

Zumiez Inc  
Form 10-Q  
December 02, 2010  
Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

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

**FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED OCTOBER 30, 2010**

**OR**

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

**Commission file number 000-51300**

**ZUMIEZ INC.**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

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

**91-1040022**  
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

**6300 Merrill Creek Parkway, Suite B, Everett, WA 98203**

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (425) 551-1500**

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company

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

At December 2, 2010, there were 30,670,712 shares outstanding of common stock.

**Table of Contents**

**ZUMIEZ INC.**

**FORM 10-Q**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Part I. Financial Information	
Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	
<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at October 30, 2010 (unaudited) and January 30, 2010</u>	3
<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009</u>	4
<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009</u>	5
<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009</u>	6
<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	7
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	19
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	36
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	36
Part II. <u>Other Information</u>	37
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	37
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	37
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity and Use of Proceeds</u>	37
Item 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	37
Item 4. <u>(Removed and Reserved)</u>	37
Item 5. <u>Other Information</u>	37
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	38
<u>Signature</u>	38
Exhibit 31.1	
Exhibit 31.2	
Exhibit 32.1	

**Table of Contents****ZUMIEZ INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(In thousands)**

	October 30, 2010 (Unaudited)	January 30, 2010
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,314	\$ 1,568
Marketable securities	90,630	106,483
Receivables	6,854	5,600
Inventories	83,091	50,916
Prepaid expenses and other	7,867	6,102
Deferred tax assets	3,166	3,045
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>199,922</b>	<b>173,714</b>
Fixed assets, net	77,646	66,008
Goodwill and other intangibles	13,154	13,186
Long-term deferred tax assets	5,740	5,537
Long-term investments	2,853	872
Long-term other assets	1,121	948
<b>Total long-term assets</b>	<b>100,514</b>	<b>86,551</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 300,436</b>	<b>\$ 260,265</b>
<b>Liabilities and Shareholders Equity</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade accounts payable	\$ 36,976	\$ 16,817
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	8,194	6,593
Income taxes payable	2,765	4,006
Deferred rent and tenant allowances	3,695	3,248
Other liabilities	10,406	9,123
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>62,036</b>	<b>39,787</b>
Long-term deferred rent and tenant allowances	28,085	26,375
Long-term other liabilities	1,801	1,427
<b>Total long-term liabilities</b>	<b>29,886</b>	<b>27,802</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>91,922</b>	<b>67,589</b>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 3)		
<b>Shareholders equity</b>		
Preferred stock, no par value, 20,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding		
Common stock, no par value, 50,000 shares authorized; 30,669 shares issued and outstanding at October 30, 2010 and 30,251 shares issued and outstanding at January 30, 2010		
	88,102	81,399
Accumulated other comprehensive income	38	101
Retained earnings	120,374	111,176

Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

<b>Total shareholders equity</b>	208,514	192,676
<b>Total liabilities and shareholders equity</b>	\$ 300,436	\$ 260,265

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

Table of Contents

## ZUMIEZ INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009
Net sales	\$ 135,859	\$ 113,192	\$ 322,657	\$ 275,169
Cost of goods sold	82,811	73,093	213,141	188,527
<b>Gross profit</b>	53,048	40,099	109,516	86,642
Selling, general and administrative expenses	34,073	31,742	96,163	86,950
<b>Operating profit (loss)</b>	18,975	8,357	13,353	(308)
Interest income, net	370	161	1,087	825
Other income, net	32	5	103	5
<b>Earnings before income taxes</b>	19,377	8,523	14,543	522
Provision for income taxes	7,065	3,450	5,345	193
<b>Net income</b>	\$ 12,312	\$ 5,073	\$ 9,198	\$ 329
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.01
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.01
Weighted average shares used in computation of earnings per share:				
Basic	30,029	29,563	29,908	29,458
Diluted	30,762	30,244	30,696	30,039

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

Table of Contents

## ZUMIEZ INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Common Stock		Accumulated		Total
	Shares	Amount	Other Comprehensive Income	Retained Earnings	
<b>Balance at January 30, 2010</b>	30,251	\$ 81,399	\$ 101	\$ 111,176	\$ 192,676
Issuance and exercise of stock-based compensation, including tax benefit of \$1,827	418	3,140			3,140
Stock-based compensation expense		3,563			3,563
Change in unrealized loss on available-for-sale investments, net of tax of \$41			(63)		(63)
Net income				9,198	9,198
<b>Balance at October 30, 2010</b>	30,669	\$ 88,102	\$ 38	\$ 120,374	\$ 208,514
	Common Stock		Accumulated		Total
	Shares	Amount	Other Comprehensive Income	Retained Earnings	
<b>Balance at January 31, 2009</b>	29,533	\$ 75,789	\$ 117	\$ 102,045	\$ 177,951
Issuance and exercise of stock-based compensation, including tax benefit of \$671	722	1,407			1,407
Stock-based compensation expense		3,031			3,031
Change in unrealized loss on available-for-sale investments, net of tax of \$14			(22)		(22)
Net income				329	329
<b>Balance at October 31, 2009</b>	30,255	\$ 80,227	\$ 95	\$ 102,374	\$ 182,696

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

**Table of Contents****ZUMIEZ INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS****(In thousands)****(Unaudited)**

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>October 30, 2010</b>	<b>October 31, 2009</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 9,198	\$ 329
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation, amortization and accretion	13,402	16,255
Deferred taxes	(282)	(3,886)
Stock-based compensation expense	3,563	3,031
Loss on disposal of assets	262	143
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	(1,827)	(671)
Impairment of long-lived assets		713
Other	(10)	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	(897)	(1,068)
Inventories	(32,175)	(24,407)
Prepaid expenses and other	(1,847)	(790)
Trade accounts payable	20,159	17,839
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	1,601	1,394
Income taxes payable	586	3,138
Deferred rent and tenant allowances	2,157	4,318
Other liabilities	1,553	834
Net cash provided by operating activities	15,443	17,172
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Additions to fixed assets	(24,479)	(15,238)
Purchases of marketable securities and other investments	(85,369)	(70,646)
Sales and maturities of marketable securities and other investments	98,011	38,019
Net cash used in investing activities	(11,837)	(47,865)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from exercise of stock-based compensation	1,313	736
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	1,827	671
Net cash provided by financing activities	3,140	1,407
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	6,746	(29,286)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	1,568	33,057
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 8,314	\$ 3,771
<b>Supplemental disclosure on cash flow information:</b>		
Cash paid during the period for interest	\$ 54	\$ 10



## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

Cash paid during the period for income taxes	5,034	944
Non-cash investing activity - refundable use tax in fixed assets	423	(2,256)
Non-cash investing activity - asset retirement obligations in fixed assets	125	961

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

---

**Table of Contents**

**ZUMIEZ INC.**

**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Unaudited)**

**1. Nature of Business and Basis of Presentation**

**Nature of Business** Zumiez Inc. (the Company, we, us, its and our ) is a leading specialty retailer of action sports related apparel, footwear, equipment and accessories operating under the Zumiez brand name. At October 30, 2010, we operated 400 stores primarily located in shopping malls, giving us a presence in 37 states. Our stores cater to young men and women between the ages of 12 and 24 who seek popular brands representing a lifestyle centered on activities that include skateboarding, surfing, snowboarding, bicycle motocross (or BMX ) and motocross. We support the action sports lifestyle and promote our brand through a multi-faceted marketing approach that is designed to integrate our brand image with our customers' activities and interests. In addition, we operate a website that sells merchandise online and provides content and a community for our target customers. The Company was formed in August 1978, its home office and ecommerce fulfillment center are located in Everett, Washington and its distribution center is located in Corona, California. The Company operates within one reportable segment. We account for our business operation as one reportable segment based on the similar nature of products sold, production, merchandising and distribution processes involved, target customers and economic characteristics.

**Fiscal Year** We use a fiscal calendar widely used by the retail industry that results in a fiscal year consisting of a 52- or 53-week period ending on the Saturday closest to January 31. Each fiscal year consists of four 13-week quarters, with an extra week added to the fourth quarter every five or six years. Fiscal 2010 is the 52-week period ending January 29, 2011. Fiscal 2009 was the 52-week period ended January 30, 2010. The first nine months of fiscal 2010 was the 39-week period ended October 30, 2010. The first nine months of fiscal 2009 was the 39-week period ended October 31, 2009.

**Basis of Presentation** The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ( GAAP ) for interim financial information and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ) for interim financial reporting. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Zumiez Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances are eliminated in consolidation.

In our opinion, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of the condensed consolidated balance sheet at October 30, 2010, the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, the condensed consolidated statements of changes in shareholders' equity for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 and the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009.

Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation. These reclassifications do not have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements. We have reclassified \$21.4 million and \$6.7 million on the condensed consolidated balance sheet at January 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 from cash equivalents to short-term marketable securities related to variable-rate demand notes and municipal bonds, which have an embedded put option that allows the bondholder to sell the security at par plus accrued interest. While these reclassified securities are considered highly liquid, we believe they are more appropriately classified as short-term marketable securities. This reclassification increased net cash used in investing activities by \$6.7 million on the condensed consolidated statements of cash flow for the nine months ended October 31, 2009. We have also reclassified \$0.9 million on the condensed consolidated balance sheet at January 30, 2010 related to long-term assets from receivables and prepaid expenses and other to long-term other assets. There was no impact on the condensed consolidated statements of cash flow from this classification.

The financial data at January 30, 2010 is derived from audited financial statements, which are included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 30, 2010, and should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and notes thereto. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of results for the full fiscal year due to seasonal and other factors.

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

Information regarding our significant accounting policies is contained in Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in our annual report on Form 10-K filed on March 23, 2010. Presented



---

## Table of Contents

below in this note and the following notes is supplemental information that should be read in conjunction with Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in that annual report.

**Use of Estimates** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. These estimates can also affect supplemental information disclosed by us, including information about contingencies, risk and financial condition. Actual results could differ from these estimates and assumptions.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments** We disclose the estimated fair value of certain assets and liabilities as financial instruments. Financial instruments are generally defined as cash, evidence of ownership interest in an entity or a contractual obligation that both conveys to one entity a right to receive cash or other financial instruments from another entity and imposes on the other entity the obligation to deliver cash or other financial instruments to the first entity. Our financial instruments, other than those presented in Note 4. Fair Value Measurements, include cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables and other liabilities. The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables and other liabilities approximate fair value because of the short-term nature of these instruments.

**Cash, Cash Equivalents and Marketable Securities** We consider all liquid investments with original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, marketable securities, classified as available-for-sale, were \$91.5 million and \$107.4 million and consisted primarily of state and local municipal instruments, U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. Agency securities and variable-rate demand notes with original maturities over 90 days. Variable-rate demand notes are considered highly liquid. Although the variable-rate demand notes have long-term nominal maturity dates, the interest rates generally reset weekly. Despite the long-term nature of the underlying securities of the variable-rate demand notes, we have the ability to quickly liquidate these securities.

Generally accepted accounting principles require recording an investment impairment charge at the point we believe an investment has experienced a decline in value that is other-than-temporary. In determining whether an other-than-temporary impairment has occurred, we review information about the underlying investment that is publicly available such as analyst reports, applicable industry data and other pertinent information and assess our intent to hold the security and whether it is more likely than not we will be required to sell any investment before recovery of its amortized cost basis. The investment would be written down to its current market value at the time the impairment is deemed to have occurred. Future adverse changes in market conditions, continued poor operating results of underlying investments or other factors could result in further losses that may not be reflected in an investment's current carrying value, possibly requiring an additional impairment charge in the future.

At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, we had \$0.9 million invested, net of temporary impairment charge of \$0.1 million, in an auction rate security that is classified as available-for-sale marketable securities in long-term investments on the condensed consolidated balance sheets. Auction rate securities are generally long-term debt instruments that provide liquidity through a Dutch auction process that resets the applicable interest rate at pre-determined calendar intervals. This mechanism generally allows existing investors to rollover their holdings and continue to own their respective securities or liquidate their holdings by selling their securities at par value. Prior to February 3, 2008, we invested in these securities for short periods of time as part of our cash management program. However, the uncertainties in the credit markets that began in early 2008 have prevented us and other investors from liquidating holdings of auction rate securities in recent auctions for these securities because the amount of securities submitted for sale has exceeded the amount of purchase orders. Should the auction continue to fail, we do not intend to sell the security and it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the investment before the liquidity in the market improves. Additionally, the investment is fully collateralized by the U. S. government. Although we are uncertain as to when the liquidity issues relating to this investment will improve, we consider the issue temporary. As a result of the temporary decline in fair value for our auction rate security, we have recorded an unrealized loss of \$0.1 million, which is included in accumulated other comprehensive income on the condensed consolidated balance sheets at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010. We continue to monitor the market for auction rate securities and consider its impact, if any, on the fair market value of the investment. It is possible that further declines in fair value may occur, and those declines, if any, would be recognized in accordance with GAAP, and if it is later determined that the fair value of this security is other-than-temporarily impaired, we will record a loss in the condensed consolidated statement of operations. Due to our belief that the market for this investment may take in excess of twelve months to fully recover, we have classified it as a noncurrent asset in long-term investments on the condensed consolidated balance sheets at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010.

