

AULT INC  
Form 10-Q  
January 11, 2006

## FORM 10-Q

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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

For the quarterly period ended November 27, 2005

Commission file number 0-12611

## AULT INCORPORATED

**MINNESOTA**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**41-0842932**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**7105 Northland Terrace**  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota 55428-1028**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number: **(763) 592-1900**

Indicate by check mark whether 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, and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

YES ý                      NO o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2).

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YES  NO

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

<b>Class of Common Stock</b>		<b>Outstanding at December 19, 2005</b>
No par value	4,861,192 shares	

Total pages 23

Exhibits Index on Page 19

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PART 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**AULT INCORPORATED & SUBSIDIARIES**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

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(Dollars in Thousands, Except Share and Per Share Amounts)

	(Unaudited)			
	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	Nov. 27 2005	Nov. 28 2004	Nov. 27 2005	Nov. 28 2004
Net Sales	\$ 9,254	\$ 8,225	\$ 18,452	\$ 18,561
Cost of Goods Sold	6,652	5,916	13,590	13,577
Gross Profit	2,602	2,309	4,862	4,984
Operating Expenses:				
Marketing	899	912	1,697	1,696
Design Engineering	807	758	1,504	1,479
General and Administrative	1,279	1,157	2,850	2,456
	2,985	2,827	6,051	5,631
Operating Loss	(383)	(518)	(1,189)	(647)
Other Income (Expense):				
Interest Expense	(40)	(101)	(89)	(189)
Other	5	(29)	95	(16)
	(35)	(130)	6	(205)
Loss Before Income Taxes	(418)	(648)	(1,183)	(852)
Income Tax Expense		1	2	2
Loss From Continuing Operations	(418)	(649)	(1,185)	(854)
Discontinued Operations		(5)		31
Net Loss	(418)	(654)	(1,185)	(823)
Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock				
Dividends	(36)	(36)	(72)	(72)
Net Loss Applicable to Common Stockholders	\$ (454)	\$ (690)	\$ (1,257)	\$ (895)
Net Basic and Diluted Loss Per Common Share:				
Continuing Operations	\$ (0.09)	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.19)
Discontinued Operations				
Loss Per Common Share	\$ (0.09)	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.19)
Common and Equivalent Shares Outstanding:				
Basic	4,861,192	4,803,318	4,821,918	4,795,870
Diluted	4,861,192	4,803,318	4,821,918	4,795,870

SEE NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AULT INCORPORATED &amp; SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	(Unaudited)	
	November 27, 2005	May 29, 2005
Assets:		
Current Assets		
Cash and Equivalents	\$ 3,996	\$ 2,191
Trade Receivables, Less Allowance for Doubtful Accounts of \$825 at November 27, 2005; \$781 at May 29, 2005	5,136	5,766
Inventories	3,996	3,377
Note Receivable JEC Current Portion	1,125	563
Prepaid Expenses and Other	848	741
Total Current Assets	15,101	12,638
Property, Equipment and Leasehold Improvements:		
Building and Leasehold Improvements	764	764
Machinery and Equipment	5,333	5,314
Office Furniture	391	344
Data Processing Equipment	1,682	1,630
	8,170	8,052
Less Accumulated Depreciation	5,837	5,677
Net Property Equipment and Leasehold Improvements	2,333	2,375
Other Assets		
Note Receivable JEC Non-current Portion	79	106
	1,125	1,687
Total Assets	\$ 18,638	\$ 16,806

SEE NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AULT INCORPORATED &amp; SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	(Unaudited) November 27, 2005	May 29, 2005
Liabilities and Stockholders Equity:		
Current Liabilities		
Note Payable to Bank	\$ 2,176	\$
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	296	290
Accounts Payable	6,312	5,482
Accrued Compensation	923	978
Accrued Commissions	283	272
Other	477	350
Total Current Liabilities	10,467	7,372
Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock, No Par Value, 2,074 Shares Issued and Outstanding; Liquidation Preference of \$1,000 Per Share	2,074	2,074
Stockholders Equity:		
Preferred Stock, No Par Value, Authorized, 1,000,000 Shares; None Issued.		
Common Shares, No Par Value, Authorized 10,000,000 Shares; Issued and Outstanding 4,861,192 on November 27, 2005; and 4,806,116 on May 29, 2005;	21,520	21,390
Notes Receivable arising from the sale of common stock	(42)	(44)
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	(83)	55
Accumulated Deficit	(15,298)	(14,041)
	6,097	7,360
	\$ 18,638	\$ 16,806

SEE NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**AULT INCORPORATED & SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Dollars in Thousands)

