

CRA INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
Form 10-Q  
October 12, 2010

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

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

For the quarterly period ended September 3, 2010

or

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

Commission file number: 000-24049

**CRA International, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

**04-2372210**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**200 Clarendon Street, T-33, Boston, MA**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**02116-5092**  
(Zip Code)

**(617) 425-3000**

(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 has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

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Non-accelerated filer o

(Do not check if a  
smaller reporting company)

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

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

| <b>Class</b>                         | <b>Outstanding at October 8, 2010</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Common Stock, no par value per share | 10,862,549 shares                     |

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**CRA International, Inc.**

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Table of Contents**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. Financial Statements****CRA International, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited)***(In thousands, except per share data)*

|   | Sixteen<br>Weeks Ended |                      | Forty<br>Weeks Ended |                      |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | September 3,<br>2010   | September 4,<br>2009 | September 3,<br>2010 | September 4,<br>2009 |
| Revenues  | \$ 84,641              | \$ 89,262            | \$ 211,562           | \$ 227,057           |
| Costs of services   | 54,860                 | 59,036               | 145,369              | 149,895              |
| Gross profit  | 29,781                 | 30,226               | 66,193               | 77,162               |
| Selling, general and<br>administrative expenses                     | 22,906                 | 21,744               | 56,175               | 57,508               |
| Depreciation and<br>amortization                                    | 1,959                  | 2,437                | 4,684                | 6,119                |
| Income from operations  | 4,916                  | 6,045                | 5,334                | 13,535               |
| Interest income   | 115                    | 130                  | 273                  | 375                  |
| Interest expense  | (1,000)                | (1,337)              | (2,669)              | (3,438)              |
| Loss on the extinguishment<br>of convertible debentures             |                        |                      | (425)                | (29)                 |
| Other expense   | (258)                  | (228)                | (362)                | (248)                |
| Income before provision<br>for income taxes                         | 3,773                  | 4,610                | 2,151                | 10,195               |
| Provision for income taxes  | (1,746)                | (2,425)              | (1,605)              | (6,480)              |
| Net income  | 2,027                  | 2,185                | 546                  | 3,715                |
| Net loss attributable to<br>noncontrolling interest, net<br>of tax  | 44                     | 436                  | 268                  | 606                  |
| Net income attributable to<br>CRA International, Inc.               | \$ 2,071               | \$ 2,621             | \$ 814               | \$ 4,321             |
| Net income per share<br>attributable to<br>CRA International, Inc.: |                        |                      |                      |                      |
| Basic   | \$ 0.19                | \$ 0.25              | \$ 0.08              | \$ 0.41              |
| Diluted   | \$ 0.19                | \$ 0.24              | \$ 0.08              | \$ 0.40              |
| Weighted average number<br>of shares outstanding:                   |                        |                      |                      |                      |
| Basic   | 10,650                 | 10,627               | 10,670               | 10,600               |

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|         |        |        |        |        |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Diluted | 10,734 | 10,751 | 10,801 | 10,703 |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited)***(In thousands, except share data)*

|  | September 3, 2010 | November 28, 2009 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>  |                   |                   |
| Current assets:  |                   |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | \$ 51,743         | \$ 82,806         |
| Short-term investments   | 34,893            | 23,678            |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$6,564 in 2010 and \$6,812 in 2009  | 47,116            | 60,200            |
| Unbilled services  | 31,994            | 28,022            |
| Escrowed deposit   | 10,257            |                   |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets  | 12,548            | 18,381            |
| Deferred income taxes  | 6,069             | 16,695            |
| <b>Total current assets</b>  | <b>194,620</b>    | <b>229,782</b>    |
| Property and equipment, net  | 16,931            | 19,050            |
| Goodwill   | 140,477           | 141,964           |
| Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$5,206 in 2010 and \$5,205 in 2009  | 3,463             | 6,162             |
| Deferred income taxes, net of current portion  | 3,749             | 63                |
| Other assets   | 14,988            | 25,090            |
| <b>Total assets</b>  | <b>\$ 374,228</b> | <b>\$ 422,111</b> |
| <b>Liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>  |                   |                   |
| Current liabilities:   |                   |                   |
| Accounts payable   | \$ 9,749          | \$ 13,425         |
| Accrued expenses   | 41,279            | 56,951            |
| Deferred revenue and other liabilities   | 5,430             | 7,002             |
| Current portion of deferred compensation   | 144               | 889               |
| Current portion of convertible debentures payable, net   | 46,645            |                   |
| Current portion of notes payable   | 750               | 700               |
| Deferred income taxes  | 477               | 125               |
| <b>Total current liabilities</b>   | <b>104,474</b>    | <b>79,092</b>     |
| Notes payable, net of current portion  | 2,182             | 2,405             |
| Convertible debentures payable, net  |                   | 60,289            |
| Deferred rent and other non-current liabilities  | 14,296            | 13,964            |
| Deferred compensation  |                   | 1,524             |
| Deferred income taxes, net of current portion  | 1,113             | 9,122             |
| Commitments and contingencies  |                   |                   |
| Shareholders' equity:  |                   |                   |
| Preferred stock, no par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding  |                   |                   |
| Common stock, no par value; 25,000,000 shares authorized; 10,545,147 and 10,639,249 shares issued and outstanding in 2010 and 2009, respectively | 101,599           | 102,392           |
| Receivables from shareholders  | (1,592)           | (1,854)           |
| Retained earnings  | 157,603           | 156,789           |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss   | (6,466)           | (3,215)           |
| <b>Total CRA International, Inc. shareholders' equity</b>  | <b>251,144</b>    | <b>254,112</b>    |
| Noncontrolling interest  | 1,019             | 1,603             |
| <b>Total shareholders' equity</b>  | <b>252,163</b>    | <b>255,715</b>    |

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|  |    |         |    |         |
|--|----|---------|----|---------|
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ | 374,228 | \$ | 422,111 |
|--|----|---------|----|---------|

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)***(In thousands)*

|   | Forty<br>Weeks Ended |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | September 3,<br>2010 | September 4,<br>2009 |
| <b>Operating activities:</b>  |                      |                      |
| Net income  | \$ 546               | \$ 3,715             |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities, net of effect of acquired business: |                      |                      |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 4,421                | 6,166                |
| Loss on disposal of property and equipment  | 202                  | 45                   |
| Deferred rent   | 440                  | 132                  |
| Share-based compensation expenses   | 4,918                | 4,756                |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation   | (47)                 |                      |
| Deferred income taxes   | (345)                | 980                  |
| Loss on extinguishment of convertible debentures  | 425                  | 1,160                |
| Noncash interest from discount on convertible debentures  | 941                  | 29                   |
| Foreign currency exchange loss  |                      | 390                  |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, exclusive of acquisitions:   |                      |                      |
| Accounts receivable   | 11,889               | 16,721               |
| Unbilled services   | (4,551)              | 9,961                |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets   | 4,506                | (12,706)             |
| Accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities   | (20,801)             | (32,394)             |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities   | 2,544                | (1,045)              |
| <b>Investing activities:</b>  |                      |                      |
| Purchase of property and equipment  | (2,334)              | (1,505)              |
| Additional consideration relating to acquisitions, net  | (253)                | (5,408)              |
| Collections on notes receivable   | 89                   | 89                   |
| Sale of investments   | 48,785               |                      |
| Purchase of investments   | (59,965)             |                      |
| Net cash used in investing activities   | (13,678)             | (6,824)              |
| <b>Financing activities:</b>  |                      |                      |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation   | 47                   |                      |
| Tax withholding payment reimbursed by restricted shares   | (932)                | (716)                |
| Issuance of common stock upon exercise of stock options   | 729                  | 113                  |
| Extinguishment of convertible debentures  | (14,944)             | (6,620)              |
| Repurchase of common stock  | (4,203)              | (89)                 |
| Repurchase of treasury stock by NeuCo, Inc.   | (400)                |                      |
| Payments on notes payables  | (250)                | (225)                |
| Net cash used in financing activities   | (19,953)             | (7,537)              |
| Effect of foreign exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents   | 24                   | 921                  |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents   | (31,063)             | (14,485)             |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period  | 82,806               | 119,313              |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period  | \$ 51,743            | \$ 104,828           |



**Supplemental cash flow information:**

|                            |    |     |    |       |
|----------------------------|----|-----|----|-------|
| Cash paid for income taxes | \$ | 875 | \$ | 1,800 |
|----------------------------|----|-----|----|-------|

|                        |    |       |    |       |
|------------------------|----|-------|----|-------|
| Cash paid for interest | \$ | 1,929 | \$ | 2,427 |
|------------------------|----|-------|----|-------|

**Noncash financing activity:**

|  |    |     |    |     |
|--|----|-----|----|-----|
| Repurchase of shares in exchange for notes receivable by NeuCo, Inc. | \$ | 422 | \$ | 280 |
|--|----|-----|----|-----|

|  |  |  |    |     |
|--|--|--|----|-----|
| Notes payable issued for acquired business |  |  | \$ | 821 |
|--|--|--|----|-----|

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity (unaudited)***(In thousands, except share data)*

|  | Common Stock     |            | Receivables<br>from<br>Shareholders | Retained<br>Earnings | Accumulated<br>Other<br>Comprehensive<br>Loss | CRA<br>International,<br>Inc. |                         | Noncontrolling<br>Interest | Total<br>Shareholders'<br>Equity |
|--|------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | Shares<br>Issued | Amount     |                                     |                      |   | Shareholders'<br>Equity       | Shareholders'<br>Equity |                            |                                  |
| <b>BALANCE AT NOVEMBER 28, 2009</b>  | 10,639,249       | \$ 102,392 | \$ (1,854)                          | \$ 156,789           | \$ (3,215)                                    | \$ 254,112                    | \$ 1,603                | \$ 255,715                 |                                  |
| Net income (loss)  |                  |            |                                     | 814                  |   | 814                           | (268)                   | 546                        |                                  |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment  |                  |            |                                     |                      | (3,251)                                       | (3,251)                       |                         | (3,251)                    |                                  |
| Comprehensive loss   |                  |            |                                     | 814                  | (3,251)                                       | (2,437)                       | (268)                   | (2,705)                    |                                  |
| Exercise of stock options  | 44,469           | 726        |                                     |                      |   | 726                           |                         | 726                        |                                  |
| Share-based compensation expense for employees   |                  | 4,757      |                                     |                      |   | 4,757                         |                         | 4,757                      |                                  |
| Restricted share vesting   | 118,441          |            |                                     |                      |   |                               |                         |                            |                                  |
| Redemption of vested employee restricted shares for tax withholding                                      | (36,230)         | (932)      |                                     |                      |   | (932)                         |                         | (932)                      |                                  |
| Tax effect of stock option exercises and restricted share vesting  |                  | (1,109)    |                                     |                      |   | (1,109)                       |                         | (1,109)                    |                                  |
| Notes receivable issued to shareholder   |                  |            | (41)                                |                      |   | (41)                          |                         | (41)                       |                                  |
| Payments received on notes receivable from shareholders  |                  |            | 303                                 |                      |   | 303                           |                         | 303                        |                                  |
| Shares repurchased   | (220,782)        | (4,203)    |                                     |                      |   | (4,203)                       |                         | (4,203)                    |                                  |
| Share-based compensation expense for non-employees   |                  | 69         |                                     |                      |   | 69                            |                         | 69                         |                                  |
| Equity transactions of noncontrolling interest and effect of change in ownership interest in NeuCo, Inc. |                  | (91)       |                                     |                      |   | (91)                          | (316)                   | (407)                      |                                  |
| Convertible debenture extinguishment   |                  | (10)       |                                     |                      |   | (10)                          |                         | (10)                       |                                  |
| <b>BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 3, 2010</b>  | 10,545,147       | \$ 101,599 | \$ (1,592)                          | \$ 157,603           | \$ (6,466)                                    | \$ 251,144                    | \$ 1,019                | \$ 252,163                 |                                  |

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

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**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**

**(Unaudited)**

**1. Description of Business**

CRA International, Inc. (the "Company," or "CRA") is a worldwide leading economic, financial, and management consulting services firm that applies advanced analytic techniques and in-depth industry knowledge to complex engagements for a broad range of clients. CRA offers its services in two broad areas: litigation, regulatory and financial consulting and management consulting. CRA operates in one business segment, which is consulting services. CRA operates its business under its registered trade name, Charles River Associates.

**2. Unaudited Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and Estimates**

The condensed consolidated statements of operations for the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and September 4, 2009, the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of September 3, 2010, the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and September 4, 2009, and the condensed consolidated statement of shareholders' equity for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, are unaudited. The November 28, 2009 consolidated balance sheet is derived from CRA's audited consolidated financial statements included in its Annual Report on Form 10-K as of that date and has been adjusted as a result of the Company's adoption of Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 470-20, "Debt," formerly FASB Staff Position ("FSP") No. Accounting Principles Board Opinion 14-1, "Accounting for Convertible Debt Instruments That May Be Settled in Cash upon Conversion (Including Partial Cash Settlement)" during the first quarter of fiscal 2010. In the opinion of management, these statements include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of CRA's consolidated financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. requires management to make significant estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates in these consolidated financial statements include, but are not limited to, accounts receivable allowances, revenue recognition on fixed price contracts, depreciation of property and equipment, share-based compensation, valuation of acquired intangible assets, impairment of long lived assets, goodwill, accrued and deferred income taxes, valuation allowances on deferred tax assets, accrued compensation, accrued exit costs, and other accrued expenses. These items are monitored and analyzed by the Company for changes in facts and circumstances, and material changes in these estimates could occur in the future. Changes in estimates are recorded in the period in which they become known. CRA bases its estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions that CRA believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from those estimates if CRA's assumptions based on past experience or other assumptions do not turn out to be substantially accurate.

