product features for which a market does not develop quickly, or at all. If we are not able to predict market trends accurately, we may not benefit from such research and development activities, and our results of operations may suffer.

The market in which we participate is highly competitive, and if we do not compete effectively, we may not be able to increase our market penetration, grow our net sales or improve our gross margins.

The market for server solutions is intensely competitive and rapidly changing. Barriers to entry in our market are relatively low and we expect increased challenges from existing as well as new competitors. Some of our principal competitors offer server solutions at a lower price, which has resulted in pricing pressures on sales of our server solutions. We expect further downward pricing pressure from our competitors and expect that we will have to price some of our server solutions aggressively to increase our market share with respect to those products. If we are unable to maintain the margins on our server solutions, our operating results could be negatively impacted. In addition, if we do not develop new innovative server solutions, or enhance the reliability, performance, efficiency and other features of our existing server solutions, our customers may turn to our competitors for alternatives. In addition, pricing pressures and increased competition generally may also result in reduced sales, lower margins or the failure of our products to achieve or maintain widespread market acceptance, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our principal competitors include global technology companies such as Dell, Inc., Hewlett-Packard Company, International Business Machines Corporation and Intel. In addition, we also compete with a number of smaller vendors who also sell application optimized servers, such as Rackable Systems, Inc., and original design manufacturers, or ODMs, such as Quanta Computer Incorporated. ODMs sell server solutions marketed or sold under a third party brand.

Many of our competitors enjoy substantial competitive advantages, such as:

greater name recognition and deeper market penetration;

longer operating histories;

larger sales and marketing organizations and research and development teams and budgets;

more established relationships with customers, contract manufacturers and suppliers and better channels to reach larger customer bases;

larger customer service and support organizations with greater geographic scope;

a broader and more diversified array of products and services; and

substantially greater financial, technical and other resources.

Table of Contents

As a result, our competitors may be able to respond more quickly and effectively than we can to new or changing opportunities, technologies, standards or customer requirements. Furthermore, because of these advantages, even if our application optimized server solutions are more effective than the products that our competitors offer, potential customers might accept competitive products in lieu of purchasing our products. The challenges we face from larger competitors will become even greater if consolidation or collaboration between or among our competitors occurs in our industry. For all of these reasons, we may not be able to compete successfully against our current or future competitors, and if we do not compete effectively, our ability to increase our net sales may be impaired.

Our sales cycle is lengthy and expensive, and could adversely affect the amount, timing and predictability of future net sales.

Our end customers generally need three to six months after an initial contact to make a final purchase decision with respect to our products. As customers weigh their purchase options, we may expend significant resources in pursuit of a sale that may ultimately fail to close. We have little control over our customers' budget cycles and approval processes, or the strength of competitors' relationships with our potential customers, all of which could adversely affect our sales efforts. The introduction of new products and product enhancements may lengthen our sales cycle as customers defer a decision on purchasing existing products and evaluate our new products. If we are unsuccessful in closing sales after expending significant resources, our net sales and operating expenses will be adversely affected.

As we increasingly target larger customers, our customer base may become less diversified, our cost of sales may increase, and our sales may be less predictable.

We expect that selling our server solutions to larger customers will create new challenges. No one customer represented 10% or more of our revenues for fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006 and the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007. However, if certain customers buy our products in greater volumes, and their business becomes a larger percentage of our net sales, we may grow increasingly dependent on those customers to maintain our growth. If our largest customers do not purchase our products at the levels or in the timeframes that we expect, our ability to maintain or grow our net sales will be adversely affected.

Additionally, as we and our distribution partners focus increasingly on selling to larger customers and attracting larger orders, we expect greater costs of sales. Our sales cycle may become longer and more expensive, as larger customers typically spend more time negotiating contracts than smaller customers. In addition, larger customers often seek to gain greater pricing concessions, as well as greater levels of support in the implementation and use of our server solutions. These factors can result in lower margins for our products.

Increased sales to larger companies may also cause fluctuations in results of operations. A larger customer may seek to fulfill all or substantially all of its requirements in a single order, and not make another purchase for a significant period of time. Accordingly, a significant increase in revenue during the period in which we recognize the revenue from the sale may be followed by a period of time during which the customer purchases none or few of our products. A significant decline in net sales in periods following a significant order could adversely affect our stock price.

We must work closely with our suppliers to make timely new product introductions.

We rely on our close working relationships with our suppliers, including Intel and AMD, to anticipate and deliver new products on a timely basis when new generation materials and core components are made available. Intel and AMD are the only suppliers of the microprocessors we use in our server systems. If we are not able to maintain our relationships with our suppliers or continue to leverage their research and development capabilities to develop new technologies desired by our customers, our ability to quickly offer advanced technology and product innovations to our customers would be impaired. We have no long term agreements that obligate our suppliers to continue to work with us or to supply us with products.

Table of Contents

Our suppliers' failure to improve the functionality and performance of materials and core components for our products may impair or delay our ability to deliver innovative products to our customers.

We need our material and core component suppliers, such as Intel and AMD, to provide us with core components that are innovative, reliable and attractive to our customers. Due to the pace of innovation in our industry, many of our customers may delay or reduce purchase decisions until they believe that they are receiving best of breed products that will not be rendered obsolete by an impending technological development. Accordingly, demand for new server systems that incorporate new products and features is significantly impacted by our suppliers' new product introduction schedules and the functionality, performance and reliability of those new products. If our materials and core component suppliers fail to deliver new and improved materials and core components for our products, we may not be able to satisfy customer demand for our products in a timely manner, or at all. If our suppliers' components do not function properly, we may incur additional costs and our relationships with our customers may be adversely affected.

Our time to market advantage is dependent upon our suppliers' ability to continue to introduce improved components for our products.

We are dependent upon our material and core component suppliers, such as Intel and AMD, to continue to introduce improved products with additional features that our customers will find attractive. If the pace of innovation from our suppliers slows, our products may face increased competition if our competitors are able to introduce products that use the latest technology offered by other suppliers in the industry. This price competition could lead to reduced margins and could adversely affect our results of operations.

As our business grows, we expect that we may be exposed to greater customer credit risks.