The following tables summarize the estimated fair value of our cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities, the gross unrealized holding gains and losses and the length of time available-for-sale securities were in a continuous unrealized loss positions at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010 (in thousands):



**Table of Contents**

	October 30, 2010					
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Holding Gains	Gross Unrealized Holding Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Unrealized Loss Position Less Than Twelve Months	Continuous Unrealized Loss Position Greater Than Twelve Months
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>						
Cash	\$ 4,128	\$	\$	\$ 4,128	\$	\$
Money market funds	4,186			4,186		
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>8,314</b>			<b>8,314</b>		
<b>Marketable securities:</b>						
Treasury and agency securities	6,074	36		6,110		
State and local government securities	77,786	170	(156)	77,800	(31)	(125)
Variable-rate demand notes	7,600			7,600		
<b>Total marketable securities</b>	<b>\$ 91,460</b>	<b>\$ 206</b>	<b>\$ (156)</b>	<b>\$ 91,510</b>	<b>\$ (31)</b>	<b>\$ (125)</b>
Less: Long-term marketable securities (1)				(880)		
<b>Total current marketable securities</b>				<b>\$ 90,630</b>		

	January 30, 2010					
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Holding Gains	Gross Unrealized Holding Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Unrealized Loss Position Less Than Twelve Months	Continuous Unrealized Loss Position Greater Than Twelve Months
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>						
Cash	\$ 1,081	\$	\$	\$ 1,081	\$	\$
Money market funds	487			487		
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>1,568</b>			<b>1,568</b>		
<b>Marketable securities:</b>						
Treasury and agency securities	15,268	48		15,316		
State and local government securities	70,538	255	(136)	70,657	(8)	(128)
Variable-rate demand notes	21,382			21,382		
<b>Total marketable securities</b>	<b>\$ 107,188</b>	<b>\$ 303</b>	<b>\$ (136)</b>	<b>\$ 107,355</b>	<b>\$ (8)</b>	<b>\$ (128)</b>
Less: Long-term marketable securities (1)				(872)		
<b>Total current marketable securities</b>				<b>\$ 106,483</b>		

(1)

## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, we had \$0.9 million invested, net of temporary impairment charge of \$0.1 million, in an auction rate security that is classified as available-for-sale marketable securities and included in long-term investments on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

All of our available-for-sale securities, excluding our auction rate security, have an average maturity of two years or less and may be liquidated, at our discretion, prior to maturity.

We did not record a realized loss for other-than-temporary impairments during the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009. For the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, realized gains and losses on sales of available-for-sale marketable securities were not material. We use the specific identification method to determine any realized gains or losses from the sale of our marketable securities classified as available-for-sale.

**Receivables** At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, receivables on the condensed consolidated balance sheets consisted of the following (in thousands):

**Table of Contents**

	October 30, 2010	January 30, 2010
Credit cards receivable	\$ 3,006	\$ 2,161
Tenant allowances receivable	1,227	575
Refundable use tax	1,116	1,506
Interest receivable	776	894
Other receivables	729	464
	\$ 6,854	\$ 5,600

We do not extend credit to customers except through independent third-party credit cards, which are generally collected within several business days. The refundable use tax amounts in the table above of \$1.1 million and \$1.5 million at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010 represents an overpayment of use tax on construction costs to build and remodel stores that is expected to be collected or credited from state jurisdictions.

**Inventories** Merchandise inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market. The cost of merchandise inventories are based upon an average cost methodology. Merchandise inventories may include items that have been written down to our best estimate of their net realizable value. Our decisions to write-down our merchandise inventories are based on their current rate of sale, the age of the inventory, the profitability of the inventory and other factors. Actual final sales prices to customers may be higher or lower than our estimated sales prices and could result in a fluctuation in gross profit. Historically, any additional write-downs have not been significant. We have reserved for inventory at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010 in the amounts of \$1.3 million and \$2.8 million. The inventory reserve includes inventory whose estimated market value is below cost and an estimate for inventory shrinkage. We estimate an inventory shrinkage reserve for anticipated losses for the period. Shrinkage refers to a reduction in inventory due to shoplifting, employee theft and other matters. The inventory related to these reserves is not marked up in subsequent periods.

**Fixed Assets** Fixed assets primarily consist of land, buildings, leasehold improvements, fixtures, computer equipment, software and store equipment. Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation utilizing the straight-line method over the assets' estimated useful lives. The useful lives of our major classes of fixed assets are as follows:

Leasehold improvements	Lesser of 10 years or the term of the lease
Fixtures	3 to 7 years
Computer equipment, software, store equipment and other	3 to 5 years
Buildings and improvements	15 to 39 years

The cost and related accumulated depreciation of assets sold or otherwise disposed of is removed from the accounts and the related gain or loss is reported in the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

In accordance with our fixed asset policy, we review the estimated useful lives of our fixed assets on an ongoing basis. This review indicated that the actual lives of leasehold improvements were longer than the estimated useful lives used for depreciation purposes in our condensed consolidated financial statements. As a result, effective January 31, 2010, we changed our estimate of the useful lives of our leasehold improvements to the lesser of 10 years or the term of the lease to better reflect the estimated periods during which these assets will remain in service. The useful lives of leasehold improvements were previously estimated to be the lesser of 7 years or the term of the lease. For the three months ended October 30, 2010, the effect of this change in estimate was to reduce depreciation expense by \$1.1 million, increase net income by \$0.7 million and increase basic and diluted earnings per share by \$0.02. For the nine months ended October 30, 2010, the effect of this change in estimate was to reduce depreciation expense by \$3.2 million, increase net income by \$2.0 million and increase basic and diluted earnings per share by \$0.07.

**Asset Retirement Obligations** An asset retirement obligation (ARO) represents a legal obligation associated with the retirement of a tangible long-lived asset that is incurred upon the acquisition, construction, development or normal operation of that long-lived asset. Our AROs are primarily associated with leasehold improvements that, at the end of a lease, we are contractually obligated to remove in order to comply with certain lease agreements. The ARO is recorded in other liabilities and long-term other liabilities on the condensed consolidated balance sheets at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010 and will be subsequently adjusted for changes in fair value. The associated estimated asset retirement costs are capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the long-lived asset and depreciated over its useful life.



## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

**Valuation of Long-Lived Assets** We review the carrying value of long-lived assets for impairment annually, or as indicators of impairment are present. Measurement of the impairment loss is based on the fair value of the asset or group of assets.

**Table of Contents**

Generally, fair value will be determined using accepted valuation techniques, such as the present value of expected future cash flows. There was no charge for impairment of long-lived assets recorded for the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010. During the three months ended October 31, 2009, six stores were determined to be impaired, resulting in a non-cash impairment charge of \$0.4 million. During the nine months ended October 31, 2009, nine stores were determined to be impaired, resulting in a non-cash impairment charge of \$0.7 million. The non-cash impairment charge is included in selling, general and administrative expenses for the three and nine months ended October 31, 2009.

**Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets** We evaluate the recoverability of goodwill annually based on a two-step impairment test. The first step compares the fair value of the reporting unit with its carrying amount, including goodwill. If the carrying amount exceeds fair value, then the second step of the impairment test is performed to measure the amount of any impairment loss. Additional impairment assessments may be performed on an interim basis if we encounter events or changes in circumstances that would indicate that, more likely than not, the carrying amount of goodwill has been impaired. In accordance with GAAP, we do not amortize goodwill. There was no impairment of goodwill for the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009.

**Equity Method Investments** We hold a 14.3% interest in a manufacturer of apparel and hard goods, which we acquired for \$2.0 million on May 11, 2010. We have elected to apply fair value accounting for this investment, which would otherwise be accounted for under the equity method of accounting. We have elected fair value accounting, as we believe the terms of the contract are more properly reflected through the fair value method. The investment balance is reported in long-term investments on the condensed consolidated balance sheets, with the corresponding changes in the fair value recorded in other income, net on the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

The investment agreement allows for a put option, where Zumiez has an option to sell its interest back to the investee for the greater of the initial purchase price of \$2.0 million or the fair value of the investment. This put option is allowed any time following the fifth anniversary of the initial investment, but prior to the seventh anniversary of the initial investment. Additionally, the investment agreement allows for a call option, where the investee has an option to repurchase the interest from Zumiez for the fair value of the investment. This call option is allowed any time on or after the seventh anniversary of the initial investment. We have elected to apply fair value accounting for the put and call options. The put option is recognized as an asset in long-term other assets on the condensed consolidated balance sheets, with the corresponding changes in the fair value recorded in other income, net on the condensed consolidated statements of operations. The call option has no fair value, given that the investment would be repurchased at its fair value if the call option were exercised.

**Other Liabilities** At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, other liabilities on the condensed consolidated balance sheets consisted of the following (in thousands):

	October 30, 2010	January 30, 2010
Accrued payables	\$ 2,867	\$ 2,695
Accrued sales tax	2,311	1,497
Accrued legal	2,220	1,512
Unredeemed gift cards	1,830	2,930
Other current liabilities	1,178	489
	\$ 10,406	\$ 9,123

**Deferred Rent, Rent Expense and Tenant Allowances** We occupy our retail stores and combined home office and ecommerce fulfillment center under operating leases generally with terms of five to ten years. A majority of our leases provide for ongoing co-tenancy requirements or early cancellation clauses that would further lower rental rates, or permit lease terminations, or both, in the event that co-tenants cease to operate for specific periods or if certain sales levels are not met in specific periods. Most of the store leases require payment of a specified minimum rent and a contingent rent based on a percentage of the store's net sales in excess of a specified threshold. Most of the lease agreements have defined escalating rent provisions, which are straight-lined over the term of the related lease, including any lease renewals deemed to be probable. We recognize rent expense over the term of the lease, plus the construction period prior to occupancy of the retail location. For certain locations, we receive tenant allowances and report these amounts as a liability, which is amortized to rent expense over the term of the lease. Also included in rent expense are payments of real estate taxes, insurance and certain common area maintenance costs.

**Revenue Recognition** Sales are recognized upon purchase at our retail store locations or upon shipment for orders placed through our website as both title and risk of loss have transferred. Taxes collected from our customers are recorded on a net basis. We record the sale of gift cards as a current liability and recognize revenue when a customer redeems a gift card. The



**Table of Contents**

amount of the gift card liability is determined taking into account our estimate of the portion of gift cards that will not be redeemed or recovered ( gift card breakage ). Gift card breakage is recognized as revenue after 24 months, at which time the likelihood of redemption is considered remote based on our historical redemption data. We report shipping revenues within net sales. Revenue is recorded net of estimated and actual sales returns and deductions for promotions. We accrue for estimated sales returns by customers based on historical sales return results. The allowance for sales returns at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010 was \$0.9 million and \$0.3 million. The Company offers a return policy of 30 days.

**Cost of Goods Sold** Cost of goods sold consists of branded merchandise costs and our private label merchandise costs including design, sourcing, importing and inbound freight costs. Our cost of goods sold also includes shrinkage, certain promotional costs and buying, occupancy, distribution and warehousing costs. This may not be comparable to the way in which our competitors or other retailers compute their cost of goods sold. We receive immaterial amounts of cash consideration from vendors, which have been recorded as a reduction of cost of goods sold if the inventory has sold, as a reduction of the carrying value of the inventory if the inventory is still on hand, or a reduction of selling, general and administrative expense if the amounts are reimbursements of specific, incremental and identifiable costs of selling the vendors' products.

With respect to the freight component of our ecommerce sales, we arrange and pay the freight for our customers and bill them for this service, unless our customers have their product shipped to one of our stores or we have free shipping promotions to our customers, in which case we do not bill our customers. Such amounts billed are included in net sales and the related freight cost is charged to cost of goods sold. For the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, we incurred shipping costs related to ecommerce sales of \$0.6 million and \$0.2 million. For the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, we incurred shipping costs related to ecommerce sales of \$1.2 million and \$0.5 million.

**Selling, General and Administrative Expense** Selling, general and administrative expenses consist primarily of store personnel wages and benefits, administrative staff and infrastructure expenses, outbound freight, store supplies, depreciation on fixed assets at the home office and stores, facility expenses and training, advertising and marketing costs. Credit card fees, insurance, public company expenses, legal expenses and other miscellaneous operating costs are also included in selling, general and administrative expenses. This may not be comparable to the way in which our competitors or other retailers compute their selling, general and administrative expenses.

**Stock Compensation** We maintain the Zumiez Inc. 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan ) under which non-qualified stock options and restricted stock have been granted to employees and non-employee directors. We account for stock-based compensation by which the estimated fair value of share-based awards granted under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan is recognized as compensation expense over the vesting period.

The fair value of stock option grants are estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing method with the following weighted-average assumptions used for grants issued during the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009:

	Nine Months Ended	
	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009
Dividend yield	%	%
Volatility rate	67.50%	66.78%
Average expected life (in years):		
Expected lives - four years	6.50	6.25
Expected lives - five years	6.50	6.50
Average risk-free interest rate:	2.37%	1.67%

*Stock Option Exchange*

On July 21, 2009, we completed an offer to exchange certain employee stock options issued under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan ( Exchange Offer ). Certain previously granted stock options were exchanged for new, lower-priced stock options granted on a one and one half-for-one basis (1.5:1). An aggregate of 460,700 previously granted stock options were exchanged for an aggregate of 307,138 new stock options granted pursuant to the Exchange Offer with an exercise price of \$8.64 per share. The new stock option grants will vest annually over a four-year period beginning on the first anniversary of the date granted. The Exchange Offer resulted in a nominal increase in stock-based compensation expense.