Certain amounts in the prior year financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

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**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

**(Unaudited)**

**3. Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include the Company's interest in NeuCo, Inc. ("NeuCo"). All significant intercompany accounts have been eliminated.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, NeuCo acquired \$0.9 million of its outstanding shares. As a result of this transaction, the Company's ownership interest in NeuCo increased from 49.15% to 55.89%. Since October of fiscal 2008, CRA's ownership interest constitutes control under GAAP. Therefore, NeuCo's financial results have been consolidated with CRA and the portion of NeuCo's results allocable to its other owners is shown as "noncontrolling interest." The increase in the Company's ownership in NeuCo during the second quarter of fiscal 2010 has been accounted for as an adjustment to shareholders' equity in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued guidance included in ASC Topic 810, "Consolidation" (formerly Statements of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 160). ASC Topic 810 establishes accounting and reporting standards for noncontrolling interests (previously referred to as "minority interests") in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary, to ensure consistency with the requirements of ASC Topic 805, "Business Combinations." ASC Topic 810 states that noncontrolling interests should be classified as a separate component of equity, and establishes reporting requirements that provide sufficient disclosures that clearly identify and distinguish between the interests of the parent and the interests of the noncontrolling owners. The Company adopted the provisions of ASC Topic 810 during the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and the new presentation and disclosure requirements were applied retrospectively for all periods presented.

NeuCo's interim reporting schedule is based on calendar month-ends, but its fiscal year end is the last Saturday of November. The first three quarters of CRA's fiscal year could include up to a three-week reporting lag between CRA's quarter end and the most recent financial statements available from NeuCo. CRA does not believe the reporting lag will have a significant impact on CRA's consolidated statements of operations or financial condition.

**4. Fiscal Year**

CRA's fiscal year ends on the last Saturday in November, and accordingly, its fiscal year will periodically contain 53 weeks rather than 52 weeks. Both fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2009 are 52-week years. In a 52-week year, each of CRA's first, second, and fourth quarters includes twelve weeks, and its third quarter includes sixteen weeks. In a 53-week year, the fourth quarter includes thirteen weeks.

**5. Cash Equivalents and Investments**

Cash equivalents consist principally of U.S. government obligations, funds holding only U.S. government obligations, money market funds, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, and certificates of deposit with maturities of three months or less when purchased. Short-term investments generally consist of U.S. and Canadian government bonds and corporate obligations and have maturities of more than three months and less than one year when purchased. These short-term investments are expected to be held-to-maturity and are classified as such in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements. The carrying amounts of these instruments classified as cash equivalents and short-term investments are stated at amortized cost, which approximates fair value. As of September 3, 2010,

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**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

**(Unaudited)**

**5. Cash Equivalents and Investments (Continued)**

short-term investments included \$16.0 million in U.S. government bonds, \$12.5 million in commercial paper, and \$6.4 million in Canadian government bonds.

If a decline in fair value below the amortized cost basis of an investment is judged to be other-than-temporary, the cost basis of the investment is written down to fair value. For those investments for which the fair value of the investment is less than its amortized cost, the credit-related portion of other-than-temporary impairment losses is recognized in earnings while the noncredit-related portion is recognized in other comprehensive income, net of related taxes. The Company does not intend to sell such investments, if any, and it is more likely than not that it will not be required to sell such investments prior to the recovery of its amortized cost basis less any current period credit losses. During the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, the Company did not write-down any investment balances.

**6. Revenue Recognition**

CRA derives substantially all of its revenues from the performance of professional services. The contracts that CRA enters into and operates under specify whether the engagement will be billed on a time-and-materials or a fixed-price basis. These engagements generally last three to six months, although some of CRA's engagements can be much longer in duration. Each contract must be approved by one of CRA's vice presidents.

CRA recognizes substantially all of its revenues under written service contracts with its clients where the fee is fixed or determinable, as the services are provided, and only in those situations where collection from the client is reasonably assured and sufficient contractual documentation has been obtained. In certain cases CRA provides services to its clients without sufficient contractual documentation, or fees are tied to performance-based criteria, which require the Company to defer revenue in accordance with U.S. GAAP. In these cases, these amounts are fully reserved until all criteria for recognizing revenue are met.

Most of CRA's revenue is derived from time-and-materials service contracts. Revenues from time-and-materials service contracts are recognized as services are provided based upon hours worked and contractually agreed-upon hourly rates, as well as a computer services fee based upon hours worked.

Revenues from the majority of the Company's fixed-price engagements are recognized on a proportional performance method based on the ratio of costs incurred, substantially all of which are labor-related, to the total estimated project costs. CRA derived 21.8% and 19.2% of revenues from fixed-price engagements in the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, respectively. CRA derived 7.3% and 9.5% of revenues from fixed-price engagements in the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, respectively. Project costs are based on the direct salary of the consultants on the engagement plus all direct expenses incurred to complete the engagement that are not reimbursed by the client. The proportional performance method is used since reasonably dependable estimates of the revenues and costs applicable to various stages of a contract can be made, based on historical experience and terms set forth in the contract, and are indicative of the level of benefit provided to CRA's clients. Fixed-price contracts generally include a termination provision that converts the agreement to a time-and-materials contract in the event of termination of the contract. CRA's management maintains contact with project managers to discuss the status of the projects and, for fixed-price engagements, management is updated on the budgeted costs and resources required to

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****6. Revenue Recognition (Continued)**

complete the project. These budgets are then used to calculate revenue recognition and to estimate the anticipated income or loss on the project. CRA has occasionally been required to commit unanticipated additional resources to complete projects, which have resulted in lower than anticipated income or losses on those contracts. CRA may experience similar situations in the future. Provisions for estimated losses on contracts are made during the period in which such losses become probable and can be reasonably estimated. To date, such losses have not been significant.

Revenues also include reimbursable expenses, which include travel and other out-of-pocket expenses, outside consultants, and other reimbursable expenses. Reimbursable expenses are as follows (in thousands):

|                       | <b>Sixteen<br/>Weeks Ended</b> |                              | <b>Forty<br/>Weeks Ended</b> |                              |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                       | <b>September 3,<br/>2010</b>   | <b>September 4,<br/>2009</b> | <b>September 3,<br/>2010</b> | <b>September 4,<br/>2009</b> |
| Reimbursable expenses | \$ 10,837                      | \$ 13,461                    | \$ 27,974                    | \$ 32,204                    |

CRA maintains accounts receivable allowances for estimated losses resulting from clients' failure to make required payments. The Company bases its estimates on historical collection experience, current trends, and credit policy. In determining these estimates, CRA examines historical write-offs of its receivables and reviews client accounts to identify any specific customer collection issues. If the financial condition of CRA's customers were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payment, or if disputes were to arise regarding the services provided, additional allowances may be required.

Unbilled services represent revenue recognized by CRA for services performed but not yet billed to the client. Deferred revenue represents amounts billed or collected in advance of services rendered.

CRA collects goods and services and value added taxes from customers and records these amounts on a net basis, which is within the scope of ASC Topic 605-45, "Principal Agent Considerations."

**7. Goodwill**

Goodwill represents the purchase price of acquired businesses in excess of the fair market value of net assets acquired. In accordance with ASC Topic 350, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," goodwill is not subject to amortization, but is monitored at least annually for impairment, or more frequently, as necessary, if there are other indicators of impairment. Any impairment would be measured based upon the fair value of the related asset. Under ASC Topic 350, in performing the first step of the goodwill impairment testing and measurement process, the Company compares its entity-wide estimated fair value to its net book value to identify potential impairment. Management estimates the entity-wide fair value of its single reporting unit utilizing the Company's market capitalization, plus an appropriate control premium. Market capitalization is determined by multiplying the shares outstanding on the assessment date by the average market price of our common stock over a reasonable period of time based upon management's judgment. The Company utilizes a control premium which considers appropriate industry, market and other pertinent factors, including indications of such premiums from data on recent acquisition transactions. If the Company determines through the impairment evaluation process that goodwill has been impaired, an impairment charge would be

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****7. Goodwill (Continued)**

recorded in the consolidated statement of operations. The Company completed the annual impairment test required as of November 28, 2009 and determined that there was no impairment. The Company continues to closely monitor its market capitalization. If the Company's market capitalization, plus an estimated control premium, is below its carrying value for a period considered to be other-than-temporary, it is possible that the Company may be required to record an impairment of goodwill either as a result of the annual assessment that the Company will conduct in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2010, or in a future quarter if an indication of potential impairment is evident. A non-cash goodwill impairment charge would have the affect of decreasing the Company's earnings in such period.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill during the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, are as follows (in thousands):

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Balance at November 28, 2009                                 | \$ 141,964 |
| Goodwill adjustments related to acquisitions                 | (84)       |
| Goodwill adjustments related to NeuCo                        | 1,191      |
| Effect of foreign currency translation and other adjustments | (2,594)    |
| Balance at September 3, 2010                                 | \$ 140,477 |

**8. Private Placement of Convertible Debt**

In 2004, CRA completed a private placement of \$90.0 million of 2.875% convertible senior subordinated debentures due in 2034. During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company repurchased convertible debentures in the principal amount of \$15.0 million, on the open market. During fiscal 2009 and fiscal 2008, the Company repurchased convertible debentures in the principal amount of approximately \$27.5 million, on the open market. As of September 3, 2010, the principal amount of the convertible debentures totaled \$47.5 million. The debentures are CRA's direct, unsecured senior subordinated obligations and rank junior in right of payment to CRA's existing bank revolving line of credit and any future secured indebtedness that CRA may designate as senior indebtedness. Pursuant to the terms of the indenture governing the debentures, since the closing stock price did not equal or exceed the \$50 per share contingent conversion trigger price for 20 out of the 30 consecutive trading days ended on September 3, 2010, the market price conversion trigger was not satisfied and holders of the debentures are not able to exercise their right to convert the bonds during the third quarter of fiscal 2010. This test is repeated each fiscal quarter. To date, no conversions have occurred.

The \$46.6 million convertible debt balance as of September 3, 2010 represents the principal amount of \$47.5 million, net of the unamortized debt discount totaling \$0.9 million. The \$60.3 million convertible debt balance as of November 28, 2009 represents the principal amount of \$62.5 million, net of the unamortized debt discount totaling \$2.2 million. The debt discount will be amortized through the third quarter of fiscal 2011. For both the third quarter of fiscal 2010 and the year ended fiscal 2009, the carrying amount of the equity component of the convertible debentures was \$7.6 million and is included in common stock.

The effective interest rate for the sixteen weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the sixteen weeks ended September 4, 2009 was 5.6% and 5.5%, respectively. The effective interest rate for the forty

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**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

**(Unaudited)**

**8. Private Placement of Convertible Debt (Continued)**

weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009 was 5.6% and 5.5%, respectively.

For the sixteen weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the sixteen weeks ended September 4, 2009, the contractual interest, amortization of prepaid debt issuance costs, and amortization of the discount, included in interest expense was \$0.8 million and \$1.2 million, respectively. For the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, the contractual interest, amortization of prepaid debt issuance costs, and amortization of the discount, included in interest expense was \$2.4 million and \$3.2 million, respectively.

The Company has a \$60.0 million revolving line of credit, to mitigate the potential liquidity risk, and to provide funding if required, in the event of conversion by the debenture holders. In addition, the line of credit gives CRA additional flexibility to meet any unforeseen financial requirements. The amounts available under the bank revolving line of credit are constrained by various financial covenants and reduced by certain outstanding letters of credit. The revolving line of credit expires on April 30, 2012.

CRA may elect to redeem all or any portion of the debentures on or after June 20, 2011, at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the debentures, plus accrued and unpaid interest. As early as June 15, 2011 or upon certain specified fundamental changes, we may be required, at the option of each holder, to repurchase all or any portion of the debentures, which, in the event of a fundamental change involving a change of control of our firm, may include the payment of a make-whole premium. Due to the expected redemption as early as June 2011, during the third quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company reclassified the \$46.6 million net convertible debt balance outstanding from a non-current liability to a current liability in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet.

In May 2008, the FASB issued guidance included in ASC Topic 470-20, which changes the accounting treatment for convertible debt instruments that allow for either mandatory or optional cash settlements. The new provisions of ASC Topic 470-20 require the Company to recognize non-cash interest expense on the convertible senior subordinated debentures based on the market rate for similar debt instruments without the conversion feature. Upon retroactive adoption of ASC 470-20 during the first quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company recorded a cumulative after tax adjustment for prior years of \$6.4 million, which represented a non-cash decrease in retained earnings as of November 28, 2009. Also, the carrying amount of the convertible debentures was retroactively adjusted to reflect a discount of approximately \$12.6 million and a reduction of deferred financing costs of approximately \$0.5 million, with offsetting increases in common stock of approximately \$6.9 million and deferred tax liability of \$5.2 million as of the date of issuance. The effect of adopting ASC Topic 470-20 is included in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

The contingent interest feature included in the debenture represents an embedded derivative that must be recorded at fair value. The Company has determined that the fair value of the contingent interest feature is *de minimis* as of September 3, 2010, based upon economic, market and other conditions in effect as of that date. There are no other embedded derivatives associated with the Company's convertible debentures.

