

KEITHLEY INSTRUMENTS INC

Form 10-Q

August 11, 2008

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

**Form 10-Q  
Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2008  
Commission File Number 1-9965  
KEITHLEY INSTRUMENTS, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Ohio** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) **34-0794417** (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**28775 Aurora Road, Solon, Ohio 44139**  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (440) 248-0400**

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 whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

**Large accelerated filer**  **Accelerated filer**  **Non-accelerated filer**  **Smaller reporting company**

(Do not check if smaller reporting company.)

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

**YES**  **NO**

As of August 6, 2008 there were outstanding 13,587,470 Common Shares (net of shares repurchased held in treasury), without par value, and 2,150,502 Class B Common Shares, without par value.

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**Forward-Looking Statements**

Statements and information included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q by Keithley Instruments, Inc. ( Keithley, the Company, we, us or our ) that are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Forward-looking statements in this Report include statements regarding Keithley s expectations, intentions, beliefs, and strategies regarding the future, including recent trends, cyclicity and growth in the markets Keithley sells into, conditions of the electronics industry, deployment of our own sales employees throughout the world, investments to develop new products, the potential impact of adopting new accounting pronouncements, our future effective tax rate, liquidity position, ability to generate cash, expected growth, obligations under our retirement benefit plans, and the consequences of investigations and litigation related to our stock option practices.

When used in this report, the words believes, expects, anticipates, intends, assumes, estimates, evaluates, forecasts, may, could, future, forward, potential, probable, and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. We may make other forward-looking statements from time to time, including in press releases and public conference calls and webcasts. All forward-looking statements made by Keithley are based on information available to us at the time the statements are made, and we assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements. It is important to note that actual results are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those included in such forward-looking statements. Some of these risks and uncertainties are discussed in reports we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including but not limited to, our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007.

**Table of Contents****PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. Financial Statements.**

KEITHLEY INSTRUMENTS, INC.  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
(In Thousands of Dollars)  
(Unaudited)

|  | June 30, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Assets                                 |               |                    |
| Current assets:                        |               |                    |
| Cash and cash equivalents              | \$ 20,156     | \$ 12,888          |
| Short-term investments                 | 6,201         | 32,340             |
| Refundable income taxes                | 132           | 136                |
| Accounts receivable and other, net     | 23,067        | 19,510             |
| Inventories:                           |               |                    |
| Raw materials                          | 12,016        | 9,599              |
| Work in process                        | 1,495         | 984                |
| Finished products                      | 5,112         | 4,092              |
| Total inventories                      | 18,623        | 14,675             |
| Deferred income taxes                  | 3,885         | 3,961              |
| Prepaid expenses                       | 2,112         | 2,026              |
| Total current assets                   | 74,176        | 85,536             |
| Property, plant and equipment, at cost | 53,780        | 51,955             |
| Less-Accumulated depreciation          | 40,332        | 38,256             |
| Property, plant and equipment, net     | 13,448        | 13,699             |
| Deferred income taxes                  | 24,937        | 23,823             |
| Intangible assets                      | 1,260         | 1,400              |
| Long-term investments                  | 7,673         | 1,324              |
| Other assets                           | 22,327        | 20,624             |
| Total assets                           | \$ 143,821    | \$ 146,406         |
| Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity   |               |                    |
| Current liabilities:                   |               |                    |
| Short-term debt                        | \$ 283        | \$ 799             |
| Accounts payable                       | 6,803         | 8,018              |
| Accrued payroll and related expenses   | 5,701         | 4,799              |
| Other accrued expenses                 | 4,985         | 4,753              |
| Income taxes payable                   | 1,371         | 3,911              |
| Total current liabilities              | 19,143        | 22,280             |
| Long-term deferred compensation        | 2,940         | 3,924              |

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|   |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|
| Deferred income taxes   | 74         | 74         |
| Long-term income taxes payable  | 2,595      |            |
| Other long-term liabilities   | 7,985      | 7,104      |
| Shareholders' equity:   |            |            |
| Common Shares, stated value \$.0125:  |            |            |
| Authorized 80,000,000; issued and outstanding 14,661,525 at June 30, 2008, and 14,580,978 at September 30, 2007 | 183        | 182        |
| Class B Common Shares, stated value \$.0125:  |            |            |
| Authorized 9,000,000; issued and outstanding 2,150,502 at June 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007                  | 27         | 27         |
| Capital in excess of stated value   | 38,895     | 36,436     |
| Retained earnings   | 85,960     | 85,676     |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss  | (780)      | (946)      |
| Common shares held in treasury, at cost   | (13,201)   | (8,351)    |
| Total shareholders' equity  | 111,084    | 113,024    |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity  | \$ 143,821 | \$ 146,406 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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KEITHLEY INSTRUMENTS, INC.  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS  
(In Thousands of Dollars Except for Per Share Data)  
(Unaudited)

|  | For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |           | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |            |
|--|--|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------|
|  | 2008                                   | 2007      | 2008                                  | 2007       |
| Net sales                                    | \$ 40,955                              | \$ 33,446 | \$ 119,331                            | \$ 107,402 |
| Cost of goods sold                           | 17,191                                 | 14,059    | 48,588                                | 43,461     |
| Gross profit                                 | 23,764                                 | 19,387    | 70,743                                | 63,941     |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 17,441                                 | 15,288    | 49,869                                | 48,255     |
| Product development expenses                 | 6,771                                  | 7,116     | 19,212                                | 19,363     |
| Operating (loss) income                      | (448)                                  | (3,017)   | 1,662                                 | (3,677)    |
| Investment income                            | 338                                    | 582       | 1,321                                 | 1,715      |
| Interest expense                             | (15)                                   | (11)      | (53)                                  | (38)       |
| Impairment of long-term investments          |  |           | (670)                                 |            |
| (Loss) income before income taxes            | (125)                                  | (2,446)   | 2,260                                 | (2,000)    |
| Income tax (benefit) provision               | (86)                                   | (1,987)   | 225                                   | (2,543)    |
| Net (loss) income                            | \$ (39)                                | \$ (459)  | \$ 2,035                              | \$ 543     |
| Basic (loss) earnings per share              | \$ (0.00)                              | \$ (0.03) | \$ 0.13                               | \$ 0.03    |
| Diluted (loss) earnings per share            | \$ (0.00)                              | \$ (0.03) | \$ 0.13                               | \$ 0.03    |
| Cash dividends per Common Share              | \$ .0375                               | \$ .0375  | \$ .1125                              | \$ .1125   |
| Cash dividends per Class B Common Share      | \$ .030                                | \$ .030   | \$ .090                               | \$ .090    |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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KEITHLEY INSTRUMENTS, INC.  
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
 (In Thousands of Dollars)  
 (Unaudited)

