

ACUITY BRANDS INC  
Form 10-Q  
March 30, 2011

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

**FORM 10-Q**

**(Mark One)**

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

**For the quarterly period ended February 28, 2011**

**OR**

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

**For the transition period from to  
Commission file number 001-16583**

**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

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

**58-2632672  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)**

**1170 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 2400, Atlanta,  
Georgia  
(Address of principal executive offices)**

**30309  
(Zip Code)**

**(404) 853-1400  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

**None  
(Former Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, if Changed Since Last Report)**

Indicate by check mark x 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 x No o  
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 x No o

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

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

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

Yes  No

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

Common Stock \$0.01 Par Value 43,306,065 shares as of March 28, 2011.

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

**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
*(In millions, except share and per-share data)*

	<b>February 28, 2011 (unaudited)</b>	<b>August 31, 2010</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 125.5	\$ 191.0
Accounts receivable, less reserve for doubtful accounts of \$1.7 at February 28, 2011 and \$2.0 at August 31, 2010	243.7	255.1
Inventories	174.1	149.0
Deferred income taxes	16.3	17.3
Prepayments and other current assets	22.3	13.9
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>581.9</b>	<b>626.3</b>
Property, Plant, and Equipment, at cost:		
Land	8.2	7.6
Buildings and leasehold improvements	120.2	113.7
Machinery and equipment	357.5	337.5
<b>Total Property, Plant, and Equipment</b>	<b>485.9</b>	<b>458.8</b>
Less Accumulated depreciation and amortization	340.8	320.4
<b>Property, Plant, and Equipment, net</b>	<b>145.1</b>	<b>138.4</b>
Other Assets:		
Goodwill	571.3	515.6
Intangible assets	212.5	199.5
Deferred income taxes	3.8	3.7
Other long-term assets	22.4	20.1
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>810.0</b>	<b>738.9</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,537.0</b>	<b>\$ 1,503.6</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 175.7	\$ 195.0
Accrued compensation	31.3	51.8
Accrued pension liabilities, current	1.1	1.1
Other accrued liabilities	79.1	73.4
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>287.2</b>	<b>321.3</b>

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Long-Term Debt	353.4	353.3
Accrued Pension Liabilities, less current portion	72.5	71.1
Deferred Income Taxes	15.1	10.2
Self-Insurance Reserves, less current portion	7.8	7.6
Other Long-Term Liabilities	53.0	45.7
Commitments and Contingencies (see <i>Commitments and Contingencies</i> footnote)		
Stockholders' Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; none issued		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 500,000,000 shares authorized; 50,859,487 issued and 42,604,732 outstanding at February 28, 2011; and 50,441,634 issued and 42,116,473 outstanding at August 31, 2010	0.5	0.5
Paid-in capital	670.8	661.9
Retained earnings	491.0	459.0
Accumulated other comprehensive loss items	(61.5)	(71.3)
Treasury stock, at cost, 8,254,755 shares at February 28, 2011 and 8,325,161 shares at August 31, 2010	(352.8)	(355.7)
Total Stockholders' Equity	748.0	694.4
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 1,537.0	\$ 1,503.6

The accompanying *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* are an integral part of these statements.

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**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)**  
*(In millions, except per-share data)*

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Six Months Ended</b>	
	<b>February 28,</b>		<b>February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Net Sales	\$ 416.1	\$ 383.5	\$ 841.2	\$ 775.2
Cost of Products Sold	252.3	231.2	501.2	461.6
Gross Profit	163.8	152.3	340.0	313.6
Selling, Distribution, and Administrative Expenses	126.6	119.1	257.3	237.7
Special Charge		5.4		5.4
Operating Profit	37.2	27.8	82.7	70.5
Other Expense (Income):				
Interest expense, net	7.5	8.1	15.0	14.8
Miscellaneous expense, net	0.7	(0.6)	2.0	(0.1)
Loss on early debt extinguishment		10.5		10.5
Total Other Expense	8.2	18.0	17.0	25.2
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	29.0	9.8	65.7	45.3
Provision for Income Taxes	9.1	2.6	21.4	14.8
Income from Continuing Operations	19.9	7.2	44.3	30.5
Income from Discontinued Operations		0.6		0.6
Net Income	\$ 19.9	\$ 7.8	\$ 44.3	\$ 31.1
Earnings Per Share:				
Basic Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.71
Basic Earnings per Share from Discontinued Operations		0.01		0.01
Basic Earnings per Share	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.18	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.72
Basic Weighted Average Number of Shares Outstanding	42.3	42.5	42.2	42.4
Diluted Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.16	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.69
Diluted Earnings per Share from Discontinued Operations		0.01		0.01
Diluted Earnings per Share	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.70
Diluted Weighted Average Number of Shares Outstanding	43.0	43.3	42.9	43.2
Dividends Declared per Share	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.26

The accompanying *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* are an integral part of these statements.