The Company has agreed with the debenture holders to reserve the maximum number of shares of common stock that may be issued upon conversion of the debentures.



Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****9. Net Income per Share**

Basic net income per share represents net income divided by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per share represents net income divided by the weighted average shares of common stock and common stock equivalents outstanding during the period. Common stock equivalents arise from stock options, unvested restricted shares, and shares underlying CRA's debentures using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, the amount the Company will receive for the share awards, the amount of compensation cost for future service that the Company has not yet recognized, and the amount of tax benefits that would be recorded in common stock when the award becomes deductible are assumed to be used to repurchase shares at the average share price for each fiscal period. A reconciliation of basic to diluted weighted average shares of common stock outstanding is as follows (in thousands):

|   | Sixteen<br>Weeks Ended |                      | Forty<br>Weeks Ended |                      |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | September 3,<br>2010   | September 4,<br>2009 | September 3,<br>2010 | September 4,<br>2009 |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding   | 10,650                 | 10,627               | 10,670               | 10,600               |
| Common stock equivalents:                   |                        |                      |                      |                      |
| Stock options and restricted shares         | 84                     | 124                  | 131                  | 103                  |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding | 10,734                 | 10,751               | 10,801               | 10,703               |

Since CRA is obligated to settle the par value of the convertible debentures in cash, the Company is not required to include any shares underlying the convertible debentures in its diluted weighted average shares outstanding until the average stock price per share for the quarter exceeds the \$40 conversion price and only to the extent of the additional shares CRA may be required to issue in the event CRA's conversion obligation exceeds the principal amount of the debentures converted. At such time, only the number of shares that would be issuable (under the "treasury" method of accounting for share dilution) are included, which is based upon the amount by which the average stock price exceeds the conversion price. Since the average stock price was \$19.73 and \$23.11 for the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, respectively, no common stock equivalents for shares underlying the debentures were included in the diluted weighted average shares outstanding for the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 3, 2010. Since the average stock price was \$26.99 and \$24.48 for the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, respectively, no common stock equivalents for shares underlying the debentures were included in the diluted weighted average shares outstanding for the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 4, 2009.

For the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, the anti-dilutive share based awards were 1,091,270 and 1,563,675, respectively. For the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 4, 2009 the anti-dilutive share based awards were 992,859 and 973,352, respectively.

During the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, CRA granted restricted share awards representing 95,402 shares, respectively, of its common stock that were not vested as of September 3, 2010.

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****10. Comprehensive Income**

A reconciliation of comprehensive income (loss) is as follows (in thousands):

|  | Forty<br>Weeks Ended |                      |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
|  | September 3,<br>2010 | September 4,<br>2009 |
| Net income   | \$ 546               | \$ 3,715             |
| Change in foreign currency translation                             | (3,251)              | 4,151                |
| Comprehensive (loss) income  | \$ (2,705)           | \$ 7,866             |
| Comprehensive loss attributable to noncontrolling interest         | 268                  | 606                  |
| Comprehensive (loss) income attributable to CRA International, Inc | \$ (2,437)           | \$ 8,472             |

**11. Income Taxes**

The Company's effective income tax rate was 46.3% and 52.6% for the sixteen weeks ended September 3, 2010 and September 4, 2009, respectively. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 was higher than the statutory rate due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2009 was higher than the statutory rate primarily due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited and, to a lesser extent, a tax charge incurred by NeuCo.

The Company's effective income tax rate was 74.6% and 63.6% for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and September 4, 2009, respectively. The effective tax rate for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 was higher than the statutory rate due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited. The effective tax rate for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009 was higher than the statutory rate primarily due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited and, to a lesser extent, a tax charge incurred by NeuCo.

**12. Accrued Expenses**

Accrued expenses consist of the following (in thousands):

|                                   | September 3,<br>2010 | November 28,<br>2009 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Compensation and related expenses | \$ 34,262            | \$ 47,010            |
| Payable to former shareholders    |                      | 885                  |
| Income taxes payable              | 1,583                | 1,254                |
| Accrued interest                  | 352                  | 859                  |
| Other                             | 5,082                | 6,943                |
| Total                             | \$ 41,279            | \$ 56,951            |

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****13. Commitments & Contingencies**

In connection with an acquisition completed in fiscal 2009, CRA agreed to pay incentive performance awards to certain employees of the acquired business, if specific performance targets are met in fiscal 2010 through fiscal 2012. CRA believes that it will have sufficient funds to satisfy any obligations related to the incentive performance awards and contingent consideration. CRA expects to fund these payments, if any, from existing cash resources, cash generated from operations, or financing transactions.

In May 2009, a payment of \$10.3 million was placed in escrow as a progress payment related to a possible future earnout amount that the seller of a business CRA acquired in fiscal 2006 could earn. The \$10.3 million is included in current assets in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of September 3, 2010. The entire \$10.3 million placed in escrow was returned to the Company in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010.

**14. Restructuring Charges**

During the third quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company incurred net pre-tax expenses of \$1.8 million associated principally with office space reductions in its Boston, Massachusetts and Chicago, Illinois offices. The Company recorded expense for the difference between its future minimum lease payments and related exit costs from the date of closure through the end of the remaining lease term, net of expected future sublease rental income. This estimated expense required management to make assumptions regarding the estimate of the duration of future vacancy periods, the amount and timing of future settlement payments, and the amount and timing of potential sublease income. This resulted in charges of \$2.0 million during the third quarter of fiscal 2010, of which \$1.8 million is included in selling, general and administrative expenses and \$156,000 is included in depreciation and amortization.

The reserve balance for the fiscal year to date period ended September 3, 2010 is as follows (in thousands):

|  | Divested<br>Operations | Office<br>Vacancies | Employee<br>Workforce<br>Reduction | Total<br>Restructuring |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Balance at November 28, 2009   | \$ 55                  | \$ 2,158            | \$ 1,266                           | \$ 3,479               |
| Charges incurred in the fiscal year to date period ended September 3, 2010                                       | (273)                  | 2,919               | 4,177                              | 6,823                  |
| Amounts paid in the fiscal year to date period ended September 3, 2010   |                        | (1,581)             | (4,246)                            | (5,827)                |
| Adjustments and effect of foreign currency translation in the fiscal year to date period ended September 3, 2010 | 218                    | (16)                | (75)                               | 127                    |
| Deferred rent reclassification in the fiscal year to date period ended September 3, 2010                         |                        | 1,763               |                                    | 1,763                  |
| Balance at September 3, 2010   | \$ 0                   | \$ 5,243            | \$ 1,122                           | \$ 6,365               |

During the fiscal year to date period ended September 4, 2009, the Company recorded \$3.2 million in restructuring charges associated principally with an employee workforce reduction and employee separation costs, of which \$1.9 million is included in costs of sales and \$1.3 million is included in selling, general and administrative expenses. The restructuring expenses for the first and second

Table of Contents**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****14. Restructuring Charges (Continued)**

quarters of fiscal 2009 and the reserve balance for the quarter ended September 4, 2009 are as follows (in thousands):

|  | <b>Divested<br/>Operations</b> | <b>Office<br/>Vacancies</b> | <b>Employee<br/>Workforce<br/>Reduction</b> | <b>Total<br/>Restructuring</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Balance at November 29, 2008   | \$ 1,000                       | \$ 318                      | \$ 1,995                                    | \$ 3,313                       |
| Charges incurred in the fiscal year to date period ended September 4, 2009                                       |                                | 302                         | 2,926                                       | 3,228                          |
| Amounts paid in the fiscal year to date period ended September 4, 2009   | (970)                          | (558)                       | (3,784)                                     | (5,312)                        |
| Adjustments and effect of foreign currency translation in the fiscal year to date period ended September 4, 2009 | 25                             | 281                         | (375)                                       | (69)                           |
| Balance at September 4, 2009   | \$ 55                          | \$ 343                      | \$ 762                                      | \$ 1,160                       |

**15. Subsequent Event**

On September 29, 2010, the Company's management implemented a proposal to make consulting headcount adjustments to select practices. As a result of this proposal, the Company is taking steps, subject to local labor law requirements, to reduce their consultant headcount by approximately 15 positions. These actions are designed to reduce costs and improve the Company's profitability.

The Company expects that these actions will be completed during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010. If all of the positions currently anticipated to be affected by the restructuring are ultimately eliminated, the Company expects to record a restructuring charge in the approximate range of \$1.5 million to \$1.8 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 related to termination benefits. The Company has not finalized the employee separation costs or the offsetting benefits that the Company may have as a result of these actions. The charge that the Company expects to incur in connection with the restructuring is subject to a number of assumptions, including assumptions related to the outcome of employee consultations, which are ongoing, and actual results may materially differ.

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**ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

**Forward-Looking Statements**

Except for historical facts, the statements in this quarterly report are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are merely our current predictions of future events. These statements are inherently uncertain, and actual events could differ materially from our predictions. Important factors that could cause actual events to vary from our predictions include those discussed below under the heading "Risk Factors." We assume no obligation to update our forward-looking statements to reflect new information or developments. We urge readers to review carefully the risk factors described in this quarterly report and in the other documents that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You can read these documents at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

Our principal internet address is [www.crai.com](http://www.crai.com). Our website provides a link to a third-party website through which our annual, quarterly, and current reports, and amendments to those reports, are available free of charge. We believe these reports are made available as soon as reasonably practicable after we file them electronically with, or furnish them to, the SEC. We do not maintain or provide any information directly to the third-party website, nor do we check the accuracy of this website.

Our website also includes information about our corporate governance practices. The Investor Relations page of our website provides a link to a web page where you can obtain a copy of our code of ethics applicable to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, and principal accounting officer.

**Economic Conditions**

Our business has been affected by the global economic recession, as clients for some of our larger litigation cases requested us to slow down the pace of work, and some of our management consulting clients delayed new projects. We continue to focus on business development and client-facing activities, including recruiting senior-level consultants. However, in order to more closely align our costs and staffing levels with our revenue, some actions were required. These actions were carefully targeted so as not to jeopardize longer-term growth prospects in both our core and emerging practices. These actions were designed to reduce costs and improve our profitability. During fiscal 2010 we reduced our workforce, consolidated or closed some of our offices, and restructured select practice areas. On September 29, 2010, we implemented a proposal to make consulting headcount adjustments to select practices. As a result of this proposal, we are taking steps, subject to local labor law requirements, to reduce consultant headcount by approximately 15 positions. For additional information on these initiatives, refer to Note 14 and Note 15 in our Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Critical Accounting Policies and Significant Estimates**

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make significant estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates in these condensed consolidated financial statements include, but are not limited to, accounts receivable allowances, revenue recognition on fixed price contracts, depreciation of property and equipment, share-based compensation, valuation of acquired intangible assets, impairment of long lived assets, goodwill, accrued and deferred income taxes, valuation allowances on deferred tax assets, accrued compensation, accrued exit costs, and other accrued expenses. These items are monitored and analyzed by management for changes in facts and circumstances, and material changes in these estimates could occur in the future.

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Changes in estimates are recorded in the period in which they become known. We base our estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from our estimates if our assumptions based on past experience or our other assumptions do not turn out to be substantially accurate.

A summary of the accounting policies that we believe are most critical to understanding and evaluating our financial results is set forth below. This summary should be read in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in Item 1 of this quarterly report, as well as in our most recently filed annual report on Form 10-K.

*Revenue Recognition and Accounts Receivable Allowances.* We derive substantially all of our revenues from the performance of professional services. The contracts that we enter into and operate under specify whether the engagement will be billed on a time-and-materials or fixed-price basis. These engagements generally last three to six months, although some of our engagements can be much longer in duration. Each contract must be approved by one of our vice presidents.

We recognize substantially all of our revenues under written service contracts with our clients where the fee is fixed or determinable, as the services are provided, and only in those situations where collection from the client is reasonably assured and sufficient contractual documentation has been obtained. In certain cases we provide services to our clients without sufficient contractual documentation, or fees are tied to performance-based criteria, which require us to defer revenue in accordance with U.S. GAAP. In these cases, where we invoice clients, these amounts are fully reserved until all criteria for recognizing revenue are met.

Most of our revenue is derived from time-and-materials service contracts. Revenues from time-and-materials service contracts are recognized as the services are provided based upon hours worked and contractually agreed-upon hourly rates, as well as a computer services fee based upon hours worked.

Revenues from the majority of our fixed-price engagements are recognized on a proportional performance method based on the ratio of costs incurred, substantially all of which are labor-related, to the total estimated project costs. Project costs are based on the direct salary of the consultants on the engagement plus all direct expenses incurred to complete the engagement that are not reimbursed by the client. The proportional performance method is used since reasonably dependable estimates of the revenues and costs applicable to various stages of a contract can be made, based on historical experience and terms set forth in the contract, and are indicative of the level of benefit provided to our clients. Our fixed-price contracts generally include a termination provision that reduces the agreement to a time-and-materials contract in the event of termination of the contract. Our management maintains contact with project managers to discuss the status of the projects and, for fixed-price engagements, management is updated on the budgeted costs and resources required to complete the project. These budgets are then used to calculate revenue recognition and to estimate the anticipated income or loss on the project. In the past, we have occasionally been required to commit unanticipated additional resources to complete projects, which have resulted in lower than anticipated income or losses on those contracts. We may experience similar situations in the future. Provisions for estimated losses on contracts are made during the period in which such losses become probable and can be reasonably estimated. To date, such losses have not been significant.