Historically, we have offered limited credit terms to our customers. As our customer base expands, as our orders increase in size, and as we obtain more direct customers, we expect to offer increased credit terms and flexible payment programs to our customers. Doing so may subject us to increased credit risk, higher accounts receivable with longer days outstanding, and increases in charges or reserves, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our ability to develop our brand is critical to our ability to grow.

We believe that acceptance of our server solutions by an expanding customer base depends in large part on increasing awareness of the Supermicro brand and that brand recognition will be even more important as competition in our market develops. In particular, we expect an increasing proportion of our sales to come from sales of server systems, the sales of which we believe may be particularly impacted by brand strength. Successful promotion of our brand will depend largely on the effectiveness of our marketing efforts and on our ability to develop reliable and useful products at competitive prices. To date, we have not devoted significant resources to building our brand, and have limited experience in increasing customer awareness of our brand. Our future brand promotion activities, including any expansion of our cooperative marketing programs with strategic partners, may involve significant expense and may not generate desired levels of increased revenue, and even if such activities generate some increased revenue, such increased revenue may not offset the expenses we incurred in endeavoring to build our brand. If we fail to successfully promote and maintain our brand, or incur substantial expenses in our attempts to promote and maintain our brand, we may fail to attract enough new customers or retain our existing customers to the extent necessary to realize a sufficient return on our brand-building efforts, and as a result our operating results and financial condition could suffer.

We principally rely on indirect sales channels for the sale and distribution of our products and any disruption in these channels could adversely affect our sales.

Historically, a substantial majority of our revenues have resulted from sales of our server solutions through third party distributors and resellers, which sales accounted for approximately 62.6% and 60.9% of our net sales in the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. We depend on our distributors to assist us in promoting market acceptance of our products and anticipate that a majority of our revenues will continue to result from sales through indirect channels.

Table of Contents

To maintain and potentially increase our revenue and profitability, we will have to successfully preserve and expand our existing distribution relationships as well as develop new distribution relationships. Our distributors also sell products offered by our competitors and may elect to focus their efforts on these sales. If our competitors offer our distributors more favorable terms or have more products available to meet the needs of their customers, or utilize the leverage of broader product lines sold through the distributors, those distributors may de-emphasize or decline to carry our products. In addition, our distributors' order decision-making process is complex and involves several factors, including end customer demand, warehouse allocation and marketing resources, which can make it difficult to accurately predict total sales for the quarter until late in the quarter. We also do not control the pricing or discounts offered by distributors to end customers. To maintain our participation in distributors' marketing programs, in the past we have provided cooperative marketing arrangements or made short-term pricing concessions. The discontinuation of cooperative marketing arrangements or pricing concessions could have a negative effect on our business. Our distributors could also modify their business practices, such as payment terms, inventory levels or order patterns. If we are unable to maintain successful relationships with distributors or expand our distribution channels or we experience unexpected changes in payment terms, inventory levels or other practices by our distributors, our business will suffer.

We may be unable to accurately predict future sales through our distributors, which could harm our ability to efficiently manage our resources to match market demand.

Since a significant portion of our sales are made through domestic and international distributors, our financial results, quarterly product sales, trends and comparisons are affected by fluctuations in the buying patterns of end customers and our distributors, and by the changes in inventory levels of our products held by these distributors. We generally record revenue based upon a sell-in model which means that we generally record revenue upon shipment to our distributors. For more information regarding our revenue recognition policies, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies. While we attempt to assist our distributors in maintaining targeted stocking level of our products, we may not consistently be accurate or successful. This process involves the exercise of judgment and use of assumptions as to future uncertainties including end customer demand. Our distributors also have various rights to return products which could, among other things, result in our having to repurchase inventory which has declined in value or is obsolete. Consequently, actual results could differ from our estimates. Inventory levels of our products held by our distributors may exceed or fall below the levels we consider desirable on a going-forward basis. This could adversely affect our distributors or our ability to efficiently manage or invest in internal resources, such as manufacturing and shipping capacity, to meet the demand for our products.

If we are required to change the timing of our revenue recognition, our net sales and net income could decrease.

We currently record revenue based upon a sell-in model with revenues generally recorded upon shipment of products to our distributors. This is in contrast to a sell-through model pursuant to which revenues are generally recognized upon sale of products by distributors to their customers. This requires that we maintain a reserve to cover the estimated costs of any returns or exercises of stock rotation rights, which we estimate primarily based on our historical experience. If facts and circumstances change such that the rate of returns of our products exceeds our historical experience, we may have to increase our reserve, which, in turn, would cause our revenue to decline. Similarly, if facts and circumstances change such that we are no longer able to determine reasonable estimates of our sales returns, we would be required to defer our revenue recognition until the point of sale from the distributors to their customers. Any such change may negatively impact our net sales or net income for particular periods and cause a decline in our stock price. For additional information regarding our revenue recognition policies, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies.

Table of Contents

The average selling prices for our existing server solutions are subject to decline if customers do not continue to purchase our latest generation products, which could harm our results of operations.

As with most electronics based products, average selling prices of servers typically are highest at the time of introduction of new products, which utilize the latest technology, and tend to decrease over time as such products become commoditized and are ultimately replaced by even newer generation products. We have not been impacted by this phenomenon to any material extent to date because most of our sales are generated from our most recently introduced products which have not yet become commoditized and therefore are not yet subject to the pressure of rapidly declining average selling prices. However, as our business continues to grow, we may increasingly be subject to this industry risk. We cannot predict the timing or amount of any decline in the average selling prices of our server solutions that we may experience in the future. In some instances, our agreements with our distributors limit our ability to reduce prices unless we make such price reductions available to them, or price protect their inventory. If we are unable to decrease per unit manufacturing costs faster than the rate at which average selling prices continue to decline, our business, financial condition and results of operations will be harmed.

Our cost structure and ability to deliver server solutions to customers in a timely manner may be adversely affected by volatility of the market for core components and materials for our products.