**Table of Contents**

The following tables summarize our stock option activity for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 (in thousands except grant date weighted-average exercise price and weighted-average remaining contractual life):

	Stock Options	Grant Date Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)	Intrinsic Value (1)
Outstanding at January 30, 2010	1,495	\$ 11.88	6.05	\$ 7,667
Granted year to date	58	\$ 19.13		
Exercised year to date	(227)	\$ 3.94		
Forfeited year to date	(43)	\$ 18.68		
Outstanding at October 30, 2010	1,283	\$ 13.38	5.83	\$ 18,563
Exercisable at October 30, 2010	627	\$ 15.12	4.85	\$ 8,551

	Stock Options	Grant Date Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)	Intrinsic Value (1)
Outstanding at January 31, 2009	1,793	\$ 17.13	5.90	\$ 3,799
Granted year to date (2)	528	\$ 8.03		
Exercised year to date	(250)	\$ 1.64		
Forfeited and exchanged year to date (3)	(547)	\$ 30.25		
Outstanding at October 31, 2009	1,524	\$ 11.83	6.27	\$ 8,661
Exercisable at October 31, 2009	621	\$ 12.09	4.60	\$ 4,398

(1) Intrinsic value for stock options is defined as the difference between the market price of the Company's common stock on the last business day of the quarter and the weighted average exercise price of in-the-money options outstanding at the end of each fiscal period.

(2) Includes 307,138 stock options issued pursuant to the Exchange Offer.

(3) Includes 460,700 stock options exchanged in the Exchange Offer.

During the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, we granted approximately 58,000 and 221,000 stock options with a Black-Scholes weighted average fair value of \$12.24 and \$4.44.

The following table summarizes our restricted stock activity for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 (in thousands except grant date weighted-average fair value):

	Restricted Stock	Grant Date Weighted Average Fair Value	Intrinsic Value (1)
Outstanding at January 30, 2010	622	\$ 9.67	\$ 7,921
Granted year to date	193	\$ 19.09	
Vested year to date	(192)	\$ 9.95	

Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

Forfeited year to date	(30)	\$	11.83	
Outstanding at October 30, 2010	593	\$	12.53	\$ 15,524

**Table of Contents**

	Restricted Stock	Grant Date Weighted Average Fair Value	Intrinsic Value (1)
Outstanding at January 31, 2009	285	\$ 15.49	\$ 2,034
Granted year to date	445	\$ 7.10	
Vested year to date	(80)	\$ 15.96	
Forfeited year to date	(15)	\$ 10.31	
Outstanding at October 31, 2009	635	\$ 9.67	\$ 8,553

(1) Intrinsic value for restricted stock is defined as the market value of the outstanding restricted stock on the last business day of the quarter. The market value per share was \$26.22 and \$13.47 at October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009.

We recorded \$1.1 million and \$1.2 million of total stock-based compensation expense for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009. We recorded \$3.6 million and \$3.0 million of total stock-based compensation expense for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009. Stock-based compensation expense is calculated on an accelerated method for stock options and a straight-line basis for restricted stock over the vesting periods of the related equity grant.

At October 30, 2010, there was \$7.5 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested stock options and restricted stock grants. This cost has a weighted-average recognition period of 1.3 years.

**Comprehensive Income or Loss** Comprehensive income or loss represents all changes in equity during a period except those resulting from investments by and distributions to shareholders. Comprehensive income for the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 is as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009
Net income	\$ 12,312	\$ 5,073	\$ 9,198	\$ 329
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on available-for-sale investments, net of tax	26	5	(63)	(22)
Comprehensive income	\$ 12,338	\$ 5,078	\$ 9,135	\$ 307

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements** In June 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued guidance on the consolidation of variable interest entities. The guidance requires a revised approach to identifying a controlling financial interest in a variable interest entity and requires additional disclosures about an entity's involvement in variable interest entities. The guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after November 15, 2009. We adopted the new requirements in the three months ended May 1, 2010. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

In January 2010, the FASB issued guidance that requires reporting entities to make new disclosures about fair value measurements including significant transfers into and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements and information on purchases, sales, issuances and settlements on a gross basis in the reconciliation of Level 3 fair value measurements. In addition, the guidance clarifies certain existing disclosure requirements. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, except for the additional Level 3 reconciliation disclosures, which are effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2010. We adopted the new requirements in the three months ended May 1, 2010. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

In February 2010, the FASB issued amended guidance on subsequent events. Under this amended guidance, SEC filers are no longer required to disclose the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated in originally issued and revised financial statements. This guidance was effective immediately and we adopted these new requirements in the three months ended May 1, 2010.





**Table of Contents****3. Commitments and Contingencies**

**Leases** We are committed under operating leases for all of our retail store locations and our combined home office and ecommerce fulfillment center. Total rent expense, base rent expense and contingent and other rent expense for the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 is as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009
Base rent expense	\$ 9,362	\$ 9,257	\$ 27,658	\$ 26,333
Contingent and other rent expense	6,233	5,796	17,848	16,457
<b>Total rent expense</b>	<b>\$ 15,595</b>	<b>\$ 15,053</b>	<b>\$ 45,506</b>	<b>\$ 42,790</b>

**Purchase Commitments** At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, we had outstanding purchase orders to acquire merchandise from vendors of \$65.5 million and \$47.0 million. We have an option to cancel these commitments with no notice prior to shipment, except for private label purchase orders in which we are obligated to repay certain contractual amounts upon cancellation. At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, we had \$0.5 million and \$0.6 million of letters of credit outstanding.

**Litigation** We are involved from time to time in claims, proceedings and litigation arising in the ordinary course of business. We have made accruals with respect to these matters, where appropriate, which are reflected in our condensed consolidated financial statements. For some matters, the amount of liability is not probable or the amount cannot be reasonably estimated and therefore accruals have not been made. We may enter into discussions regarding settlement of these matters, and may enter into settlement agreements, if we believe settlement is in the best interest of the Company's shareholders.

On March 5, 2008, a former employee commenced an action against the Company in California state court (*Evan Johnson v. Zumiez, Inc., et al.*, Case No. RG08374968, Alameda County Superior Court, filed March 5, 2008) alleging that we failed to pay all overtime wages owing to him and other employees in California, failed to provide meal breaks as required by California law, failed to provide employees with proper itemized wage statements (pay stubs) as required by California law, and failed to pay terminated employees waiting time penalties under California Labor Code section 203. The court granted preliminary approval of the settlement on March 16, 2010, and issued an order granting final approval on July 23, 2010. No class members objected to the settlement and only four class members opted out of the settlement. The total amount of the negotiated settlement is \$1.38 million. This entire amount was paid out in settlement awards to the class members, attorneys' fees and costs, claims administration fees and other payments required by the settlement, with no reversion of unclaimed funds to the Company. This accrued charge was recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses on the condensed consolidated statement of operations for the three months ended August 1, 2009, and was paid out on August 10, 2010.

A putative class action, *Chandra Berg et al. v. Zumiez Inc.*, was filed against the Company in the Los Angeles Superior Court under case number BC408410 on February 25, 2009. The Complaint alleges causes of action for failure to pay overtime wages to present and former store managers in California, failure to provide meal periods and rest breaks to store managers, failure to reimburse retail employees for clothing required by the Company's dress code, failure to reimburse retail employees for business expenses, failure to provide store managers with accurate itemized wage statements, failure to pay terminated store managers all wages due at the time of termination, unfair business practices and declaratory relief. Plaintiff filed a First Amended Complaint on April 2, 2010 which added an additional plaintiff/class representative and a new cause of action for penalties for alleged Labor Code violations under the Private Attorneys General Act. We filed an answer to the First Amended Complaint and conducted discovery. On February 8, 2010, we attended a mediation wherein no settlement was reached. Plaintiffs filed their motion for class certification, and we filed our opposition to class certification. Plaintiffs' reply papers were filed on August 2, 2010. On September 1, 2010, the Company announced that it had reached an agreement to settle. The settlement agreement, which is subject to documentation and court approval, is expected to cost the Company approximately \$2.1 million which includes settlement awards to class members, incentive payments to the two plaintiffs, attorneys' fees and costs, and claims administration costs. The court granted preliminary approval of the settlement on November 3, 2010, and has set a final approval hearing for February 23, 2011. Class members who wish to exclude themselves from the settlement (opt out) will have until January 18, 2011 to do so. The accrued charge of \$2.1 million was recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses on the condensed consolidated statement of operations for the three months ended July 31, 2010.

**Insurance Reserves** We are responsible for medical and dental insurance claims up to a specified aggregate amount. We maintain a reserve for estimated medical and dental insurance claims based on historical claims experience and other estimated assumptions.



**Table of Contents**

**4. Fair Value Measurements** We apply the following fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value into three levels and bases the categorization within the hierarchy upon the lowest level of input that is available and significant to the fair value measurement:

Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets or inputs that are observable;

Level 3 Inputs that are unobservable.

We follow the guidelines for assessing fair value measurements consistent with GAAP that requires an assessment of whether certain factors exist to indicate that the market for an instrument is not active at the measurement date. If, after evaluating those factors, the evidence indicates the market is not active, a company must determine whether recent quoted transaction prices are associated with distressed transactions.

The following tables summarize assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010 (in thousands):

	<b>October 30, 2010</b>		
	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>			
Cash	\$ 4,128	\$	\$
Money market funds	4,186		
<b>Marketable securities:</b>			
Treasury and agency securities		6,110	
State and local government securities		76,920	
Variable-rate demand notes		7,600	
<b>Long-term investments:</b>			
State and local government securities			880
Equity method investment			1,973
Put option (1)			25
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 8,314</b>	<b>\$ 90,630</b>	<b>\$ 2,878</b>

	<b>January 30, 2010</b>		
	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>			
Cash	\$ 1,081	\$	\$
Money market funds	487		
<b>Marketable securities:</b>			
Treasury and agency securities		15,316	
State and local government securities		69,785	
Variable-rate demand notes		21,382	
<b>Long-term investments:</b>			
State and local government securities			872
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,568</b>	<b>\$ 106,483</b>	<b>\$ 872</b>

(1) Included in long-term other assets on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

Our policy is to recognize transfers into and transfers out of hierarchy levels as of the actual date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer.

The Level 2 marketable securities primarily include state and local municipal instruments, U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. Agency securities and variable-rate demand notes. Fair values are based on quoted market prices for similar assets or liabilities or determined using inputs that use readily observable market data that are actively quoted and can be validated through external sources, including third-party pricing services, brokers and market transactions.

**Table of Contents**

The Level 3 state and local government securities at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010 represents a \$1.0 million par value auction rate security, net of temporary impairment charge of \$0.1 million. Our valuation method for the auction rate security is based on numerous assumptions including assessments of the underlying security, expected cash flows, credit ratings, liquidity and other relevant factors. The Level 3 equity method investment at October 30, 2010 represents the fair value of the investment, while the Level 3 put option at October 30, 2010 represents the fair value of the put option associated with that equity method investment. The equity method investment is valued using comparative market multiples adjusted by an estimated discount factor. The put option is valued by calculating the present value of the difference between the initial investment value of \$2.0 million and the fair value of the investment if the fair value is lower than the initial investment value, adjusted for counterparty risk. The assumptions, assessments and the interpretations of relevant market data are subject to uncertainties and are difficult to predict and require significant judgment. The use of different assumptions, applying different judgment to inherently subjective matters and changes in future market conditions could result in significantly different estimates of fair value.

The following tables present the changes in the Level 3 fair value category for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 (in thousands):

	State and Local Government Securities	Equity Investment	Put Option
Beginning balance at January 30, 2010	\$ 872	\$	\$
Purchases		2,000	
Unrealized gain included in accumulated other comprehensive income	8		
Unrealized loss included in other income, net		(27)	
Recognition of put option included in other income, net			25
Ending balance at October 30, 2010	\$ 880	\$ 1,973	\$ 25

	State and Local Government Securities
Beginning balance at January 31, 2009	\$ 1,767
Sales	(1,000)
Unrealized gain included in accumulated other comprehensive income	65
Ending balance at October 31, 2009	\$ 832

The following table represents the fair value hierarchy for assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis for the nine months ended October 31, 2009 (in thousands):

Long-Lived Assets Held and Used	Fair Value (as of period end)	Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3 Measurements)	Net Loss (for the nine months ended)
October 31, 2009	\$ 127	\$ 127	\$ 714

There was no impairment for long-lived assets recorded for the nine months ended October 30, 2010. During the nine months ended October 31, 2009, in accordance with the accounting for impairments of long-lived assets classified as held and used, seven stores with a net fixed asset carrying amount of \$0.8 million were written down to their fair value of \$0.1 million, resulting in a net impairment charge of \$0.7 million, which was included in selling, general and administrative expense for the nine months ended October 31, 2009. The fair value was determined using a discounted cash flow model at a store level. Store impairment expense was recorded net of the remaining tenant allowance. The estimation of future cash flows from operating activities requires significant judgments of factors that include future sales, gross profit and operating expenses. If our actual sales, gross profit or operating expenses differ from our estimates, the carrying value of certain store assets may prove

## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

unrecoverable and we may incur additional impairment charges in the future.

**5. Exit or Disposal Activities** On March 2, 2010, we acquired a 168,450 square foot building in Corona, California for \$11.8 million and we have relocated our distribution facility from Everett, Washington to this facility. We believe that we will be more effective distributing our products through a distribution center located in Corona, California due to the majority of our vendors being located in Southern California. In July 2010, we entered into an amendment of the lease for our combined home

**Table of Contents**

office, ecommerce fulfillment center and the exited distribution facility in Everett, Washington, which terminated our lease commitments for a portion of the leased space in exchange for additional charges to be paid over the life of the remaining lease period. The lease termination costs recorded reflect the present value of these future charges.