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Revenues also include reimbursable expenses, which include travel and other out-of-pocket expenses, outside consultants, and other reimbursable expenses. Reimbursable expenses are as follows (in thousands):

|                       | Sixteen<br>Weeks Ended |                      | Forty<br>Weeks Ended |                      |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                       | September 3,<br>2010   | September 4,<br>2009 | September 3,<br>2010 | September 4,<br>2009 |
| Reimbursable expenses | \$ 10,837              | \$ 13,461            | \$ 27,974            | \$ 32,204            |

Our normal payment terms are 30 days from the invoice date. For the sixteen weeks ended September 3, 2010, and September 4, 2009 our average days sales outstanding, or DSOs, were 102 days and 96 days, respectively. We calculate DSOs by dividing the sum of our accounts receivable and unbilled services balance, net of deferred revenue, at the end of the quarter by average daily revenues. Average daily revenues are calculated by dividing quarter revenues by the number of days in a quarter. Our project managers and finance personnel monitor payments from our clients and assess any collection issues. We maintain accounts receivable allowances for estimated losses resulting from clients' failure to make required payments. We base our estimates on our historical collection experience, current trends, and credit policy. In determining these estimates, we examine historical write-offs of our receivables and review client accounts to identify any specific customer collection issues. If the financial condition of our customers were to deteriorate or disputes were to arise regarding the services provided, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payment, additional allowances may be required. A failure to estimate accurately the accounts receivable allowances and ensure that payments are received on a timely basis could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. As of September 3, 2010, and November 28, 2009, \$6.6 million and \$6.8 million were provided for accounts receivable allowances, respectively.

*Share-Based Compensation Expense.* Share-based compensation cost is estimated at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and is recognized as expense over the requisite service period of the award. We recognize share-based compensation expense using the straight-line attribution method. We use the Black-Scholes option-pricing model to estimate the fair value of share-based awards. Option valuation models require the input of assumptions, including the expected life of the share-based awards, the expected stock price volatility, the risk-free interest rate, and the expected dividend yield. The expected volatility and expected life are based on our historical experience. The risk-free interest rate is based on U.S. Treasury interest rates whose term is consistent with the expected life of the share-based award. Expected dividend yield was not considered in the option pricing formula since we do not pay dividends and have no current plans to do so in the future. We will update these assumptions if changes are warranted. The forfeiture rate is based upon historical experience. We adjust the estimated forfeiture rate based upon our actual experience. In addition, we have performance based awards that are valued at the fair value of shares as of the grant date and expense is recognized based on the number of shares expected to vest under the terms of the award under which they are granted. The fair value determination requires significant assumptions, including estimating future revenues and profits.

*Valuation of Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets.* We account for our acquisitions under the purchase method of accounting. Goodwill represents the purchase price of acquired businesses in excess of the fair market value of net assets acquired. Intangible assets consist principally of non-competition agreements, which are amortized on a straight-line basis over the related estimated lives of the agreements (eight to ten years), as well as customer relationships, customer lists, developed technology, and trademarks, which are generally amortized on a straight-line basis over their remaining useful lives (four to ten years).

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The goodwill amount for acquisitions is initially recorded based upon a preliminary estimated purchase price allocation and is subject to change. Any preliminary purchase price allocation is based upon our estimate of fair value, and is finalized as we receive other information relevant to the acquisition.

In accordance with Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 350, "Intangibles-Goodwill and Other," goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives are not subject to amortization, but are monitored annually for impairment, or more frequently, if there are indicators of impairment. Any impairment would be measured based upon the fair value of the related asset. Under ASC Topic 350, in performing the first step of the goodwill impairment testing and measurement process, we compare our entity-wide estimated fair value to net book value to identify potential impairment. We estimate the entity-wide fair value of our single reporting unit utilizing our market capitalization, plus an appropriate control premium. Market capitalization is determined by multiplying the shares outstanding on the assessment date by the average market price of our common stock over a reasonable period of time based upon management's judgment. We utilize a control premium which considers appropriate industry, market and other pertinent factors, including indications of such premiums from data on recent acquisition transactions. If we determine through the impairment evaluation process that goodwill has been impaired, we would record the impairment charge in our consolidated statement of operations.

We assess the impairment of amortizable intangible assets whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Factors we consider important that could trigger an impairment review include the following:

- a significant underperformance relative to expected historical or projected future operating results;
- a significant change in the manner of our use of the acquired asset or the strategy for our overall business;
- a significant negative industry or economic trend; and
- our entity-wide fair value relative to net book value.

If we were to determine that an impairment evaluation is required, we would review the expected future undiscounted cash flows to be generated by the assets. If we determine that the carrying value of intangible assets may not be recoverable, we measure any impairment based on a projected discounted cash flow method using a discount rate determined by our management to be commensurate with the risk inherent in our current business model.

There were no impairment losses related to goodwill or intangible assets during the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010. Uncertainty in the financial markets and weakness in macroeconomic conditions globally have recently contributed to volatility in our stock price. The current macroeconomic environment continues to be challenging and we cannot be certain of the duration of these conditions and their potential impact on our stock price performance. If our market capitalization plus an estimated control premium is below the carrying value for a period we consider to be other-than-temporary, we may be required to record an impairment of goodwill either as a result of our annual assessment that we will conduct in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010, or in a future quarter if an indication of potential impairment is evident. A non-cash goodwill impairment charge would have the affect of decreasing our earnings in such period. If we are required to take a substantial impairment charge, our operating results would be materially adversely affected in such period.

*Accounting for Income Taxes.* We record income taxes using the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized based upon anticipated future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and



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liabilities and their respective income tax bases, and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

Our financial statements contain certain deferred tax assets and liabilities that result from temporary differences between book and tax accounting, as well as net operating loss carryforwards. ASC Topic 740, "Income Taxes," requires the establishment of a valuation allowance to reflect the likelihood of realization of deferred tax assets. Significant management judgment is required in determining our provision for income taxes, our deferred tax assets and liabilities, and any valuation allowance recorded against our net deferred tax assets. We evaluate the weight of all available evidence to determine whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred income tax assets will not be realized. The decision to record a valuation allowance requires varying degrees of judgment based upon the nature of the item giving rise to the deferred tax asset. As a result of operating losses incurred in certain of our foreign subsidiaries, and uncertainty as to the extent and timing of profitability in future periods, we recorded valuation allowances in certain of these foreign subsidiaries based on the facts and circumstances affecting each subsidiary. Had we not recorded these allowances, we would have reported a lower effective tax provision than was recognized in our statements of operations in fiscal 2009 and during the first forty weeks of fiscal 2010. If the realization of deferred tax assets is considered more likely than not, an adjustment to the net deferred tax assets would increase net income in the period such determination was made. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable is based on significant estimates, and it is possible that changes in these estimates could materially affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Our effective tax rate may vary from period to period based on changes in estimated taxable income or loss, changes to the valuation allowance, changes to federal, state, or foreign tax laws, future expansion into areas with varying country, state, and local income tax rates, deductibility of certain costs, uncertain tax positions, and expenses by jurisdiction, and as a result of acquisitions.

The calculation of our tax liabilities involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex tax regulations in several different tax jurisdictions. We are periodically reviewed by domestic and foreign tax authorities regarding the amount of taxes due. These reviews include questions regarding the timing and amount of deductions and the allocation of income among various tax jurisdictions. In evaluating the exposure associated with various filing positions, we record estimated reserves for probable exposures. Based on our evaluation of current tax positions, we believe we have appropriately accrued for probable exposures. During the third quarter of fiscal 2010, the IRS concluded its examination of fiscal 2007 with no change in tax liability. Additionally, HM Revenue and Customs is reviewing our UK subsidiary's fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2007 corporate tax returns. No adjustments have been proposed and the outcome of this review cannot reasonably be predicted at this time.

**Adoption of New Accounting Standards**

In May 2008, the FASB issued guidance included in ASC Topic 470-20, "Debt" (formerly FASB Staff Position No. Accounting Principles Board Opinion 14-1, "Accounting for Convertible Debt Instruments That May Be Settled in Cash upon Conversion (Including Partial Cash Settlement)," which changes the accounting treatment for convertible debt instruments that allow for either mandatory or optional cash settlements. Under ASC Topic 470-20, we are required to recognize non-cash interest expense on our convertible senior subordinated debentures based on the market rate for similar debt instruments without the conversion feature. ASC Topic 470-20 is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008 and must be applied on a retrospective basis. Upon retroactive adoption of ASC 470-20 in fiscal 2010 during the first quarter of fiscal 2010, we recorded a cumulative after tax

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adjustment for prior years of \$6.4 million, which represented a non-cash decrease in retained earnings as of November 28, 2009. Also, the carrying amount of the convertible debentures was retroactively adjusted to reflect a discount of approximately \$12.6 million and a reduction of deferred financing costs by approximately \$0.5 million, with offsetting increases in common stock of approximately \$6.9 million and deferred tax liability of \$5.2 million as of the date of issuance. Under ASC Topic 470-20, in fiscal 2010, we expect to record incremental non-cash interest expense of approximately \$1.2 million. The effect of adopting ASC Topic 470-20 is included in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued guidance included in ASC Topic 810, "Consolidation" (formerly Statements of Financial Accounting Standards No. 160). ASC Topic 810 establishes accounting and reporting standards for noncontrolling interests (previously referred to as "minority interests") in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary, to ensure consistency with the requirements of ASC Topic 805. ASC Topic 810 states that noncontrolling interests should be classified as a separate component of equity, and establishes reporting requirements that provide sufficient disclosures that clearly identify and distinguish between the interests of the parent and the interests of the noncontrolling owners. We adopted the provisions of ASC Topic 810 during the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and the new presentation and disclosure requirements were applied retrospectively for all periods presented. Upon adoption, certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period financial statement presentation, including the reclassification of \$1.6 million to shareholders' equity from non-current liabilities.

### Results of Operations For the Sixteen and Forty Weeks Ended September 3, 2010, Compared to the Sixteen and Forty Weeks Ended September 4, 2009

The following table provides operating information as a percentage of revenues for the periods indicated:

|  | Sixteen<br>Weeks Ended |                      | Forty<br>Weeks Ended |                      |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|  | September 3,<br>2010   | September 4,<br>2009 | September 3,<br>2010 | September 4,<br>2009 |
| Revenues   | 100.0%                 | 100.0%               | 100.0%               | 100.0%               |
| Costs of services  | 64.8                   | 66.1                 | 68.7                 | 66.0                 |
| Gross profit   | 35.2                   | 33.9                 | 31.3                 | 34.0                 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses                 | 27.1                   | 24.4                 | 26.6                 | 25.3                 |
| Depreciation and amortization                                | 2.3                    | 2.7                  | 2.2                  | 2.7                  |
| Income from operations                                       | 5.8                    | 6.8                  | 2.5                  | 6.0                  |
| Interest income  | 0.1                    | 0.1                  | 0.1                  | 0.1                  |
| Interest expense   | (1.2)                  | (1.5)                | (1.2)                | (1.5)                |
| Loss on extinguishment of convertible debentures             |                        |                      | (0.2)                |                      |
| Other expense  | (0.3)                  | (0.3)                | (0.2)                | (0.1)                |
| Income before provision for income taxes                     | 4.4                    | 5.1                  | 1.0                  | 4.5                  |
| Provision for income taxes                                   | (2.1)                  | (2.7)                | (0.7)                | (2.9)                |
| Net income   | 2.3                    | 2.4                  | 0.3                  | 1.6                  |
| Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest, net of tax | 0.1                    | 0.5                  | 0.1                  | 0.3                  |
| Net income attributable to CRA International, Inc.           | 2.4%                   | 2.9%                 | 0.4%                 | 1.9%                 |

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**Results of Operations Sixteen Weeks Ended 3, 2010, Compared to Sixteen Weeks Ended September 4, 2009**

*Revenues.* Revenues decreased \$4.6 million, or 5.2%, to \$84.6 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from \$89.3 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. Included in revenues are \$2.2 million and \$2.9 million in revenues in the third quarter of fiscal 2010 and the third quarter of fiscal 2009, respectively, due to the consolidation of NeuCo. Our revenue decline was due primarily to general economic conditions and the restructuring of our portfolio of services, resulting in a reduction of employee consultant headcount. Utilization decreased to 68% for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from 69% for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. Another factor contributing to our revenue decline was the decrease in client reimbursable expenses. Client reimbursable expenses are pass-through expenses that carry little to no margin.

During the third fiscal quarter of 2010 our litigation, regulatory, and financial consulting area experienced revenue declines, while on a whole our management consulting area experienced revenue increases, compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The uncertain economic environment has impacted most practices in our litigation, regulatory, and financial consulting area. The revenue increase in the management consulting area was favorably impacted by an increase in larger engagements. Increased billing rates for employee consultants, which went into effect the first quarter of fiscal 2010, have also favorably impacted revenue.

Overall, revenues outside of the U.S. represented approximately 28% of total revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2010, compared with 25% of total revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2009, which is due primarily to a revenue decline in the U.S. Revenues derived from fixed-price engagements increased to 21.8% of total revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 compared with 7.3% for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The increase in revenues from fixed-price engagements is due primarily to a change in our method of contracting, from time-and-materials service contracts to fixed-price service contracts, in our management consulting area.