Prices of materials and core components utilized in the manufacture of our server solutions, such as serverboards, chassis, central processing units, or CPUs, memory and hard drives represent a significant portion of our cost of sales. We generally do not enter into long-term supply contracts for these materials and core components, but instead purchase these materials and components on a purchase order basis. Prices of these core components and materials are volatile, and, as a result, it is difficult to predict expense levels and operating results. In addition, if our business growth renders it necessary or appropriate to transition to longer term contracts with materials and core component suppliers, our costs may increase and our gross margins could correspondingly decrease.

Because we often acquire materials and core components on an as needed basis, we may be limited in our ability to effectively and efficiently respond to customer orders because of the then-current availability or the terms and pricing of materials and core components. Our industry has experienced materials shortages and delivery delays in the past, and we may experience shortages or delays of critical materials in the future. From time to time, we have been forced to delay the introduction of certain of our products or the fulfillment of customer orders as a result of shortages of materials and core components. If shortages or delays arise, the prices of these materials and core components may increase or the materials and core components may not be available at all. In addition, in the event of shortages, some of our larger competitors may have greater abilities to obtain materials and core components due to their larger purchasing power. We may not be able to secure enough core components or materials at reasonable prices or of acceptable quality to build new products to meet customer demand, which could adversely affect our business and financial results.

We may lose sales or incur unexpected expenses relating to insufficient, excess or obsolete inventory.

As a result of our strategy to provide greater choice and customization of our products to our customers, we are required to maintain a high level of inventory. If we fail to maintain sufficient inventory, we may not be able to meet demand for our products on a timely basis, and our sales may suffer. If we overestimate customer demand for our products, we could experience excess inventory of our products and be unable to sell those products at a reasonable price, or at all. As a result, we may need to record higher inventory reserves. If we are later able to sell such products at a profit, it may increase the quarterly variances in our operating results. Additionally, the rapid pace of innovation in our industry could render significant portions of our existing inventory obsolete. Certain of our distributors and OEMs have rights to return products, limited to purchases over a specified period of time, generally within 60 to 90 days of the purchase, or to products in the distributor's or OEM's inventory at certain times, such as termination of the agreement or product obsolescence. Any returns under these arrangements could result in additional obsolete inventory. In addition, server systems and components that have been customized and later returned by those of our customers and partners who have return

Table of Contents

rights or stock rotation rights may be unusable for other purposes or may require reformation at additional cost to be made ready for sale to other customers. Excess or obsolete inventory levels for these or other reasons could result in unexpected expenses or increases in our reserves against potential future charges which would adversely affect our business and financial results. For example, during the three months ended September 30, 2007, we recorded inventory write-downs charged to cost of sales of \$2.1 million, respectively, for excess and obsolete inventory. For additional information regarding customer return rights, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies Revenue Recognition.

Our focus on internal development and customizable server solutions could delay our introduction of new products and result in increased costs.

Our strategy is to rely to a significant degree on internally developed components, even when third party components may be available. We believe this allows us to develop products with a greater range of features and functionality and allows us to develop solutions that are more customized to customer needs. However, if not properly managed, this reliance on internally developed components may be more costly than use of third party components, thereby making our products less price competitive or reducing our margins. In addition, our reliance on internal development may lead to delays in the introduction of new products and impair our ability to introduce products rapidly to market. We may also experience increases in our inventory costs and obsolete inventory, thereby reducing our margins.

Our research and development expenditures, as a percentage of our net sales, are considerably higher than many of our competitors and our earnings will depend upon maintaining revenues and margins that offset these expenditures.

Our strategy is to focus on being consistently rapid-to-market with flexible and customizable server systems that take advantage of our own internal development and the latest technologies offered by microprocessor manufacturers and other component vendors. Consistent with this strategy, we spend higher amounts, as a percentage of revenues, on research and development costs than many of our competitors. If we can not sell our products in sufficient volume and with adequate gross margins to compensate for such investment in research and development, our earnings may be materially and adversely affected.

If our limited number of contract manufacturers or suppliers of materials and core components fail to meet our requirements, we may be unable to meet customer demand for our products, which could decrease our revenues and earnings.

We purchase many sophisticated materials and core components from one or a limited number of qualified suppliers and rely on a limited number of contract manufacturers to provide value added design, manufacturing, assembly and test services. We generally do not have long-term agreements with these vendors, and instead obtain key materials and services through purchase order arrangements. We have no contractual assurances from any contract manufacturer that adequate capacity will be available to us to meet future demand for our products.

Consequently, we are vulnerable to any disruptions in supply with respect to the materials and core components provided by limited-source suppliers, and we are at risk of being harmed by discontinuations of design, manufacturing, assembly or testing services from our contract manufacturers. We have occasionally experienced delivery delays from our suppliers and contract manufacturers because of high industry demand or because of inability to meet our quality or delivery requirements. For example, in the quarter ended September 30, 2006, we experienced delays in the delivery of printed circuit board material as a result of the loss of two of our five printer circuit board vendors. One of the vendors filed for bankruptcy and the other changed its business model and ceased supplying us. The delays in delivery of the materials resulted in a reduction of net sales for the quarter of approximately two to three million dollars. If our relationships with our suppliers and contract manufacturers are negatively impacted by late payments or other issues, we may not receive timely delivery of materials and core components. If we were to lose any of our current supply or contract manufacturing relationships, the process of identifying and qualifying a new supplier or contract manufacturer

Table of Contents

who will meet our quality and delivery requirements, and who will appropriately safeguard our intellectual property, may require a significant investment of time and resources, adversely affecting our ability to satisfy customer purchase orders and delaying our ability to rapidly introduce new products to market. Similarly, if any of our suppliers were to cancel or materially change contracts or commitments to us or fail to meet the quality or delivery requirements needed to satisfy customer demand for our products, our reputation and relationships with customers could be damaged. We could lose orders, be unable to develop or sell some products cost-effectively or on a timely basis, if at all, and have significantly decreased revenues, margins and earnings, which would have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our failure to deliver high quality server solutions could damage our reputation and diminish demand for our products.

Our server solutions are critical to our customers' business operations. Our customers require our server solutions to perform at a high level, contain valuable features and be extremely reliable. The design of our server solutions is sophisticated and complex, and the process for manufacturing, assembling and testing our server solutions is challenging. Occasionally, our design or manufacturing processes may fail to deliver products of the quality that our customers require. For example, in 2000, a vendor provided us with a defective capacitor that failed under certain heavy use applications. As a result, our product needed to be repaired. Though the vendor agreed to pay for a large percentage of the costs of the repairs, we incurred costs in connection with the recall and diverted resources from other projects.