In conjunction with the closure of the Everett, Washington distribution facility, we have recorded \$0.2 million of other costs to exit the facility during the three months ended October 30, 2010, included in cost of goods sold on the condensed consolidated statements of operations. Cumulatively, during the nine months ended October 30, 2010, we have recorded \$0.9 million of employee benefit costs (severance and performance bonuses), \$0.6 million of lease termination costs and \$0.8 million of other costs to exit the facility. Additionally, we incurred a \$0.3 million charge on disposal of long-lived assets and we recognized a \$0.2 million benefit related to deferred rent liability. These amounts are included in cost of goods sold on the condensed consolidated statements of operations. We do not expect to incur material additional costs related to the relocation.

Exit or disposal provisions recorded during the three months ended October 30, 2010 as a result of this relocation are as follows (in thousands):

	July 31, 2010	Additions	Payments	Adjustments (1)	October 30, 2010 (2)
Employee benefit costs	\$ 64	\$	\$ (19)	\$	\$ 45
Lease termination costs	408		(60)	2	350
Other exit costs	142	208	(341)		9
Total	\$ 614	\$ 208	\$ (420)	\$ 2	\$ 404

(1) The adjustments balance represents the accretion expense on the lease termination costs liability.

(2) The exit or disposal provisions are included in accrued payroll and payroll taxes, other liabilities and long-term other liabilities on the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

**6. Earnings Per Share, Basic and Diluted** Basic earnings per share is based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. The dilutive effect of stock options and restricted stock is applicable only in periods of net income. Diluted earnings per share is based on the weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalent outstanding during the period. Common share equivalents included in the computation represent shares issuable upon assumed exercise of outstanding stock options, employee stock purchase plan funds held to acquire stock and non-vested restricted stock. Potentially anti-dilutive securities not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share includes options to purchase common stock where the option exercise price is greater than the average market price of the Company's common stock during the period reported. Total common stock options not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share were approximately 277,500 and 337,900 for the three and nine months ended October 30, 2010. Total common stock options not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share were approximately 452,000 for the three and nine months ended October 31, 2009.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009
Net income	\$ 12,312	\$ 5,073	\$ 9,198	\$ 329
Weighted average common shares for basic earnings per share	30,029	29,563	29,908	29,458
Dilutive effect of stock options and restricted stock	733	681	788	581
Weighted average common shares for diluted earnings per share	30,762	30,244	30,696	30,039
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.01
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.01





---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Item 2: MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this document. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including those discussed in Item 1A Risk Factors in our Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 23, 2010 and in this Form 10-Q.*

*Forward-looking statements relate to our expectations for future events and future financial performance. Generally, the words anticipates, expects, intends, may, should, plans, believes, predicts, potential, continue and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and future events and circumstances could differ significantly from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially. Factors which could affect our financial results are described below under the heading Risk Factors and in Item 1A Risk Factors of our Form 10-K referred to in the preceding paragraph. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. Moreover, neither we nor any other person assume responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the forward-looking statements. We undertake no duty to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this report to conform such statements to actual results or to changes in our expectations.*

*References in the following discussion to we, us, our, the Company and similar references mean Zumiez Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, unless otherwise expressly stated or the context otherwise requires.*

#### **Overview**

We are a mall based specialty retailer of action sports related apparel, footwear, equipment and accessories operating under the Zumiez brand name. At October 30, 2010, we operated 400 stores primarily located in shopping malls, giving us a presence in 37 states. Our stores cater to young men and women between the ages of 12 and 24 who seek popular brands representing a lifestyle centered on activities that include skateboarding, surfing, snowboarding, BMX and motocross. We support the action sports lifestyle and promote our brand through a multi-faceted marketing approach that is designed to integrate our brand image with our customers' activities and interests. This approach, combined with our differentiated merchandising strategy, store design, comprehensive training programs and passionate employees, allows us to provide an experience for our customers that we believe is consistent with their attitudes, fashion tastes and identities and is otherwise unavailable in most malls. Accordingly, our success is largely dependent upon our ability to anticipate, identify and respond to the fashion tastes of our customers and to provide merchandise that satisfies customer demands.

#### **General**

Net sales constitute gross sales net of actual and estimated returns and deductions for promotions. Net sales include our in-store sales and our ecommerce sales, which includes ecommerce shipping revenue. Ecommerce sales were 4.4% and 2.0% of total net sales for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 and 3.6% and 1.7% of total net sales for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009. Sales of gift cards are deferred and recognized when gift cards are redeemed. The amount of the gift card liability is determined taking into account our estimate of the portion of gift cards that will not be redeemed or recovered ( gift card breakage ). Gift card breakage is recognized as revenue after 24 months, at which time the likelihood of redemption is considered remote based on our historical redemption data.

We report comparable store sales based on net sales beginning on the first anniversary of the first day of operation of a new store. Our comparable store sales also include our ecommerce sales. Changes in our comparable store sales between two periods are based on net sales of stores which were in operation during both of the two periods being compared and, if a store is included in the calculation of comparable store sales for only a portion of one of the two periods being compared, then that store is included in the calculation for only the comparable portion of the other period. Any change in square footage of an existing comparable store, including remodels, does not eliminate that store from inclusion in the calculation of comparable store sales. There may be variations in the way in which some of our competitors and other retailers calculate comparable or same store sales. As a result, data herein regarding our comparable store sales may not be comparable to similar data made available by our competitors or other retailers.

---

## **Table of Contents**

Cost of goods sold consists of branded merchandise costs and our private label merchandise costs including design, sourcing, importing and inbound freight costs. Our cost of goods sold also includes shrinkage, certain promotional costs and buying, occupancy, distribution and warehousing costs. This may not be comparable to the way in which our competitors or other retailers compute their cost of goods sold. We receive immaterial amounts of cash consideration from vendors, which have been recorded as a reduction of cost of goods sold if the inventory has sold, as a reduction of the carrying value of the inventory if the inventory is still on hand, or a reduction of selling, general and administrative expense if the amounts are reimbursements of specific, incremental and identifiable costs of selling the vendors' products.

With respect to the freight component of our ecommerce sales, we arrange and pay the freight for our customers and bill them for this service, unless our customers have their product shipped to one of our stores or we have free shipping promotions to our customers, in which case we do not bill our customers. Such amounts billed are included in net sales and the related freight cost is charged to cost of goods sold.

Selling, general and administrative expenses consist primarily of store personnel wages and benefits, administrative staff and infrastructure expenses, outbound freight, store supplies, depreciation on fixed assets at our home office and stores, facility expenses and training, advertising and marketing costs. Credit card fees, insurance, public company expenses, legal expenses and other miscellaneous operating costs are also included in selling, general and administrative expenses. This may not be comparable to the way in which our competitors or other retailers compute their selling, general and administrative expenses.

### **Key Performance Indicators**

Our management evaluates the following items, which we consider key performance indicators, in assessing our performance:

*Comparable store sales.* As previously described in detail under the caption "General," comparable store sales provide a measure of sales growth for stores open at least one year over the comparable prior year period.

We consider comparable store sales to be an important indicator of our current performance. Comparable store sales results are important to achieve leveraging of our costs, including store payroll, store supplies and rent. Comparable store sales also have a direct impact on our total net sales, cash and working capital.

*Gross profit.* Gross profit measures whether we are optimizing the price and inventory levels of our merchandise. Gross profit is the difference between net sales and cost of goods sold. Any inability to obtain acceptable levels of initial markups or any significant increase in our use of markdowns could have an adverse effect on our gross profit and results of operations.

*Operating profit.* We view operating profit as a key indicator of our success. The key drivers of operating profit are comparable store sales, gross profit, our ability to control selling, general and administrative expenses and our level of capital expenditures affecting depreciation expense.

*Store productivity.* We evaluate store productivity, including net sales per average square foot, average unit retail price, the number of transactions per store, dollars per transaction, the number of units sold per store and the number of units per transaction in assessing our operational performance. In addition, we review our stores' operating profit as a measure of the stores' profitability.

### **Critical Accounting Estimates**

Our condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformance with GAAP. In connection with the preparation of the condensed consolidated financial statements, we are required to make assumptions and estimates about future events and apply judgments that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities, revenue, expenses and the related disclosures. We base our assumptions, estimates and judgments on historical experience, current trends and other factors that we believe to be relevant at the time the condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared. On a regular basis, we review the accounting policies, assumptions, estimates and judgments to ensure that the condensed consolidated financial statements are presented fairly and in accordance with GAAP. However, because future events and their effects cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could differ from our assumptions and estimates, and such differences could be material.

Our significant accounting policies are discussed in Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in our Form 10-K filed on March 23, 2010. We believe that the following accounting estimates are the most critical to aid in fully understanding and evaluating our reported financial results, and they require our most difficult, subjective or complex judgments, resulting from the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain.



**Table of Contents**

Description	Judgments and Uncertainties	Effect If Actual Results Differ From Assumptions
<b>Revenue Recognition</b>		
<p>We recognize revenue upon purchase by customers at our retail store locations or upon shipment for orders placed through our website as both title and risk of loss have transferred. Revenue is recorded net of estimated and actual sales returns and deductions for promotions.</p>	<p>Our revenue recognition accounting methodology contains uncertainties because it requires management to make assumptions regarding future sales returns and the amount and timing of gift cards projected to be redeemed by gift card recipients. Our estimate of the amount and timing of sales returns and gift cards to be redeemed is based primarily on historical transaction experience.</p>	<p>We do not believe there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the future estimates or assumptions we use to recognize revenue. However, if actual results are not consistent with our estimates or assumptions, we may be exposed to losses or gains that could be material.</p>
<p>Revenue is not recorded on the sale of gift cards. A current liability is recorded upon sale, and revenue is recognized when the gift card is redeemed for merchandise. The amount of the gift card liability is determined taking into account our estimate of the portion of gift cards that will not be redeemed or recovered ( gift card breakage ). Gift card breakage is recognized as revenue after 24 months, at which time the likelihood of redemption is considered remote based on our historical redemption data.</p>		<p>A 10% change in our sales return reserve at October 30, 2010 would have affected net income by \$0.1 million during the nine months ended October 30, 2010.</p>
		<p>A 10% change in our unredeemed gift card breakage life at October 30, 2010 would have affected net income \$0.3 million during the nine months ended October 30, 2010.</p>
<b>Valuation of Merchandise Inventories</b>		
<p>We value our inventory at the lower of cost or fair market value through the establishment of write-down and inventory loss reserves.</p>	<p>Our write-down reserve contains uncertainties because the calculation requires management to make assumptions based on the current rate of sales, the age of inventory, the profitability of the inventory and other factors.</p>	<p>We do not believe there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the future estimates or assumptions we use to calculate our inventory reserves. However, if actual results are not consistent with our estimates and assumptions, we may be exposed to losses or gains that could be material.</p>
<p>Our write-down reserve represents the excess of the carrying value over the amount we expect to realize from the ultimate sales or other disposal of the inventory. Write-downs establish a new cost basis for our inventory. Subsequent changes in facts or circumstances do not result in the restoration of previously recorded write-downs or an increase in that newly established cost basis.</p>	<p>Our inventory loss reserve contains uncertainties because the calculation requires management to make assumptions and to apply judgment regarding a number of factors, including historical percentages that can be affected by changes in merchandise mix and changes in actual shrinkage trends.</p>	<p>A 10% decrease in ultimate sales price at October 30, 2010 would have affected net income by \$0.1 million during the nine months ended October 30, 2010.</p>
<p>Our inventory loss reserve represents anticipated physical inventory losses ( shrinkage reserve ) that have occurred since the last physical inventory dates. Each quarter, we reserve for anticipated physical inventory losses on an aggregate basis.</p>		<p>A 10% difference in actual physical inventory shrinkage reserved at October 30, 2010 would have affected net income by \$0.1 million during the nine months ended October 30, 2010.</p>

**Fixed Assets**

We review the carrying value of our fixed assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of such asset may not be recoverable.

Our impairment loss calculations contain uncertainties because they require management to make assumptions and to apply judgment to estimate future cash flows and asset fair values, including forecasting future sales, gross profit and operating expenses and selecting the discount rate that reflects the risk inherent in future cash flows.

We do not believe there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the estimates or assumptions we use to calculate long-lived asset impairment losses. However, if actual results are not consistent with our estimates and assumptions, our operating results could be adversely affected.

Recoverability of assets to be held and used is determined by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered impaired, the impairment recognized is measured by comparing projected individual store discounted cash flow to the asset carrying values. Declines in projected store cash flow could result in the impairment of assets.

Our fixed assets accounting methodology contains uncertainties because it requires management to make estimates with respect to the useful lives of our fixed assets that we believe are reasonable.

Although management believes that the current useful lives estimates assigned to our fixed assets are reasonable, factors could cause us to change our estimates, thus affecting the future calculation of depreciation.

The actual economic lives of our fixed assets may be different from our estimated useful lives, thereby resulting in a different carrying value. These evaluations could result in a change in the depreciable lives of these assets and therefore our depreciation expense in future periods.

**Goodwill**

We evaluate goodwill for impairment annually and when an event occurs or circumstances change to suggest that the carrying value may not be recoverable. We complete our impairment evaluation by performing internal valuation analyses, considering other publicly available market information, and where appropriate, by use of an independent valuation firm.

Forecasts of future cash flow are based on our best estimate of future net sales and operating expenses. These types of analyses contain uncertainties because they require management to make assumptions and to apply judgment to estimate economic factors and the profitability of future business operations.