*Costs of Services.* Costs of services decreased \$4.2 million, or 7.1%, to \$54.9 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from \$59.0 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. Included in costs of services are \$0.5 million and \$1.1 million in costs of services in the third quarter of fiscal 2010 and the third quarter of fiscal 2009, respectively, due to the consolidation of NeuCo. The decrease in costs of services is mainly due to a decrease in client reimbursable expenses and a decrease in compensation expenses. Client reimbursable expenses decreased by \$2.6 million, or 19.5%, to \$10.8 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from \$13.5 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The decrease in compensation expense is due primarily to a decrease in the average number of employee consultants, offset partially by an increase associated with the employee consultants we hired as a result of acquiring substantially all of the assets of Marakon Associates in June 2009. As a percentage of revenues, costs of services decreased to 64.8% for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from 66.1% for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The decrease in costs of services as a percentage of revenue is due primarily to a decrease in client reimbursable expenses.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by \$1.2 million, or 5.3%, to \$22.9 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from \$21.7 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses is due primarily to the \$1.8 million in restructuring costs associated with the reduction of leased office space, as well as an increase in travel expenses, commissions to non-employee experts, and recruiting expenses. These increases were partially offset by decreases in rent, legal and audit fees. As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses increased to 27.1% for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from 24.4% at the third quarter of fiscal 2009, which was primarily the result of the lower revenue base and the increased restructuring costs associated with the reduction of leased office space.

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*Depreciation and Amortization.* Depreciation and amortization decreased by \$0.5 million, or 19.6%, to \$2.0 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from \$2.4 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The decrease is largely due to a decrease in leasehold improvements and computer equipment due to office closures and reduced headcount.

*Interest Income.* Interest income decreased by \$15,000 to \$115,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from \$130,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. This decrease was due primarily to lower cash and investment balances.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense decreased by \$0.3 million to \$1.0 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from \$1.3 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. Interest expense primarily represents interest incurred on our 2.875% convertible debt, the amortization of debt issuance costs, and the amortization of the discount recorded in connection with our adoption of ASC Topic 470-20. The decrease was primarily due to the lower principal balance outstanding on our convertible debt in the third quarter of fiscal 2010 compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2009.

*Other Income (Expense).* Other income (expense) increased by \$30,000 to expense of \$258,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from expense of \$228,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. Other income (expense) consists primarily of foreign currency exchange transaction gains and losses. We continue to manage our foreign currency exchange exposure through frequent settling of intercompany account balances and by self-hedging movements in exchange rates between the value of the dollar and foreign currencies including the Euro and the British pound.

*Provision for Income Taxes.* The provision for income taxes was \$1.7 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010. Our effective income tax rate decreased to 46.3% for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 compared to an effective tax rate of 52.6% for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 was higher than the statutory rate due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2009 was higher than the statutory rate primarily due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited and, to a lesser extent, a tax charge incurred by NeuCo.

*Net Loss (Income) Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest, Net of Tax.* Since October of fiscal 2008, our ownership interest in NeuCo constitutes control under GAAP. As a result, NeuCo's financial results are consolidated with ours and allocations of the noncontrolling interest's share of NeuCo's net income result in deductions to our net income, while allocations of the noncontrolling interest's share of NeuCo's net loss result in additions to our net income. During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, NeuCo reacquired \$0.9 million of its shares. As a result of this transaction, our ownership interest in NeuCo increased from 49.15% to 55.89%. The increase in our ownership in NeuCo during the second quarter of fiscal 2010 has been accounted for as an adjustment to shareholders' equity in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements. For the third quarter of fiscal 2010 and 2009, respectively, the result of operations of NeuCo allocable to its other owners was a net loss of \$44,000 and \$436,000.

*Net Income Attributable to CRA International, Inc.* Net income attributable to CRA International, Inc. decreased by \$0.6 million from net income of \$2.6 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2009 to net income of \$2.1 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2010. Diluted net income per share was \$0.19 per share for the third quarter of fiscal 2010, compared to \$0.24 of net income per diluted share for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. Diluted weighted average shares outstanding decreased by approximately 17,000 shares to approximately 10,734,000 shares for the third quarter of fiscal 2010 from approximately 10,751,000 shares for the third quarter of fiscal 2009. The decrease in weighted average shares outstanding is primarily due to repurchases of common stock since September 4, 2009, offset in part by restricted shares that have vested and stock options that have been exercised since September 4, 2009.

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On September 29, 2010, we implemented a proposal to make consulting headcount adjustments to select practices. As a result of this proposal, we are taking steps, subject to local labor law requirements, to reduce consultant headcount by approximately 15 positions. We expect that these actions will be completed during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010. If all of the positions currently anticipated to be affected by the restructuring are ultimately eliminated, we expect to record a restructuring charge in the approximate range of \$1.5 million to \$1.8 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 related to termination benefits in cost of services. These actions are expected to result in estimated annual cost savings of approximately \$2.7 million. We have not finalized the employee separation costs or the offsetting benefits that we may have as a result of these actions. The charge that we expect to incur in connection with the restructuring is subject to a number of assumptions, including assumptions related to the outcome of employee consultations, which are ongoing, and actual results may materially differ.

**Results of Operations Forty Weeks Ended September 3, 2010, Compared to Forty Weeks Ended September 4, 2009**

*Revenues.* Revenues decreased \$15.5 million, or 6.8%, to \$211.6 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from \$227.1 million for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Included in revenues are \$5.1 million and \$7.1 million in revenues in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, respectively, due to the consolidation of NeuCo. Our revenue decline was due primarily to general economic conditions and the restructuring of our portfolio of services, resulting in a reduction of employee consultant headcount. Utilization decreased to 65% for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from 70% for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Another factor contributing to our revenue decline, to a lesser extent, was the decrease in client reimbursable expenses. Client reimbursable expenses are pass-through expenses that carry little to no margin. These decreases in revenue were partially offset by an increase in revenue due to revenue generated by our acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Marakon Associates and increased billing rates for our employee consultants, which went into effect during the first quarter of fiscal 2010.

In the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, our litigation, regulatory, and financial consulting and management consulting areas experienced revenue declines compared to the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Clients have been reluctant to spend, thus lengthening the time to close new engagements, and this has impacted all areas of our business. In the management consulting practices, projects completed in our fourth quarter of fiscal 2009 were not immediately replaced in the first half of fiscal 2010. In the litigation, regulatory, and financial consulting practices, some practices experienced delays in existing projects proceeding through the court system and regulatory agencies. Revenue generated by our acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Marakon Associates partially offset our overall revenue decline.

Overall, revenues outside of the U.S. represented approximately 27% of total revenues for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, compared with 24% of total revenues for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, which is due primarily to a revenue decline in the U.S. and a greater contribution in international revenue related to the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Marakon Associates. Revenues derived from fixed-price engagements increased to 19.2% of total revenues for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 compared with 9.5% for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. The increase in revenues from fixed-price engagements is due primarily to the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Marakon Associates, and a change in our method of contracting, from time-and-materials service contracts to fixed-price service contracts, in our management consulting area.

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*Costs of Services.* Costs of services decreased \$4.5 million, or 3.0%, to \$145.4 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, from \$149.9 million for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Included in costs of services are \$1.4 million and \$3.5 million in costs of services in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, respectively, due to the consolidation of NeuCo. The decrease in costs of services is mainly due to a decrease in reimbursable expenses of \$4.2 million, or 13.1%. Partially offsetting these decreases are increases in costs of services due to an increase in compensation expense for our employee consultants of \$2.0 million or 1.8%, which includes increases due to the employee consultants we hired as a result of acquiring substantially all of the assets of Marakon Associates and an increase in restructuring charges, partially offset by a decrease in compensation expense primarily due to a decrease in the average number of employee consultants, excluding the Marakon Associates employees, primarily as a result of the previously discussed restructuring actions. Included in the increase in compensation expense are \$3.7 million and \$1.9 million in restructuring charges recognized during the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, and the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, respectively. As a percentage of revenues, costs of services increased to 68.7% for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from 66.0% for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. The increase in costs of services as a percentage of revenue is due primarily to lower revenue in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 compared with the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased by \$1.3 million, or 2.3%, to \$56.2 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from \$57.5 million for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Included in selling, general, and administrative expenses are \$2.9 million and \$1.3 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and September 4, 2009, respectively, due to restructuring costs. The decrease in selling, general and administrative expenses is due primarily to a decrease in compensation expense due to a reduction in support staff, a decrease in commissions to non-employee experts, and decreases in legal, audit and other professional services fees. These decreases were offset, in part, by increases in recruiting fees and travel and entertainment expenses. As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses increased to 26.6% for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from 25.3% for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, which was primarily a result of an increase in restructuring costs recognized in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 compared with the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009.

*Depreciation and Amortization.* Depreciation and amortization decreased by \$1.4 million, or 23.5%, to \$4.7 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from \$6.1 million for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. The decrease is largely due to a decrease in leasehold improvements and computer equipment due to office closures and reduced headcount.

*Interest Income.* Interest income decreased by \$102,000 to \$273,000 for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from \$375,000 for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. This decrease was due primarily to lower cash and investment balances.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense decreased by \$0.8 million to \$2.7 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from \$3.4 million for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Interest expense primarily represents interest incurred on our 2.875% convertible debt, the amortization of debt issuance costs, and the amortization of the discount recorded in connection with our adoption of ASC Topic 470-20. The decrease was primarily due to the lower principle balance outstanding on our convertible debt in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 compared with the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009.

*Loss on Extinguishment of Convertible Debentures.* During the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, the Company repurchased convertible debentures in the principal amount of \$15.0 million, on the open market, resulting in a \$0.4 million loss on a pre-tax basis. During the forty weeks ended

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September 4, 2009, the Company repurchased convertible debentures in the principal amount of approximately \$7.0 million, on the open market, resulting in a \$29,000 loss on a pre-tax basis. Although we repurchased our debt at a discount during these quarters, we incurred non-cash losses on the repurchases under the provisions of ASC Topic 470-20, which required us to discount our debt for the equity conversion feature of the debt instrument.

*Other Income (Expense).* Other income (expense) increased by \$114,000 to expense of \$362,000 for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from expense of \$248,000 for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Other income (expense) consists primarily of foreign currency exchange transaction gains and losses. The loss in the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009 includes a cumulative foreign currency exchange loss of \$0.4 million related to the liquidation of our Australian-based operations. We continue to manage our foreign currency exchange exposure through frequent settling of intercompany account balances and by self-hedging movements in exchange rates between the value of the dollar and foreign currencies including the Euro and the British pound.

*Provision for Income Taxes.* The provision for income taxes was \$1.6 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, a decrease of \$4.9 million from the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Our effective income tax rate increased to 74.6% for the first forty weeks of fiscal 2010 from 63.6% for the first forty weeks of fiscal 2009. The effective tax rate for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 was higher than the statutory rate due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited. The effective tax rate for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009 was higher than the statutory rate primarily due to losses in foreign locations that could not be benefited and, to a lesser extent, a tax charge incurred by NeuCo.

*Net Loss (Income) Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest, Net of Tax.* Since October of fiscal 2008, our ownership interest in NeuCo constitutes control under GAAP. As a result, NeuCo's financial results are consolidated with ours and allocations of the noncontrolling interest's share of NeuCo's net income result in deductions to our net income, while allocations of the noncontrolling interest's share of NeuCo's net loss result in additions to our net income. During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, NeuCo reacquired \$0.9 million of its shares. As a result of this transaction, our ownership interest in NeuCo increased from 49.15% to 55.89%. The increase in our ownership in NeuCo during the second quarter of fiscal 2010 was accounted for as an adjustment to shareholders' equity in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements. The results of operations of NeuCo allocable to its other owners was a net loss of \$268,000 for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and \$606,000 for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009.

*Net Income Attributable to CRA International, Inc.* Net income attributable to CRA International, Inc. decreased by \$3.5 million to \$0.8 million for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from net income of \$4.3 million for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. The diluted income per share was \$0.08 per share for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, compared to diluted net income per share of \$0.40 per share for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. Weighted average shares outstanding increased by approximately 98,000 shares to approximately 10,801,000 shares for the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 from approximately 10,703,000 shares for the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. The increase in weighted average shares outstanding is due primarily to restricted shares that have vested and stock options that have been exercised since September 4, 2009, offset in part by repurchases of common stock since September 4, 2009.

On September 29, 2010, we implemented a proposal to make consulting headcount adjustments to select practices. As a result of this proposal, we are taking steps, subject to local labor law requirements, to reduce consultant headcount by approximately 15 positions. We expect that these actions will be completed during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010. If all of the positions currently anticipated to be affected by the restructuring are ultimately eliminated, we expect to record a restructuring charge in the approximate range of \$1.5 million to \$1.8 million in the fourth quarter of

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fiscal 2010 related to termination benefits in cost of services. These actions are expected to result in estimated annual cost savings of approximately \$2.7 million. We have not finalized the employee separation costs or the offsetting benefits that we may have as a result of these actions. The charge that we expect to incur in connection with the restructuring is subject to a number of assumptions, including assumptions related to the outcome of employee consultations, which are ongoing, and actual results may materially differ.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

*General.* In the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$31.1 million. We completed the quarter with cash and cash equivalents of \$51.7 million, short term investments of \$34.9 million, and working capital (defined as current assets less current liabilities) of \$90.1 million.