New flaws or limitations in our server solutions may be detected in the future. Part of our strategy is to bring new products to market quickly, and first-generation products may have a higher likelihood of containing undetected flaws. If our customers discover defects or other performance problems with our products, our customers' businesses, and our reputation, may be damaged. Customers may elect to delay or withhold payment for defective or underperforming server solutions, request remedial action, terminate contracts for untimely delivery, or elect not to order additional server solutions. Additionally, customers may make warranty claims against us, which could result in an increase in our provision for doubtful accounts, an increase in collection cycles for accounts receivable or subject us to the expense and risk of litigation. We may incur expense in recalling, refurbishing or repairing defective server solutions. If we do not properly address customer concerns about our products, our reputation and relationships with our customers may be harmed. For all of these reasons, customer dissatisfaction with the quality of our products could substantially impair our ability to grow our business.

Conflicts of interest may arise between us and Ablecom Technology Inc., one of our major contract manufacturers, and those conflicts may adversely affect our operations.

We use Ablecom Technology, a related party, for contract design and manufacturing coordination support. We work with Ablecom to optimize modular designs for our chassis and certain of other components. For the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, our purchases from Ablecom represented approximately 27.3% and 23.3% of our cost of sales, respectively. Ablecom's sales to us constitute a substantial majority of Ablecom's net sales. Ablecom is a privately-held Taiwan-based company.

Steve Liang, Ablecom's Chief Executive Officer and largest shareholder, is the brother of Charles Liang, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board. Charles Liang, and his spouse, Chiu-Chu (Sara) Liu Liang, our Vice President of Operations, Treasurer and director, jointly own approximately 30.7% of Ablecom's outstanding common stock. Charles Liang served as a director of Ablecom during our fiscal 2006, but is not currently serving in such capacity. In addition, Yih-Shyan (Wally) Liaw, our Vice President of International Sales and Secretary, and a director, and his wife jointly own approximately 5.2% of Ablecom's outstanding common stock, and collectively, Mr. Charles Liang, Ms. Liang, Mr. Liaw, Mr. Steve Liang and relatives of these individuals own over 80% of Ablecom's outstanding common stock. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Liang, as directors, officers and significant stockholders, and Mr. Liaw, as an officer, director and significant

Table of Contents

stockholder, of the Company, have considerable influence over the management of our business relationships. Accordingly, we may be disadvantaged by their economic interests as stockholders of Ablecom and their personal relationship with Ablecom's Chief Executive Officer. We may not negotiate or enforce contractual terms as aggressively with Ablecom as we might with an unrelated party, and the commercial terms of our agreements may be less favorable than we might obtain in negotiations with third parties. If our business dealings with Ablecom are not as favorable to us as arms-length transactions, our results of operations may be harmed.

In addition, our relationships with Ablecom could be adversely affected by declines in our stock price or divestments by Ablecom of its shares of our common stock. Steve Liang, Ablecom's Chief Executive Officer, held approximately 2.6% of our outstanding common stock as of September 30, 2008. If the value of the shares that Steve Liang holds should decline, by decrease in our stock price or by disposition of the shares, if Steve Liang ceases to have significant influence over Ablecom, or if those of our stockholders who hold shares of Ablecom cease to hold a majority of the outstanding shares of Ablecom, the terms and conditions of our agreements with Ablecom may not be as favorable as those in our existing contracts. As a result, our costs could increase and adversely affect our margins and results of operations.

Our relationship with Ablecom may allow us to benefit from favorable pricing which may result in reported results more favorable than we might report in the absence of our relationship.

Although we generally re-negotiate the price of products that we purchase from Ablecom on a quarterly basis, pursuant to our agreements with Ablecom either party may re-negotiate the price of products for each order. As a result of our relationship with Ablecom, it is possible that Ablecom may in the future sell products to us at a price lower than we could obtain from an unrelated third party supplier. This may result in our reporting for one or more periods gross profit as a percentage of net sales in excess of what we might have obtained absent our relationship with Ablecom.

We are increasing our reliance on Ablecom and could be subject to risks associated with greater reliance on a limited source of contract manufacturing services and inventory warehousing.

We continue to maintain our manufacturing relationship with Ablecom in Asia. In order to provide a larger volume of contract manufacturing services for us, Ablecom will continue to warehouse for us an increasing number of components and subassemblies manufactured by multiple suppliers prior to shipment to our facilities in the U.S. and Europe. We also anticipate that we will continue to lease office space from Ablecom in Taiwan to support the research and development efforts we are undertaking.

Table of Contents

If we or Ablecom fail to manage the contract manufacturing services and warehouse operations in Asia, we may experience delays in our ability to fulfill customer orders. Similarly, if Ablecom's facility in Asia is subject to damage, destruction or other disruptions, our inventory may be damaged or destroyed, and we may be unable to find adequate alternative providers of contract manufacturing services in the time that we or our customers require. We could lose orders and be unable to develop or sell some products cost-effectively or on a timely basis, if at all.

Currently, we purchase contract manufacturing services primarily for our chassis and power supply products from Ablecom. If our commercial relationship with Ablecom were to deteriorate or terminate, establishing direct relationships with those entities supplying Ablecom with key materials for our products or identifying and negotiating agreements with alternative providers of warehouse and contract manufacturing services might take a considerable amount of time and require a significant investment of resources. Pursuant to our agreements with Ablecom and subject to certain exceptions, Ablecom has the exclusive right to be our supplier of the specific products developed under such agreements. As a result, if we are unable to obtain such products from Ablecom on terms acceptable to us, we may need to identify a new supplier, change our design and acquire new tooling, all of which could result in delays in our product availability and increased costs. If we need to use other suppliers, we may not be able to establish business arrangements that are, individually or in the aggregate, as favorable as the terms and conditions we have established with Ablecom. If any of these things should occur, our net sales, margins and earnings could significantly decrease, which would have a material adverse effect on our business.