We do not believe there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the future estimates or assumptions we use to test for impairment losses on goodwill. However, if actual results are not consistent with our estimates or assumptions, we may be exposed to an impairment charge that could be material.

We test goodwill for impairment by first comparing the carrying value of net assets to the fair value of the related operations. If the fair value is determined to be less than carrying value, a second step is performed to compute the amount of impairment. We estimate fair value using discounted cash flows.

A 10% decrease in the fair value of the Company at October 30, 2010 would have no impact on the carrying value of goodwill.

**Table of Contents**

Description	Judgments and Uncertainties	Effect If Actual Results Differ From Assumptions
<b><i>Asset Retirement Obligations</i></b>		
<p>An asset retirement obligation (ARO) represents a legal obligation associated with the retirement of a tangible long-lived asset that is incurred upon the acquisition, construction, development or normal operation of that long-lived asset. Our AROs are primarily associated with leasehold improvements, which, at the end of a lease, we are contractually obligated to remove in order to comply with certain lease agreements.</p>	<p>The ARO is recorded in other liabilities and long-term other liabilities on the condensed consolidated balance sheets and will be subsequently adjusted for changes in fair value. The associated estimated asset retirement costs are capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the long-lived asset and depreciated over its useful life.</p>	<p>We do not believe there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the estimates or assumptions we use to calculate our AROs. However, if actual results are not consistent with our estimates or assumptions, we may be exposed to losses or gains that could be material.</p>
	<p>The ARO recorded contains uncertainties because management is required to make assumptions and judgments to estimate the costs associated with closing a store, the timing of future estimated costs to a store and the credit risk and interest rate assumptions.</p>	<p>A 10% change in our estimated ARO liability at October 30, 2010 would have affected net income by less than \$0.1 million during the nine months ended October 30, 2010.</p>
<b><i>Stock-Based Compensation</i></b>		
<p>We maintain the Zumiez Inc. 2005 Equity Incentive Plan under which non-qualified stock options and restricted stock have been granted to employees and non-employee directors.</p>	<p>The calculation of stock-based compensation requires management to make assumptions and to apply judgment to determine the fair value of our awards. These assumptions and judgments include estimating the inputs to the Black-Scholes option pricing model, future employee turnover rates and future employee stock option exercise behaviors. Changes in these assumptions can materially affect the fair value estimate.</p>	<p>We do not believe there is a reasonable likelihood there will be a material change in the future estimates or assumptions we use to determine stock-based compensation expense. However, if actual results are not consistent with our estimates or assumptions, we may be exposed to changes in stock-based compensation expense that could be material.</p>
<p>In determining the fair value of our stock options, we use the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which requires management to apply judgment and make assumptions to determine the fair value of our awards.</p>		<p>A 10% change in our stock-based compensation expense for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 would have affected net income by \$0.2 million during the nine months ended October 30, 2010.</p>
<p>We determine the fair value of our restricted stock awards based on the closing market price of our stock on the grant date.</p>		
<b><i>Accounting for Income Taxes</i></b>		
<p>As part of the process of preparing the financial statements, income taxes are estimated for each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. This process involves estimating actual current tax exposure together with assessing temporary differences resulting from differing treatment of items for tax and accounting purposes. These</p>	<p>Significant judgment is required in evaluating our tax positions and determining our provision for income taxes. During the ordinary course of business, there are many transactions and calculations for which the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. For example, our effective tax rates could be</p>	<p>Although management believes that the income tax related judgments and estimates are reasonable, actual results could differ and we may be exposed to losses or gains that could be material.</p>

## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

adversely affected by earnings being lower than anticipated in jurisdictions where we have lower statutory rates and higher than anticipated in jurisdictions where we have higher statutory rates, by changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities or by changes in the relevant tax, accounting and other laws, regulations, principles and interpretations.

Upon income tax audit, any unfavorable tax settlement generally would require use of our cash and may result in an increase in our effective income tax rate in the period of resolution. A favorable tax settlement may be recognized as a reduction in our effective income tax rate in the period of resolution.

**Table of Contents****Results of Operations**

The following table presents, for the periods indicated, selected items on the condensed consolidated statements of operations as a percent of net sales:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009	October 30, 2010	October 31, 2009
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of goods sold	61.0	64.6	66.1	68.5
Gross profit	39.0	35.4	33.9	31.5
Selling, general and administrative expenses	25.0	28.0	29.8	31.6
Operating profit (loss)	14.0	7.4	4.1	(0.1)
Interest and other income, net	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.3
Earnings before income taxes	14.3	7.5	4.5	0.2
Provision for income taxes	5.2	3.0	1.6	0.1
Net income	9.1%	4.5%	2.9%	0.1%

**Three Months (13 weeks) Ended October 30, 2010 Compared With Three Months (13 weeks) Ended October 31, 2009*****Net Income***

Net income for the three months ended October 30, 2010 was \$12.3 million, or \$0.40 per diluted share, compared with net income of \$5.1 million, or \$0.17 per diluted share, for the three months ended October 31, 2009. Our effective income tax rate for the three months ended October 30, 2010 was 36.5% compared to 40.5% for the three months ended October 31, 2009.

***Net Sales***

Net sales were \$135.9 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 compared to \$113.2 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009, an increase of \$22.7 million or 20.0%. The increase reflected a comparable store sales increase of 14.4% for the three months ended October 30, 2010 as well as the net addition of 22 stores (27 new stores offset by 5 store closures) subsequent to October 31, 2009.

Geographically, our best performing region for comparable store sales was the South, increasing 17%. Our stores west of Texas, which accounted for 50% of our comparable store sales, increased by 11%, our stores in the Northeast and Midwest increased by 10% combined and the remaining increase in comparable store sales is due to increases in our ecommerce sales. The increase in comparable store sales was primarily driven by an increase in comparable store transactions, partially offset by a decline in dollars per transaction. Comparable store sales increases in accessories, men's clothing, footwear, hardgoods and boy's clothing were partially offset by comparable store sales decreases in junior's clothing. For information as to how we define comparable stores, see General above.

***Gross Profit***

Gross profit was \$53.0 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 compared to \$40.1 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009, an increase of \$12.9 million, or 32.3%. As a percentage of net sales, gross profit increased 360 basis points for the three months ended October 30, 2010 to 39.0% from 35.4% for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The increase was primarily due to product margin improvement of 180 basis points and a 170 basis points decrease in store occupancy costs.

***Selling, General and Administrative Expenses***

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses were \$34.1 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 compared to \$31.7 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009, an increase of \$2.3 million, or 7.3%. SG&A expenses as a percent of sales decreased by



## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

300 basis points for the three months ended October 30, 2010 to 25.0% compared to 28.0% for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The primary contributors to this decrease were 140 basis points due to store operating expense efficiencies, the effect of the change in accounting estimate for the depreciable lives of our leasehold

---

## **Table of Contents**

improvements of 80 basis points and a 40 basis points impact of the \$0.4 million impairment of long-lived assets charge incurred in the three months ended October 31, 2009.

### **Nine Months (39 weeks) Ended October 30, 2010 Compared With Nine Months (39 weeks) Ended October 31, 2009**

#### ***Net Income***

Net income for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 was \$9.2 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, compared with net income of \$0.3 million, or \$0.01 per diluted share, for the nine months ended October 31, 2009. Our effective income tax rate for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 was 36.8% compared to 37.0% for the nine months ended October 31, 2009.

#### ***Net Sales***

Net sales were \$322.7 million for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 compared to \$275.2 million for the nine months ended October 31, 2009, an increase of \$47.5 million or 17.3%. The increase reflected a comparable store sales increase of 11.3% for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 as well as the net addition of 22 stores subsequent to October 31, 2009.

Geographically, our stores west of Texas, which accounted for 52% of our comparable store sales, increased by 10%, our stores in the Northeast, Midwest and South increased by 9% combined and the remaining increase in comparable store sales is due to increases in our ecommerce sales. The increase in comparable stores sales was primarily driven by an increase in comparable store transactions, partially offset by a decline in dollars per transaction. Comparable store sales increases in men's clothing, accessories, footwear and boy's clothing were partially offset by comparable store sales decreases in hardgoods and junior's clothing. For information as to how we define comparable stores, see "General" above.

#### ***Gross Profit***

Gross profit was \$109.5 million for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 compared to \$86.6 million for the nine months ended October 31, 2009, an increase of \$22.9 million, or 26.4%. As a percentage of net sales, gross profit increased 240 basis points for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 to 33.9% from 31.5% for the nine months ended October 31, 2009. The increase was primarily due to product margin improvement of 160 basis points and a 130 basis points decrease in store occupancy costs, partially offset by a 40 basis points increase due to distribution costs primarily associated with the relocation of our distribution center.

#### ***Selling, General and Administrative Expenses***

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses were \$96.2 million for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 compared to \$87.0 million for the nine months ended October 31, 2009, an increase of \$9.2 million, or 10.6%. SG&A expenses as a percent of sales decreased by 180 basis points for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 to 29.8% compared to 31.6% for the nine months ended October 31, 2009. The primary contributors to this decrease were 110 basis points due to store operating expense efficiencies, the effect of the change in accounting estimate for the depreciable lives of our leasehold improvements of 100 basis points and a 50 basis points impact of a litigation settlement charge of \$1.3 million incurred in the nine months ended October 31, 2009, partially offset by a 70 basis points impact of a litigation settlement charge of \$2.1 million incurred in the nine months ended October 30, 2010.

#### ***Exit or Disposal Activities***

On March 2, 2010, we acquired a 168,450 square foot building in Corona, California for \$11.8 million and we have relocated our distribution facility from Everett, Washington to this facility. We believe that we will be more effective distributing our products through a distribution center located in Corona, California due to the majority of our vendors being located in Southern California. Cumulatively, during the nine months ended October 30, 2010, we have recorded \$0.9 million of employee benefit costs (severance and performance bonuses), \$0.6 million of lease termination costs, \$0.3 million of loss on disposal of long-lived assets and \$0.8 million of other costs to exit the facility, partially offset by the \$0.2 million benefit related to deferred rent liability. These amounts are included in cost of goods sold in our condensed consolidated statements of operations.

#### ***Liquidity and Capital Resources***



---

## **Table of Contents**

Our primary uses of cash are for operational expenditures, capital investments, inventory purchases, store remodeling, store fixtures and ongoing infrastructure improvements such as technology enhancements and distribution capabilities. Historically, our main sources of liquidity have been cash flows from operations.

The significant components of our working capital are inventories and liquid assets such as cash, cash equivalents, marketable securities and receivables, reduced by accounts payable and accrued expenses. Our working capital position benefits from the fact that we generally collect cash from sales to customers the same day or within several days of the related sale, while we typically have longer payment terms with our vendors.

At October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010, we held a \$1.0 million par value auction rate security valued at \$0.9 million, net of \$0.1 million impairment charge. The \$1.0 million security failed to sell at its scheduled auction in March 2009 and March 2010. In March 2010, the interest rate for the security reset to a prescribed tax-free rate of 0.68% from 1.16%. We currently do not intend to hold the security beyond the next auction date and will try to sell this security when the auction date comes up in March 2011. However, the uncertainties in the credit markets have prevented us and other investors from liquidating holdings of auction rate securities in auctions for these securities because the amount of securities submitted for sale has exceeded the amount of purchase orders. If the auction in March 2011 fails, we plan to hold the security until the next auction date and the security coupon rate will reset to a prescribed failure rate. An unsuccessful auction could result in our holding the security beyond the next scheduled auction reset date if a secondary market does not develop; therefore, limiting the short-term liquidity of the investment. The security has been classified as available-for-sale marketable securities and included in long-term investments on the condensed consolidated balance sheets at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010.

Our capital requirements include construction and fixture costs related to the opening of new stores and remodeling expenditures for existing stores. Future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including the pace of new store openings, the availability of suitable locations for new stores and the nature of arrangements negotiated with landlords. In that regard, our net investment to open a new store has varied significantly in the past due to a number of factors, including the geographic location and size of the new store, and is likely to vary significantly in the future. During fiscal 2010, we expect to spend approximately \$26 million to \$28 million on capital expenditures, which will primarily relate to leasehold improvements and fixtures for the 27 new stores we opened in fiscal 2010 and the acquisition costs of our new distribution center in Corona, California. There can be no assurance that actual fiscal 2010 capital expenditures will not differ from this expected amount.

### ***Operating Activities***

Net cash provided by operating activities decreased by \$1.8 million from \$17.2 million for the nine months ended October 31, 2009 to \$15.4 million for the nine months ended October 30, 2010. This decrease was primarily due to increases in inventory to support sales, partially offset by the increase in net income.

### ***Investing Activities***

Net cash used in investing activities was \$11.8 million for the nine months ended October 30, 2010, related to \$24.5 million of capital expenditures primarily for the purchase of our new distribution center in Corona, California, new store openings and home office and distribution center capital projects, partially offset by \$12.6 million in net sales and maturities of marketable securities. Net cash used in investing activities was \$47.9 million for the nine months ended October 31, 2009, related to \$15.2 million of capital expenditures primarily for new store openings and existing store renovations and \$32.6 million in net purchases of marketable securities.

### ***Financing Activities***

Net cash provided by financing activities for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 was \$3.1 million related to excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation and proceeds from stock-based compensation exercises. Net cash provided by financing activities for the nine months ended October 31, 2009 was \$1.4 million related to the proceeds received from stock-based compensation exercises and the related tax benefit.