We believe that our current cash balances, cash generated from operations, and amounts available under our bank line of credit will be sufficient to meet our anticipated working capital, capital expenditures, and contingent consideration payment requirements for at least the next 12 months.

*Sources and Uses of Cash in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010.* During the first forty weeks of fiscal 2010, net cash provided by operations was \$2.5 million. The primary sources of cash from operations include net income of \$0.5 million, share-based compensation expense of \$4.9 million, depreciation and amortization expense of \$4.4 million, decreases in prepaid expenses and other assets of \$4.5 million, and a decrease in accounts receivable of \$11.9 million, due to a decrease in revenue. The sources of cash in operations were partially offset by increases in unbilled services of \$4.6 million resulting from slower billings and a decrease in accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities of \$20.8 million. The payment of the majority of fiscal 2009 bonuses totaling approximately \$28.7 million are included in the decrease in accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities during the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010.

We used \$13.7 million of net cash for investing activities for the first forty weeks of fiscal 2010, which included uses of cash of \$2.3 million for capital expenditures, \$0.3 million of net acquisition consideration payments, and \$60.0 million to purchase short-term investments to achieve higher returns on our excess cash. These uses of cash were partially offset by \$48.8 million received from the sale of short-term investments.

We used \$20.0 million of net cash for financing activities for the first forty weeks of fiscal 2010. Cash used in financing activities was primarily used to repurchase convertible debentures in the principal amount of \$15.0 million for a repurchase price of approximately \$14.9 million, to repurchase \$4.2 million of common stock, and to redeem \$0.9 million in vested employee restricted shares for tax withholdings, offset partially by \$0.7 million received upon the exercise of stock options.

*Private Placement of Convertible Debt.* In 2004, we completed a private placement of \$90.0 million of 2.875% convertible senior subordinated debentures due in 2034. During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, we repurchased convertible debentures in the principal amount of \$15.0 million, on the open market. During fiscal 2009 and fiscal 2008, we repurchased convertible debentures in the principal amount of approximately \$27.5 million, on the open market. As of September 3, 2010, the principal amount of the convertible debentures totaled \$47.5 million. The debentures are our direct, unsecured senior subordinated obligations and rank junior in right of payment to our existing bank revolving line of credit and any future secured indebtedness that we may designate as senior indebtedness. Contractual interest of approximately \$0.7 million, is payable semi-annually on June 15 and December 15.

As a result of our election on December 14, 2004, we must settle the conversion of the debentures, as follows: (i) \$1,000 in cash per \$1,000 principal amount of debentures converted; and (ii) in cash or



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shares of our common stock (at our further election, except for cash in lieu of fractional shares), any conversion obligation that exceeds the principal amount of the debentures converted.

Pursuant to the terms of the indenture governing the debentures, since the closing stock price did not equal or exceed the \$50 per share contingent conversion trigger price for 20 out of the 30 consecutive trading days ended on September 3, 2010, the market price conversion trigger was not satisfied and holders of the debentures are not able to exercise their right to convert the bonds as of the first trading day of the third quarter of fiscal 2010. This test is repeated each fiscal quarter. To date, no conversions have occurred. As of September 3, 2010, the principal amount of the convertible debentures totaled \$47.5 million.

We may elect to redeem all or any portion of the debentures on or after June 20, 2011, at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the debentures, plus accrued and unpaid interest. As early as June 15, 2011 or upon certain specified fundamental changes, we may be required, at the option of each holder, to repurchase all or any portion of the debentures, which, in the event of a fundamental change involving a change of control of our firm, may include the payment of a make-whole premium. Due to the expected redemption as early as June 2011, during the third quarter of fiscal 2010, we reclassified the amounts of outstanding debentures from a non-current liability to a current liability.

*Borrowings under the Revolving Line of Credit.* We are party to a senior loan agreement with our bank for a \$60.0 million revolving line of credit with a maturity date of April 30, 2012 and it is our intention to renew or replace the revolving line of credit, as desirable and available. Subject to the terms of the agreement, we may use borrowings under this revolving line of credit for acquisition financing, working capital, general corporate purposes, letters of credit, and foreign exchanges contracts. The available revolving line of credit is reduced, as necessary, to account for certain outstanding letters of credit. The \$60.0 million credit facility allows us to mitigate the potential liquidity risk, and to provide funding if required, in the event of conversion by the debenture holders. The revolving line of credit also gives us additional flexibility to meet any unforeseen financial requirements. The amounts available under our bank revolving line of credit are constrained by various financial covenants and reduced by certain outstanding letters of credit. As of September 3, 2010, there were no amounts outstanding under this revolving line of credit and \$4.7 million in letters of credit were outstanding.

Borrowings under our credit facility bear interest, at LIBOR plus an applicable margin. Applicable margins range from 2.0% to 3.5%, depending on the ratio of our consolidated total debt to consolidated earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, for the preceding four fiscal quarters, subject to various adjustments stated in the senior loan agreement. These margins are adjusted both quarterly and each time we borrow under the credit facility. Interest is payable monthly. A commitment fee of 0.25% is payable on the unused portion of the credit facility. Borrowings under the credit facility are secured by 100% of the stock of certain of our U.S. subsidiaries and 65% of the stock of certain of our foreign subsidiaries, which represents approximately \$66.2 million in net assets as of September 3, 2010.

*Debt Restrictions.* Under our senior loan agreement, we must comply with various financial and non-financial covenants. The financial covenants require us to maintain a minimum consolidated working capital of \$25.0 million and require us to comply with a consolidated total debt to EBITDA ratio of not more than 3.5 to 1.0 and a consolidated senior debt to EBITDA ratio of not more than 2.0 to 1.0. Compliance with these financial covenants is tested on a fiscal quarterly basis. In March 2005, we amended the definition of "current liabilities" included in the working capital covenant of the senior credit agreement to exclude any convertible subordinated debt for which we have not been notified of the intention to convert. The non-financial covenants of the senior credit agreement place certain restrictions on our ability to incur additional indebtedness, engage in acquisitions or

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dispositions, and enter into business combinations. Any indebtedness outstanding under the senior credit facility may become immediately due and payable upon the occurrence of stated events of default, including our failure to pay principal, interest or fees or a violation of any financial covenant. As of September 3, 2010, we were in compliance with our covenants under the senior credit agreement.

*Other Matters.* As part of our business, we regularly evaluate opportunities to acquire other consulting firms, practices or groups or other businesses. In recent years, we have typically paid for acquisitions with cash, or a combination of cash and our common stock, and we may continue to do so in the future. To pay for an acquisition, we may use cash on hand, cash generated from our operations, or borrowings under our revolving credit facility, or we may pursue other forms of financing. Our ability to secure short-term and long-term debt or equity financing in the future, including our ability to refinance our current senior loan agreement, will depend on several factors, including our future profitability, the levels of our debt and equity, restrictions under our existing revolving line of credit with our bank, and the overall credit and equity market environments.

In June 2007, we announced that our Board of Directors authorized a share repurchase program of up to a total of 1,500,000 shares of our common stock. We will finance the repurchase program with available cash and cash from future operations. We may repurchase shares in open market purchases or in privately negotiated transactions in accordance with applicable insider trading and other securities laws and regulations. To date, we have repurchased 1,494,745 shares under this plan for approximately \$59.3 million. We repurchased 210,463 shares under this program during the sixteen weeks ended September 3, 2010, and expect to continue to repurchase shares in the future.

On July 6, 2010, we announced that our board of directors approved an expanded share repurchase program of up to \$5 million of our common stock, in addition to the currently existing share repurchase program.

In addition, we may from time to time seek to retire or repurchase additional portions of our 2.875% convertible debentures through cash purchases and/or exchanges for equity securities, in open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. Such repurchases or exchanges, if any, will depend on prevailing market conditions, our liquidity requirements, contractual restrictions and other factors. The amounts involved may be material.

In May 2009, a payment of \$10.3 million was placed in escrow as a progress payment related to a possible future earnout amount that the seller of a business we acquired in fiscal 2006 could earn. The \$10.3 million is included in current assets in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of September 3, 2010. The entire \$10.3 million placed in escrow was returned to the Company in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010.

*Contingencies.* In connection with an acquisition we completed in fiscal 2009, we agreed to pay incentive performance awards, if specific performance targets are met in fiscal 2010 through fiscal 2012. We believe that we will have sufficient funds to satisfy any obligations related to the incentive performance awards and contingent consideration. We expect to fund these payments, if any, from existing cash resources, cash generated from operations, or financing transactions.

*Impact of Inflation.* To date, inflation has not had a material impact on our financial results. There can be no assurance, however, that inflation will not adversely affect our financial results in the future.

**Factors Affecting Future Performance**

Part II, Item 1A of this quarterly report sets forth risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results contemplated by the forward-looking statements contained in this quarterly report. If any of these risks, or any risks not presently known to us or that we

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currently believe are not significant, develops into an actual event, then our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected.

**ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

*Foreign Exchange Risk*

The majority of our operations are based in the U.S., and accordingly, the majority of our transactions are denominated in U.S. dollars. However, we have foreign-based operations where transactions are denominated in foreign currencies and are subject to market risk with respect to fluctuations in the relative value of foreign currencies. Our primary foreign currency exposures relate to our short-term intercompany balances with our foreign subsidiaries and accounts receivable and cash valued in the United Kingdom in U.S. dollars. Our primary foreign subsidiaries have functional currencies denominated in the British pound and Euro, and foreign denominated assets and liabilities are remeasured each reporting period with any exchange gains and losses recorded in our consolidated statements of operations. We continue to manage our foreign currency exchange exposure through frequent settling of intercompany account balances and by self-hedging movements in exchange rates between the value of the dollar and foreign currencies and the Euro and the British pound. Holding all other variables constant, fluctuations in foreign exchange rates may impact reported revenues and expenses significantly, based on currency exposures at September 3, 2010. A hypothetical 10% movement in foreign exchange rates would have affected our income before provision for income taxes for the sixteen weeks ended September 3, 2010 by approximately \$0.6 million. However, actual gains and losses in the future could differ materially from this analysis based on the timing and amount of both foreign currency exchange rate movements and our actual exposure.

From time to time, we may use derivative instruments to manage the risk of exchange rate fluctuations. However, at September 3, 2010, we had no outstanding derivative instruments. We do not use derivative instruments for trading or speculative purposes.

*Interest Rate Risk*

We maintain an investment portfolio consisting mainly of U.S. government obligations, funds holding only U.S. and Canadian government obligations, and commercial paper with maturities of less than a year. These held-to-maturity securities are subject to interest rate risk. However, a hypothetical change in the interest rate of 10% would not have a material impact to the fair values of these securities at September 3, 2010 primarily due to their short maturity.

**ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures**

*Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures*

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to provide reasonable assurance that we record, process, summarize and report the information we must disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms.

*Evaluation of Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting*

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, we have determined that, during the third

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quarter of fiscal 2010, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that have affected, or are reasonably likely to affect, materially our internal control over financial reporting.

*Important Considerations*

The effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures and our internal control over financial reporting is subject to various inherent limitations, including cost limitations, judgments used in decision making, assumptions about the likelihood of future events, the soundness of our systems, the possibility of human error, and the risk of fraud. Moreover, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness of future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions and the risk that the degree of compliance with policies or procedures may deteriorate over time. Because of these limitations, there can be no assurance that any system of disclosure controls and procedures or internal control over financial reporting will be successful in preventing all errors or fraud or in making all material information known in a timely manner to the appropriate levels of management.

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**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings**

None.

**ITEM 1A. Risk Factors**

Our operations are subject to a number of risks. You should carefully read and consider the following risk factors, together with all other information in this report, in evaluating our business. If any of these risks, or any risks not presently known to us or that we currently believe are not significant, develops into an actual event, then our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected. If that happens, the market price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

***Continuing deterioration of global economic conditions, global market and credit conditions, and regulatory and legislative changes affecting our clients, practice areas, competitors, or staff could have an impact on our business***

Overall global economic conditions and global market and credit conditions in the industries we service have negatively impacted the market for our services and could continue to do so. A number of factors outside of our control include the availability of credit, the costs and terms of borrowing, merger and acquisition activity, and general economic factors and business conditions. For example, the current global economic recession has resulted in, and may continue to result in, reduced merger and acquisition activity levels.

Similarly, many of our clients are in highly regulated industries. Regulatory and legislative changes in these industries could also impact the market for our service offerings and could render our current service offerings obsolete, reduce the demand for our services, or impact the competition for consulting and expert services. For example, potential changes in the patent laws could have a significant impact on our intellectual property practice. We are not able to predict the positive or negative effects that future events or changes to the U.S. or international business environment could have on our operations.

***We depend upon key employees to generate revenue***

Our business consists primarily of the delivery of professional services, and accordingly, our success depends heavily on the efforts, abilities, business generation capabilities, and project execution capabilities of our employee consultants. In particular, our employee consultants' personal relationships with our clients are a critical element in obtaining and maintaining client engagements. If we lose the services of any employee consultant or group of employee consultants, or if our employee consultants fail to generate business or otherwise fail to perform effectively, that loss or failure could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. Our employee consultants generated engagements that accounted for approximately 85% of our revenues in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010. Our top five employee consultants generated approximately 14% of our revenues in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010.