	(Unaudited) Six Months Ended	
	November 27, 2005	November 28, 2004
<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities:</b>		
Net Loss	\$ (1,185)	\$ (823)
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Loss to Net Cash		
Used in Operating Activities:		
Depreciation	234	322
Gain on Disposal of Assets	(62)	
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
(Increase) Decrease In:		
Trade Receivables	649	778
Inventories	(698)	676
Prepaid and Other Expenses	(68)	(130)
Increase (Decrease) in:		
Accounts Payable	742	387
Accrued Expenses	76	(149)
Discontinued Operations		(102)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	(312)	959
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities:</b>		
Purchase of Equipment and Leasehold Improvements	(132)	(122)
Discontinued Operations		(18)
Net Cash Used in Investment Activities	(132)	(140)
<b>Cash Flows From Financing Activities:</b>		
Net Borrowings (Payments) on Revolving Credit Agreements	2,176	(116)
Proceeds from Issuance of Common Stock	94	72
Proceeds from Common Stock Receivable	2	
Dividend Payments	(36)	
Principal Payments on Long-Term Borrowings		(109)
Discontinued Operations		(256)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities	2,236	(409)
Effect of Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Changes on Cash		
	13	
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,805	410
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	2,191	837
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 3,996	\$ 1,247
<b>Non-Cash Transaction:</b>		
Issuance of Common Stock to Pay Preferred Stock Dividends	36	72
Trade Receivable Converted to a Note Receivable		185



**AULT INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES**

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**SECOND QUARTER ENDED NOVEMBER 27, 2005**

1. Summary of Consolidation Principles

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Ault Incorporated, its wholly owned subsidiaries, Ault Electronics Shanghai Ltd., Ault International Trade Shanghai Co., Ltd., and Ault Xianghe Co. Ltd. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated. The foreign currency translation adjustment represents the translation into United States dollars of the Company's investment in the net assets of its foreign subsidiaries in accordance with the provisions of FASB Statement No. 52.

The balance sheet of the Company as of November 27, 2005, and the related statements of operations and cash flows for the three and six months ended November 27, 2005 and November 28, 2004 have been prepared without being audited. In the opinion of the management, these statements reflect all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the position of Ault Incorporated and subsidiaries as of November 27, 2005 and November 28, 2004, and the results of operations and cash flows for all periods presented.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted. Therefore, these statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's May 29, 2005 Form 10-K/A.

Prior results have been restated as disclosed in the Company's May 29, 2005 form 10-K/A.

The results of operations for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results that will be realized for the full fiscal year.

*Management plans* The financial statements have been prepared on a going-concern basis, which contemplates the realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. The Company sustained net losses applicable to common stockholders of \$5,472,302 in 2005 and \$5,793,646 in 2004 and at May 29, 2005 had an accumulated deficit of \$14,041,346. The Company provided \$1,479,695 of cash for operating activities in 2005. In the first six months of fiscal 2006, the Company has recorded a net loss applicable to common stockholders of \$1,257,000 and had an accumulated deficit of \$15,298,000 as of November 27, 2005. The Company has used \$312,000 of cash for operating activities for the first six months of fiscal year 2006. Future operations may require the Company to borrow additional funds. The Company has a financing agreement, which includes a \$7,000,000 line-of-credit agreement through December 4, 2006. There was an outstanding balance on this line-of-credit at November 27, 2005 in the amount of \$2,176,000 with current availability of \$3,509,000 as determined by the Company's borrowing base. The Company is out of compliance with the covenants in the financing agreement. The Company is currently in discussions with the lending facility to determine if an amendment or waiver will be necessary.

Based on available funds, current plans and business conditions management believes that the Company's available cash, borrowings and amounts generated from operations, will be sufficient to meet the Company's cash requirements for the next 12 months and the foreseeable future. The assumptions underlying this belief include, among other things, that there will be no material adverse developments in the business or market in general. There can be no assurances however that those assumed events will occur. If management's plans are not achieved, there may be further negative effects on the results of operations and cash flows, which could have a material adverse effect on the Company.

*Subsequent events* On December 16, 2005, SL Industries, Inc., a New Jersey corporation ( SL Industries ), Lakers Acquisition Corp., a Minnesota corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of SL Industries ( Purchaser ), and Ault Incorporated, a Minnesota corporation ( Ault or the Company ), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement ).

Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, Purchaser will commence a tender offer (the Offer) for all of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock, no par value per share (the Company Common Stock), of Ault, including associated preferred stock rights (the Rights and together with the Company Common Stock, the Shares and each share thereof, a Share), at a price equal to \$2.90 per Share net to the seller in cash (or any higher price per Share paid in the Offer) (the Offer Price), without interest (and subject to applicable withholding taxes). The Offer commenced on December 23, 2005. Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Merger Agreement, following a successful completion of the Offer, Purchaser will be merged with and into Ault with Ault surviving the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of SL Industries (the Merger). In the Merger, each Share (other than Shares owned by SL Industries, Purchaser, or shareholders, if any, who have perfected statutory dissenters' rights under Minnesota law) will be converted into the right to receive the Offer Price, without interest (and subject to applicable withholding taxes).