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**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)**  
*(In millions)*

	<b>Six Months Ended</b>	
	<b>February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 44.3	\$ 31.1
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	19.2	18.8
Noncash compensation expense, net	1.9	3.0
Excess tax benefits from share-based payments	(3.5)	(0.3)
Loss on early debt extinguishment		10.5
Loss on the sale or disposal of property, plant, and equipment	0.1	0.1
Asset impairments		3.7
Deferred income taxes	(0.9)	(1.7)
Other non-cash items	0.1	
Change in assets and liabilities, net of effect of acquisitions, divestitures and effect of exchange rate changes:		
Accounts receivable	21.9	2.3
Inventories	(14.4)	(7.3)
Prepayments and other current assets	(5.7)	(12.3)
Accounts payable	(22.6)	(4.5)
Other current liabilities	(16.7)	(1.0)
Other	5.0	5.0
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>47.4</b>
Cash Provided by (Used for) Investing Activities:		
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment	(11.8)	(9.5)
Acquisitions of businesses and intangible assets	(80.5)	
<b>Net Cash Used for Investing Activities</b>	<b>(92.3)</b>	<b>(9.5)</b>
Cash Provided by (Used for) Financing Activities:		
Repayments of long-term debt		(237.9)
Issuance of long-term debt		346.5
Repurchases of common stock	(2.9)	
Proceeds from stock option exercises and other	5.3	2.9
Excess tax benefits from share-based payments	3.5	0.3
Dividends paid	(11.2)	(11.3)
<b>Net Cash (Used for) Provided by Financing Activities</b>	<b>(5.3)</b>	<b>100.5</b>
Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash	3.4	(1.3)
<b>Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>(65.5)</b>	<b>137.1</b>

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Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	191.0	18.7
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 125.5	\$ 155.8
Supplemental Cash Flow Information:		
Income taxes paid during the period	\$ 16.6	\$ 23.3
Interest paid during the period	\$ 7.5	\$ 15.8

The accompanying *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* are an integral part of these statements.

**Table of Contents****ACUITY BRANDS, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)***(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)***1. Description of Business and Basis of Presentation**

Acuity Brands, Inc. ( Acuity Brands ) is the parent company of Acuity Brands Lighting, Inc. ( ABL ), and other subsidiaries (collectively referred to herein as the Company ). The Company designs, produces, and distributes a broad array of indoor and outdoor lighting fixtures and related products, including lighting controls, and services for commercial and institutional, industrial, infrastructure, and residential applications for various markets throughout North America and select international markets. The Company has one operating segment.

On February 23, 2011, the Company acquired for cash all of the ownership interests in Washoe Equipment, Inc., d/b/a Sunoptics Prismatic Skylights, and CBC Plastics LLC (collectively, Sunoptics ), a premier designer, manufacturer, and marketer of high-performance, prismatic daylighting solutions based in Sacramento, California. The operating results for Sunoptics since the date of acquisition are not material to the Company s financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

On October 14, 2010, the Company acquired for cash all of the outstanding capital stock of Winona Lighting, Inc. ( Winona Lighting ), a premier provider of architectural and high-performance indoor and outdoor lighting products headquartered in Minnesota. The operating results for Winona Lighting have been included in the Company s consolidated financial statements since the date of acquisition.

On July 26, 2010, the Company acquired for cash the remaining outstanding capital stock of Renaissance Lighting, Inc. ( Renaissance ), a privately-held innovator of solid-state light-emitting diode ( LED ) architectural lighting based in Herndon, Virginia. Previously, the Company entered into a strategic partnership with Renaissance, which included a noncontrolling interest in Renaissance and a license to Renaissance s intellectual property estate. The operating results of Renaissance have been included in the Company s consolidated financial statements since the date of acquisition.

The *Consolidated Financial Statements* have been prepared by the Company in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ( U.S. GAAP ) and present the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of Acuity Brands and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. References made to years are for fiscal year periods.

The unaudited interim consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by the Company in accordance with U.S. GAAP and present the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of the Company. These interim consolidated financial statements reflect all normal and recurring adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present fairly the Company s consolidated financial position as of February 28, 2011, the consolidated results of operations for the three and six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, and the consolidated cash flows for the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in the Company s annual financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP have been condensed or omitted. However, the Company believes that the disclosures included herein are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company as of and for the three years ended August 31, 2010 and notes thereto included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC ) on October 29, 2010 (File No. 001-16583) ( Form 10-K ).

The results of operations for the three and six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year because the net sales and net income of the Company historically have been higher in the second half of its fiscal year and because of the continued uncertainty of general economic conditions that may impact the key end markets of the Company for the remainder of fiscal 2011.

**2. Discontinued Operations**

Acuity Brands completed the spin-off of its specialty products business (the Spin-off ), Zep Inc. ( Zep ) on October 31, 2007, by distributing all of the shares of Zep common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, to the Company s stockholders of record as of October 17, 2007. As a result of the Spin-off, the Company s financial statements have been prepared with the results of operations and cash flows of the specialty products business presented as discontinued operations.

In conjunction with the Spin-off, Acuity Brands and Zep entered into various agreements that address the allocation of assets and liabilities between them and that define their relationship after the separation, including a distribution agreement, a tax disaffiliation agreement, an employee benefits agreement, and a transition services agreement. During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, income from discontinued operations was recognized in the amount of \$0.6 related to the revision of estimates of certain legal reserves established at the time of the Spin-off. As with the original reserve, the income from discontinued operations had no income tax effect.