We are increasing our operations in Taiwan, China and the Netherlands and could be subject to risks of doing business in the region.

We intend to increase our business operations in Europe and Asia, and particularly in the Netherlands, Taiwan and China. As a result, our exposure to the business risks presented by the economies and regulatory environments of Asia will increase. For example, the validity, enforceability and scope of protection of intellectual property is uncertain and evolving in the Netherlands, Taiwan and China, and our intellectual property rights may not be protected under the laws of the Netherlands, Taiwan and China to the same extent as under laws of the United States. If our intellectual property is misappropriated, we may experience unfair competition and declining sales or be forced to incur increased costs of enforcing our intellectual property rights, both of which would adversely affect our net sales, gross margins and results of operations.

Our growth into markets outside the United States exposes us to risks inherent in international business operations.

We market and sell our systems and components both domestically and outside the United States. We intend to expand our international sales efforts, especially into Asia, but our international expansion efforts may not be successful. Our international operations expose us to risks and challenges that we would otherwise not face if we conducted our business only in the United States, such as:

heightened price sensitivity from customers in emerging markets;

our ability to establish local manufacturing, support and service functions, and to form channel relationships with resellers in non-U.S. markets;

localization of our systems and components, including translation into foreign languages and the associated expenses;

compliance with multiple, conflicting and changing governmental laws and regulations;

foreign currency fluctuations;

limited visibility into sales of our products by our distributors;

laws favoring local competitors;

Table of Contents

weaker legal protections of intellectual property rights and mechanisms for enforcing those rights;

market disruptions created by public health crises in regions outside the U.S., such as Avian flu, SARS and other diseases;

difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations, including challenges presented by relationships with workers' councils and labor unions; and

changing regional economic and political conditions.

These factors could limit our future international sales or otherwise adversely impact our operations.

We have in the past entered into plea and settlement agreements with the government relating to violations of export control and economic sanctions laws that occurred during the 2001 to 2003 timeframe; if we fail to comply with laws and regulations restricting dealings with sanctioned countries, we may be subject to future civil or criminal penalties, which may have a material adverse effect on our business or ability to do business outside the U.S.

In 2004, we received subpoenas from the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce, or BIS, with respect to our relationship with a distributor and transactions involving the sale and resale of products to Iran that occurred prior to 2004. After receiving the first subpoena, we retained special export control counsel, conducted an internal investigation into these matters and terminated our relationship with the distributor in question. We also instituted a new export compliance program, which program we continue to develop and implement. The U.S. Department of Justice and Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of Treasury, or OFAC, also initiated investigations regarding these matters.

In September 2006, we entered into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice pursuant to which we agreed to plead guilty to one count of violating federal export regulations by shipping 300 motherboards to Dubai, UAE, with knowledge that they would be transshipped to Iran. We agreed to pay a \$150,000 fine. The plea agreement has been approved by the U.S. District Court. We have also entered into a settlement agreement with BIS with respect to alleged violations of the Export Administration Regulations pursuant to which we agreed to pay a fine of approximately \$125,000. We were charged by BIS with twelve violations of the Export Administration Regulations. Six of these violations involved the shipment of rackmount server systems and components without required government authorization through a distributor to end customers in Iran. Three of these violations involved allegations that shipments took place when we knew or had reason to know that the transactions would constitute a violation of the applicable regulations. Three involved claims that we made false declarations on shipping documents, stating that no license was required for the export of the products when in fact a government license was required. Finally, we have entered into a settlement agreement with OFAC relating to 21 alleged violations of U.S. sanctions laws. Pursuant to this agreement, we have paid a fine of \$179,000. We believe that all issues with respect to the matters under investigation have been resolved.

We believe we are currently in compliance in all material respects with applicable export related laws and regulations. However, if our export compliance program is not effective, or if we are subject to any future claims regarding violation of export control and economic sanctions laws, we could be subject to civil or criminal penalties, which could lead to a material fine or other sanctions, including loss of export privileges, that may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operation and future prospects. In addition, these plea and settlement agreements and any future violations could have an adverse impact on our ability to sell our products to U.S. federal, state and local government and related entities.

Any failure to protect our intellectual property rights, trade secrets and technical know-how could impair our brand and our competitiveness.

Our ability to prevent competitors from gaining access to our technology is essential to our success. If we fail to protect our intellectual property rights adequately, we may lose an important advantage in the markets in which we compete. Trademark, patent, copyright and trade secret laws in the United States and other jurisdictions as well as our internal confidentiality procedures and contractual provisions are the core of our efforts to protect our proprietary technology and our brand. Our patents and other intellectual property rights may be challenged by others or invalidated through administrative process or litigation, and we may initiate claims or litigation against third parties for infringement of our proprietary rights. Such administrative proceedings and litigation are inherently uncertain and divert resources that could be put towards other business priorities. We may not be able to obtain a favorable outcome and may spend considerable resources in our efforts to defend and protect our intellectual property.

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Furthermore, legal standards relating to the validity, enforceability and scope of protection of intellectual property rights are uncertain. Effective patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret protection may not be available to us in every country in which our products are available. The laws of some foreign countries may not be as protective of intellectual property rights as those in the United States, and mechanisms for enforcement of intellectual property rights may be inadequate.

Accordingly, despite our efforts, we may be unable to prevent third parties from infringing upon or misappropriating our intellectual property and using our technology for their competitive advantage. Any such infringement or misappropriation could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Table of Contents

Resolution of claims that we have violated or may violate the intellectual property rights of others could require us to indemnify our customers, resellers or vendors, redesign our products, or pay significant royalties to third parties, and materially harm our business.

Our industry is marked by a large number of patents, copyrights, trade secrets and trademarks and by frequent litigation based on allegations of infringement or other violation of intellectual property rights. Third-parties have in the past sent us correspondence regarding their intellectual property and in the future we may receive claims that our products infringe or violate third parties' intellectual property rights. For example, we were subject to a lawsuit filed in 2005 by Rackable Systems, Inc. In May 2007, we settled the claims on terms which had no adverse effect on our business, financial condition and result of operations. Successful intellectual property claims against us from others could result in significant financial liability or prevent us from operating our business or portions of our business as we currently conduct it or as we may later conduct it. In addition, resolution of claims may require us to redesign our technology, to obtain licenses to use intellectual property belonging to third parties, which we may not be able to obtain on reasonable terms, to cease using the technology covered by those rights, and to indemnify our customers, resellers or vendors. Any claim, regardless of its merits, could be expensive and time consuming to defend against, and divert the attention of our technical and management resources.