*Discontinued operations* - On May 20, 2005, the Company completed the sale of its wholly owned subsidiary, Ault Korea Corporation (Ault Korea), to JEC Korea Co., Ltd (JEC) for \$3.7 million. The agreement includes the receipt of \$1,472,000 in cash and a secured note in the amount of \$2,250,000. The transaction resulted in a loss of approximately \$2,442,000 and the reclassification of the Korean subsidiary activity as discontinued operations for all periods presented.

The sale includes all assets and liabilities of Ault Korea Corporation and the use of the Ault Korea name in Korea for a period of three years. Ault Korea includes the property in Seoul, South Korea and approximately 110 employees. As part of the terms of the agreement, JEC has the rights to sell power conversion products in Korea while Ault will have rights to sell the same power conversion products throughout the rest of the world. Prior to this transaction, JEC was a supplier of Ault, but otherwise no material relationship existed between Ault and JEC, or their respective affiliates, directors or officers, or any associates of their directors and officers.

The secured note receivable is scheduled to be paid in four equal installments of \$562,500 in December 2005, June 2006, December 2006 and the final installment in June 2007.

Revenues and results of operations for the Korean subsidiary for the six-month period presented include the following:

(in thousands)

	<b>Quarter Ended November 28, 2004</b>	
Net Sales	\$	5,740
Income from Discontinued Operations		31

2. Stock Compensation

The Company's 1986 and 1996 stock option plan has reserved 600,000 and 1,500,000 common shares, respectively, for issuance under qualified and nonqualified stock options for its key employees and directors. Option prices are the market value of the stock at the time the option was granted. Options become exercisable as determined at the date of grant by a committee of the Board of Directors. Options expire ten years after the date of grant unless an earlier expiration date is set at the time of grant.

The Company has adopted the disclosure-only provisions of SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*. Accordingly, no compensation cost has been recognized for the stock option plan, as all options were issued with exercised prices at or above fair value. Had compensation cost for the Company's stock option plans been determined based on the fair value at the grant date for awards in 2004 and 2003 consistent with the provisions of SFAS No. 123, the Company's net loss and net loss per share would have changed to the pro forma amounts indicated below:

Amounts in thousands, except per share amounts

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	Nov. 27, 2005	Nov. 28, 2004	Nov. 27, 2005	Nov. 28, 2004
Net loss applicable to common stockholders:				
as reported	\$ (454)	\$ (690)	\$ (1,257)	\$ (895)
pro forma	(470)	(752)	(1,304)	(1,008)
per share, basic, as reported	(0.09)	(0.14)	(0.26)	(0.19)
per share, diluted, as reported	(0.09)	(0.14)	(0.26)	(0.19)
per share, basic, pro forma	(0.10)	(0.16)	(0.27)	(0.21)
per share, diluted, pro forma	(0.10)	(0.16)	(0.27)	(0.21)

3. Inventories

The components of inventory (in thousands) at November 27, 2005 and May 29, 2005 are as follows:

	November 27, 2005	May 29, 2005
Raw Materials	\$ 2,816	\$ 1,701
Work-in-process	124	514
Finished Goods	1,056	1,162
	\$ 3,996	\$ 3,377

4. Warranty

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The Company offers its customers up to a three-year warranty on products. Warranty expense is determined by calculating the historical relationship between sales and warranty costs and applying the calculation to the current period's sales. Based on warranty repair costs and the rate of return, the Company periodically reviews and adjusts its warranty accrual. Actual repair costs are offset against the reserve. The following table shows the fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2005 year-to-date activity for the Company's warranty accrual (in thousands):

	FY 2006		FY 2005	
Beginning Balance	\$	134	\$	125
Charges and Costs Accrued		36		34
Less Repair Costs Incurred		18		15
Ending Balance	\$	152	\$	144

5. Debt

The Company has a financing agreement, which includes a \$7,000,000 revolving line-of-credit agreement through December 4, 2006. Interest on advances is at the prime rate plus 2% (prime plus 5% default rate) for fiscal year 2006. The rate at November 27, 2005 was 9.00% and on May 29, 2005 was 8.00%. All advances are due on demand and are secured by all assets of the Company. The Company's financing agreement contains financial covenants, which require the Company, among other things, to maintain a minimum capital base, and also impose certain limitations on additional capital expenditures and the payment of dividends. At the end of the second quarter of fiscal 2006, the Company's net worth and income before taxes did not meet the minimum of the credit agreement. The Company is currently in discussions with the lending facility to determine if an amendment or waiver will be necessary. The availability of the line is based on the outstanding receivables of the Company; the amount available at November 27, 2005 was \$3,509,000. There were advances outstanding on the revolving line of credit of \$2,176,000 at November 27, 2005 with none outstanding at May 29, 2005.