**Table of Contents****ACUITY BRANDS, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)***(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)***3. Significant Accounting Policies*****Use of Estimates***

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

***Reclassifications***

Certain prior-period amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation.

***Subsequent Events***

The Company has evaluated subsequent events for recognition and disclosure for occurrences and transactions after the date of the condensed financial statements at February 28, 2011 and for the three and six months ended February 28, 2011.

***Revenue Recognition***

The Company records revenue when the following criteria are met: persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, delivery has occurred, the Company's price to the customer is fixed and determinable, and collectability is reasonably assured. Delivery is not considered to have occurred until the customer assumes the risks and rewards of ownership. Customers take delivery at the time of shipment for terms designated free on board shipping point. For sales designated free on board destination, customers take delivery when the product is delivered to the customer's delivery site. Provisions for certain rebates, sales incentives, product returns, and discounts to customers are recorded in the same period the related revenue is recorded. The Company also maintains one-time or on-going marketing and trade-promotion programs with certain customers that require the Company to estimate and accrue the expected costs of such programs. These arrangements include cooperative marketing programs, merchandising of the Company's products, and introductory marketing funds for new products and other trade-promotion activities conducted by the customer. Costs associated with these programs are reflected within the Company's *Consolidated Statements of Income* in accordance with the Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 605, *Revenue Recognition* (ASC 605), which in most instances requires such costs be recorded as a reduction of revenue.

The Company provides for limited product return rights to certain distributors and customers, primarily for slow moving or damaged items subject to certain defined criteria. The Company monitors product returns and, at the time revenue is recognized, records a provision for the estimated amount of future returns based primarily on historical experience and specific notification of pending returns. Although historical product returns generally have been within expectations, there can be no assurance that future product returns will not exceed historical amounts. A significant increase in product returns could have a material impact on the Company's operating results in future periods.

Revenue is earned on services and the sale of products. Revenue is recognized for services rendered in the period of performance.

***Revenue Recognition for Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables***

A small portion of the Company's revenues are derived from (i) the sale and license of its products, (ii) fees associated with training, installation, and technical support services, and (iii) monitoring and control services. Certain agreements, particularly related to lighting controls systems, represent multiple-element arrangements that include tangible products that contain software that is essential to the functionality of the systems and undelivered elements that primarily relate to installation and monitoring and control services. The undelivered elements associated with installations and monitoring and control services are reviewed and analyzed to determine separability in relation to the delivered elements and appropriate pricing treatment based on (a) vendor-specific objective evidence, (b) third-party evidence, or (c) estimates. If deemed separate units of accounting, the revenue and associated cost of sales related to the delivered elements are realized at the time of delivery, while those related to the undelivered elements are recognized appropriately based on the period of performance. If the separation criterion for the undelivered elements is not met due to the undelivered elements being essential to the functionality of the lighting controls systems, all

revenue and cost of sales attributable to the contract are deferred at the time of sale and are both generally recognized on a straight-line basis over the respective contract periods.

For a description of other significant accounting policies, see the *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* footnote to the Financial Statements included in the Company's Form 10-K. There have been no material changes to the Company's significant accounting policies since the filing of the Company's Form 10-K, except as noted above and in the *New Accounting Pronouncements* footnote.

**Table of Contents****ACUITY BRANDS, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)***(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)***4. New Accounting Pronouncements*****Accounting Standards Adopted in Fiscal 2011***

In September 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued Accounting Standards Update ( ASU ) No. 2009-13, *Revenue Recognition (Topic 605) Multiple-Deliverable Revenue Arrangements* ( ASU 2009-13 ). ASU 2009-13 addresses the accounting for multiple-deliverable arrangements to enable vendors to account for products or services ( deliverables ) separately rather than as a combined unit. Specifically, this guidance amends the criteria in Subtopic 605-25, *Revenue Recognition-Multiple-Element Arrangements*, for separating consideration in multiple-deliverable arrangements. A selling price hierarchy is established for determining the selling price of a deliverable, which is based on: (a) vendor-specific objective evidence; (b) third-party evidence; or (c) estimates. This guidance also eliminates the residual method of allocation and requires that arrangement consideration be allocated at the inception of the arrangement to all deliverables using the relative selling price method. Additional disclosures related to a vendor's multiple-deliverable revenue arrangements are also required by this update. ASU 2009-13 is effective prospectively for revenue arrangements entered into, or materially modified, in fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2010 with early adoption permitted. Therefore, ASU 2009-13 became effective on a prospective basis for the Company on September 1, 2010. The adoption of ASU 2009-13 had an immaterial impact on the Company's results of operations, financial condition, and cash flows.