|   | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |           |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|
|   | 2008                                  | 2007      |
| Cash flows from operating activities:   |                                       |           |
| Net income  | \$ 2,035                              | \$ 543    |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |                                       |           |
| Depreciation  | 3,007                                 | 3,137     |
| Stock-based compensation  | 2,075                                 | 1,689     |
| Deferred income taxes   | (1,926)                               | (3,577)   |
| Other items not effecting outlay of cash  | 866                                   | 542       |
| Changes in working capital  | (7,391)                               | 3,980     |
| Other operating activities  | (808)                                 | (941)     |
| Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities                               | (2,142)                               | 5,373     |
| Cash flows from investing activities:   |                                       |           |
| Payments for property, plant and equipment  | (2,768)                               | (3,054)   |
| Purchase of short-term investments  | (13,225)                              | (23,920)  |
| Sale of short-term investments  | 31,586                                | 27,152    |
| Net cash provided by investing activities   | 15,593                                | 178       |
| Cash flows from financing activities:   |                                       |           |
| Net payments under short term debt agreements                                     | (606)                                 | (857)     |
| Cash dividends  | (1,734)                               | (1,776)   |
| Purchase of treasury shares   | (4,700)                               |           |
| Proceeds from stock purchase and option plans                                     | 153                                   | 338       |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation arrangements                    | 81                                    | 298       |
| Net cash used in financing activities   | (6,806)                               | (1,997)   |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash   | 623                                   | 207       |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents   | 7,268                                 | 3,761     |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                                  | 12,888                                | 10,501    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period  | \$ 20,156                             | \$ 14,262 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.





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**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(In thousands of dollars, except for share data)**

**A. Nature of Operations**

The business of Keithley Instruments, Inc. is to design, develop, manufacture and market complex electronic instruments and systems to serve the specialized needs of electronics manufacturers for high-performance production testing, process monitoring, product development and research. Our primary products are integrated systems used to source, measure, connect, control or communicate electrical direct current (DC), radio frequency (RF) or optical signals. Although our products vary in capability, sophistication, use, size and price, they generally test, measure and analyze electrical, RF, optical or physical properties. As such, we consider our business to be in a single industry segment.

**B. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Presentation***

The consolidated financial statements at June 30, 2008 and 2007, and for the three and nine month periods then ended have not been audited by an independent registered public accounting firm, but, in the opinion of our management, all adjustments necessary to fairly present the consolidated balance sheets, consolidated statements of operations and consolidated statements of cash flows for those periods have been included. All adjustments included are of a normal recurring nature. The year-end condensed balance sheet data was derived from audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Company's consolidated financial statements for the three and nine month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, included in this Form 10-Q report have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended September 30, 2007, which were included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007, filed on December 14, 2007 (the 2007 Form 10-K). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and the notes thereto included in the 2007 Form 10-K.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the reported financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Examples include the allowance for doubtful accounts, estimates of contingent liabilities, inventory valuation, pension plan assumptions, estimates and assumptions relating to stock-based compensation costs, the assessment of the valuation of deferred income taxes and income tax reserves, and estimates and assumptions relating to the value of long-term investments. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

**C. Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, ( FASB ), issued FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an Interpretation of FASB Statement 109 (FIN 48). FIN 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. It also provides guidance on de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company adopted FIN 48 effective October 1, 2007 See Note N.

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In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures About Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133 (SFAS No. 161). SFAS No. 161 requires, among other things, enhanced disclosure about the volume and nature of derivative and hedging activities and a tabular summary showing the fair value of derivative instruments included in the statement of financial position and statement of operations. SFAS 161 also requires expanded disclosure of contingencies included in derivative instruments related to credit risk. SFAS 161 is effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of SFAS No. 161's disclosure requirements on the Company's financial statements.

In May 2008, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 162, The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (SFAS No. 162). The purpose of the new standard is to provide a consistent framework and hierarchy for determining what accounting principles should be used when preparing U.S. generally accepted accounting principles financial statements. Previous guidance did not properly rank the accounting literature. The new standard is effective 60 days following the Securities and Exchange Commission's approval of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board amendments to AU Section 411, The Meaning of Present Fairly in Conformity With Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The adoption of SFAS No. 162 is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's financial statements.

**D. Earnings Per Share**

Both Common Shares and Class B Common Shares are included in calculating earnings per share. The weighted average number of shares outstanding used in the calculation for the relevant periods is set forth below:

|  | For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |            | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |            |
|--|--|------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
|  | 2008                                   | 2007       | 2008                                  | 2007       |
| Net (loss) income  | \$ (39)                                | \$ (459)   | \$ 2,035                              | \$ 543     |
| Weighted averages shares outstanding                         | 15,772,488                             | 16,252,296 | 15,899,263                            | 16,204,214 |
| Dilutive effect of stock awards                              |  |            | 206,252                               | 201,099    |
| Assumed purchase of stock under stock purchase plan          |  |            | 760                                   | 1,153      |
| Weighted average shares used for dilutive earnings per share | 15,772,488                             | 16,252,296 | 16,106,275                            | 16,406,466 |
| Basic (loss) earnings per share                              | \$ (0.00)                              | \$ (0.03)  | \$ 0.13                               | \$ 0.03    |
| Diluted (loss) earnings per share                            | \$ (0.00)                              | \$ (0.03)  | \$ 0.13                               | \$ 0.03    |

Due to the net loss for the three months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, 255,366 and 196,822 shares were excluded from the dilutive calculation from stock awards and the stock purchase plan, respectively.

**Table of Contents****E. Stock-based Compensation**

The Company currently has one equity-based compensation plan from which stock-based compensation awards can be granted to employees and Directors. In addition, we have two plans that were terminated or have expired, but which have options currently outstanding. The Company also has an employee stock purchase plan ( ESPP ) that provides employees with the opportunity to purchase Common Shares at 95 percent of the fair market value at the end of the one-year subscription period. The provisions of the ESPP are such that measurement of compensation expense is not required by SFAS No. 123R Share-Based Payments. Additionally, no shares were issued pursuant to the ESPP during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 or 2007.

*Compensation costs recorded*

Stock-based compensation expense is attributable to the granting of stock options, performance share units, restricted share units and restricted share awards. The Company records the expense using the single approach method on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the respective grants. The table below summarizes stock-based compensation expense recorded under SFAS 123R for the three and nine-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, which was allocated as follows:

|   | For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |        | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |          |
|---|--|--------|---------------------------------------|----------|
|   | 2008                                   | 2007   | 2008                                  | 2007     |
| Cost of goods sold                                      | \$ 56                                  | \$ 45  | \$ 161                                | \$ 102   |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses            | 554                                    | 504    | 1,610                                 | 1,346    |
| Product development expenses                            | 105                                    | 99     | 304                                   | 241      |
| Stock-based compensation included in operating expenses | 715                                    | 648    | 2,075                                 | 1,689    |
| Estimated tax impact of stock-based compensation        | 232                                    | 213    | 673                                   | 554      |
| Stock-based compensation expense, net of tax            | \$ 483                                 | \$ 435 | \$ 1,402                              | \$ 1,135 |

The excess tax benefits recognized during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 and 2007 were approximately \$81 and \$298, respectively.

As of June 30, 2008, there was \$3,603 of total pretax unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested awards.

That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.9 years.