Long-term debt (in thousands) including current maturities contain the following:

	November 27, 2005	May 29, 2005
5.3% uncollateralized term loan, due in January 2006	296	290

6. Stockholders' Equity

	Six Months Ended November 27, 2005 (\$000)
Total Stockholders' Equity May 29, 2005	\$ 7,360
Net Loss	\$ (1,185)
Net change in Foreign currency translation adjustment	(138)
Comprehensive Loss	(1,323)
Issue 41,003 shares of common stock in accordance with stock purchase plan	94
Preferred Stock Dividends Declared	(72)
Preferred Stock Dividends Paid with Common Stock	36
Payment of receivable from sale of common stock	2
Total Stockholders' Equity November 27, 2005	\$ 6,097

7. Net Loss Per Common Share

Basic and diluted earnings per share are presented in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 128, *Earnings per Share*. The Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock and stock options had no effect on diluted weighted average shares outstanding, as they were anti-dilutive.

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	November 27, 2005	November 28, 2004	November 27, 2005	November 28, 2004
Loss Applicable to Common Shareholders (in thousands)	\$ (454)	\$ (690)	\$ (1,257)	\$ (895)
Basic Weighted Average Shares Outstanding	4,861,192	4,803,318	4,821,918	4,795,870
Diluted Weighted Average Shares Outstanding	4,861,192	4,803,318	4,821,918	4,795,870
Basic Loss per Share	\$ (0.09)	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.19)
Diluted Loss per Share	\$ (0.09)	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.19)

8. Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued a revision to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards 123 (SFAS 123(R)), *Share-Based Payment*. The revision requires all entities to recognize compensation expense in an amount equal to the fair value of share-based payments granted to employees. The statement eliminates the alternative method of accounting for employee share-based payments previously available under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25. The Statement is effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2007. The Company has not completed the process of evaluating the impact that will result from adopting SFAS 123(R).



ITEM 2 - MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITIONS AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

**BUSINESS OVERVIEW**



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Ault's power conversion products are used to adapt alternating current (AC) to provide a source of power at various levels up to more than one kilowatt of continuous power for a wide variety of electronic equipment. A significant amount of the Company's products are located outside the equipment they power as a wall plug-in or as in-line components. Both of these styles are generally referred to as external power conversion products. A smaller percentage of the Company's products are located inside the equipment they power and are generally known as internal power conversion devices. Each product configuration, external and internal, offers distinct advantages to the OEM buyer. Internal power products are more generally accepted among design engineers across all segments of the electronic original equipment market (EOEM). Internal power has traditionally been the norm in product design and, in terms of range, it provides greater latitude especially in applications beyond 100 watts. External power still ranks as a high growth area in the power supply industry due to the increasing emphasis on smaller and portable products that perform increasingly sophisticated functions. Ault's business strategy is to offer OEMs in these markets an expanding line of high-quality power conversion products, diverse design engineering expertise and customized customer services.

Prior results have been restated as disclosed in the Company's May 29, 2005 form 10-K/A.

### **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**



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The discussion and analysis of the financial condition and results of operations are based on the consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of our financial statements. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

Critical accounting policies are defined as those involving significant judgments and uncertainties which could potentially result in materially different results under different assumptions and conditions. Application of these policies is particularly important to the portrayal of the financial condition and results of operations. The Company believes the accounting policies described below meet these characteristics. All significant accounting policies are more fully described in the notes to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K/A.

*Revenue Recognition* The Company's policy is to recognize revenue for product sales when title transfers and risk of loss has passed to the customer, which is generally upon acceptance of the product by the overseas freight carrier. Judgments are required in evaluating the credit worthiness of our customers. Credit is not extended to customers and revenue is not recognized until the Company has determined that the risk of uncollectibility is minimal.

*Inventory Valuation* Inventory is written down for estimated surplus and discontinued inventory items. The amount of the write-down is determined by analyzing historical and projected sales information, plans for discontinued products and other factors. Changes in sales volumes due to unexpected economic or competitive conditions are among the factors that would result in materially different amounts for this item.

*Allowance for Doubtful Accounts* An allowance is established for estimated uncollectible accounts receivable. The required allowance is determined by reviewing customer accounts and making estimates of amounts that may be uncollectible. Factors considered in determining the amount of the reserve include the age of the receivable, the financial condition of the customer, general business, economic and political conditions, and other relevant facts and circumstances. Unexpected changes in the aforementioned factors would result in materially different amounts for this item.

*Product Warranties* The Company's products are sold with warranty provisions that require it to remedy deficiencies in quality or performance over a specified period of time, 36 months, at no cost to the Company's customers. The Company's policy is to establish warranty reserves at levels that represent its estimate of the costs that will be incurred to fulfill those warranty requirements at the time that revenue is recognized. The Company believes that its recorded liabilities are adequate to cover its future cost of materials, and overhead for the servicing of its products sold through that date. If there is an actual product failure, or material or service delivery costs differ from the Company's estimates, its warranty liability would need to be revised accordingly.

*Income Taxes* The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with SFAS No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes, which requires that deferred tax assets and liabilities be recognized using enacted tax rates for the effect of temporary differences between book and tax basis of recorded assets and liabilities. SFAS 109 also requires that deferred tax assets be reduced by a valuation allowance if it is likely that some portion or the entire deferred tax asset will not be realized. Based upon prior taxable income and estimates of future taxable income, the Company has determined that it is likely that its net deferred tax asset will not be fully realized in the future. Thus a full valuation allowance has been established. If actual taxable income varies from these estimates, the Company may be required to change the valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets resulting in a change in income tax expense (benefit), which will be recorded in the consolidated statement of operations.