### ***Sources of Liquidity***

Our most significant sources of liquidity continue to be funds generated by operating activities and available cash, cash equivalents and current marketable securities. We expect these sources of liquidity and available borrowings under our revolving credit facility will be sufficient to meet our foreseeable cash requirements for operations and planned capital expenditures for at least the next twelve months. Beyond this time frame, if cash flows from operations and borrowings under our revolving credit facility are not sufficient to meet our capital requirements, then we will be required to obtain additional



**Table of Contents**

equity or debt financing in the future. However, there can be no assurance that equity or debt financing will be available to us when we need it, or if available, that the terms will be satisfactory to us and not dilutive to our then-current shareholders.

On June 10, 2009, we renewed and amended our secured credit agreement with Wells Fargo HSBC Trade Bank, N.A., and the prior facility agreement was terminated. The credit agreement provides us with a secured revolving credit facility until September 1, 2011 of up to \$25.0 million. The secured revolving credit facility provides for the issuance of a standby letter of credit in an amount not to exceed \$5.0 million outstanding at any time and with a term not to exceed 365 days. The commercial line of credit provides for the issuance of a commercial letter of credit in an amount not to exceed \$10.0 million and with terms not to exceed 120 days. The amount of borrowings available at any time under our secured revolving credit facility is reduced by the amount of standby and commercial letters of credit outstanding at that time. There were no outstanding borrowings under the secured revolving credit facility at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010. We had open commercial letters of credit outstanding under our secured revolving credit facility of \$0.5 million at October 30, 2010 and \$0.6 million at January 30, 2010. The secured revolving credit facility bears interest at the Daily One Month LIBOR rate plus 1.00%. The credit agreement contains a number of restrictions and covenants that generally limit our ability to, among other things, (1) incur additional debt, (2) undergo a change in ownership and (3) enter into certain transactions. The credit agreement also contains financial covenants that require us to meet certain specified financial tests and ratios, including, a maximum net loss not to exceed \$10.0 million after taxes on a trailing four-quarter basis provided, that, there shall be added to net income all charges for impairment of goodwill and store assets not to exceed \$5.0 million in aggregate, and a minimum quick ratio of 1.25. The quick ratio is defined as our cash and near cash equivalents plus certain defined receivables divided by the outstanding borrowings. All of our personal property, including, among other things, our inventory, equipment and fixtures, has been pledged to secure our obligations under the credit agreement. We must also provide financial information and statements to our lender. We were in compliance with all such covenants at October 30, 2010.

**Contractual Obligations, Commercial Commitments and Off-Balance Sheet Obligations**

There were no material changes outside the ordinary course of business in our contractual obligations during the nine months ended October 30, 2010. The following table summarizes the total amount of future payments due under our contractual obligations at October 30, 2010 (in thousands):

	Total	Fiscal 2010	Fiscal 2011 and Fiscal 2012	Fiscal 2013 and Fiscal 2014	Thereafter
Operating lease obligations	\$ 338,031	\$ 11,152	\$ 90,751	\$ 87,598	\$ 148,530
Purchase obligations	65,492	65,492			
Letters of credit	523	523			
	\$ 404,046	\$ 77,167	\$ 90,751	\$ 87,598	\$ 148,530

We occupy our retail stores and combined home office and ecommerce fulfillment center under operating leases generally with terms of five to ten years. At October 30, 2010, we were committed to property owners for operating lease obligations for \$338.0 million. A majority of our leases provide for ongoing co-tenancy requirements or early cancellation clauses that would further lower rental rates, or permit lease terminations, or both, in the event that co-tenants cease to operate for specific periods or if certain sales levels are not met in specific periods. Most of the store leases require payment of a specified minimum rent and a contingent rent based on a percentage of the store's net sales in excess of a specified threshold. Amounts in the above table do not include percentage rent, common area maintenance charges or real estate taxes unless these costs are fixed and determinable.

At October 30, 2010, we had outstanding purchase orders to acquire merchandise from vendors of \$65.5 million. We have an option to cancel these commitments with no notice prior to shipment, except for private label purchase orders in which we are obligated to repay certain contractual amounts upon cancellation. At October 30, 2010, we had \$0.5 million of letters of credit outstanding.

Other than our contractual obligations and commercial commitments, we did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements at October 30, 2010.

**Impact of Inflation**

We do not believe that inflation has had a material impact on our net sales or operating results in the recent past. There can be no assurance that our business will not be affected by inflation in the future.



---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Risk Factors**

*Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. The following risk factors, issues and uncertainties should be considered in evaluating our future prospects. In particular, keep these risk factors in mind when you read forward-looking statements elsewhere in this report. Forward-looking statements relate to our expectations for future events and time periods. Generally, the words anticipate, believe, expect, intend and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and future events and circumstances could differ significantly from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements. Any of the following risks could harm our business, operating results or financial condition and could result in a complete loss of your investment. Additional risks and uncertainties that are not yet identified or that we currently think are immaterial may also harm our business and financial condition in the future.*

***Significant fluctuations and volatility in the price of cotton, foreign labor costs and other raw materials used in the production of our merchandise may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial conditions.***

Increases in the cost of cotton, foreign labor costs or other raw materials used in the production of our merchandise can result in higher costs in the price we pay for this merchandise. The costs for cotton are affected by weather, consumer demand, speculation on the commodities market and other factors that are generally unpredictable and beyond our control. Our gross profit and earnings per share could be adversely affected to the extent that the selling prices of our products do not increase proportionately with the increases in the costs of cotton or other materials. Increasing labor costs and oil-related product costs, such as manufacturing and transportation costs, could also adversely impact gross profit. Additionally, significant changes in the relationship between carrier capacity and shipper demand could increase transportation costs, which could also adversely impact gross profit.

***Most of our merchandise is produced by foreign manufacturers; therefore, the availability and costs of these products may be negatively affected by risks associated with international trade and other international conditions.***

Most of our merchandise is produced by manufacturers around the world. Some of these facilities are located in regions that may be affected by natural disasters, political instability or other conditions that could cause a disruption in trade. Trade restrictions such as increased tariffs or quotas, or both, could also affect the importation of merchandise generally and increase the cost and reduce the supply of merchandise available to us. Any reduction in merchandise available to us or any increase in its cost due to tariffs, quotas or local issues that disrupt trade could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations. Although the prices charged by vendors for the merchandise we purchase are primarily denominated in United States dollars, a continued decline in the relative value of the United States dollar to foreign currencies could lead to increased merchandise costs, which could negatively affect our competitive position and our results of operation.

***Our ability to attract customers to our stores depends heavily on the success of the shopping malls in which our stores are located; any decrease in customer traffic in those malls could cause our sales to be less than expected.***

In order to generate customer traffic we depend heavily on locating our stores in prominent locations within successful shopping malls. Sales at these stores are derived, in part, from the volume of traffic in those malls. Our stores benefit from the ability of a mall's other tenants to generate consumer traffic in the vicinity of our stores and the continuing popularity of malls as shopping destinations. Our sales volume and mall traffic generally may be adversely affected by, among other things, economic downturns in a particular area, competition from ecommerce retailers, non-mall retailers and other malls, increases in gasoline prices and the closing or decline in popularity of other stores in the malls in which we are located. The continuing slowdown in the United States economy or an uncertain economic outlook could curtail new shopping mall development, decrease shopping mall traffic, reduce the number of hours that shopping mall operators keep their shopping malls open or force them to cease operations entirely. A reduction in mall traffic as a result of these or any other factors could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Our growth strategy depends on our ability to open and operate new stores each year, which could strain our resources and cause the performance of our existing stores to suffer.***

Our growth largely depends on our ability to open and operate new stores successfully. However, our ability to open new stores is subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties including the current deterioration of the macroeconomic environment, and we may be unable to open new stores as planned, and any failure to successfully open and operate new stores would have a material adverse effect on our results of operations. We intend to continue to open new stores in future years while remodeling





---

**Table of Contents**

a portion of our existing store base annually. In addition, our proposed expansion will place increased demands on our operational, managerial and administrative resources. These increased demands could cause us to operate our business less effectively, which in turn could cause deterioration in the financial performance of our individual stores and our overall business. To the extent our new store openings are in markets where we already have stores, we may experience reduced net sales in existing stores in those markets. In addition, successful execution of our growth strategy may require that we obtain additional financing, and we cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain that financing on acceptable terms or at all.

*If we fail to effectively execute our expansion strategy, we may not be able to successfully open new store locations in a timely manner, if at all, which could have an adverse affect on our net sales and results of operations.*

Our ability to open and operate new stores successfully depends on many factors, including, among others, our ability to:

identify suitable store locations, the availability of which is outside of our control;

negotiate acceptable lease terms, including desired tenant improvement allowances;

source sufficient levels of inventory at acceptable costs to meet the needs of new stores;

hire, train and retain store personnel;

successfully integrate new stores into our existing operations; and

identify and satisfy the merchandise preferences of new geographic areas.

In addition, many of our planned new stores are to be opened in regions of the United States in which we currently have few, or no, stores. The expansion into these markets may present competitive, merchandising and distribution challenges that are different from those currently encountered in our existing markets. Any of these challenges could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

*Our business is dependent upon our being able to anticipate, identify and respond to changing fashion trends, customer preferences and other fashion-related factors; failure to do so could have a material adverse effect on us.*

Customer tastes and fashion trends in the action sports lifestyle market are volatile and tend to change rapidly. Our success depends on our ability to effectively anticipate, identify and respond to changing fashion tastes and consumer preferences, and to translate market trends into appropriate, saleable product offerings in a timely manner. If we are unable to successfully anticipate, identify or respond to changing styles or trends and misjudge the market for our products or any new product lines, our sales may be lower than predicted and we may be faced with a substantial amount of unsold inventory or missed opportunities. In response to such a situation, we may be forced to rely on markdowns or promotional sales to dispose of excess or slow-moving inventory, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

*The current uncertainty surrounding the United States economy coupled with cyclical economic trends in action sports retailing could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.*

The action sports retail industry historically has been subject to substantial cyclical. As economic conditions in the United States change, the trends in discretionary consumer spending become unpredictable and discretionary consumer spending could be reduced due to uncertainties about the future. When discretionary consumer spending is reduced, purchases of action sports apparel and related products may decline. The current uncertainty in the United States economy and increased government debt spending may have a material adverse impact on our results of operations and financial position.

## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

Because of this cycle, we believe the value message has become more important to consumers. As a retailer that sells approximately 84% branded merchandise, this trend may negatively affect our business, as we generally will have to charge more than vertically integrated private label retailers.

***Our sales and inventory levels fluctuate on a seasonal basis, leaving our operating results particularly susceptible to changes in back-to-school and winter holiday shopping patterns.***

Our sales are typically disproportionately higher in the third and fourth fiscal quarters of each fiscal year due to increased sales during the back-to-school and winter holiday shopping seasons. Sales during these periods cannot be used as an accurate indicator of annual results. Our sales in the first and second fiscal quarters are typically lower than in our third and fourth fiscal

**Table of Contents**

quarters due, in part, to the traditional retail slowdown immediately following the winter holiday season. As a result of this seasonality, any factors negatively affecting us during the last half of the year, including unfavorable economic conditions, adverse weather or our ability to acquire seasonal merchandise inventory, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations for the entire year. In addition, in order to prepare for the back-to-school and winter holiday shopping seasons, we must order and keep in stock significantly more merchandise than we carry during other times of the year. Any unanticipated decrease in demand for our products during these peak shopping seasons could require us to sell excess inventory at a substantial markdown, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Our quarterly results of operations are volatile and may decline.***

Our quarterly results of operations have fluctuated significantly in the past and can be expected to continue to fluctuate significantly in the future. As discussed above, our sales and operating results are typically lower in the first and second quarters of our fiscal year due, in part, to the traditional retail slowdown immediately following the winter holiday season. Our quarterly results of operations are affected by a variety of other factors, including:

the timing of new store openings and the relative proportion of our new stores to mature stores;

whether we are able to successfully integrate any new stores that we acquire and the presence or absence of any unanticipated liabilities in connection therewith;

fashion trends and changes in consumer preferences;

calendar shifts of holiday or seasonal periods;

changes in our merchandise mix;

timing of promotional events;

general economic conditions and, in particular, the retail sales environment;

actions by competitors or mall anchor tenants;

weather conditions;

the level of pre-opening expenses associated with our new stores; and

inventory shrinkage beyond our historical average rates.

***Failure to successfully integrate any businesses or stores that we acquire could have an adverse impact on our results of operations and financial performance.***

## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

We may from time to time acquire other retail stores, individually or in groups, or businesses. We may experience difficulties in assimilating any stores or businesses we may acquire and any such acquisitions may also result in the diversion of our capital and our management's attention from other business issues and opportunities. We may not be able to successfully integrate any stores or businesses that we may acquire, including their facilities, personnel, financial systems, distribution, operations and general operating procedures. If we fail to successfully integrate acquisitions or if such acquisitions fail to provide the benefits that we expect to receive, we could experience increased costs and other operating inefficiencies, which could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial performance.

***Our business is susceptible to weather conditions that are out of our control including the potential risks of unpredictable weather patterns, including any weather patterns associated with naturally occurring global climate change, and the resultant unseasonable weather could have a negative impact on our results of operations.***

Our business is susceptible to unseasonable weather conditions. For example, extended periods of unseasonably warm temperatures (including any weather patterns associated with global warming and cooling) during the winter season or cool weather during the summer season could render a portion of our inventory incompatible with those unseasonable conditions.