We do not have non-competition agreements with the majority of our employee consultants, and they can terminate their relationships with us at will and without notice. The non-competition and non-solicitation agreements that we have with some of our employee consultants offer us only limited protection and may not be enforceable in every jurisdiction. In the event that employees leave, some clients may decide that they prefer to continue working with the employee rather than with us. In the event an employee departs and acts in a way that we believe violates their non-competition or non-solicitation agreement, we will consider any legal remedies we may have against such person on a case-

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by-case basis. We may decide that preserving cooperation and a professional relationship with the former employee or client, or other concerns, outweigh the benefits of any possible legal recovery.

***Competition from other economic, litigation support, and management consulting firms could hurt our business***

The market for economic, litigation support, and management consulting services is intensely competitive, highly fragmented, and subject to rapid change. We may be unable to compete successfully with our existing competitors or with any new competitors. In general, there are few barriers to entry into our markets, and we expect to face additional competition from new entrants into the economic and management consulting industries. In the litigation, regulatory, and financial consulting markets, we compete primarily with other economic and financial consulting firms and individual academics. In the management consulting market, we compete primarily with other business and management consulting firms, specialized or industry-specific consulting firms, the consulting practices of large accounting firms, and the internal professional resources of existing and potential clients. Many of our competitors have national or international reputations as well as significantly greater personnel, financial, managerial, technical, and marketing resources than we do, which could enhance their ability to respond more quickly to technological changes, finance acquisitions, and fund internal growth. Some of our competitors also have a significantly broader geographic presence and resources than we do.

***Our international operations create special risks***

Our international operations carry special financial and business risks, including:

greater difficulties in managing and staffing foreign operations;

difficulties in maintaining world-wide utilization levels;

lower margins;

currency fluctuations that adversely affect our financial position and operating results;

unexpected changes in trading policies, regulatory requirements, tariffs, and other barriers;

different practices in collecting accounts receivable;

increased selling, general, and administrative expenses associated with managing a larger and more global organization;

longer sales cycles;

restrictions on the repatriation of earnings;

potentially adverse tax consequences, such as trapped foreign losses;

the impact of differences in the governmental, legal and regulatory environment in foreign jurisdictions, as well as U.S. laws and regulations related to our foreign operations;

less stable political and economic environments; and

civil disturbances or other catastrophic events that reduce business activity.

We conduct a portion of our business in the Middle East. At times, the ongoing turmoil in the region could interrupt our business operations in that region and slow the flow of new opportunities and proposals, which can ultimately affect our revenues and results of operations.

If our international revenues increase relative to our total revenues, these factors could have a more pronounced effect on our operating results.

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***Maintaining our professional reputation is crucial to our future success***

Our ability to secure new engagements and hire qualified consultants as employees depends heavily on our overall reputation as well as the individual reputations of our employee consultants and principal non-employee experts. Because we obtain a majority of our new engagements from existing clients, any client that is dissatisfied with our performance on a single matter could seriously impair our ability to secure new engagements. Given the frequently high-profile nature of the matters on which we work, including work before and on behalf of government agencies, any factor that diminishes our reputation or the reputations of any of our employee consultants or non-employee experts could make it substantially more difficult for us to compete successfully for both new engagements and qualified consultants.

***Our business could suffer if we are unable to hire and retain additional qualified consultants as employees***

Our business continually requires us to hire highly qualified, highly educated consultants as employees. Our failure to recruit and retain a significant number of qualified employee consultants could limit our ability to accept or complete engagements and adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. Relatively few potential employees meet our hiring criteria, and we face significant competition for these employees from our direct competitors, academic institutions, government agencies, research firms, investment banking firms, and other enterprises. Many of these competing employers are able to offer potential employees significantly greater compensation and benefits or more attractive lifestyle choices, career paths, or geographic locations than we can. Competition for these employee consultants has increased our labor costs, and a continuation of this trend could adversely affect our margins and results of operations.

In addition, we utilize loans with some of our employees and non-employee experts, other than our executive officers, as a way to attract and retain them. A portion of these loans are collateralized. Defaults under these loans could have a material adverse affect on our consolidated statements of income, financial condition and liquidity.

***Our failure to execute our business strategy or manage future growth successfully could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations***

Any failure on our part to execute our business strategy or manage future growth successfully could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. In the future, we could open offices in new geographic areas, including foreign locations, and expand our employee base as a result of internal growth and acquisitions. Opening and managing new offices often requires extensive management supervision and increases our overall selling, general, and administrative expenses. Expansion creates new and increased management, consulting, and training responsibilities for our employee consultants. Expansion also increases the demands on our internal systems, procedures, and controls, and on our managerial, administrative, financial, marketing, and other resources. We depend heavily upon the managerial, operational, and administrative skills of our executive officers to manage our expansion and business strategy. New responsibilities and demands may adversely affect the overall quality of our work.

***We depend on our non-employee experts***

We depend on our relationships with our exclusive non-employee experts. In the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, five of our exclusive non-employee experts generated engagements that accounted for approximately 10% of our revenues. We believe that these experts are highly regarded in their fields and that each offers a combination of knowledge, experience, and expertise that would be very difficult to replace. We also believe that we have been able to secure some engagements and attract consultants in part because we could offer the services of these experts. Most of these experts can limit



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their relationships with us at any time for any reason. These reasons could include affiliations with universities with policies that prohibit accepting specified engagements, the pursuit of other interests, and retirement.

As of September 3, 2010, we had restrictive covenant contracts, which in some cases include non-competition agreements, with 44 of our non-employee experts. The limitation or termination of any of their relationships with us, or competition from any of them after these agreements expire, could harm our reputation, reduce our business opportunities and adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. The non-competition agreements that we have with some of our non-employee experts offer us only limited protection and may not be enforceable in every jurisdiction. In the event that non-employee experts leave, such clients may decide that they prefer to continue working with the non-employee expert rather than with us. In the event a non-employee expert departs and acts in a way that we believe violates their non-competition agreement, we will consider any legal remedies we may have against such person on a case-by-case basis. We may decide that preserving cooperation and a professional relationship with the former non-employee expert or client, or other concerns, outweigh the benefits of any possible legal recovery.

To meet our long-term growth targets, we need to establish ongoing relationships with additional non-employee experts who have reputations as leading experts in their fields. We may be unable to establish relationships with any additional non-employee experts. In addition, any relationship that we do establish may not help us meet our objectives or generate the revenues or earnings that we anticipate.

***We depend on our antitrust and mergers and acquisitions consulting business***

We derive a significant amount of our revenues from engagements related to antitrust and mergers and acquisitions activities. Any substantial reduction in the number or size of our engagements in these areas could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. Adverse changes in general economic conditions, particularly conditions influencing the merger and acquisition activity of larger companies, could adversely affect engagements in which we assist clients in proceedings before the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, and various foreign antitrust authorities. For example, the current global economic recession has resulted in, and may continue to result in, reduced merger and acquisition activity levels. These reductions in activity level would adversely affect our revenues and results of operations.

***We derive our revenues from a limited number of large engagements***

We derive a portion of our revenues from a limited number of large engagements. If we do not obtain a significant number of new large engagements each year, our business, financial condition, and results of operations could suffer. Our ten largest engagements accounted for approximately 14% and 12% of our revenues in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, respectively. No single client accounted for more than 5% of our revenues in the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010 and the forty weeks ended September 4, 2009. In general, the volume of work we perform for any particular client varies from year to year, and due to the specific engagement nature of our practice, a major client in one year may not hire us in the following year.

***Clients can terminate engagements with us at any time***

Many of our engagements depend upon disputes, proceedings, or transactions that involve our clients. Our clients may decide at any time to seek to resolve the dispute or proceeding, abandon the transaction, or file for bankruptcy. Our engagements can therefore terminate suddenly and without advance notice to us. If an engagement is terminated unexpectedly, our employee consultants working on the engagement could be underutilized until we assign them to other projects. In addition, because much of our work is project-based rather than recurring in nature, our consultants' utilization depends on our ability to secure additional engagements on a continual basis. Accordingly, the termination or significant reduction in the scope of a single large engagement could reduce our utilization and have an immediate adverse impact on our revenues and results of operations.

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***Acquisitions may disrupt our operations or adversely affect our results***

We regularly evaluate opportunities to acquire other businesses. The expenses we incur evaluating and pursuing acquisitions could adversely affect our results of operations. If we acquire a business, we may be unable to manage it profitably or successfully integrate its operations with our own. Moreover, we may be unable to realize the financial, operational, and other benefits we anticipate from these acquisitions or any other acquisition. Many potential acquisition targets do not meet our criteria, and for those that do, we face significant competition for these acquisitions from our direct competitors, private equity funds, and other enterprises. Competition for future acquisition opportunities in our markets could increase the price we pay for businesses we acquire and could reduce the number of potential acquisition targets. Further, acquisitions may involve a number of special financial and business risks, such as:

diversion of our management's time, attention, and resources;

decreased utilization during the integration process;

loss of key acquired personnel;

increased costs to improve or coordinate managerial, operational, financial, and administrative systems including compliance with the Sarbanes- Oxley Act of 2002;

dilutive issuances of equity securities, including convertible debt securities;

the assumption of legal liabilities;

amortization of acquired intangible assets;

potential write-offs related to the impairment of goodwill, including if our enterprise value declines below certain levels;

difficulties in integrating diverse corporate cultures; and

additional conflicts of interests.

***Our entry into new lines of business could adversely affect our results of operations***

If we attempt to develop new practice areas or lines of business outside our core economic, financial, and management consulting services, those efforts could harm our results of operations. Our efforts in new practice areas or new lines of business involve inherent risks, including risks associated with inexperience and competition from mature participants in the markets we enter. Our inexperience in these new practice areas or lines of business may result in costly decisions that could harm our business.

***Fluctuations in the types of service contracts we enter into may adversely impact revenue and results of operations***

We derive a portion of our revenues from fixed-price contracts. We derived 21.8% and 19.2% of our revenues from fixed-price engagements in the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 3, 2010, respectively. We derived 7.3% and 9.5% of our revenues from fixed-price engagements in the sixteen and forty weeks ended September 4, 2009, respectively. These contracts are more common in our management consulting area, and would likely grow in number with any expansion of that area. Fluctuations in our mix between time-and-material or fixed-price contracts or arrangements with fees tied to performance-based criteria, may result in fluctuations of revenue and results of operations. In addition, if we fail to estimate accurately the resources required for a fixed-price project or fail to satisfy our contractual obligations in a manner consistent with the project budget, we might generate a smaller profit or incur a loss on the project. On occasion, we

have had to commit unanticipated

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additional resources to complete projects, and we may have to take similar action in the future, which could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations.

***Our engagements may result in professional liability and we may be subject to other litigation, claims or assessments***

Our services typically involve difficult analytical assignments and carry risks of professional and other liability. Many of our engagements involve matters that could have a severe impact on the client's business, cause the client to lose significant amounts of money, or prevent the client from pursuing desirable business opportunities. Accordingly, if a client is dissatisfied with our performance, the client could threaten or bring litigation in order to recover damages or to contest its obligation to pay our fees. Litigation alleging that we performed negligently, disclosed client confidential information, or otherwise breached our obligations to the client could expose us to significant liabilities to our clients and other third parties and tarnish our reputation.

Despite our efforts to prevent litigation, from time to time we are party to various lawsuits, claims, or assessments in the ordinary course of business. Disputes may arise, for example, from business acquisitions, employment issues, regulatory actions, and other business transactions. The costs and outcome of any lawsuits or claims could have a material adverse effect on us.

***Potential conflicts of interests may preclude us from accepting some engagements***

We provide our services primarily in connection with significant or complex transactions, disputes, or other matters that are usually adversarial or that involve sensitive client information. Our engagement by a client may preclude us from accepting engagements with the client's competitors or adversaries because of conflicts between their business interests or positions on disputed issues or other reasons. Accordingly, the nature of our business limits the number of both potential clients and potential engagements. Moreover, in many industries in which we provide consulting services, such as in the telecommunications industry, there has been a continuing trend toward business consolidations and strategic alliances. These consolidations and alliances reduce the number of potential clients for our services and increase the chances that we will be unable to continue some of our ongoing engagements or accept new engagements as a result of conflicts of interests.

***Our clients may be unable or unwilling to pay us for our services***

Our clients include some companies that may from time to time encounter financial difficulties, particularly during a downward trend in the economy or may dispute the services we provide. If a client's financial difficulties become severe or a dispute arises, the client may be unwilling or unable to pay our invoices in the ordinary course of business, which could adversely affect collections of both our accounts receivable and unbilled services. On occasion, some of our clients have entered bankruptcy, which has prevented us from collecting amounts owed to us. The bankruptcy of a client with a substantial account receivable could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. A small number of clients who have paid sizable invoices later declared bankruptcy, and a court determination that we were not properly entitled to that payment may require repayment of some or all of the amount we received, which could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

***We may need to take material write-offs for the impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets if our market capitalization declines***

As further described in Note 7 of our Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives are monitored annually for impairment, or more frequently, if there are indicators of impairment. In performing the first step of the goodwill

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impairment testing and measurement process, we compare our entity-wide estimated fair value to net book value to identify potential impairment. We estimate the entity-wide fair value utilizing our market capitalization, plus an appropriate control premium. We have utilized a control premium which considers appropriate industry, market and other pertinent factors, including indications of such premiums from data on recent acquisition transactions. If we determine through the impairment evaluation process that goodwill has been impaired, we would record the impairment charge in our consolidated statement of operations.