## MANAGEMENT PLANS

In July 2003, Ault announced the decision to consolidate manufacturing operations. Ault was one of the last power supply companies to maintain manufacturing in the United States. The decision to consolidate was driven by a goal to return to profitability as well as the desire to continue a high level of service to global OEM customers.

Last fiscal year was spent on the execution of the consolidation plan. The first phase of the consolidation went smoothly which included the closing of our US-based production in Minneapolis. This phase was completed in February 2004. The Company is benefiting in the following ways:

*World Class Manufacturing* Ault Xianghe (China) is developing into a world-class facility. China's annual volume output has more than tripled due to the transition of many product families from North America over the past year and the transfer of the Power General internal power supplies resulting from the acquisition in fiscal 2003. Ault has also worked diligently to build a strong infrastructure by enhancing global IT capabilities for purchasing, design engineering and manufacturing. Ault Xianghe has also achieved ISO certification and had several successful audit visits from top OEM (original equipment manufacturer) customers.

*Reduced Lead Times* Ault customers across all segments of the electronics industry appear to have one common need orders with JIT (just-in-time) delivery dates. This trend prompted the Company to look for ways in all product categories to reduce lead times on top-selling power supplies. In October, the Company announced a five-week

lead-time on its most popular standard products in the switch-mode power supply category. Most competitors are still averaging eight weeks. The Company believes meeting customers' needs for quick-turn orders will earn Ault more business from current accounts as well as providing a competitive edge in earning new business.

*Sales Review*





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Ault has traditionally been a major power supplier to the OEMs in the telecommunications market. This market hit bottom in calendar 2002, and is now recovering with several niches performing well. One of these niches is the Power over Ethernet market. Dubbed PoE, Power over Ethernet is designed to supply power to any device on a local area network.

This technology has a broad range of applications including IP phones, security cameras, RFID tag readers, PDAs, access control systems and smart signs.

Ault has developed two single port, midspan power products to meet the needs of PoE users. The Company has launched initiatives to cost-reduce and re-design its midspan offering in anticipation of the continued growth of Power over Ethernet technology.

Ault has also transitioned the China sales team. There were two significant shifts in strategy: 1) Hire more seasoned salespeople that have contacts and experience in the local electronics market; and 2) focus efforts on Ault's traditional segments of the communications and medical equipment markets. Ault is pursuing and closing business for applications in the data communications/telecommunications market that include high-end set-top boxes, routers and video phones. The future plan includes expanding business with current OEM customers as well as targeting other leaders in the growing communications and medical equipment market segments throughout China. The intent is to leverage Ault's global reputation, long history of power supply design success and local presence to win additional business.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going-concern basis, which contemplates the realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. The Company sustained net losses applicable to common stockholders of \$5,472,302 in 2005 and \$5,793,646 in 2004 and at May 29, 2005 had an accumulated deficit of \$14,041,346. The Company provided \$1,479,695 of cash for operating activities in 2005. In the first six months of fiscal 2006, the Company has recorded a net loss applicable to common stockholders of \$1,257,000 and had an accumulated deficit of \$15,298,000 at November 27, 2005. The Company has used \$312,000 of cash for operating activities for the first six months of fiscal year 2006. Future operations may require the Company to borrow additional funds. The Company has a financing agreement, which includes a \$7,000,000 line-of-credit agreement through December 4, 2006. There was an outstanding balance on this line-of-credit at November 27, 2005 in the amount of \$2,176,000 with current availability of \$3,509,000 based on the Company's borrowing base. The Company is out of compliance with the covenants in the financing agreement. The Company is currently in discussions with the lending facility to determine if an amendment or waiver will be necessary.

Based on available funds, current plans and business conditions management believes that the Company's available cash, borrowings and amounts generated from operations, will be sufficient to meet the Company's cash requirements for the next 12 months and the foreseeable future. The assumptions underlying this belief include, among other things, that there will be no material adverse developments in the business or market in general. There can be no assurances however that those assumed events will occur. If management's plans are not achieved, there may be further negative effects on the results of operations and cash flows, which could have a material adverse effect on the Company.

### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Second Quarter Ended November 27, 2005**

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(\$000)	Fiscal		Fiscal		Favorable / (Unfavorable)	
	2006	2005	2006	2005	Amount	Percent
Net Sales	\$ 9,254	\$ 8,225	\$ 9,254	\$ 8,225	\$ 1,029	13%
Operating Loss	(383)	(518)	(383)	(518)	135	26%

Net sales were \$9,254,000 for the second quarter of fiscal 2006 up 13% from \$8,225,000 for the second quarter of fiscal 2005. The increase is due to higher sales from North America and Europe of \$1,374,000 and offset by a decrease in sales from Asia Pacific of \$345,000. The North American increase is primarily from an increase in orders from two customers. The Company is expecting sales to increase to North America and Europe

through the end of fiscal 2006. The increase is due to an expected order increase in sales to two existing customers as their products are introduced into the market.