---

## **Table of Contents**

These prolonged unseasonable weather conditions, particularly in regions of the United States where we have a concentration of stores, could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

***We may be unable to compete favorably in the highly competitive retail industry, and if we lose customers to our competitors, our sales could decrease.***

The teenage and young adult retail apparel, hardgoods and accessories industry is highly competitive. We compete with other retailers for vendors, teenage and young adult customers, suitable store locations, qualified store associates and management personnel. In the softgoods market, which includes apparel, accessories and footwear, we currently compete with other teenage-focused retailers. In addition, in the softgoods market we compete with independent specialty shops, department stores and direct marketers that sell similar lines of merchandise and target customers through catalogs and ecommerce. In the hardgoods market, which includes skateboards, snowboards, bindings, components and other equipment, we compete directly or indirectly with other specialty retailers that compete with us across a significant portion of our merchandising categories, such as local snowboard and skate shops, large-format sporting goods stores and chains and ecommerce retailers.

Some of our competitors are larger than we are and have substantially greater financial, marketing, including advance ecommerce marketing capabilities, and other resources than we do. Direct competition with these and other retailers may increase significantly in the future, which could require us, among other things, to lower our prices and could result in the loss of our customers. Current and increased competition could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***If we fail to maintain good relationships with vendors or if a vendor is otherwise unable or unwilling to supply us with adequate quantities of their products at acceptable prices, our business and financial performance could suffer.***

Our business is dependent on continued good relations with our vendors. In particular, we believe that we generally are able to obtain attractive pricing and other terms from vendors because we are perceived as a desirable customer, and deterioration in our relationship with our vendors would likely have a material adverse effect on our business. We do not have any contractual relationships with our vendors, other than normal course of business purchase orders and, accordingly, there can be no assurance that our vendors will provide us with an adequate supply or quality of products or acceptable pricing. Our vendors could discontinue selling to us or raise the prices they charge at any time. There can be no assurance that we will be able to acquire desired merchandise in sufficient quantities on terms acceptable to us in the future. In addition, certain of our vendors sell their products directly to the retail market and therefore compete with us directly and other vendors may decide to do so in the future. There can be no assurance that such vendors will not decide to discontinue supplying their products to us, supply us only less popular or lower quality items, raise the prices they charge us or focus on selling their products directly. In addition, a number of our vendors are smaller, less capitalized companies and are more likely to be impacted by unfavorable general economic and market conditions than larger and better capitalized companies. These smaller vendors may not have sufficient liquidity during economic downturns to properly fund their businesses and their ability to supply their products to us could be negatively impacted. Any inability to acquire suitable merchandise at acceptable prices, or the loss of one or more key vendors, would have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***If we lose key management or are unable to attract and retain the talent required for our business, our financial performance could suffer.***

Our performance depends largely on the efforts and abilities of our senior management, including our Co-Founder and Chairman, Thomas D. Champion, our Chief Executive Officer, Richard M. Brooks, our President and General Merchandising Manager, Lynn K. Kilbourne, our Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer, Trevor S. Lang and our Executive Vice President of Stores, Ford K. Wright. None of our employees have employment agreements with us and we do not plan to obtain key person life insurance covering any of our employees. If we lose the services of one or more of our key executives, we may not be able to successfully manage our business or achieve our growth objectives. As our business grows, we will need to attract and retain additional qualified management personnel in a timely manner and we may not be able to do so.

***Our failure to meet our staffing needs could adversely affect our ability to implement our growth strategy and could have a material impact on our results of operations.***

Our success depends in part upon our ability to attract, motivate and retain a sufficient number of qualified employees, including divisional managers, regional managers, district managers, store managers and store associates, who understand and appreciate our corporate culture based on a passion for the action sports lifestyle and are able to adequately represent this culture to our customers. Qualified individuals of the requisite caliber, skills and number needed to fill these positions may be in short supply in some areas, and the employee turnover rate in the retail industry is high. Competition for qualified



---

## **Table of Contents**

employees could require us to pay higher wages to attract a sufficient number of suitable employees. If we are unable to hire and retain store managers and store associates capable of consistently providing a high level of customer service, as demonstrated by their enthusiasm for our culture and knowledge of our merchandise, our ability to open new stores may be impaired and the performance of our existing and new stores could be materially adversely affected. We are also dependent upon temporary personnel to adequately staff our stores and distribution center, particularly during busy periods such as the back-to-school and winter holiday seasons. There can be no assurance that we will receive adequate assistance from our temporary personnel, or that there will be sufficient sources of temporary personnel. Although none of our employees is currently covered by collective bargaining agreements, we cannot guarantee that our employees will not elect to be represented by labor unions in the future, which could increase our labor costs and could subject us to the risk of work stoppages and strikes. Any such failure to meet our staffing needs, any material increases in employee turnover rates, any increases in labor costs or any work stoppages, interruptions or strikes could have a material adverse effect on our business or results of operations.

***Our operations, including our sole distribution center, are concentrated in the western United States, which makes us susceptible to adverse conditions in this region.***

Our home office and ecommerce fulfillment center are located in Washington, our sole distribution center is located in California and a substantial number of our stores are located in the western half of the United States. We also have a substantial number of stores in the New York/New Jersey region and Texas. As a result, our business may be more susceptible to regional factors than the operations of more geographically diversified competitors. These factors include, among others, economic and weather conditions, demographic and population changes and fashion tastes. In addition, we rely on a single distribution center to receive, store and distribute the vast majority of our merchandise to all of our stores. As a result, a natural disaster or other catastrophic event, such as an earthquake affecting the West Coast, could significantly disrupt our operations and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We have relocated our sole distribution center previously located in Everett, Washington to Corona, California to receive, store and distribute the vast majority of our merchandise to all of our retail stores. As a result, events may occur subsequent to the relocation that could significantly disrupt our operations and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***We are required to make substantial rental payments under our operating leases and any failure to make these lease payments when due would likely have a material adverse effect on our business and growth plans.***

We do not own any of our retail stores or our combined home office and ecommerce fulfillment center, but instead we lease these facilities under operating leases. Payments under these operating leases account for a significant portion of our operating expenses and has historically been our third largest expense behind cost of sales and our employee related costs. For example, total rental expense, including additional rental payments (or percentage rent ) based on sales of some of the stores, common area maintenance charges and real estate taxes, under operating leases was \$45.5 million and \$42.8 million for the nine months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009. At October 30, 2010, we were a party to operating leases requiring future minimum lease payments aggregating \$189.5 million through fiscal 2014 and \$148.5 million thereafter. In addition, substantially all of our store leases provide for additional rental payments based on sales of the respective stores, as well as common area maintenance charges, and require that we pay real estate taxes. These amounts generally escalate each year. We expect that any new stores we open will also be leased by us under operating leases, which will further increase our operating lease expenses.

Our substantial operating lease obligations could have significant negative consequences, including:

increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;

limiting our ability to obtain additional financing;

requiring that a substantial portion of our available cash be applied to pay our rental obligations, thus reducing cash available for other purposes; and

limiting our flexibility in planning for or reacting to changes in our business or in the industry in which we compete, and placing us at a disadvantage with respect to some of our competitors.



## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

We depend on cash flow from operations to pay our lease expenses and to fulfill our other cash needs. If our business does not generate sufficient cash flow from operating activities, and sufficient funds are not otherwise available to us from borrowings

---

## **Table of Contents**

under bank loans or from other sources, we may not be able to service our operating lease expenses, grow our business, respond to competitive challenges or to fund our other liquidity and capital needs, which would have a material adverse effect on our business.

***The terms of our revolving credit facility impose operating and financial restrictions on us that may impair our ability to respond to changing business and economic conditions. This impairment could have a significant adverse impact on our business.***

We renewed and amended our secured credit agreement with Wells Fargo HSBC Trade Bank, N.A., on June 10, 2009, and the prior facility agreement was terminated. The credit agreement provides us with a secured revolving credit facility until September 1, 2011 of up to \$25.0 million. The secured revolving credit facility provides for the issuance of a standby letter of credit in an amount not to exceed \$5.0 million outstanding at any time and with a term not to exceed 365 days. The commercial line of credit provides for the issuance of a commercial letter of credit in an amount not to exceed \$10.0 million and with terms not to exceed 120 days. The amount of borrowings available at any time under our secured revolving credit facility is reduced by the amount of standby and commercial letters of credit outstanding at that time. There were no outstanding borrowings under the secured revolving credit facility at October 30, 2010 or January 30, 2010. We had open commercial letters of credit outstanding under our secured revolving credit facility of \$0.5 million and \$0.6 million at October 30, 2010 and January 30, 2010. The secured revolving credit facility bears interest at the Daily One Month LIBOR rate plus 1.00%. The credit agreement contains a number of restrictions and covenants that generally limit our ability to, among other things, (1) incur additional debt, (2) undergo a change in ownership and (3) enter into certain transactions. The credit agreement also contains financial covenants that require us to meet certain specified financial tests and ratios, including, a maximum net loss not to exceed \$10.0 million after taxes on a trailing four-quarter basis provided, that, there shall be added to net income all charges for impairment of goodwill and store assets not to exceed \$5.0 million in aggregate, and a minimum quick ratio of 1.25. The quick ratio is defined as our cash and near cash equivalents plus certain defined receivables divided by the outstanding borrowings. All of our personal property, including, among other things, our inventory, equipment and fixtures, has been pledged to secure our obligations under the credit agreement. We must also provide financial information and statements to our lender. We were in compliance with all such covenants at October 30, 2010.

A breach of any of these restrictive covenants or our inability to comply with the required financial tests and ratios could result in a default under the credit agreement. If a default occurs, the lender may elect to declare all borrowings outstanding, together with accrued interest and other fees, to be immediately due and payable. If we are unable to repay outstanding borrowings when due, whether at their maturity or if declared due and payable by the lender following a default, the lender has the right to proceed against the collateral granted to it to secure the indebtedness. As a result, any breach of these covenants or failure to comply with these tests and ratios could have a material adverse effect on us. There can be no assurance that we will not breach the covenants or fail to comply with the tests and ratios in our credit agreement or any other debt agreements we may enter into in the future and, if a breach occurs, there can be no assurance that we will be able to obtain necessary waivers or amendments from the lenders.

The restrictions contained in our credit agreement could: (1) limit our ability to plan for or react to market conditions or meet capital needs or otherwise restrict our activities or business plans; and (2) adversely affect our ability to finance our operations, strategic acquisitions, investments or other capital needs or to engage in other business activities that would be in our interest.

***Our business could suffer if our ability to acquire financing is reduced or eliminated.***

In the current economic environment, we cannot be assured that our borrowing relationship with our lender will continue or that our lender will remain able to support its commitments to us in the future. If our lender fails to do so, then we may not be able to secure alternative financing on commercially reasonable terms, or at all.

***Our business could suffer as a result of small parcel delivery services such as United Parcel Service or Federal Express being unable to distribute our merchandise.***

We rely upon small parcel delivery services for our product shipments, including shipments to, from and between our stores. Accordingly, we are subject to risks, including employee strikes and inclement weather, which may affect their ability to meet our shipping needs. Among other things, any circumstances that require us to use other delivery services for all or a portion of our shipments could result in increased costs and delayed deliveries and could harm our business materially. In addition, although we have contracts with small parcel delivery services, we have the right to terminate these contracts upon 30 days written notice. Although the contracts with these small parcel delivery services provide certain discounts from the shipment rates in effect at the time of shipment, the contracts do not limit their ability to raise the shipment rates at any time. Accordingly, we are subject to the risk that small parcel delivery services may increase the rates they charge, that they



---

**Table of Contents**

may terminate their contracts with us, that they may decrease the rate discounts provided to us when an existing contract is renewed or that we may be unable to agree on the terms of a new contract with them, any of which could materially adversely affect our operating results.

***Our business could suffer if a manufacturer fails to use acceptable labor practices.***

We do not control our vendors or the manufacturers that produce the products we buy from them, nor do we control the labor practices of our vendors and these manufacturers. The violation of labor or other laws by any of our vendors or these manufacturers, or the divergence of the labor practices followed by any of our vendors or these manufacturers from those generally accepted as ethical in the United States, could interrupt, or otherwise disrupt, the shipment of finished products to us or damage our reputation. Any of these, in turn, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. In that regard, most of the products sold in our stores are manufactured overseas, primarily in Asia and Central America, which may increase the risk that the labor practices followed by the manufacturers of these products may differ from those considered acceptable in the United States.

Additionally, our products are subject to regulation of and regulatory standards set by various governmental authorities with respect to quality and safety. Regulations and standards in this area are currently in place. These regulations and standards may change from time to time. Our inability to comply on a timely basis with regulatory requirements could result in significant fines or penalties, which could adversely affect our reputation and sales. Issues with the quality and safety of merchandise we sell in our stores, regardless of our culpability, or customer concerns about such issues, could result in damage to our reputation, lost sales, uninsured product liability claims or losses, merchandise recalls and increased costs.

***Our failure to adequately anticipate a correct mix of private label merchandise may have a material adverse effect on our business.***

Sales from private label merchandise accounted for 16% of our net sales in fiscal 2009 and generally carries higher gross margins than our other merchandise. We may take steps to increase the percentage of net sales of private label merchandise in the future, although there can be no assurance that we will be able to achieve increases in private label merchandise sales as a percentage of net sales. Our failure to anticipate, identify and react in a timely manner to fashion trends with our private label merchandise, would likely have a material adverse effect on our comparable store sales, financial condition and results of operations.