In September 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-14, *Software (Topic 985) Certain Revenue Arrangements That Include Software Elements* ( ASU 2009-14 ). ASU 2009-14 changes the accounting model for revenue arrangements that include both tangible products and software elements to allow for alternatives when vendor-specific objective evidence does not exist. Under this guidance, tangible products containing software components and non-software components that function together to deliver the tangible product's essential functionality and hardware components of a tangible product containing software components are excluded from the software revenue guidance in Subtopic 985-605, *Software-Revenue Recognition*; thus, these arrangements are excluded from this update. ASU 2009-14 is effective prospectively for revenue arrangements entered into or materially modified in fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2010 with early adoption permitted. Therefore, ASU 2009-14 became effective on a prospective basis for the Company on September 1, 2010. The adoption of ASU 2009-14 had an immaterial impact on the Company's results of operations, financial condition, and cash flows.

***Accounting Standards Yet to Be Adopted***

In December 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-29, *Business Combinations (Topic 805) Disclosure of Supplementary Pro Forma Information for Business Combinations* ( ASU 2010-29 ). This standard update clarifies that, when presenting comparative financial statements, SEC registrants should disclose revenue and earnings of the combined entity as though the current period business combinations had occurred as of the beginning of the comparable prior annual reporting period only. The update also expands the supplemental pro forma disclosures to include a description of the nature and amount of material, nonrecurring pro forma adjustments directly attributable to the business combination included in the reported pro forma revenue and earnings. ASU 2010-29 is effective prospectively for material (either on an individual or aggregate basis) business combinations entered into in fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2010 with early adoption permitted. ASU 2010-29 is therefore effective for the Company for acquisitions made after the beginning of fiscal 2012. The Company does not expect ASU 2010-29 to have a material effect on the Company's results of operations, financial condition, and cash flows; however, the Company may have additional disclosure requirements if a material acquisition occurs.

**5. Acquisitions*****Sunoptics Acquisition***

On February 23, 2011, the Company acquired for cash all of the ownership interests in Sunoptics, a premier provider of high-performance, prismatic daylighting solutions based in Sacramento, California. Sunoptics high-performance prismatic skylights optimize lighting performance through the use of sustainable and energy-efficient solutions for retail, industrial, warehouse, education, government, and office applications.



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Due to the provisions of ASC 805, *Business Combinations* ( ASC 805 ), the Company expensed an immaterial amount in acquisition costs in current quarter earnings.

The operating results of Sunoptics since the date of acquisition are not material to the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows. Preliminary opening balance sheet amounts related to the acquisition are reflected in the *Consolidated Balance Sheets* as of February 28, 2011. These amounts are deemed to be provisional until disclosed otherwise as the Company continues to gather information related to the identification and valuation of intangible and other acquired assets and liabilities.

Refer to the *Goodwill and Intangible Assets* footnote for preliminary details around the business combination.

**Table of Contents****ACUITY BRANDS, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)***(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)***Winona Lighting Acquisition**

On October 14, 2010, the Company acquired for cash all of the outstanding capital stock of Winona Lighting, Inc. ( Winona Lighting ), a premier provider of architectural and high-performance indoor and outdoor lighting products headquartered in Minnesota. Recognized throughout the architectural design community, Winona Lighting served the commercial, retail, and institutional markets with a product portfolio of high-quality and design-oriented luminaires suitable for decorative, custom, asymmetric, and landscape lighting applications.

Due to the provisions of ASC 805, the Company expensed an immaterial amount in acquisition costs during the first half of fiscal 2011.

The operating results of Winona Lighting have been included in the Company's consolidated financial statements since the date of acquisition and are not material to the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows. Preliminary amounts related to the acquisition are reflected in the *Consolidated Balance Sheets* as of February 28, 2011. These amounts are deemed to be provisional until disclosed otherwise as the Company continues to gather information related to the identification and valuation of intangible and other acquired assets and liabilities.

Refer to the *Goodwill and Intangible Assets* footnote for preliminary details around the business combination.

**Renaissance Acquisition**

On July 26, 2010, the Company acquired for cash the remaining outstanding capital stock of Renaissance. Renaissance, based in Herndon, Virginia, offered a full range of LED-based specification-grade downlighting luminaires and had developed an extensive intellectual property portfolio related to advanced LED optical solutions and technologies.

The operating results of Renaissance have been included in the Company's consolidated financial statements since the date of acquisition and are not material to the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows. These amounts are deemed to be provisional until disclosed otherwise as the Company continues to gather information related to the identification and valuation of intangible and other acquired assets and liabilities. For a detailed discussion of the Renaissance acquisition, please refer to the Company's Form 10-K.

**6. Fair Value Measurements**

The Company determines a fair value measurement based on the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing an asset or liability. ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* ( ASC 820 ), established a three level hierarchy making a distinction between market participant assumptions based on (i) unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market (Level 1), (ii) quoted prices in markets that are not active or inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term of the asset or liability (Level 2), and (iii) prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement (Level 3).