There were no impairment losses related to goodwill or intangible assets during the forty weeks ended September 3, 2010. Uncertainty in the financial markets and weakness in macroeconomic conditions globally have recently contributed to volatility in our stock price. The current macroeconomic environment continues to be challenging and we cannot be certain of the duration of these conditions and their potential impact on our stock price performance. If our market capitalization plus an estimated control premium is below our carrying value for a period we consider to be other-than-temporary, we may be required to record an impairment of our goodwill either as a result of our annual assessment that we will conduct in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2010, or in a future quarter if an indication of potential impairment is evident. A non-cash goodwill impairment charge would have the affect of decreasing our earnings or increasing our losses in such period. If we are required to take a substantial impairment charge, our operating results would be materially adversely affected in such period.

***Fluctuations in our quarterly revenues and results of operations could depress the market price of our common stock***

We may experience significant fluctuations in our revenues and results of operations from one quarter to the next. If our revenues or net income in a quarter fall below the expectations of securities analysts or investors, the market price of our common stock could fall significantly. Our results of operations in any quarter can fluctuate for many reasons, including:

our ability to implement rate increases;

the number of weeks in our fiscal quarter;

the number, scope, and timing of ongoing client engagements;

the extent to which we can reassign our employee consultants efficiently from one engagement to the next;

the extent to which our employee consultants take holiday, vacation, and sick time, including traditional seasonality related to summer vacation and winter holiday schedules;

employee hiring;

the extent of revenue realization or cost overruns;

fluctuations in the results and continuity of the operations and management of our software subsidiary, NeuCo;

fluctuations in our provision for income taxes due to changes in income arising in various tax jurisdictions, valuation allowances, non-deductible expenses, and changes in estimates of our uncertain tax positions;

fluctuations in interest rates;

severe weather conditions and other factors affecting employee productivity; and

collectibility of receivables and unbilled work in process.

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Because we generate the majority of our revenues from consulting services that we provide on an hourly fee basis, our revenues in any period are directly related to the number of our employee consultants, their billing rates, and the number of billable hours they work in that period. We have a limited ability to increase any of these factors in the short term. Accordingly, if we underutilize our consultants during one part of a fiscal period, we may be unable to compensate by augmenting revenues during another part of that period. In addition, we are occasionally unable to utilize fully any additional consultants that we hire, particularly in the quarter in which we hire them. Moreover, a significant majority of our operating expenses, primarily office rent and salaries, are fixed in the short term. As a result, if our revenues fail to meet our projections in any quarter, that could have a disproportionate adverse effect on our net income. For these reasons, we believe our historical results of operations are not necessarily indicative of our future performance.

***We could incur substantial costs protecting our proprietary rights from infringement or defending against a claim of infringement***

As a professional services organization, we rely on non-competition and non-solicitation agreements with many of our employees and non-employee experts to protect our proprietary rights. These agreements, however, may offer us only limited protection and may not be enforceable in every jurisdiction. In addition, we may incur substantial costs trying to enforce these agreements.

Our services may involve the development of custom business processes or solutions for specific clients. In some cases, the clients retain ownership or impose restrictions on our ability to use the business processes or solutions developed from these projects. Issues relating to the ownership of business processes or solutions can be complicated, and disputes could arise that affect our ability to resell or reuse business processes or solutions we develop for clients.

In recent years, there has been significant litigation in the U.S. involving patents and other intellectual property rights. We could incur substantial costs in prosecuting or defending any intellectual property litigation, which could adversely affect our operating results and financial condition.

Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may attempt to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary. Litigation may be necessary in the future to enforce our proprietary rights, to protect our trade secrets, to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others or to defend against claims of infringement or invalidity. Any such resulting litigation could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources and could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition. Any failure by us to protect our proprietary rights could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

***The market price of our common stock may be volatile***

The market price of our common stock has fluctuated widely and may continue to do so. For example, from September 5, 2009, to September 3, 2010, the trading price of our common stock ranged from a high of \$28.88 per share to a low of \$14.98 per share. Many factors could cause the market price of our common stock to rise and fall. Some of these factors are:

variations in our quarterly results of operations;

the hiring or departure of key personnel or non-employee experts;

changes in our professional reputation;

the introduction of new services by us or our competitors;

acquisitions or strategic alliances involving us or our competitors;

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changes in accounting principles or methods, such as Accounting Standards Codification 470-20, "Debt with Conversion and Other Options," ("ASC Topic 470-20") (formerly FASB Staff Position Accounting Principles Board Opinion 14-1);

changes in estimates of our performance or recommendations by securities analysts;

future sales of shares of common stock in the public market; and

market conditions in the industry and the economy as a whole.

In addition, the stock market often experiences significant price and volume fluctuations. These fluctuations are often unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock. When the market price of a company's stock drops significantly, shareholders often institute securities class action litigation against that company. Any litigation against us could cause us to incur substantial costs, divert the time and attention of our management and other resources, or otherwise harm our business.

***Our debt obligations may adversely impact our financial performance***

In 2004, we issued a total of \$90.0 million of 2.875% convertible senior subordinated debentures due 2034. We had previously operated with little or no debt, and our previous payments of interest had not been material. The interest we are required to pay on these debentures reduces our net income each year and will continue to do so until the debentures are no longer outstanding. The terms of the debentures also include provisions that could accelerate our obligation to repay all amounts outstanding under the debentures if certain events happen, such as our failure to pay interest in a timely manner, failure to pay principal upon redemption or repurchase, failure to deliver cash, shares of common stock, or other property upon conversion and other specified events of default. In addition, on June 15, 2011, June 15, 2014, June 15, 2019, June 15, 2024 and June 15, 2029, or following specified fundamental changes, holders of the debentures may require us to repurchase their debentures for cash. During the third quarter of fiscal 2010, we reclassified the outstanding amount of debentures from a non-current liability to a current liability. On December 14, 2004, we irrevocably elected to settle with cash 100% of the principal amount of the debentures upon conversion thereof, and holders of the debentures may convert them if our stock price exceeds \$50 per share for at least 20 out of the 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of the preceding fiscal quarter. The market price conversion trigger was not met during the third quarter of fiscal 2010. Therefore, holders of the debentures are not able to exercise their right to convert the bonds during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010. This test is repeated each fiscal quarter. To date, no holders have exercised their right to convert the bonds. However, during fiscal 2010, fiscal 2009, and fiscal 2008, we repurchased convertible debentures in the principal amount of \$15.0 million, \$17.3 million, and \$10.2 million, respectively, on the open market.

We have a revolving line of credit for \$60.0 million, to mitigate the potential liquidity risk, and to provide funding if required, in the event of conversion by the debenture holders. We intend to use the amounts available under our bank revolving line of credit, current cash balances, and cash generated from operations in the event debenture holders exercise their rights to convert. The amounts available under our bank revolving line of credit are constrained by various financial covenants and reduced by certain letters of credit outstanding. Our loan agreement will mature on April 30, 2012. The degree to which we are leveraged could adversely affect our ability to obtain further financing for working capital, acquisitions or other purposes and could make us more vulnerable to industry downturns and competitive pressures. Our ability to secure short-term and long-term debt or equity financing in the future, will depend on several factors, including our future profitability, the levels of our debt and equity, restrictions under our existing revolving line of credit and the overall credit and equity market environments.



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***Insurance and claims expenses could significantly reduce our profitability***

We are exposed to claims related to group health insurance. We self-insure a portion of the risk associated with these claims. If the number or severity of claims increases, or we are required to accrue or pay additional amounts because the claims prove to be more severe than our original assessment, our operating results would be adversely affected. Our future insurance and claims expense might exceed historical levels, which could reduce our earnings. We expect to periodically assess our self-insurance strategy. We are required to periodically evaluate and adjust our claims reserves to reflect our experience. However, ultimate results may differ from our estimates, which could result in losses over our reserved amounts. We maintain individual and aggregate medical plan stop loss insurance with licensed insurance carriers to limit our ultimate risk exposure for any one case and for our total liability.

Many businesses are experiencing the impact of increased medical costs as well as greater variability in ongoing costs. As a result, our insurance and claims expense could increase, or we could raise our self-insured retention when our policies are renewed. If these expenses increase or we experience a claim for which coverage is not provided, results of our operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

***Our reported earnings per share may be more volatile because of the accounting standards, rules, and regulations as they relate to our convertible senior subordinated debentures***

Holders of our 2.875% convertible senior subordinated debentures due 2034 may convert the debentures only under certain circumstances, including certain stock price-related conversion contingencies. As further described in Note 8 of our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, we determine the effect of the debentures on earnings per share under the treasury stock method of accounting. The treasury stock method of accounting allows us to report dilution only when our average stock price per share for the reporting period exceeds the \$40 conversion price and only to the extent of the additional shares we may be required to issue in the event our conversion obligation exceeds the principal amount of the debentures converted. Accordingly, volatility in our stock price could cause volatility in our reported diluted earnings per share.

The FASB issued ASC Topic 470-20, which applies to any convertible debt instrument that may be settled in whole or in part with cash upon conversion, including our 2.875% debentures. Under ASC Topic 470-20, we are required to recognize non-cash interest expense on our convertible senior subordinated debentures based on the market rate for similar debt instruments without the conversion feature. Under ASC Topic 470-20, in fiscal 2010, we expect to record incremental non-cash interest expense of approximately \$1.2 million, including the impact of the repurchase completed during the second quarter of fiscal 2010.

***Our charter and by-laws, Massachusetts law and the terms of our convertible debentures may deter takeovers***

Our amended and restated articles of organization and amended and restated by-laws and Massachusetts law contain provisions that could have anti-takeover effects and that could discourage, delay, or prevent a change in control or an acquisition that our shareholders and debenture holders may find attractive. These provisions may also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for our shareholders to take some corporate actions, including the election of directors. In addition, the terms of our convertible debentures provide that we may be required to pay a make-whole premium to the holders of our convertible debentures upon a change of control. These provisions could limit the price that investors might be willing to pay for shares of our common stock.

**ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

- (a) Not applicable.

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(b) Not applicable.

(c) The following table provides information about our repurchases of shares of our common stock during the sixteen weeks ended September 3, 2010. During that period, we did not act in concert with any affiliate or any other person to acquire any of our common stock and, accordingly, we do not believe that purchases by any such affiliate or other person (if any) are reportable in the following table. For purposes of this table, we have divided the quarter into four equal periods of four weeks.

**Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

| <b>Period</b>                       | <b>(a)<br/>Total Number<br/>of<br/>Shares<br/>Purchased</b> | <b>(b)<br/>Average Price<br/>Paid per Share</b> | <b>(c)<br/>Total Number of<br/>Shares<br/>Purchased as Part<br/>of<br/>Publicly<br/>Announced<br/>Plans or<br/>Programs(4)</b> | <b>(d)<br/>Maximum<br/>Number<br/>(or Approximate<br/>Dollar Value) of<br/>Shares that May<br/>Yet<br/>Be Purchased<br/>Under the Plans<br/>or Programs(4)</b> |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| May 15, 2010 to June 11, 2010       | 298 shares(1)   | \$23.94 per share(1)                            |  | 215,718  |
| June 12, 2010 to July 9, 2010       | 530 shares(2)   | \$22.77 per share(2)                            | 91,200   | 124,518 plus \$5,000,000(4)  |
| July 10, 2010 to August 6, 2010     | 894 shares(3)   | \$19.38 per share(3)                            | 119,263  | 5,255 plus \$5,000,000(4)  |
| August 7, 2010 to September 3, 2010 |   |   |  | 5,255 plus \$5,000,000(4)  |

- (1) During the four weeks ended June 11, 2010, we repurchased 298 shares of our common stock, based on the contractual right of first purchase contained in the applicable share agreements with us, at an average share price of \$23.94 per share.
- (2) During the four weeks ended July 9, 2010, we accepted 530 shares of our common stock as a tax withholding from certain of our employees, in connection with the vesting of restricted shares that occurred during the indicated period, pursuant to the terms of our 2006 equity incentive plan, at an average share price of \$22.77.
- (3) During the four weeks ended August 6, 2010, we accepted 894 shares of our common stock as a tax withholding from certain of our employees, in connection with the vesting of restricted shares that occurred during the indicated period, pursuant to the terms of our 2006 equity incentive plan, at an average share price of \$19.38.
- (4) On June 14, 2007, we issued a press release announcing that our board of directors has approved the repurchase from time to time of up to 1,500,000 shares of our common stock, of which 1,284,282 shares of common stock were purchased in prior quarters and 210,463 shares were purchased in the third quarter of fiscal 2010. As of September 3, 2010, 5,255 shares of our common stock remain available for repurchase under this plan. On July 6, 2010, we issued a press release announcing that our board of directors has approved an expanded repurchase program of up to \$5 million of our common stock, in addition to the currently existing share repurchase program.

**ITEM 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities**

None.

**ITEM 4. (Removed and Reserved)****ITEM 5. Other Information**

None.

**ITEM 6. Exhibits**

| <b>Item No.</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|-----------------|---|
| 31.1            | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal executive officer |
| 31.2            | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal financial officer |
| 32.1            | Section 1350 certification  |

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <b>Item No.</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|-----------------|---|
| 31.1            | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal executive officer |
| 31.2            | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal financial officer |
| 32.1            | Section 1350 certification  |

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