If we lose Charles Liang, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, or any other key employee or are unable to attract additional key employees, we may not be able to implement our business strategy in a timely manner.

Our future success depends in large part upon the continued service of our executive management team and other key employees. In particular, Charles Liang, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, is critical to the overall management of our company as well as to the development of our culture and our strategic direction. Mr. Liang co-founded our company and has been our Chief Executive Officer since our inception. His experience in running our business and his personal involvement in key relationships with suppliers, customers and strategic partners are extremely valuable to our company. Additionally, we are particularly dependent on the continued service of our existing research and development personnel because of the complexity of our products and technologies. Our employment arrangements with our executives and employees do not require them to provide services to us for any specific length of time, and they can terminate their employment with us at any time, with or without notice, without penalty. The loss of services of any of these executives or of one or more other key members of our team could seriously harm our business.

To execute our growth plan, we must attract additional highly qualified personnel, including additional engineers and executive staff. Competition for qualified personnel is intense, especially in San Jose, where we are headquartered. We have experienced in the past and may continue to experience difficulty in hiring and retaining highly skilled employees with appropriate qualifications. In particular, we are currently working to add personnel in our finance, accounting and general administration departments, which have historically had limited budgets and staffing. If we are unable to attract and integrate additional key employees in a manner that enables us to scale our business and operations effectively, or if we do not maintain competitive compensation policies to retain our employees, our ability to operate effectively and efficiently could be limited.

Our board and management team have a limited history of working together and may not be able to execute our business plan.

Two members of our Board joined our Board in February 2007. We have also recently filled a number of positions in our finance and accounting staff. Accordingly, key personnel in our finance and accounting team have only recently assumed the duties and responsibilities they are now performing. Our Board members and key employees have worked together for only a limited period of time and have a limited track record of executing our business plan as a team. In addition, our executives have limited experience conducting business as a public company and fulfilling the increased legal, administrative and accounting obligations associated with being a public company. Accordingly, it is difficult to predict whether our directors and senior executives, individually and collectively, will be effective in managing our operations.

Any failure to adequately expand our sales force will impede our growth.

Though we expect to continue to rely primarily on third party distributors to sell our server solutions, we expect that, over time, our direct sales force will grow. Competition for direct sales personnel with the advanced sales skills and technical knowledge we need is intense. Our ability to grow our revenue in the future will depend, in large part, on our success in recruiting, training, retaining and successfully managing sufficient qualified direct sales personnel. New hires require significant training and may take six months or longer before they reach full productivity. Our recent hires and planned hires may not become as productive as we would like, and we may be unable to hire sufficient numbers of qualified individuals in the future in the markets where we do business. If we are unable to hire and develop sufficient numbers of productive sales personnel, sales of our server solutions will suffer.

Our direct sales efforts may create confusion for our end customers and harm our relationships with our distributors and OEMs.

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Though our direct sales efforts have historically been limited and focused on customers who typically do not buy from distributors or OEMs, we expect our direct sales force to grow as our business grows. As our direct sales force becomes larger, our direct sales efforts may lead to conflicts with our distributors and OEMs, who may view our direct sales efforts as undermining their efforts to sell our products. If a distributor or OEM deems our direct sales efforts to be inappropriate, the distributor or OEM may not effectively market our products, may emphasize alternative products from competitors, or may seek to terminate our business relationship. Disruptions in our distribution channels could cause our revenues to decrease or fail to grow as expected. Our failure to implement an effective direct sales strategy that maintains and expands our relationships with our distributors and OEMs could lead to a decline in sales and adversely affect our results of operations.

Table of Contents

Backlog does not provide a substantial portion of our net sales in any quarter.

Our net sales are difficult to forecast because we do not have sufficient backlog of unfilled orders to meet our quarterly net sales targets at the beginning of a quarter. Rather, a majority of our net sales in any quarter depend upon customer orders that we receive and fulfill in that quarter. Because our expense levels are based in part on our expectations as to future net sales and to a large extent are fixed in the short term, we might be unable to adjust spending in time to compensate for any shortfall in net sales. Accordingly, any significant shortfall of revenues in relation to our expectations would harm our operating results.

If the market for modular, open standard-based products does not continue to grow, opportunities to sell our products will be scarcer and our ability to grow would suffer.

The success of our business requires companies to commit to a modular, open standard-based server architecture instead of traditional proprietary and RISC/UNIX based servers. If enterprises do not adopt this open standard-based approach, the market for our products may not grow as we anticipate and our revenues would be adversely affected. Many prospective customers have invested significant financial and human resources in their existing systems, many of which are critical to their operations, and they may be reticent to overhaul their systems. Moreover, many of the server systems that we sell currently run on the Linux operating system, and are subject to the GNU General Public License. Pending litigation involving Linux and the GNU General Public License could be resolved in a manner that adversely affects Linux adoption in our industry and could materially harm our ability to sell our products based on the Linux operating system and the GNU General Public License. If the market for open standard-based modular technologies does not continue to develop for any reason, our ability to grow our business will be adversely affected.

Our business and operations are especially subject to the risks of earthquakes other natural catastrophic events.

Our corporate headquarters, including our most significant research and development and manufacturing operations, are located in the Silicon Valley area of Northern California, a region known for seismic activity. We do not currently have a comprehensive disaster recovery program and as a result, a significant natural disaster, such as an earthquake, could have a material adverse impact on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Market demand for our products may decrease as a result of changes in general economic conditions, as well as incidents of terrorism, war and other social and political instability.