***If our information systems hardware or software fails to function effectively or does not scale to keep pace with our planned growth, our operations could be disrupted and our financial results could be harmed.***

Over the past several years, we have made improvements to our infrastructure and existing hardware and software systems, as well as implemented new systems. If these or any other information systems and software do not work effectively, this could adversely impact the promptness and accuracy of our transaction processing, financial accounting and reporting and our ability to manage our business and properly forecast operating results and cash requirements. To manage the anticipated growth of our operations and personnel, we may need to continue to improve our operational and financial systems, transaction processing, procedures and controls, and in doing so could incur substantial additional expenses that could impact our financial results.

***Our inability or failure to protect our intellectual property or our infringement of other s intellectual property could have a negative impact on our operating results.***

We believe that our trademarks and domain names are valuable assets that are critical to our success. The unauthorized use or other misappropriation of our trademarks or domain names could diminish the value of the Zumiez brand, our store concept, our private label brands or our goodwill and cause a decline in our net sales. Although we have secured or are in the process of securing protection for our trademarks and domain names in a number of countries outside of the United States, there are certain countries where we do not currently have or where we do not currently intend to apply for protection for certain trademarks or at all. Also, the efforts we have taken to protect our trademarks may not be sufficient or effective. Therefore, we may not be able to prevent other persons from using our trademarks or domain names outside of the United States, which also could adversely affect our business. We are also subject to the risk that we may infringe on the intellectual property rights of third parties. Any infringement or other intellectual property claim made against us, whether or not it has merit, could be time-consuming, result in costly litigation, cause product delays or require us to pay royalties or license fees. As a result, any such claim could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

***The effects of war or acts of terrorism could adversely affect our business.***



---

## **Table of Contents**

Substantially all of our stores are located in shopping malls. Any threat of terrorist attacks or actual terrorist events, particularly in public areas, could lead to lower customer traffic in shopping malls. In addition, local authorities or mall management could close shopping malls in response to security concerns. Mall closures, as well as lower customer traffic due to security concerns, would likely result in decreased sales.

Additionally, the armed conflicts in the Middle East, or the threat, escalation or commencement of war or other armed conflict elsewhere, could significantly diminish consumer spending, and result in decreased sales for us. Decreased sales would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***The outcome of litigation could have a material adverse effect on our business, and may result in substantial costs and could divert management's attention.***

We are involved, from time to time, in litigation incidental to our business including complaints filed by investors. This litigation could result in substantial costs, and could divert management's attention and resources, which could harm our business. Risks associated with legal liability are often difficult to assess or quantify, and their existence and magnitude can remain unknown for significant periods of time. While we maintain director and officer insurance for litigation surrounding investor lawsuits, the amount of insurance coverage may not be sufficient to cover a claim and the continued availability of this insurance cannot be assured. We also maintain other forms of insurance that have historically been adequate to address lawsuits; however, there can be no assurance that the actual outcome of pending or future litigation will not have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

***Our operations expose us to the risk of litigation, which could lead to significant potential liability and costs that could harm our business, financial condition or results of operations.***

We employ a substantial number of full-time and part-time employees, a majority of whom are employed at our store locations. As a result, we are subject to a large number of federal and state laws and regulations relating to employment. This creates a risk of potential claims that we have violated laws related to discrimination and harassment, health and safety, wage and hour laws, criminal activity, personal injury and other claims. We are also subject to other types of claims in the ordinary course of our business. Some or all of these claims may give rise to litigation, which could be time-consuming for our management team, costly and harmful to our business.

In addition, we are exposed to the risk of class action litigation. The costs of defense and the risk of loss in connection with class action suits are greater than in single-party litigation claims. Due to the costs of defending against such litigation, the size of judgments that may be awarded against us, and the loss of significant management time devoted to such litigation, we cannot assure you that such litigation will not disrupt our business or impact our financial results.

***Our failure to comply with federal, state or local laws, or changes in these laws, could have an adverse impact on our results of operations and financial performance.***

Our business is subject to a wide array of laws and regulations. Changes in the regulations, the imposition of additional regulations, or the enactment of any new legislation including those related to health care, taxes, environmental issues and trade, could adversely affect our results of operations or financial condition.

***Recent federal health care legislation could increase our expenses.***

We are self-insured with respect to our health care coverage and do not purchase third party insurance for the health insurance benefits provided to employees. We are currently assessing the potential impact of federal health care legislation. In March 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the Act) and the Health Care Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (the Reconciliation Act) were signed into law. The Act, as modified by the Reconciliation Act, includes a large number of health care provisions to take effect over the next four years, including expanded dependent coverage, incentives for businesses to provide health care benefits, a prohibition on the denial of coverage and denial of claims on pre-existing conditions, a prohibition on limits on essential benefits and other expansions of health care benefits and coverage. The costs of these provisions are expected to be funded by a variety of taxes and fees. Some of the taxes and fees, as well as certain health care changes required by these acts, are expected to result, directly or indirectly, in increased health care costs for us. For example, the requirement to provide coverage for children up to the age of twenty-six and the prohibition on limits on essential benefits (whereas we currently cap health-related benefits) could result in increased costs to us. At this time, we cannot quantify the impact, if any, that the legislation may have on us. There is no assurance that we will be able to absorb and/or pass through the costs of such legislation in a manner that will not adversely impact our results of operations.



---

## **Table of Contents**

***Our ecommerce operations subject us to numerous risks that could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.***

Although ecommerce sales constitute a small portion of our overall sales, our ecommerce operations subject us to certain risks that could have an adverse effect on our operational results, including:

diversion of traffic and sales from our stores;

liability for online content; and

risks related to the computer systems that operate our website and related support systems, including computer viruses, electronic break-ins and similar disruptions.

In addition, risks beyond our control, such as governmental regulation of ecommerce, entry of our vendors in the ecommerce business in competition with us, online security breaches and general economic conditions specific to ecommerce could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

***We have incurred and will continue to incur significant expenses as a result of being a public company, which will negatively impact our financial performance.***

We completed our initial public offering in May 2005 and we have incurred and could continue to incur significant legal, accounting, insurance and other expenses as a result of being a public company. Rules and regulations implemented by the SEC and the NASDAQ Global Select Market have required changes in corporate governance practices of public companies. Compliance with these laws could cause us to incur significant costs and expenses, including legal and accounting costs, and could make some compliance activities more time-consuming and negatively impact our financial performance. Additionally, these rules and regulations may make it more expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance. As a result, it may be more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified persons to serve on our board of directors or as officers.

***Failure to maintain adequate financial and management processes and controls could lead to errors in our financial reporting and could harm our ability to manage our expenses.***

Reporting obligations as a public company and our anticipated growth are likely to place a considerable strain on our financial and management systems, processes and controls, as well as on our personnel. In addition, we are required to document and test our internal controls over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 so that our management can certify as to the effectiveness of our internal controls and our independent registered public accounting firm can render an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting on an annual basis. This process requires us to document our internal controls over financial reporting and to potentially make significant changes thereto, if applicable. As a result, we have incurred and expect to continue to incur substantial expenses to test our financial controls and systems, and we have been and in the future may be required to improve our financial and managerial controls, reporting systems and procedures, to incur substantial expenses to make such improvements and to hire additional personnel. If our management is ever unable to certify the effectiveness of our internal controls or if our independent registered public accounting firm cannot render an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, or if material weaknesses in our internal controls are ever identified, we could be subject to regulatory scrutiny and a loss of public confidence, which could have a material adverse effect on our business and our stock price. In addition, if we do not maintain adequate financial and management personnel, processes and controls, we may not be able to accurately report our financial performance on a timely basis, which could cause a decline in our stock price and adversely affect our ability to raise capital.

***Changes to accounting rules or regulations could significant affect our financial results.***

Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP. New accounting rules or regulations and changes to existing accounting rules or regulations have occurred and may occur in the future. Future changes to accounting rules or regulations, such as changes to lease accounting guidance or a requirement to convert to international financial reporting standards, could negatively affect on our results of operations and financial condition through increased cost of compliance.



## Edgar Filing: Zumiez Inc - Form 10-Q

*The security of our databases that contain personal information of our retail customers could be breached, which could subject us to adverse publicity, litigation and expenses. In addition, if we are unable to comply with security standards created by the credit card industry, our operations could be adversely affected.*

Database privacy, network security and identity theft are matters of growing public concern. In an attempt to prevent unauthorized access to our network and databases containing confidential, third-party information, we have installed privacy

---

**Table of Contents**

protection systems, devices and activity monitoring on our network. Nevertheless, if unauthorized parties gain access to our networks or databases, they may be able to steal, publish, delete or modify our private and sensitive third-party information. In such circumstances, we could be held liable to our customers or other parties or be subject to regulatory or other actions for breaching privacy rules. This could result in costly investigations and litigation, civil or criminal penalties and adverse publicity that could adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations and reputation. Further, if we are unable to comply with the security standards established by banks and the credit card industry, we may be subject to fines, restrictions and expulsion from card acceptance programs, which could adversely affect our retail operations.

*We may fail to meet analyst expectations, which could cause the price of our stock to decline.*

Our common stock is traded publicly and various securities analysts follow our financial results and issue reports on us. These reports include information about our historical financial results as well as the analysts' estimates of our future performance. The analysts' estimates are based upon their own opinions and can be different from our estimates or expectations. If our operating results are below the estimates or expectations of public market analysts and investors, our stock price could decline. In December 2007, a securities class action litigation and associated derivative lawsuits was brought against us and such actions are frequently brought against other companies following a decline in the market price of their securities. These lawsuits were dismissed with prejudice in March 2009. If our stock price is volatile, we may become involved in this type of litigation in the future. Any litigation could result in substantial costs and a diversion of management's attention and resources that are needed to successfully run our business.

*The value of our investments may fluctuate.*

We have our excess cash primarily invested in state and local municipal instruments, U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. Agency securities and variable-rate demand notes. These investments have historically been considered very safe investments with minimal default rates. However, the uncertainties in the credit markets have prevented us and other investors from liquidating holdings of auction rate securities in recent auctions for these securities because the amount of securities submitted for sale has exceeded the amount of purchase orders. At October 30, 2010, we had \$0.9 million, net of \$0.1 million temporary impairment, invested in an auction rate security that is included in long-term investments on the condensed consolidated balance sheet. We may incur impairment charges on this investment in the future. In addition, we made an equity investment in a manufacturer and expect the value of this investment to increase. However, we do not have control over this investment and it may encounter unanticipated operating issues or negative financial performance that could adversely impact the value of our investment.

*A decline in the market price of our stock and our performance may trigger an impairment of the goodwill recorded on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.*

Goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite lives is required to be tested for impairment at least annually or more frequently if management believes indicators of impairment exist. Any reduction in the carrying value of our goodwill as a result of our impairment analysis could result in a non-cash goodwill impairment charge to our statement of operations. A goodwill impairment charge could have a significant impact on earnings and potentially result in a violation of our financial covenants, thereby limiting our ability to secure short-term financing.

*Changes to estimates related to our fixed assets, or operating results that are lower than our current estimates at certain store locations, may cause us to incur non-cash impairment charges.*

We make certain estimates and projections in connection with impairment analyses for our store locations and other property and equipment. These calculations require us to make a number of estimates and projections of future results. If these estimates or projections change or prove incorrect, we may be required to record impairment charges on certain store locations and other property and equipment. If these impairment charges are significant, our operating results would be adversely affected and our bank covenants may be violated.

**Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

To the extent we borrow under our secured revolving credit facility, which bears interest at the Daily One Month LIBOR rate plus 1.00%, we are exposed to market risk related to changes in interest rates. At October 30, 2010, we had no borrowings outstanding under our secured revolving credit facility. At October 30, 2010, we had \$0.5 million of letters of credit outstanding under our secured revolving credit facility. We are not a party to any derivative financial instruments.

**Item 4: Controls and Procedures**

36

## **Table of Contents**

*Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.* We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer ( CEO ) and Chief Financial Officer ( CFO ), of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)). Based on this evaluation, our CEO and CFO concluded that, as of October 30, 2010, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

Disclosure controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and implemented, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving an entity's disclosure objectives. The likelihood of achieving such objectives is affected by limitations inherent in disclosure controls and procedures. These include the fact that human judgment in decision-making can be faulty and that breakdowns in internal control can occur because of human failures such as simple errors or mistakes or intentional circumvention of the established process.

*Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting.* There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f)) during the quarter ended October 30, 2010 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## **PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

We are involved from time to time in litigation incidental to our business. We are unable to predict the outcome of litigated cases. A court determination in any of litigation actions against us could result in significant liability and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

See Note 3 to the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements found in Item 1 of this Form 10-Q (listed under Litigation under Commitments and Contingencies).

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

Please refer to the Risk Factors set forth in Item 2 of Part I of this Form 10-Q as well as the risk factors previously disclosed in Item 1A of Part I of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 30, 2010. There have been no material changes in the risk factors set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 30, 2010.

### **Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity and Use of Proceeds**

None

### **Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities**

None

### **Item 4. (Removed and Reserved)**

### **Item 5. Other Information**

None



**Table of Contents**

**Item 6. Exhibits**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description of Exhibits</b>
31.1	Certification of the Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of the Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	Certifications of the Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350

**SIGNATURE**

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

ZUMIEZ INC.

Dated: December 2, 2010

By: /s/ Trevor S. Lang  
Trevor S. Lang  
Principal Financial Officer and Secretary

(Principal Accounting Officer)