*Stock option activity*

During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, the Company granted non-qualified stock options to purchase 146,125 shares to officers and other key employees at a weighted average exercise price of \$9.13 per share. During the first nine months of fiscal 2007, the Company granted 106,025 non-qualified stock options with a weighted average exercise price of \$13.91. The exercise price of the options granted in both years is equal to the fair market value on their respective grant date. The options have a term of ten years, vest 50 percent after two years, and an additional 25 percent each after years three and four.

The fair value of the options granted during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 and 2007 was \$3.01 and \$5.41 per share, respectively. The fair values were determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The following assumptions were applied for options granted during these periods:

|                       | Nine Months<br>Fiscal 2008 | Nine Months<br>Fiscal 2007 |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Expected life (years) | 4.75                       | 4.75                       |

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|                         |       |       |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|
| Risk-free interest rate | 3.84% | 4.79% |
| Volatility              | 38%   | 42%   |
| Dividend yield          | 1.64% | 1.07% |

**Table of Contents***Performance award units*

During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, the Company granted 172,475 performance award units to officers and other key employees with a weighted-average fair market value per unit on the respective grant dates of \$9.13. During the first nine months of fiscal 2007, the Company granted 142,800 performance award units to officers and other key employees with a weighted average fair market value per unit on the grant dates of \$13.95. The performance award unit agreements granted during both fiscal years provide for the award of performance units with each unit representing the right to receive one of the Company's Common Shares to be issued after the applicable award period. The award period for performance award units issued in fiscal year 2008 will end on September 30, 2010, while the award period for awards issued during fiscal year 2007 will end on September 30, 2009. The final number of units earned pursuant to an award may range from a minimum of no units to a maximum of twice the initial award. The awards issued during fiscal years 2008 and 2007 may be adjusted in 25 percent increments, while the awards issued during fiscal year 2006, which will vest on September 30, 2008, may be adjusted in 50 percent increments. The number of units earned will be based on the Company's revenue growth relative to a defined peer group, and the Company's return on assets or return on invested capital during the applicable performance period as defined in the performance award unit agreements. Each reporting period, the compensation cost of the performance award units is subject to adjustment based upon our estimate of the number of awards we expect will be issued upon the completion of the performance period. The awards granted during fiscal years 2008 and 2007 are being expensed at target levels, while the awards issued during fiscal year 2006 are being expensed at 50 percent of target.

*Restricted award units*

During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, the Company granted 20,225 restricted award units to key employees other than officers. The awards have a weighted average fair market value per unit of \$9.15 based upon the fair value of the Company's stock on the award dates. During the first nine months of fiscal year 2007, the Company granted 25,050 restricted award units to key employees other than officers. The awards have a weighted average fair market value per unit of \$13.61 based upon the fair value of the Company's stock on the award dates. The restricted unit award agreements provide for the award of restricted units with each unit representing one share of the Company's Common Shares. Generally, the awards vest on the fourth anniversary of the award date, subject to certain conditions specified in the agreement. The vesting date may be earlier than four years in certain cases to accommodate individuals' planned retirement dates.

*Directors' equity plans*

Non-employee Directors receive an annual Common Share grant equal to \$58. The Common Shares are to be issued out of the Keithley Instruments, Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan. During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, 39,348 shares were issued at a weighted average fair market value per share of \$9.95 per share. During the first nine months of fiscal year 2007, the non-employee Directors received a total of 29,160 shares with a weighted average fair market value per share of \$13.42.

The Board of Directors also may issue restricted stock grants worth \$75 to a new non-employee Director at the time of his or her election. These restricted stock grants vest over a 3-year period. There were no such grants issued during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 or 2007.

**F. Repurchase of Common Shares**

On February 12, 2007, the Company announced its Board of Directors had approved an open market stock repurchase program (the 2007 Program). Under the terms of the 2007 Program, the Company may purchase through February 28, 2009, up to 2,000,000 Common Shares, which represented approximately 12 percent of its total outstanding Common Shares at the start of the 2007 Program. The 2007 Program replaces the prior repurchase program (the 2003 Program), which expired on December 31, 2006. The purpose of the 2007 and 2003 Programs was to offset the dilutive effect of stock option and stock purchase plans, and to provide value to shareholders. Common Shares held in treasury may be reissued in settlement of purchases under these stock plans.

During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, the Company purchased 482,300 Common Shares for \$4,700 at an average cost per share of \$9.74 including commissions. There were no purchases during the first nine months of fiscal year 2007. At June 30, 2008 and 2007, 1,056,615 and 405,500 Common Shares remained in treasury at an average cost, including commissions, of \$10.84 and \$12.40, respectively.



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Also, included in the Common shares held in treasury, at cost caption of the condensed consolidated balance sheets are shares repurchased to settle non-employee Directors fees deferred pursuant to the Keithley Instruments, Inc. 1996 Outside Directors Deferred Stock Plan. Shares held in treasury pursuant to this plan totaled 183,588 and 160,568 at June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

**G. Financing Arrangements**

On March 27, 2008, the Company extended the term of its credit agreement, as amended, to March 31, 2011, from March 31, 2010. The agreement is a \$10,000 debt facility (\$0 outstanding at June 30, 2008) that provides unsecured, multi-currency revolving credit at various interest rates based on Prime or LIBOR. The Company is required to pay a facility fee of 0.125% per annum on the total amount of the commitment. The agreement may be extended annually. Additionally, the Company has a number of other credit facilities in various currencies and for standby letters of credit aggregating \$5,000 (\$283 of short-term debt and \$697 for standby letters of credit outstanding at June 30, 2008). At June 30, 2008, the Company had total unused lines of credit with domestic and foreign banks aggregating \$14,020, of which \$10,000 was long-term and \$4,020 was a combination of long-term and short-term depending upon the nature of the indebtedness.

Under certain provisions of the debt agreements, the Company is required to comply with various financial ratios and covenants. The Company was in compliance with all such debt covenants as of June 30, 2008.

**H. Accounting for Derivatives and Hedging Activities**

In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities (as amended), all of the Company's derivative instruments are recognized on the balance sheet at their fair value. To hedge sales, the Company currently utilizes foreign exchange forward contracts or option contracts to sell foreign currencies to fix the exchange rates related to near-term sales and effectively fix the Company's margins.

On the date the derivative contract is entered into, the Company designates its derivative as either a hedge of the fair value of a recognized asset or liability (fair value hedge), as a hedge of the variability of cash flows to be received (cash flow hedge), or as a foreign-currency cash flow hedge (foreign currency hedge). Changes in the fair value of a derivative that is highly effective as, and that is designated and qualifies as, a fair value hedge, along with the gain or loss on the hedged asset or liability that is attributable to the hedged risk are recorded in current period earnings.

Changes in the fair value of a derivative that is highly effective as, and that is designated and qualifies as a cash flow hedge, are recorded in other comprehensive income until earnings are affected by the transaction in the underlying asset. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are highly effective and that qualify as foreign currency hedges are recorded in either current period income or other comprehensive income, depending on whether the hedge transaction is a fair value hedge or a cash flow hedge. At June 30, 2008, the foreign exchange forward contracts were designated as foreign currency cash flow hedges.