The following table presents information about assets and liabilities required to be carried at fair value and measured on a recurring basis as of February 28, 2011 and August 31, 2010:

	<b>Fair Value Measurements as of:</b>			
	<b>February 28, 2011</b>		<b>August 31, 2010</b>	
	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Total Fair Value</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Total Fair Value</b>
<b>Assets:</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 125.5	\$ 125.5	\$ 191.0	\$ 191.0
Short-term investments (1)	0.8	0.8	1.3	1.3
Long-term investments (1)	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.8
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Deferred compensation plan (2)	2.1	2.1	3.1	3.1

- (1) The Company maintains certain investments that generate returns that offset changes in certain liabilities related to deferred compensation arrangements.
- (2) The Company maintains a self-directed, non-qualified deferred compensation plan primarily for certain retired executives and other highly compensated employees.

The Company utilizes valuation methodologies to determine the fair values of its financial assets and liabilities in conformity with the concepts of exit price and the fair value hierarchy as prescribed in ASC 820. All valuation methods and assumptions are validated at

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least quarterly to ensure the accuracy and relevance of the fair values. There were no material changes to the valuation methods or assumptions used to determine fair values during the current period.

The Company used the following valuation methods and assumptions in estimating the fair value of the following assets and liabilities:

Cash and cash equivalents are classified as Level 1 assets. The carrying amounts for cash reflect the assets' fair values, and the fair values for cash equivalents are determined based on quoted market prices.

Short-term and long-term investments are classified as Level 1 assets. These investments consist primarily of publicly traded marketable equity securities and fixed income securities, and the fair values are obtained through market observable pricing.

Deferred compensation plan liabilities are classified as Level 1 within the hierarchy. The fair values of the liabilities are directly related to the valuation of the long-term investments held in trust for the plan. Hence, the carrying value of the deferred compensation liability represents the fair value of the investment assets.

The Company does not have any assets or liabilities that are carried at fair value and measured on a recurring basis classified as Level 2 or Level 3 assets or liabilities. In addition, no transfers between the levels of the fair value hierarchy occurred during the current fiscal period. In the event of a transfer in or out of Level 1, the transfers would be recognized on the date of occurrence.

Disclosures of fair value information about financial instruments, whether or not recognized in the balance sheet, for which it is practicable to estimate that value are required each reporting period in addition to any financial instruments carried at fair value on a recurring basis as prescribed by ASC 825, *Financial Instruments*, (ASC 825). In cases where quoted market prices are not available, fair values are based on estimates using present value or other valuation techniques. Those techniques are significantly affected by the assumptions used, including the discount rate and estimates of future cash flows.

The carrying values and estimated fair values of certain of the Company's financial instruments were as follows at February 28, 2011 and August 31, 2010:

	<b>February 28, 2011</b>		<b>August 31, 2010</b>	
	<b>Carrying Value</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Carrying Value</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Senior unsecured public notes, net of unamortized discount	\$ 349.4	\$ 359.3	\$ 349.3	\$ 384.5
Industrial revenue bond	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0

Senior unsecured public notes are carried at the outstanding balance, including bond discounts, as of the end of the reporting period. Fair value is estimated based on the discounted future cash flows using rates currently available for debt of similar terms and maturity.

The industrial revenue bond is carried at the outstanding balance as of the end of the reporting period. The industrial revenue bond is a tax-exempt, variable-rate instrument that resets on a weekly basis, and, therefore, the Company estimates that the face amount of the bond approximates fair value as of February 28, 2011.

ASC 825 excludes certain financial instruments and all nonfinancial instruments from its disclosure requirements. Accordingly, the aggregate fair value amounts presented do not represent the underlying value of the Company. In many cases, the fair value estimates cannot be substantiated by comparison to independent markets, nor can the disclosed value be realized in immediate settlement of the instruments. In evaluating the Company's management of liquidity and other risks, the fair values of all assets and liabilities should be taken into consideration, not only those presented above.

**7. Goodwill and Intangible Assets**

Through multiple acquisitions, the Company acquired intangible assets consisting primarily of trademarks associated with specific products with finite lives, definite-lived distribution networks, patented technology, non-compete agreements, and customer relationships, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives. Indefinite lived intangible assets consist of trade names that are expected to generate cash flows indefinitely.

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Summarized information for the Company's acquired intangible assets is as follows:

	February 28, 2011		August 31, 2010	
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization
Amortized intangible assets:				
Patents and trademarks	\$ 53.7	\$ (17.9)	\$ 49.4	\$ (16.2)
Distribution network and customer relationships	103.3	(26.3)	89.9	(23.7)
Other	5.7	(2.1)	5.8	(1.8)
Total	\$ 162.7	\$ (46.3)	\$ 145.1	\$ (41.7)
Unamortized trade names	\$ 96.1		\$ 96.1	

The current year increases in the gross carrying amounts for the acquired intangible assets were due to the acquisitions of Winona Lighting and Sunoptics (refer to the *Acquisitions* footnote). With regards to the recent acquisitions, the weighted average useful life of the intangible assets with finite lives acquired by the Company was estimated at 14.7 years, which consisted primarily of intangible assets related to trademarks and customer relationships. The weighted average useful lives of the trademarks and customer relationships with finite lives acquired by the Company in the current fiscal year were estimated at 20 and 13 years, respectively. The provisional amounts for the acquired intangible assets are deemed incomplete until disclosed otherwise as the Company continues to gather information related to the business combination.