Gross margin for the second quarter was 28.1 percent as a percent of sales, compared with 28.1 percent for the same period last year. Future margins may be adversely affected by the higher energy costs and the implementation of lead free initiatives required for our products.

Operating expenses increased in the second quarter of fiscal 2006 to \$2,985,000 from \$2,827,000 in the second quarter of fiscal 2005. The increase is primarily due to higher professional services costs of \$149,000 and these costs are expected to continue at a similar rate through the rest of 2006.

**Six Months Ended November 27, 2005**

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(\$000)	Fiscal		Fiscal		Favorable / (Unfavorable)		
	2006		2005		Amount	Percent	
Net Sales	\$	18,452	\$	18,561	\$	(109)	(1)%
Operating Loss		(1,189)		(647)		(542)	(84)%

Net sales were \$18,452,000 for the first six months of fiscal 2006 down 1% from \$18,561,000 for the first six months of fiscal 2005. Sales have decreased in the China market by \$895,000. This decrease is from the Company's strategy to target data communications customers in China. At this time, the sales are to a limited number of customers, so there is a high risk of variability from quarter to quarter. The Company is attempting to reduce that risk by increasing the customer base in China, but may not be able to avoid the variability in the sales from China in the next several quarters. The North American sales increase of \$786,000 is primarily from an increase in orders from two customers. The Company is expecting sales to increase to North America and Europe through the end of fiscal 2006. The increase is due to an expected order increase in sales to these two existing customers as their products are introduced into the market.

Gross margin for the first six months of fiscal 2006 was 26.3 percent as a percent of sales, compared with 26.9 percent for the same period last year. Future margins may be adversely affected by the higher energy costs and the implementation of lead free initiatives required for our products.

Operating expenses increased in the first six months of fiscal 2006 to \$6,051,000 from \$5,631,000 in the first six months of fiscal 2005. The increase is primarily due to professional services of \$398,000 higher when comparing the first six-months of fiscal year 2006 to the first six-months of fiscal year 2005, and the first quarter of fiscal year 2006 includes a severance payment of \$78,000 to the former Chief Financial Officer. All of these expenses are part of the General & Administrative classification.

**Order Backlog:** The Company's order backlog at November 27, 2005 totaled \$11,294,000 compared to \$9,678,000 at May 29, 2005. The order backlog represents sales for approximately sixteen weeks.

**Non-Operating Income and Expenses:** Nonoperating income is \$6,000 for the first six months of fiscal 2006 compared to a loss of \$205,000 for the same period in fiscal 2005. The Company recorded an exchange gain of \$95,000 in the first two quarters of fiscal 2006 compared to a loss of \$16,000 for the same period in fiscal 2005. The Company incurred interest expenses of \$89,000 in the first six months of fiscal 2006 and \$189,000 in the same period of fiscal 2005, paid on bank credit facilities and long-term borrowings.

**Income Taxes:** The Company had a pre-tax loss of \$1,183,000 for the six-month period in fiscal 2006 on which it accrued \$2,000 consolidated income tax expense relating to amounts due for state taxes. For the six-month period in fiscal 2005 the Company had a pre-tax loss of \$852,000 on which it accrued \$2,000 consolidated income tax expense relating to amounts due for state taxes. The effective tax rate is 0% for all periods presented. A full valuation allowance against deferred tax assets has been recorded due to the uncertainties regarding the realization of these assets based on the Company's lack of earnings.

**Net Loss:** The Company reported a basic and diluted per share loss of \$0.26 for the first six months of fiscal 2006, based on 4,822,000 outstanding weighted average shares, compared to basic and diluted per share loss of \$0.19 for the same period of fiscal 2005, based on 4,796,000 outstanding weighted average shares.



**LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**





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The following table describes the Company's liquidity and financial position on November 27, 2005, and on May 29, 2005:

	November 27, 2005 (\$000)		May 29, 2005 (\$000)
Working capital	\$ 4,634	\$	5,266
Cash and cash equivalents	3,996		2,191
Unutilized bank credit facilities	979		3,357

### Current Working Capital Position



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As of November 27, 2005, the Company had current assets of \$15,101,000 and current liabilities of \$10,467,000, which amounted to working capital of \$4,634,000 and a current ratio of 1.4. This represents a decrease from its working capital of \$5,266,000 as of May 29, 2005. The Company relies on its credit facilities as sources of working capital to support normal growth in revenue, capital expenditures and attainment of profit goals. The Company has not committed any funds for future capital expenditures as of November 27, 2005.

**Cash and Investments:** As of November 27, 2005, the Company had cash totaling \$3,996,000, compared to \$2,191,000 as of May 29, 2005. This increase in cash was due to additional borrowings against the bank line. This was done to offset the minimum interest payment necessary on the bank line.