At June 30, 2008, the Company had obligations under foreign exchange forward contracts to sell 2,500,000 Euros, 300,000 British pounds and 270,000,000 Yen at various dates through June 2008. In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 133, the derivative instruments are recorded on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. The fair market value of the foreign exchange forward contracts represented a (liability)/asset to the Company of \$(35) and \$30, at June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

The Company documents all relationships between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk-management objective and strategy for undertaking various hedge transactions. The Company also assesses whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in cash flows of hedged items. When it is determined that a derivative is not highly effective as a hedge, the Company discontinues hedge accounting prospectively. Cash flows resulting from hedging transactions are classified in the consolidated statements of cash flows in the same category as the cash flows from the item being hedged.



**Table of Contents****I. Comprehensive Income**

Comprehensive income (loss) for the three and nine month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 is as follows:

|   | For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |          | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |          |
|---|--|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|
|   | 2008                                   | 2007     | 2008                                  | 2007     |
| Net (loss) income   | \$ (39)                                | \$ (459) | \$ 2,035                              | \$ 543   |
| Unrealized gains (losses) on value of derivative securities, net of tax | 114                                    | 61       | 48                                    | (25)     |
| Net unrealized investment (losses) gains, net of tax                    | (4)                                    | 3        | (488)                                 | 51       |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments                                | (30)                                   | 29       | 606                                   | 432      |
| Comprehensive income (loss)   | \$ 41                                  | \$ (366) | \$ 2,201                              | \$ 1,001 |

**J. Geographic Segment Information**

The Company reports a single Test and Measurement segment. Our net sales and long-lived assets by geographic area are presented below. The basis for attributing revenues from external customers to a geographic area is the customer location to which the product is shipped.

|                | For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |           | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |            |
|----------------|--|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------|
|                | 2008                                   | 2007      | 2008                                  | 2007       |
| Net sales:     |  |           |                                       |            |
| United States  | \$ 10,141                              | \$ 9,654  | \$ 27,542                             | \$ 26,972  |
| Other Americas | 1,051                                  | 888       | 2,311                                 | 3,434      |
| Germany        | 4,911                                  | 3,715     | 16,825                                | 13,724     |
| Other Europe   | 8,869                                  | 7,172     | 24,512                                | 22,008     |
| Japan          | 3,239                                  | 3,207     | 13,015                                | 13,236     |
| China          | 6,776                                  | 4,607     | 15,826                                | 12,634     |
| Other Asia     | 5,968                                  | 4,203     | 19,300                                | 15,394     |
|                | \$ 40,955                              | \$ 33,446 | \$ 119,331                            | \$ 107,402 |

|                    | At June 30,<br>2008 | At September 30,<br>2007 |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Long-lived assets: |                     |                          |
| United States      | \$ 36,545           | \$ 29,557                |
| Germany            | 7,154               | 6,369                    |
| Other              | 1,009               | 1,121                    |
|                    | \$ 44,708           | \$ 37,047                |

**K. Guarantors Disclosure Requirements**

*Guarantee of original lease*

The Company has assigned the lease of its former office space in Reading, Great Britain to a third party. If the third party defaults on the monthly lease payments, the Company would be responsible for the payments until the lease expires on July 14, 2009. If the third party were to default, the maximum amount of future payments (undiscounted) the Company would be required to make under the guarantee would be approximately \$239 through July 14, 2009. The Company has not recorded any liability for this item, as it does not believe that it is probable that the third party will default on the lease payments.

**Table of Contents***Product Warranties*

Generally, the Company's products are covered under a one-year warranty; however, certain products are covered under a two or three-year warranty. It is the Company's policy to accrue for all product warranties based upon historical in-warranty repair data. In addition, the Company accrues for specifically identified product performance issues. The Company also offers extended warranties for certain of its products for which revenue is recognized over the life of the contract period. The costs associated with servicing the extended warranties are expensed as incurred. The revenue, as well as the costs related to the extended warranties is immaterial for the three and nine month periods ending June 30, 2008 and 2007.

A reconciliation of the estimated changes in the aggregated product warranty liability for the three and nine month periods ending June 30, 2008 and 2007 is as follows:

|  | For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |        | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |         |
|--|--|--------|---------------------------------------|---------|
|  | 2008                                   | 2007   | 2008                                  | 2007    |
| Beginning balance  | \$ 784                                 | \$ 869 | \$ 722                                | \$ 992  |
| Accruals for warranties issued during the period   | 411                                    | 245    | 1,085                                 | 875     |
| Accruals related to pre-existing warranties<br>(including changes in estimates and expiring<br>warranties) | (27)                                   | (73)   | (123)                                 | (105)   |
| Settlements made (in cash or in kind) during the<br>period   | (372)                                  | (330)  | (888)                                 | (1,051) |
| Ending balance   | \$ 796                                 | \$ 711 | 796                                   | \$ 711  |

**L. Pension Benefits**

The Company has a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan covering all of its eligible employees in the United States and a contributory defined plan covering eligible employees at its German subsidiary. Pension benefits are based upon the employee's length of service and a percentage of compensation. The Company also has government mandated defined benefit retirement plans for its eligible employees in Japan and Korea; however, these plans are not material to the Company's consolidated financial statements. A summary of the components of net periodic pension cost based upon a measurement date of June 30 for the U.S. plan and the German plan is shown below:

|   | United States Plan<br>For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |        | German Plan<br>For the Three Months<br>Ended June 30, |        |
|---|--|--------|---|--------|
|   | 2008   | 2007   | 2008  | 2007   |
| Service costs-benefits earned during the period | \$ 419   | \$ 355 | \$ 61   | \$ 61  |
| Interest cost on projected benefit obligation   | 589  | 550    | 108   | 84     |
| Expected return on plan assets                  | (884)  | (782)  | (20)  | (16)   |
| Net loss recognition                            | 20   | 16     |   | 1      |
| Amortization of transition asset                |  |        | 6   | 5      |
| Amortization of prior service cost              | 45   | 45     | 1   | 2      |
| Net periodic benefit cost                       | \$ 189   | \$ 184 | \$ 156  | \$ 137 |



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|   | United States Plan                    |          | German Plan                           |        |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------|
|   | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |          | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |        |
|   | 2008                                  | 2007     | 2008                                  | 2007   |
| Service costs-benefits earned during the period | \$ 1,257                              | \$ 1,065 | \$ 174                                | \$ 179 |
| Interest cost on projected benefit obligation   | 1,767                                 | 1,652    | 313                                   | 246    |
| Expected return on plan assets                  | (2,650)                               | (2,347)  | (58)                                  | (48)   |
| Net loss recognition                            | 62                                    | 49       |                                       | 2      |
| Amortization of transition asset                |                                       |          | 17                                    | 17     |
| Amortization of prior service cost              | 134                                   | 134      | 4                                     | 4      |
| Net periodic benefit cost                       | \$ 570                                | \$ 553   | \$ 450                                | \$ 400 |

During the third quarter of fiscal year 2008, the Company contributed \$1,500 to its United States Plan, and expects to contribute an additional \$1,000 before September 30, 2008.