The Company recorded amortization expense of \$2.3 and \$1.7 related to intangible assets with finite lives during the three months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The Company recorded amortization expense of \$4.7 and \$3.6 related to intangible assets with finite lives during the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Amortization expense is expected to be approximately \$9.3 in fiscal 2011, \$8.3 in fiscal 2012, \$7.5 in fiscal 2013, \$7.5 in fiscal 2014, and \$7.2 in fiscal 2015. The decrease in expected amortization expense in fiscal 2012 is due to the completion of the amortization during fiscal 2011 of certain acquired patented technology assets. The decrease in fiscal 2013 is due to the completion of the amortization during fiscal 2012 of certain acquired customer relationships.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill during the year are summarized as follows:

Goodwill:	
Balance as of September 1, 2010	\$ 515.6
Acquisitions	53.9
Currency translation adjustments	1.8
Balance as of February 28, 2011	\$ 571.3

The increase in goodwill was attributable to completed business combinations during fiscal 2011. Additionally, \$6.6 related to preliminary deferred tax liabilities was recorded to goodwill as part of the recent acquisitions. These amounts will not be final until completion of the identification and valuation of all intangible assets acquired.

Further discussion of the Company's goodwill and other intangible assets are included within the *Significant Accounting Policies* footnote of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* within the Company's Form 10-K.



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**8. Inventories**

Inventories include materials, direct labor, and related manufacturing overhead. Inventories are stated at the lower of cost (on a first-in, first-out or average cost basis) or market and consist of the following:

	<b>February 28, 2011</b>	<b>August 31, 2010</b>
Raw materials and supplies	\$ 93.3	\$ 76.4
Work in process	7.3	8.8
Finished goods	83.8	73.2
	184.4	158.4
Less: Reserves	(10.3)	(9.4)
Total Inventory	\$ 174.1	\$ 149.0

**9. Earnings per share**

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net earnings available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, which has been modified to include the effects of all participating securities (unvested share-based payment awards with a right to receive nonforfeitable dividends) as prescribed by the two-class method under ASC 260, *Earnings Per Share* (ASC 260), during the period. Diluted earnings per share is computed similarly but reflects the potential dilution that would occur if dilutive options were exercised and other distributions related to deferred stock agreements were incurred. Stock options of 141,607 shares (whole units) and 152,334 shares (whole units) were excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation for the three months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively, as the effect of inclusion would have been antidilutive. Stock options of 108,689 shares (whole units) and 152,334 shares (whole units) were excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation for the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively, as the effect of inclusion would have been antidilutive. Further discussion of the Company's stock options and restricted stock awards are included within the *Common Stock and Related Matters* and *Share-Based Payments* footnotes of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* within the Company's Form 10-K.



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The following table calculates basic and diluted earnings per common share for the three and six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010:

	<b>Three Months Ended February 28,</b>		<b>Six Months Ended February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Basic earnings per share from continuing operations:				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 19.9	\$ 7.2	\$ 44.3	\$ 30.5
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	42.3	42.5	42.2	42.4
Basic earnings per share from continuing operations	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.71
Diluted earnings per share from continuing operations:				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 19.9	\$ 7.2	\$ 44.3	\$ 30.5
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	42.3	42.5	42.2	42.4
Common stock equivalents	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	43.0	43.3	42.9	43.2
Diluted earnings per share from continuing operations	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.16	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.69
Basic earnings per share from discontinued operations:				
Income from discontinued operations	\$	\$ 0.6	\$	\$ 0.6
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	42.3	42.5	42.2	42.4
Basic earnings per share from discontinued operations	\$	\$ 0.01	\$	\$ 0.01
Diluted earnings per share from discontinued operations:				
Income from discontinued operations	\$	\$ 0.6	\$	\$ 0.6
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	42.3	42.5	42.2	42.4
Common stock equivalents	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	43.0	43.3	42.9	43.2
Diluted earnings per share from discontinued operations	\$	\$ 0.01	\$	\$ 0.01

**10. Comprehensive Income**

Comprehensive income represents the measures of all changes in equity that result from recognized transactions and other economic events other than transactions with owners in their capacity as owners. Other comprehensive

income includes foreign currency translation adjustments. The calculation of comprehensive income is as follows:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Six Months Ended</b>	
	<b>February 28,</b>		<b>February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Net income	\$ 19.9	\$ 7.8	\$ 44.3	\$ 31.1
Foreign currency translation adjustments	5.3	(2.9)	9.8	0.8
Comprehensive income	\$ 25.2	\$ 4.9	\$ 54.1	\$ 31.9

## 11. Debt

### *Lines of Credit*

On October 19, 2007, the Company executed a \$250.0 revolving credit facility, which matures in October 2012 (the Revolving Credit Facility ). At February 28, 2011, the Company had outstanding letters of credit totaling \$10.7, primarily for securing collateral

**Table of Contents****ACUITY BRANDS, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)***(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)*

requirements under the casualty insurance programs for Acuity Brands and for providing credit support for the Company's industrial revenue bond. At February 28, 2011, a total of \$6.5 of the letters of credit was issued under the Revolving Credit Facility, thereby reducing the total availability under the facility by such amount. At February 28, 2011, the Company had additional borrowing capacity of \$243.5 under the most restrictive covenant in effect at the time, and was compliant with all financial covenants under the Revolving Credit Facility.