Our net sales and gross profit depend largely on general economic conditions and, in particular, the strength of demand for our server solutions in the markets in which we are doing business. From time to time, customers and potential customers have elected not to make purchases of our products due to reduced budgets and uncertainty about the future, and, in the case of distributors, declining demand from their customers for their solutions in which they integrate our products. Similarly, from time to time, acts of terrorism, in particular in the United States, have had a negative impact on information technology spending. High fuel prices and turmoil in the Middle East and elsewhere have increased uncertainty in the United States and our other markets. Should the current conflicts in the Middle East and in other parts of the world suppress economic activity in the United States or globally, our customers may delay or reduce their purchases on information technology, which would result in lower demand for our products and adversely affect our results of operations.

If we acquire any companies or technologies in the future, they could prove difficult to integrate, disrupt our business, dilute stockholder value and adversely affect our operating results.

In the future, we may acquire or make investments in companies, assets or technologies that we believe are complementary or strategic. We have not made any acquisitions or investments to date, and therefore our ability as an organization to make acquisitions or investments is unproven. If we decide to make an acquisition or investment, we face numerous risks, including:

difficulties in integrating operations, technologies, products and personnel;

diversion of financial and managerial resources from existing operations;

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

risk of overpaying for or misjudging the strategic fit of an acquired company, asset or technology;

problems or liabilities stemming from defects of an acquired product or intellectual property litigation that may result from offering the acquired product in our markets;

challenges in retaining employees key to maximize the value of the acquisition or investment;

inability to generate sufficient return on investment;

incurrence of significant one-time write-offs; and

delays in customer purchases due to uncertainty.

If we proceed with an acquisition or investment, we may be required to use a considerable amount of our cash or to finance the transaction through debt or equity securities offerings, which may decrease our financial liquidity or dilute our stockholders and affect the market price of our stock. As a result, if we fail to properly evaluate and execute acquisitions or investments, our business and prospects may be harmed.

Table of Contents

We invest in auction rate securities that are subject to market risk and the recent problems in the financial markets could adversely affect the value and liquidity of our assets.

As of September 30, 2008, we held approximately \$15.1 million of long-term auction-rate securities, net of unrealized losses, representing our interest in auction rate preferred shares in a closed end mutual fund invested in municipal securities and auction rate student loans guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program; such auction rate securities were rated AAA at September 30, 2008. These auction rate preferred shares have no stated maturity date and the stated maturity dates for these auction rate student loans range from 2010 to 2040.

During February 2008, the auctions for these auction rate securities began to fail to obtain sufficient bids to establish a clearing rate and were not saleable in the auction, thereby losing the short-term liquidity previously provided by the auction process. As a result, the auction rate securities have been classified as non-current investments available-for-sale as of September 30, 2008 and we have recorded an accumulated unrealized loss of \$897,000 on such securities.

Although, we have the financial ability and intent to hold our investments in auction rate securities until successful auctions occur, a buyer is found to purchase the securities at par outside of the auction process or the preferred shares are redeemed, these investments are not currently liquid and in the event we need to access these funds, we will not be able to do so without a loss of principal. There can be no assurances that these investments will be settled in the short term or that they will not become other-than-temporarily impaired subsequent to September 30, 2008, as the market for these investments is presently uncertain. In any event, we do not have a present need to access these funds for operational purposes. We will continue to monitor and evaluate these investments as there is no assurance as to when the market for these investments will allow us to liquidate them. We may be required to record impairment charges in periods subsequent to September 30, 2008 with respect to these securities and, if a liquid market does not develop for these investments, we could be required to hold them to maturity.

If we are unable to favorably assess the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, or if our independent auditors are unable to provide an unqualified attestation report on our internal control over financial reporting, our stock price could be adversely affected.

Pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, or Section 404, our management is required to report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting in our annual reports. In addition, our independent auditors must attest to and report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. The rules governing the standards that must be met for management to assess our internal control over financial reporting are complex, and require significant documentation, testing and possible remediation. As a result, our efforts to comply with Section 404 have required the commitment of significant managerial and financial resources. As we are committed to maintaining high standards of public disclosure, our efforts to comply with Section 404 are ongoing, and we are continuously in the process of reviewing, documenting and testing our internal control over financial reporting, which will result in continued commitment of significant financial and managerial resources.

During fiscal year 2008, as part of its evaluation of our internal control over financial reporting, our management determined that we had a material weakness in the operation of controls designed to ensure that changes in classification of amounts, or classifications of amounts associated with new transactions, between cash flows from operating activities, investing activities and financing activities in the consolidated statement of cash flows are appropriate. We have concluded that the material weakness had been remediated as of June 30, 2008. As defined in Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Auditing Standard No. 5, a material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the company's annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. We strive to maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting in order to prevent and detect material misstatements in our annual and quarterly financial statements and prevent fraud. We cannot assure, however, that such efforts will be effective. If we fail to maintain effective internal controls in future periods, our operating results, financial position and stock price could be adversely affected.

Our operations involve the use of hazardous and toxic materials, and we must comply with environmental laws and regulations, which can be expensive, and may affect our business and operating results.

We are subject to federal, state and local regulations relating to the use, handling, storage, disposal and human exposure to hazardous and toxic materials. If we were to violate or become liable under environmental laws in the future as a result of our inability to obtain permits, human error, accident, equipment failure or other causes, we could be subject to fines, costs, or civil or criminal sanctions, face third party property damage or personal injury claims or be required to incur substantial investigation or remediation costs, which could be material, or experience disruptions in our operations, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business. In addition, environmental laws could become more stringent over time imposing greater compliance costs and increasing risks and penalties associated with violations, which could harm our business.

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

We also face increasing complexity in our product design as we adjust to new and future requirements relating to the materials composition of our products, including the restrictions on lead and other hazardous substances applicable to specified electronic products placed on the market in the European Union (Restriction on the Use of Hazardous Substances Directive 2002/95/EC, also known as the RoHS Directive). We are also subject to laws and regulations such as California's Proposition 65 which requires that clear and reasonable warnings be given to consumers who are exposed to certain chemicals deemed by the State of California to be dangerous, such as lead. In June 2007, we entered into a settlement agreement regarding this claim, and the terms thereof had no adverse effect on our business, financial condition and result of operations. We expect that our operations will be affected by other new environmental laws and regulations on an ongoing basis.