**Credit Facilities:** The credit arrangement with Wells Fargo Bank is an asset-based credit facility of \$7 million, secured by all company assets. At November 27, 2005, there were borrowings against this facility of \$2,176,000. The financing agreement contains financial covenants, which require the Company, among other things, to maintain a minimum capital base, and also impose certain limitations on additional capital expenditures and the payment of dividends. At November 27, 2005, the Company's net worth and income before taxes did not meet the minimum of the credit agreement. The Company is currently in discussions with the lending facility to determine if an amendment or waiver will be necessary.

### CASH FLOWS FOR FISCAL 2005

**Operations:** Operations used \$312,000 of cash during the first six months of fiscal 2006 due principally to the following activities:

- (a) The loss, net of depreciation used \$951,000.
- (b) Decreases in trade receivables provided \$649,000, primarily related to increased collections efforts by the accounting area.
- (c) Increases in inventories used \$698,000, primarily related to purchasing inventory in anticipation of orders for a major customer order
- (d) Increases in accounts payable provided \$742,000, primarily related to the timing of payments to Ault Korea. After the sale of Ault Korea, the payment terms were changed from net 20 to net 60, which resulted in a higher accounts payable balance.

**Investing Activities:** Investing activities used net cash of \$132,000 principally relating to the purchase of tooling in the Asia facilities.

**Financing Activities:** Financing activities provided net cash of \$2,236,000, primarily comprised of borrowings from the Company's bank line.

**Effect of Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Fluctuations:** The effect of translating the Chinese financial statements, which were prepared in Yuan to US dollars, had minimal effect on cash for the first six months of fiscal 2006.

**Summary:** The Company's cash and working capital positions are sound and, together with its credit facilities, adequate to support the Company's strategies for the remainder of fiscal 2006 and the foreseeable future.

Summary: The Company's cash and working capital positions are sound and, together with its credit facilities, adequate

**Information about Products and Services:** The Company's business operations are comprised of one activity the design, manufacture and sale of equipment for converting electric power to a level used by OEMs in data communications/telecommunications and medical markets to charge batteries, and/or power equipment. The Company supports these power requirements by making available to the OEMs products that have various technical features. These products are managed as one product segment under the Company's internal organizational structure and the Company does not consider any financial distinctive measures, including net profitability and segmentation of assets to be meaningful to performance assessment.

**Information about Revenue by Geography**





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Geographic distribution of revenue is as follows:

	Six Months Ended	
	November 27, 2005 (\$000)	November 28, 2004 (\$000)
US	\$ 14,895	\$ 13,978
China	1,073	2,136
UK	1,109	939
Canada	822	527
Other Foreign	553	981
Total	\$ 18,452	\$ 18,561

The Company considers a country to be the geographic source of revenue if it has contractual obligations, including obligations to pay for trade receivable invoices.

### Impact of Foreign Operations and Currency Changes:

The Company will experience normal valuation changes as the Chinese currency fluctuates. The effect of translating the Chinese financial statements resulted in a net asset decrease of \$138,000 for the six months ended November 27, 2005.

### Forward Looking Statements

From time to time, in reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, in press releases, and in other communications to shareholders or the investing public, the Company may make forward-looking statements concerning possible or anticipated future results of operations or business developments which are typically preceded by the words *believes*, *expects*, *anticipates*, *intends* or similar expressions. For such forward-looking statements, the Company claims the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Shareholders and the investing public should understand that such forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause results or developments to differ significantly from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the overall level of sales by original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) in the telecommunications, data communications, computer peripherals and the medical markets; buying patterns of the Company's existing and prospective customers; the impact of new products introduced by competitors; delays in new product introductions; higher than expected expense related to sales and new marketing initiatives; availability of adequate supplies of raw materials and components; fuel prices; and other risks affecting the Company's target markets.

### Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued a revision to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards 123 (SFAS 123(R)), *Share-Based Payment*. The revision requires all entities to recognize compensation expense in an amount equal to the fair value of share-based payments granted to employees. The statement eliminates the alternative method of accounting for employee share-based payments previously available under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25. The Statement is effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2007. The Company has not completed the process of evaluating the impact that will result from adopting SFAS 123(R).



ITEM 3 QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company experiences foreign currency gains and losses, which are reflected in the financial statements, due to the strengthening and weakening of the U.S. dollar against currencies of the Company's foreign subsidiaries. The Company anticipates that it will continue to have exchange gains or losses in the future.

The Company is exposed to certain market risks on the line of credit agreement because of the variable interest rate charged. Market risk is the potential loss arising from the adverse changes in market rates and prices, such as interest rates. Market risk is estimated as the potential increase in fair value resulting from a hypothetical one percent increase in interest rates, which assuming an average outstanding debt balance of \$5.0 million would result in an annual interest expense increase of approximately \$50,000.

ITEM 4 CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.