Further details regarding the Company's lines of credit are included within the *Debt and Lines of Credit* footnote of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* within the Company's Form 10-K.

**Notes**

At February 28, 2011, the Company had \$350.0 of publicly traded notes outstanding at a 6.0% interest rate that are scheduled to mature in December 2019, and \$4.0 in a tax-exempt industrial revenue bond that is scheduled to mature in 2021. Further discussion of the Company's debt is included within the *Debt and Lines of Credit* footnote of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* within the Company's Form 10-K.

**Interest Expense**

Interest expense, net, is comprised primarily of interest expense on long-term debt, obligations in connection with non-qualified retirement plans, and Revolving Credit Facility borrowings, partially offset by interest income on cash and cash equivalents.

The following table summarizes the components of interest expense, net:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Six Months Ended</b>	
	<b>February 28,</b>		<b>February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Interest expense	\$ 7.6	\$ 8.2	\$ 15.3	\$ 14.9
Interest income	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.3)	(0.1)
Interest expense, net	\$ 7.5	\$ 8.1	\$ 15.0	\$ 14.8

**12. Commitments and Contingencies**

In the normal course of business, the Company is subject to the effects of certain contractual stipulations, events, transactions, and laws and regulations that may, at times, require the recognition of liabilities, such as those related to self-insurance reserves and claims, legal and contractual issues, environmental laws and regulations, guarantees, and indemnities. The Company establishes reserves when the associated costs related to uncertainties or guarantees become probable and can be reasonably estimated. For the period ended February 28, 2011, no material changes have occurred in the Company's reserves for self-insurance, litigation, environmental matters, or guarantees and indemnities, or relevant events and circumstances, from those disclosed in the *Commitments and Contingencies* footnote of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements within the Company's 10-K.

For more information on the Company's commitments and contingencies, please refer to the *Commitments and Contingencies* footnote of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements within the Company's 10-K.

**Product Warranty and Recall Costs**

Acuity Brands records an allowance for the estimated amount of future warranty claims when the related revenue is recognized, primarily based on historical experience of identified warranty claims. However, there can be no assurance that future warranty costs will not exceed historical experience. If actual future warranty costs exceed historical amounts, additional allowances may be required, which could have a material adverse impact on the Company's results of operations and cash flows in future periods.

As of August 31, 2010, the Company had product warranty and recall reserves of \$3.6. The Company made payments of \$3.0 related to warranty claims and recognized additional estimated warranty and recall liabilities of \$3.0

during the six-month period ended February 28, 2011. As of February 28, 2011, the Company had remaining product warranty and recall reserves of \$3.6 (included in *Other accrued liabilities* on the *Consolidated Balance Sheets*).

**13. Share-Based Payments**

The Company accounts for share-based payments through the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for share-based payment awards made to employees and directors of the Company, including stock options and restricted shares (all part of the Long-Term Incentive Plan), and share units representing certain deferrals into the Director Deferred Compensation Plan or the Supplemental Deferred Savings Plan. Each of these award programs are more fully discussed within the Company's Form 10-K. The Company recorded \$3.4 and \$3.5 of share-based expense for the three months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and \$6.5 and

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\$5.7 for the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Benefits of tax deductions in excess of recognized share-based compensation cost are reported as a financing cash flow, rather than as an operating cash flow, and amounted to \$0.6 and \$0.2 for the three months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and \$3.5 and \$0.3 for the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

**14. Pension Plans**

The Company has several pension plans, both qualified and non-qualified, covering certain hourly and salaried employees. Benefits paid under these plans are based generally on employees' years of service and/or compensation during the final years of employment. The Company makes annual contributions to the plans to the extent indicated by actuarial valuations and statutory requirements. The Company expects to contribute approximately \$6.0 and \$2.5 to its domestic and international defined benefit plans, respectively, during fiscal 2011. Plan assets are invested primarily in equity and fixed income securities.

Net periodic pension cost for the Company's defined benefit pension plans during the three and six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, included the following components:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Six Months Ended</b>	
	<b>February 28,</b>		<b>February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Service cost	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.8	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.6
Interest cost	2.1	2.1	4.2	4.3
Expected return on plan assets	(1.9)	(1.8)	(3.7)	(3.7)
Recognized actuarial loss	1.2	0.9	2.4	1.7
Net periodic pension cost	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.0	\$ 4.5	\$ 3.9

**15. Special Charges**

During fiscal 2008, the Company commenced actions to streamline and simplify the Company's organizational structure and operations. The charges consisted of severance and related employee benefit costs associated with the elimination of certain positions worldwide, consolidation of certain manufacturing facilities, the estimated costs associated with the early termination of certain leases, and share-based expense due to the modification of the terms of agreements to accelerate vesting for certain terminated employees. These actions, including those taken in fiscal 2009 and 2010 as part of this program, are expected to allow the Company to better leverage efficiencies in its supply chain and support areas, while funding continued investments in other areas that support future growth opportunities.