**M. Investments**

We review our investments for other-than-temporary impairment whenever the fair value of an investment is less than amortized cost and evidence indicates that an investment's carrying value is not recoverable within a reasonable period of time. In the evaluation of whether impairment is other-than-temporary, the Company considers its ability and intent to hold the investment until the market price recovers, the reasons for the impairment, compliance with the Company's investment policy, the severity and duration of the impairment and expected future performance. Based on this evaluation, we recorded impairment losses of \$670 before taxes, or approximately \$0.03 per share after taxes, during the second quarter ended March 31, 2008, on our long-term investments carried at cost.

At June 30, 2008, the caption "Long-term investments" on the condensed consolidated balance sheet included \$7,020 of auction rate securities. Our auction rate securities are private placement securities, primarily backed by student college loans with long-term nominal maturities for which the interest rates are reset through an auction each month. Auctions for these types of securities, including those securities held by the Company at June 30, 2008, have failed during recent months making a portion of our auction rate securities not readily convertible to cash until there is a successful auction for them. We continue to receive interest income associated with the auction rate securities. We recorded a temporary mark-to-market fair value adjustment of \$780 through other comprehensive income during the second quarter, related to these investments.

During the third quarter ended June 30, 2008, we redeemed \$8,025 of our auction rate securities; \$8,000 of which had been classified as short-term investments and \$25 of which had been classified as long-term investments. \$8,000 was redeemed as a result of our broker commencing a tender offer at par to purchase those specific auction rate securities from registered owners. The remaining \$25 cleared through a successful auction.

**N. Income Taxes**

The income tax benefit for the third quarter ended June 30, 2008, was \$86 on a loss before taxes of \$125, an effective tax benefit rate of 68.8 percent. This compared with an income tax benefit of \$1,987 on a loss before taxes of \$2,446, or an effective tax benefit rate of 81.2 percent for the same period ended June 30, 2007. The effective tax rate for the 2008 June quarter was greater than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the impact of favorable net tax benefits claimed against a small operating loss. The favorable tax benefits included the settlement of tax audits. These benefits were offset by the net impact of changes to tax credits, other increases for contingent tax liabilities, and provision return adjustments. For the three months ended June 30, 2007, the tax benefit was higher than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the favorable benefits from the research tax credit, extraterritorial income exclusion on U.S. exports, and the impact of these benefits relative to a loss. These benefits were partially offset by the impact of taxes in foreign jurisdictions.



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For the nine months ended June 30, 2008, income taxes were \$225 on income before taxes of \$2,260, an effective tax rate of 10.0 percent. The effective tax rate was less than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the favorable impacts resulting from the settlement of tax audits, favorable differences between the prior year tax return and the prior year provision, and tax benefits related to foreign income. These benefits were partially offset by the net impact of changes to tax credits, and other increases for contingent tax liabilities. Excluding the discrete items mentioned above, the tax rate would have been 33.7 percent for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008. For the nine months ended June 30, 2007, we recorded a tax benefit of \$2,543 on a loss before taxes of \$2,000 resulting in an effective tax benefit rate of 127.2 percent. During the fiscal year 2007 first quarter, we recorded a favorable discrete tax adjustment of \$882 associated with the retroactive application of the research tax credit for the period of January 1, 2006, through September 30, 2006. This benefit had not been recognized during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006, because the research tax credit had expired and was not extended until after the fiscal year. Without regard to discrete items, such as the prior year research tax credit, the tax benefit rate for the nine months ended June 30, 2007 would have been 85.0 percent. For the first nine months of fiscal year 2007, the effect tax benefit rate was higher than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the favorable impacts from the research tax credit, extraterritorial income exclusion on U.S. exports, and the impact of these benefits relative to a loss. These benefits were partially offset by the impact of taxes in foreign jurisdictions.

The Company adopted FIN 48 effective October 1, 2007, resulting in an increase to the accrued tax liability of \$3,055, an increase to deferred tax assets of \$3,038, and a decrease to retained earnings of \$17. As of June 30, 2008, the Company had approximately \$5,200 of total gross unrecognized tax benefits. The total amount of unrecognized benefits that, if recognized, would benefit the effective tax rate was \$3,335. The Company anticipates a decrease in its unrecognized tax positions of approximately \$300 to \$600 over the next 12 months. The anticipated decrease is primarily due to the expiration of statutes of limitations in various jurisdictions. The nature of the soon to be expiring tax positions includes the allocation of income and certain deductions between jurisdictions.

The Company records interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions as income tax expense. On June 30, 2008, the Company had accrued approximately \$1,166 of interest and penalties. During the quarter ended June 30, 2008, the company settled audits by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service for the tax year ended September 30, 2004 and in Germany for the tax years ended September 30, 1999 through September 30, 2004. The company is no longer subject to examination in either the U.S. or Germany for periods prior to this. The Company has not been notified of any other significant audits; however, it may be subject to examination in the U.S. or Germany for various state or local jurisdictions for the tax years 2004 to present, as well as various foreign jurisdictions for other periods with varying statutes.

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

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations is intended to provide investors with an understanding of the Company's operating performance and financial condition. A discussion of our business, including our strategy, products, and competition is included in Part I of our 2007 Form 10-K.

**Business Overview**

Our business is to design, develop, manufacture and market complex electronic instruments and systems geared to the specialized needs of electronics manufacturers for high-performance production testing, process monitoring, product development and research. Our primary products are integrated systems used to source, measure, connect, control or communicate electrical direct current (DC), radio frequency (RF) or optical signals. Our customers are engineers, technicians and scientists in manufacturing, product development and research functions. During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, orders from our semiconductor customers comprised approximately 30 percent of our total orders; orders from our wireless communications customers were approximately 15 percent; orders from precision electronic components/subassembly manufacturers were approximately 25 percent, which includes customers in automotive, computers and peripherals, medical equipment, aerospace and defense, and manufacturers of components; and orders from our research and education customers were approximately 25 percent of total orders. Although our products vary in capability, sophistication, use, size and price, they generally test, measure and analyze electrical, RF, optical or physical properties. As such, we consider our business to be in a single industry segment.





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The most important factors influencing our ability to grow revenue are (i) our customers' spending patterns as they invest in new capacity or upgrade their production lines for their new product offerings, (ii) our ability to offer interrelated products with differentiated value that solve our customers' most compelling test challenges, and (iii) our success in penetrating key accounts with our globally deployed sales and service team. We continue to believe that our strategy of pursuing a focused set of applications will allow us to grow faster than the overall test and measurement industry.

Many of the industries we serve, including, but not limited to, the semiconductor industry, the wireless communications industry and precision electronic components/subassembly manufacturers, have historically been very cyclical and have experienced periodic downturns. During the second quarter of fiscal year 2007, we began experiencing a softening of orders from our semiconductor customers with regard to their capital equipment spending, and management believes 2008 capital spending for production applications will soften from 2007 levels.

**Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Management has identified the Company's critical accounting policies. These policies have the potential to have a more significant impact on our financial statements, either because of the significance of the financial statement item to which they relate or because they require judgment and estimation due to the uncertainty involved in measuring, at a specific point in time, events which will be settled in the future. These critical accounting policies and estimates are described in Management's Discussion and Analysis included in our 2007 Form 10-K, and include use of estimates, revenue recognition, inventories, income taxes, pension plan and stock compensation plans.