Management, with the participation of the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of the disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report. Subject to the matters discussed below, management has concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are not effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that the Company files under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC and that the disclosure controls are also not effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Company's Exchange Act reports is accumulated and communicated to management, including the chief executive officer and chief financial officer to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

*China Subsidiary*

As of May 29, 2005, the Company did not maintain effective controls relating to transactions at its China subsidiary related to inventory build-up and relief and reconciliation of intercompany accounts. Additionally in November 2005, the Company discovered the controls relating to the recording of accounts payable were not effective. The Company had unrecorded liabilities at May 30, 2004 of \$248,000, at May 29, 2005 of \$342,000 and at August 28, 2005 of \$345,000. The Company has concluded that these control deficiencies constitute material weaknesses.

*Remediation of Material Weaknesses Related to China Subsidiary*

Management has taken, or is in the process of taking the following steps with respect to the control deficiencies at its China subsidiary:

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The transfer of a seasoned accountant with experience in Asian operations who will be headquartered in Minneapolis, and will be the primary liaison with our China accounting staff and operations.

Commencement of a training program to upgrade the skill sets of our China accounting staff.

The hiring of an experienced China-based controller to coordinate all financial reporting, monthly physical inventory counts and verification and also be a part of the weekly conference calls with all of our operations to improve communications.

Implementation of an ERP system in China.

Management believes that implementation of these actions will remediate the material weaknesses described above.

*Warehouse Control Deficiencies*

In a cost-cutting effort in the third quarter of fiscal 2004, the Company closed down a manufacturing facility in Minneapolis and terminated a third party warehouse facility in Ireland. As part of the shutdown of the manufacturing in December 2003, certain personnel were terminated prior to the disposition of inventory at the location. The Company's haste in cost elimination resulted in having insufficient staffing to control the disposition of the inventory. This was found to be a weakness of \$25,569 in the counting of inventory that was discovered during the course of the audit by the Company's external auditors. This should have been recorded in the third quarter.

In addition to the manufacturing shut-down, the Company also closed a third party warehouse facility to cut costs in January 2004. This too resulted in the terminations of personnel whose responsibilities included monitoring third party warehousing of customer stock inventory. Approximately \$57,581 of inventory was not adequately tracked. This error was also discovered in the course of the audit, and should have been recorded in the third quarter. Taken together the manufacturing and third party warehouse control deficiencies resulted in an adjustment of \$83,150, which should have been recorded in the third quarter. This \$83,150 adjustment was extrapolated over the Company's entire inventory, which resulted in a total adjustment of \$279,987. The Company believes that this adjustment is not material.

In connection with its audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended May 30, 2004, Grant Thornton LLP ( Grant Thornton ), the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, advised the Company's audit committee and management that the adjustments described with respect to inventory constituted a material weakness as that term is defined under standards established by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). In response to the observations made by Grant Thornton, the Company has implemented certain enhancements to its internal controls and procedures that the Company believes will address the matters raised by Grant Thornton.

Specifically, if the Company determines to enter into any future third party warehouse agreement, the Company will make sure that it has devoted adequate resources for necessary preventative and detective controls. The third party warehouse will have a weekly reconciliation between the inventory in the warehouse and the Company's inventory system. The head of sales and the head of finance will review this reconciliation. On a quarterly basis, the Company will physically count the inventory.

Similarly, before the Company closes another manufacturing location, the Company will make sure there are adequate resources in place for necessary preventative and detective controls. If the Company closes a manufacturing location, it will have the necessary resources to maintain a cycle count system until the disposition of the inventory is complete. Also there will be a physical inventory of the inventory before the end of each quarter until the disposition of the inventory is complete.

(b) Changes in Internal Controls.

There have been no significant changes in internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonable likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II**

ITEM 1

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:

Not Applicable

ITEM 2

CHANGES IN SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Not Applicable

ITEM 3

DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES:

Not Applicable

ITEM 4

Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders;

Not Applicable

ITEM 5

OTHER INFORMATION

Not Applicable.

ITEM 6

EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a) The following exhibits are included herein:

31.1 Certification of CEO Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

31.2 Certification of CFO Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

32.1 Certification of CEO and CFO Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

(b) Reports on form 8-K

A. Form 8-K filed September 20, 2005 referencing a press release dated September 20, 2005 announcing the delisting notification due to late filing of the May 29, 2005 form 10-K and hearing request with Nasdaq.

B. Form 8-K filed September 30, 2005 referencing a press release dated September 29, 2005 announcing the delisting notification due to failure to satisfy the minimum stockholders equity of the Nasdaq market.

C. Form 8-K filed October 13, 2005 referencing a press release dated October 13, 2005 of financial results for the quarter ended August 28, 2005.

D. Form 8-K filed October 13, 2005 announcing the election of Lyron Bentovim as a new board member.

SIGNATURES

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

AULT INCORPORATED

(REGISTRANT)

DATED: January 10 2006

/s/ Frederick M. Green  
Frederick M. Green, President  
Chief Executive Officer and  
Chairman

DATED: January 10 2006

/s/ William J. Birmingham  
William J. Birmingham  
Interim Chief Financial Officer