Table of Contents

Although we cannot predict the ultimate impact of any such new laws and regulations, they will likely result in additional costs, and could require that we change the design and/or manufacturing of our products, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Risks Related to Owning Our Stock

We are currently not in compliance with certain Nasdaq independent director requirements and failure to gain compliance could jeopardize our continued Nasdaq listing.

As a result of the unexpected death of one of our independent directors, the Company no longer fully complies with Nasdaq's independent director and audit committee requirements. We have received notice that we must regain full compliance by adding a new outside director before the earlier of our next annual stockholders' meeting or March 25, 2009 or, if the next annual stockholders' meeting is held before September 22, 2008, no later than September 22, 2008. If we fail to regain compliance within such time period, our Common Stock may be subject to de-listing from Nasdaq.

The trading price of our common stock is likely to be volatile, and you might not be able to sell your shares at or above the price at which you purchased the shares.

Our stock has been publicly traded for a relatively short period of time, having first begun trading in March 2007. The trading prices of technology company securities in general have been highly volatile. Accordingly, the trading price of our common stock is likely to be subject to wide fluctuations. Factors, in addition to those outlined elsewhere in this prospectus, that may affect the trading price of our common stock include:

actual or anticipated variations in our operating results;

announcements of technological innovations, new products or product enhancements, strategic alliances or significant agreements by us or by our competitors;

changes in recommendations by any securities analysts that elect to follow our common stock;

the financial projections we may provide to the public, any changes in these projections or our failure to meet these projections;

the loss of a key customer;

the loss of key personnel;

technological advancements rendering our products less valuable;

lawsuits filed against us;

changes in operating performance and stock market valuations of other companies that sell similar products;

Edgar Filing: Super Micro Computer, Inc. - Form 10-Q

price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market;

market conditions in our industry, the industries of our customers and the economy as a whole; and

other events or factors, including those resulting from war, incidents of terrorism or responses to these events.

Future sales of shares by existing stockholders could cause our stock price to decline.

Attempts by existing stockholders to sell substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline significantly. As of September 30, 2008, we had approximately 33.4 million shares of common stock outstanding. All of these shares are eligible for sale in the public market, including approximately 9.9 million shares held by directors, executive officers and other affiliates, which are subject to volume limitations under Rule 144 under the Securities Act. In addition, approximately 11.9 million shares subject to outstanding options and reserved for future issuance under our stock option plans are eligible for sale in the public market to the extent permitted by the provisions of various vesting agreements and Rules 144 and 701 under the Securities Act. If these additional shares are sold, or if it is perceived that they will be sold in the public market, the trading price of our common stock could decline.

If securities analysts do not publish research or reports about our business or if they downgrade our stock, the price of our stock could decline.

The research and reports that industry or financial analysts publish about us or our business likely have an effect on the trading price of our common stock. If an industry analyst decides not to cover our company, or if an industry analyst decides to cease covering our company at some point in the future, we could lose visibility in the market, which in turn could cause our stock price to decline. If an industry analyst downgrades our stock, our stock price would likely decline rapidly in response.

Table of Contents

The concentration of our capital stock ownership with insiders will likely limit your ability to influence corporate matters.

As of October 31, 2008, our executive officers, directors, current five percent or greater stockholders and affiliated entities together beneficially owned approximately 37.6 percent of our common stock outstanding. As a result, these stockholders, acting together, will have significant influence over all matters that require approval by our stockholders, including the election of directors and approval of significant corporate transactions. Corporate action might be taken even if other stockholders, including those who purchase shares in this offering, oppose them. This concentration of ownership might also have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control of our company that other stockholders may view as beneficial.

Provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and Delaware law might discourage, delay or prevent a change of control of our company or changes in our management and, as a result, depress the trading price of our common stock.

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws contain provisions that could discourage, delay or prevent a change in control of our company or changes in our management that the stockholders of our company may deem advantageous. These provisions:

establish a classified board of directors so that not all members of our board are elected at one time;

require super-majority voting to amend some provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws;

authorize the issuance of blank check preferred stock that our board could issue to increase the number of outstanding shares and to discourage a takeover attempt;

limit the ability of our stockholders to call special meetings of stockholders;

prohibit stockholder action by written consent, which requires all stockholder actions to be taken at a meeting of our stockholders;

provide that the board of directors is expressly authorized to adopt, or to alter or repeal our bylaws; and

establish advance notice requirements for nominations for election to our board or for proposing matters that can be acted upon by stockholders at stockholder meetings.

In addition, we are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which, subject to some exceptions, prohibits business combinations between a Delaware corporation and an interested stockholder, which is generally defined as a stockholder who becomes a beneficial owner of 15% or more of a Delaware corporation's voting stock for a three-year period following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder. Section 203 could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control that our stockholders might consider to be in their best interests. See Description of Capital Stock.

These anti-takeover defenses could discourage, delay or prevent a transaction involving a change in control of our company. These provisions could also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for you and other stockholders to elect directors of your choosing and cause us to take corporate actions other than those you desire.

We do not expect to pay any cash dividends for the foreseeable future.

We do not anticipate that we will pay any cash dividends to holders of our common stock in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, investors must rely on sales of their common stock after price appreciation, which may never occur, as the only way to realize any future gains on their investment. Investors seeking cash dividends in the foreseeable future should not purchase our common stock.

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

Not applicable.

Item 3. Default Upon Senior Securities.

Not applicable.

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

No matters were submitted to a vote of our security holders during the quarter ended September 30, 2008.

Item 5. Other Information.

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits

(a) Exhibits.

- 31.1 Certification of Charles Liang, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Registrant pursuant to Section 302, as adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2 Certification of Howard Hideshima, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of the Registrant pursuant to Section 302, as adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1 Certification of Charles Liang, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Registrant pursuant to Section 906, as adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.2 Certification of Howard Hideshima, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of the Registrant pursuant to Section 906, as adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Table of Contents

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.

SUPER MICRO COMPUTER, INC.

Dated: November 10, 2008

/s/ Charles Liang
Charles Liang
President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the

Board
(Principal Executive Officer)

Dated: November 10, 2008

/s/ Howard Hideshima
Howard Hideshima
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)