**Results of Operations****Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2008 Compared with Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2007**

Net sales of \$40,955 for the third quarter of fiscal year 2008 increased 22 percent as compared to the prior year's third quarter sales of \$33,446. The effect of a 13 percent weighted-average weaker U.S. dollar positively impacted sales growth by approximately five percentage points. Geographically, sales were up six percent in the Americas, up 27 percent in Europe, and up 33 percent in Asia. Approximately three-quarters of our sales were generated outside the Americas during the third quarter of fiscal year 2008. On a sequential basis, sales increased three percent from the second quarter of fiscal year 2008.

Orders of \$40,515 for the third quarter increased 13 percent compared to last year's orders of \$36,006. Geographically, orders increased nine percent in the Americas, 18 percent in Europe, and 12 percent in Asia when compared to the prior year. Orders from the Company's semiconductor customers decreased approximately 20 percent, orders from wireless communications customers increased approximately 180 percent, orders from precision electronic component and subassembly manufacturers increased approximately ten percent, and research and education customer orders increased approximately 15 percent compared to the prior year's third quarter. The increase in orders from the Company's wireless communications customers was due in part to the receipt of a large order from one customer. Sequentially, orders increased four percent from the second quarter of fiscal 2008. Order backlog decreased \$1,035 during the quarter to \$16,102 as of June 30, 2008. The Company does not track net sales in the same manner as it tracks orders by major customer group. However, sales trends generally correlate to Company order trends although they may vary between quarters depending upon the orders which remain in backlog.

Cost of goods sold as a percentage of net sales were 42.0 percent, the same as in the prior year's third quarter. Higher discounts on sales due to customer mix, higher costs for freight charges, and higher other manufacturing costs were offset by the favorable effect of a weaker U.S. dollar, and fixed manufacturing costs being spread over higher sales volume. Nearly all products the Company sells are manufactured in the United States; therefore, cost of goods sold expressed in dollars is generally not affected by changes in foreign currencies. However, as a percentage of net sales, it is affected as net sales dollars fluctuate due to currency exchange rates changes. The effect of foreign exchange hedging on cost of goods sold was not material in either the third quarter of fiscal year 2008 or fiscal year 2007. Selling, general and administrative expenses of \$17,441, or 42.6 percent of net sales, increased 14 percent from \$15,288, or 41.2 percent of net sales, in last year's third quarter. The increase primarily resulted from higher expenses translated into U.S. dollars as a result of the weaker U.S. dollar, and increased benefit costs, consultant fees, and external commission costs.



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Product development expenses for the quarter were \$6,771, or 16.5 percent of net sales, down \$345, or five percent, from last year's \$7,116, or 21.3 percent of net sales. The decrease was the result of a reduction in development supplies and pilot production costs due to the timing of new product introductions.

The Company reported an operating loss for the third quarter of fiscal year 2008 of \$448 compared to an operating loss of \$3,017 for the prior year's quarter. Higher sales partially offset by high selling, general and administrative expenses accounted for the decrease in the operating loss.

Investment income was \$338 for the quarter compared to \$582 in last year's third quarter. Lower interest rates and lower average cash and investment balances accounted for the decrease.

The income tax benefit for the third quarter ended June 30, 2008, was \$86 on a loss before taxes of \$125, an effective tax benefit rate of 68.8 percent. This compared with an income tax benefit of \$1,987 on a loss before taxes of \$2,446, or an effective tax benefit rate of 81.2 percent for the same period ended June 30, 2007. The effective tax rate for the 2008 June quarter was greater than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the impact of favorable net tax benefits claimed against a small operating loss. The favorable tax benefits included the settlement of tax audits. These benefits were offset by the net impact of changes to tax credits, other increases for contingent tax liabilities, and provision return adjustments. For the three months ended June 30, 2007, the tax benefit was higher than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the favorable benefits from the research tax credit, extraterritorial income exclusion on U.S. exports, and the impact of these benefits relative to a loss. These benefits were partially offset by the impact of taxes in foreign jurisdictions. See Note N.

The Company reported a net loss for the quarter of \$39, or \$0.00 per share, compared to a net loss for the quarter of \$459, or \$0.03 per share, last year. Higher sales and gross margins, partially offset by higher expenses and lower investment income described above, accounted for the increase.

**Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008 Compared with Nine Months Ended June 30, 2007**

Net sales of \$119,331 for the nine months ended June 30, 2008, increased 11 percent from \$107,402 reported for the nine-month period last year. The effect of a weaker U.S. dollar positively impacted sales growth by approximately four percentage points. Geographically, net sales were down two percent in the Americas, up 16 percent in Europe, and up 17 percent in Asia.

Orders of \$120,105 for the nine months ended June 30, 2008, increased 13 percent from \$106,235 last year.

Geographically, orders increased nine percent in the Americas, 21 percent in Europe, and 11 percent in Asia compared to the same period in fiscal year 2007. See the Business Overview section of Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for a breakout of the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 orders by major industry group.

Cost of goods sold as a percentage of net sales increased slightly to 40.7 percent from 40.5 percent for the nine-month period last year. The increase was due primarily to higher freight and other manufacturing costs partially offset by an 11 percent weaker U.S. dollar. Nearly all products the Company sells are manufactured in the United States; therefore, cost of goods sold expressed in dollars is generally not affected by changes in foreign currencies. However, as a percentage of net sales, it is affected as net sales dollars fluctuate due to currency exchange rate changes. The effect of foreign exchange hedging increased cost of goods sold by \$446 for the 2008 nine-month period, and was not material in the 2007 comparable period.

Selling, general and administrative expenses of \$49,869, or 41.8 percent of net sales, increased three percent from \$48,255, or 44.9 percent of net sales, in the same period last year. In the prior year's nine-month, we incurred approximately \$1,400 of costs associated with the stock option investigation and litigation versus minimal costs in the current year's nine-month period. Offsetting this decrease were higher foreign exchange revaluation costs resulting from the weaker U.S. dollar, and higher personnel related costs including bonuses and commissions on higher sales. Product development expenses for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 of \$19,212, or 16.1 percent of sales, were down less than one percent from \$19,363, or 18.0 percent of net sales, for the same period last year.

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The Company reported operating income for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 of \$1,662 compared to an operating loss of \$3,677 for the prior year's nine-month period. Higher sales partially offset by high selling, general and administrative expenses accounted for the increase.

Investment income during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 of \$1,321 decreased \$394, or 23 percent, from \$1,715 for the same period in the prior year. The decrease was primarily due to lower average cash and investment balances and lower interest rates during the period.

We review our investments for other-than-temporary impairment whenever the fair value of an investment is less than amortized cost and evidence indicates that an investment's carrying value is not recoverable within a reasonable period of time. In the evaluation of whether impairment is other-than-temporary, the Company considers its ability and intent to hold the investment until the market price recovers, the reasons for the impairment, compliance with the Company's investment policy, the severity and duration of the impairment and expected future performance. Based on this evaluation, we recorded impairment losses of \$670 before taxes, or approximately \$0.03 per share after taxes, during the quarter ended March 31, 2008, on our long-term investments carried at cost. Additionally, during the March 31, 2008 period we recorded a temporary mark-to-market fair value adjustment through other comprehensive income of \$780 related to our investment in auction rate securities. See Note M.

For the nine months ended June 30, 2008, income taxes were \$225 on income before taxes of \$2,260, an effective tax rate of 10.0 percent. The effective tax rate was less than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the favorable impacts resulting from the settlement of tax audits, favorable differences between the prior year tax return and the prior year provision, and tax benefits related to foreign income. These benefits were partially offset by the net impact of changes to tax credits, and other increases for contingent tax liabilities. Excluding the discrete items mentioned above, the tax rate would have been 33.7 percent for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008. For the nine months ended June 30, 2007, we recorded a tax benefit of \$2,543 on a loss before taxes of \$2,000 resulting in an effective tax benefit rate of 127.2 percent. During the fiscal year 2007 first quarter, we recorded a favorable discrete tax adjustment of \$882 associated with the retroactive applicable of the research tax credit for the period of January 1, 2006, through September 30, 2006. This benefit had not been recognized during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006, because the research tax credit had expired and was not extended until after the fiscal year. Without regard to discrete items, such as the prior year research tax credit, the tax benefit rate for the nine months ended June 30, 2007 would have been 85.0 percent. For the first nine months of fiscal year 2007, the effective tax benefit rate was higher than the U.S. federal statutory tax rate due to the favorable impacts from the research tax credit, extraterritorial income exclusion on U.S. exports, and the impact of these benefits relative to a loss. These benefits were partially offset by the impact of taxes in foreign jurisdictions. See Note N.

Net income for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 was \$2,035, or \$0.13 per diluted share, compared with \$543, or \$0.03 per diluted share, last year. Higher sales partially offset by the higher selling, general and administrative expenses, lower investment income, and a less favorable tax position accounted for the increase.

**Table of Contents****Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources***Working Capital*

The following table summarizes working capital as of June 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007:

|                                      | June 30   | September 30 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Current assets:                      |           |              |
| Cash and cash equivalents            | \$ 20,156 | \$ 12,888    |
| Short-term investments               | 6,201     | 32,340       |
| Refundable income taxes              | 132       | 136          |
| Accounts receivable and other, net   | 23,067    | 19,510       |
| Total inventories                    | 18,623    | 14,675       |
| Deferred income taxes                | 3,885     | 3,961        |
| Prepaid expenses                     | 2,112     | 2,026        |
| <br>                                 |           |              |
| Total current assets                 | 74,176    | 85,536       |
| Current liabilities:                 |           |              |
| Short-term debt                      | 283       | 799          |
| Accounts payable                     | 6,803     | 8,018        |
| Accrued payroll and related expenses | 5,701     | 4,799        |
| Other accrued expenses               | 4,985     | 4,753        |
| Income taxes payable                 | 1,371     | 3,911        |
| <br>                                 |           |              |
| Total current liabilities            | 19,143    | 22,280       |
| <br>                                 |           |              |
| Working capital                      | \$ 55,033 | \$ 63,256    |

Working capital decreased during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 by \$8,223, including \$7,020 of investments in auction rate securities that were reclassified from current to long-term. During the June 30, 2008 quarter, we converted \$8,025 of investments in auction rate securities to cash. See Note M. Accounts receivable and other, net, increased \$3,557 during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 due primarily to higher sales during the month of June versus September, as well as higher days sales outstanding of 52 at June 30, 2008 versus 50 at September 30, 2007. Inventories increased \$3,948 during the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 due primarily to anticipated shipment demand for our new products, and lower than expected demand for our products serving the semiconductor industry. Income taxes payable decreased \$2,540 due primarily to the release of a FIN 48 reserve resulting from the closure of tax audits. See Note N.

*Sources and Uses of Cash*

The following table is a summary of our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows:

|                             | For the Nine Months<br>Ended June 30, |          |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
|                             | 2008                                  | 2007     |
| Cash provided by (used in): |                                       |          |
| Operating activities        | \$ (2,142)                            | \$ 5,373 |
| Investing activities        | 15,593                                | 178      |
| Financing activities        | (6,806)                               | (1,997)  |

Operating activities. Cash used in operating activities of \$2,142 for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 decreased \$7,515 as compared with cash provided by operating activities of \$5,373 in the same period last year. The decrease was primarily due to changes in working capital. During the 2008 period, accounts receivable increased utilizing \$2,889 of cash as described above in Working Capital, while during the 2007 period decreases in accounts receivable generated \$7,542 of cash. Additionally, inventory increased during the 2008 period as described above resulting in a use of cash of \$3,852 versus a source of cash of \$824 in the prior year's period. Other adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities are presented on the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows.

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**Investing activities.** Cash provided by investing activities was \$15,593 for the first nine of fiscal year 2008 compared with \$178 in the same period last year. Payments for property, plant and equipment were similar in both periods. We purchased short-term investments of \$13,225 and sold short-term investments generating \$31,586 in cash during the first nine months of 2008, including \$8,025 of auction rate securities described above. During the 2007 period, we purchased short-term investments of \$23,920 and sold short-term investments of \$27,152. Short-term investments totaled \$6,201 at June 30, 2008, as compared to \$33,049 at June 30, 2007. At June 30, 2008, long-term investments included \$7,020 of auction rate securities, which were classified as short-term investments during the 2007 period. See Note M.

**Financing activities.** Cash used in financing activities was \$6,806 in the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 as compared to \$1,997 last year. During the nine months of fiscal year 2008, we repurchased 482,300 Common Shares for \$4,700 at an average cost of \$9.74 per share including commissions. We did not repurchase any shares during the first nine months of fiscal year 2007. See Note F. Short-term debt was \$283 at June 30, 2008, and \$257 at June 30, 2007.

We expect to finance capital spending and working capital requirements with cash and short-term investments on hand, cash provided by operations and our available lines of credit. At June 30, 2008, we had available unused lines of credit with domestic and foreign banks aggregating \$14,020, of which \$10,000 is long-term and \$4,020 is a combination of long-term and short-term depending upon the nature of the indebtedness. See Note G.

### **Outlook**

Based upon current expectations, the Company is estimating net sales for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, which will end September 30, 2008, to range between \$36,000 and \$41,000 and earnings before taxes to range from a loss to earnings in the single digits as a percentage of net sales. Operating costs are expected to decrease slightly in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008 from the levels experienced during the third quarter of fiscal 2008. The Company expects the effective tax rate for the remainder of fiscal 2008 to approximate the statutory rate, excluding discrete items and assuming the U.S. Congress does not enact legislation to restore research and development credits. The effective tax rate will fluctuate based on actual results.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, ( FASB ), issued FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an Interpretation of FASB Statement 109 (FIN 48). FIN 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. It also provides guidance on de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company adopted FIN 48 effective October 1, 2007. See Note N.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures About Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133 (SFAS No. 161). SFAS No. 161 requires, among other things, enhanced disclosure about the volume and nature of derivative and hedging activities and a tabular summary showing the fair value of derivative instruments included in the statement of financial position and statement of operations. SFAS 161 also requires expanded disclosure of contingencies included in derivative instruments related to credit risk. SFAS 161 is effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of SFAS No. 161's disclosure requirements on the Company's financial statements.

In May 2008, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 162, The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (SFAS No. 162). The purpose of the new standard is to provide a consistent framework and hierarchy for determining what accounting principles should be used when preparing U.S. generally accepted accounting principles financial statements. Previous guidance did not properly rank the accounting literature. The new standard is effective 60 days following the Securities and Exchange Commission's approval of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board amendments to AU Section 411, The Meaning of Present Fairly in Conformity With Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The adoption of SFAS No. 162 is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's financial statements.





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

The Company is exposed to a variety of risks, including foreign currency fluctuations, interest rate fluctuations and changes in the market value of its short-term investments. In the normal course of business, we employ established policies and procedures to manage our exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency values and interest rates.

The Company is exposed to foreign currency exchange rate risk primarily through transactions denominated in foreign currencies. We currently utilize foreign exchange forward contracts or option contracts to sell foreign currencies to fix the exchange rates related to near-term sales and effectively fix our margins. Generally, these contracts have maturities of three months or less. Our policy is to only enter into derivative transactions when we have an identifiable exposure to risk, thus not creating additional foreign currency exchange rate risk. In our opinion, a 10 percent adverse change in foreign currency exchange rates would not have a material effect on these instruments and, therefore, our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

The Company maintains a short-term investment portfolio consisting of United States government backed notes and bonds, corporate notes and bonds, and mutual funds consisting primarily of government notes and bonds. An increase in interest rates would decrease the value of certain of these investments. However, in management's opinion, a 10 percent increase in interest rates would not have a material impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

**ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures.**

The Company's management has evaluated, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of June 30, 2008, pursuant to Rule 13a-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed in the reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that information was accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

There were no changes in the internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the third quarter of fiscal year 2008 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

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**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings.**

On August 9, 2006 and August 15, 2006, the Company was named as a nominal defendant in two separate shareholder derivative suits, Nathan Diamond v. Joseph P. Keithley, et al., Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Court of Common Pleas ( Diamond ) and Michael C. Miller v. Joseph P. Keithley, et al, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Court of Common Pleas ( Miller ). Both suits were removed to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio on September 8, 2006. Miller and Diamond were consolidated and on November 13, 2006, the plaintiffs filed a consolidated Complaint (the Consolidated Complaint ).

On October 23, 2006 and October 24, 2006, the Company was named as a nominal defendant in two additional shareholder derivative lawsuits, Edward P. Hardy v. Joseph P. Keithley, et al., in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio and Mike Marks v. Joseph P. Keithley, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

The four suits have been consolidated in a single action, In re Keithley Instruments, Inc. Derivative Litigation, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Pursuant to the consolidation order, the Consolidated Complaint is the operative complaint in the action. The Consolidated Complaint alleges that various Company officers and/or directors manipulated the dates on which stock options were granted by the Company so as to maximize the value of the stock options. The suits allege numerous claims, including violations of Sections 10(b), 10b(5) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act, breaches of fiduciary duties, aiding and abetting, corporate waste, unjust enrichment and rescission.

The Company and other defendants filed a motion to dismiss the Consolidated Complaint. After extensive briefing and oral argument, on March 21, 2008, the Court issued a forty-seven page Memorandum Opinion and Order granting the defendants motion to dismiss in its entirety. The Court granted plaintiffs leave to amend the Consolidated Complaint within 30 days of the Court s Order. On April 21, 2008, plaintiffs filed a Second Amended Complaint. The Second Amended Complaint does not include the claims under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 contained in the Consolidated Complaint. The Second Amended Complaint alleges state law claims for unjust enrichment, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty, and conversion. The Company and the other defendants have filed a motion to strike and dismiss the second Amended Complaint.

**ITEM 1A. Risk Factors.**

Other than the following, there have been no material changes to the Company s risk factors as disclosed in Item 1A Risk Factors, in the Company s 2007 Form 10-K.

*Uncertain Financial Markets*

We maintain a portfolio of liquid short-term investments consisting primarily of auction rate securities to support the financing needs of the Company. Our ability to fund our daily operations requires continuous access to our bank and investment accounts, as well as access to our bank credit lines, which provide additional liquidity through short-term bank loans. During the recent months, auctions for auction rate securities have failed, making a portion of our short-term investments not readily convertible to cash. At March 31, 2008, we reclassified \$7,020, at fair value, of auction rate securities from short-term to long-term investments. We also recorded a temporary mark-to-market fair value adjustment of \$780 through other comprehensive income for those investments. If we are unable to access our cash, short-term investments or credit lines (for example, due to instability in the financial markets), or if the markets for auction rate securities were to further deteriorate and it became necessary to record a permanent impairment on these investments, our results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected.

**Table of Contents****ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.****Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

The following table sets forth, for the months indicated, our purchases of Common Shares in the third quarter of fiscal year 2008:

| Period           | Total number of shares purchased | Average price paid per share (1) | Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs | Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs |
|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| April 1 30, 2008 |                                  |                                  |  | 1,414,600  |
| May 1 31, 2008   | 11,850                           | \$ 9.97                          | 11,850   | 1,402,750  |
| June 1 30, 2008  | 36,050                           | \$ 10.14                         | 36,050   | 1,366,700  |
| Total            | 47,900                           | \$ 10.10                         | 47,900   | 1,366,700  |

(1) Price includes commissions.

On February 12, 2007, the Company announced its Board of Directors had approved an open market stock repurchase program (the 2007 Program ). Under the terms of the 2007 Program, the Company may purchase up to 2,000,000 Common Shares, which represented approximately 12 percent of its total outstanding Common Shares at the start of the 2007 Program, through February 28, 2009. The 2007 Program replaces the prior repurchase program, which expired on December 31, 2006. The purpose of the 2007 Program is to offset the dilutive effect of stock option and stock purchase plans, and to provide value to shareholders. Common Shares held in treasury may be reissued in settlement of purchases under the stock option and stock purchase plans. See Note F to our condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q.

Item 6. Exhibits.

(a) Exhibits. The following exhibits are filed herewith:

| Exhibit Number | Exhibit  |
|----------------|--|
| 31(a)          | Certification of Joseph P. Keithley pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)-15d-14(a).                  |
| 31(b)          | Certification of Mark J. Plush pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)-15d-14(a).                       |
| 32(a)+         | Certification of Joseph P. Keithley pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350. |
| 32(b)+         | Certification of Mark J. Plush pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.      |

+ The certifications furnished pursuant to this item will not be deemed filed for purposes of

Section 18 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78r), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section. Such certification will not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, except to the extent that the registrant specifically incorporates it by reference.

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SIGNATURES

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

KEITHLEY INSTRUMENTS, INC.  
(Registrant)

Date: August 11, 2008

/s/ Joseph P. Keithley  
Joseph P. Keithley  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: August 11, 2008

/s/ Mark J. Plush  
Mark J. Plush  
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

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EXHIBIT INDEX

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