Cumulative special charges related to these activities of approximately \$49.7 have been incurred through February 28, 2011.

At August 31, 2010, the Company had severance and exit costs reserves of \$6.9 and \$0.7, respectively. The Company made payments of \$2.3 and \$0.1 related to severance and exit costs, respectively, during the six-month period ended February 28, 2011. As of February 28, 2011, the Company had remaining severance and exit costs reserves of \$4.6 and \$0.6, respectively, related to previous restructuring activities and included in *Accrued Compensation* on the *Consolidated Balance Sheets*.

**16. Supplemental Guarantor Condensed Consolidating Financial Statements**

In fiscal 2010, ABL, the wholly-owned and principal operating subsidiary of Acuity Brands, refinanced its outstanding debt through a bond offering of a \$350.0 aggregate principal amount of senior unsecured notes due in fiscal 2020.

In accordance with the registration rights agreement by and between ABL, as issuer, and Acuity Brands and ABL IP Holding LLC, as guarantors (ABL IP Holding, and, together with Acuity Brands, the Guarantors) a

wholly-owned subsidiary of Acuity Brands and the initial purchases of the Notes, ABL and the Guarantors to the Notes filed a registration statement with the SEC for an offer to exchange the Notes for an issue of SEC-registered notes with identical terms. Due to the filing of the registration statement and offer to exchange, the Company determined the need for compliance with Rule 3-10 of SEC Regulation S-X ( Rule 3-10 ). In lieu of providing separate audited financial statements for ABL and ABL IP Holding, the Company has included the accompanying Condensed Consolidating Financial Statements in accordance with Rule 3-10(d) of SEC Regulation S-X. The column marked Parent represents the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of Acuity Brands. The column marked Subsidiary Issuer represents the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of ABL. The column entitled Subsidiary Guarantor represents the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of ABL IP Holding. Lastly, the column listed as Non-

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Guarantors includes the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of the non-guarantor direct and indirect subsidiaries of Acuity Brands, which consist primarily of foreign subsidiaries. Eliminations were necessary in order to arrive at consolidated amounts. In addition, the equity method of accounting was used to calculate investments in subsidiaries. Accordingly, this basis of presentation is not intended to present our financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows for any purpose other than to comply with the specific requirements for parent-subsidiary guarantor reporting.

**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEETS****At February 28, 2011**

	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Subsidiary Issuer</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantor</b>	<b>Non- Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Current Assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 97.4	\$ 1.0	\$	\$ 27.1	\$	\$ 125.5
Accounts receivable, net		205.1		38.6		243.7
Inventories		160.9		13.2		174.1
Other current assets	14.6	19.0		5.0		38.6
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>112.0</b>	<b>386.0</b>		<b>83.9</b>		<b>581.9</b>
Property, Plant, and Equipment, net		110.1		35.0		145.1
Goodwill		496.5	2.7	72.1		571.3
Intangible assets		88.6	121.8	2.1		212.5
Other long-term assets	3.9	16.1		6.2		26.2
Investments in subsidiaries	763.0	146.8		0.1	(909.9)	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 878.9</b>	<b>\$ 1,244.1</b>	<b>\$ 124.5</b>	<b>\$ 199.4</b>	<b>\$ (909.9)</b>	<b>\$ 1,537.0</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>						
Current Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	\$ 0.6	\$ 160.8	\$	\$ 14.3	\$	\$ 175.7
Intercompany payable (receivable)	72.2	(19.4)	(69.5)	16.7		
Other accrued liabilities	12.6	84.9		14.0		111.5
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>226.3</b>	<b>(69.5)</b>	<b>45.0</b>		<b>287.2</b>
Long-Term Debt		353.4				353.4
Deferred Income Taxes	(13.6)	28.5		0.2		15.1
Other Long-Term Liabilities	59.1	55.0		19.2		133.3
<b>Total Stockholders Equity</b>	<b>748.0</b>	<b>580.9</b>	<b>194.0</b>	<b>135.0</b>	<b>(909.9)</b>	<b>748.0</b>

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Total Liabilities and Stockholders Equity	\$ 878.9	\$ 1,244.1	\$ 124.5	\$ 199.4	\$ (909.9)	\$ 1,537.0
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**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEETS**

	At August 31, 2010					
	Parent	Subsidiary Issuer	Subsidiary Guarantor	Non- Guarantors	Eliminations	Consolidated
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Current Assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 163.1	\$ 0.4	\$	\$ 27.5	\$	\$ 191.0
Accounts receivable, net		219.0		36.1		255.1
Inventories		139.5		9.5		149.0
Other current assets	7.2	19.0		5.0		31.2
Total Current Assets	170.3	377.9		78.1		626.3
Property, Plant, and						
Equipment, net		107.3		31.1		138.4
Goodwill		478.4	2.7	34.5		515.6
Intangible assets		72.8	124.3	2.4		199.5
Other long-term assets	4.6	7.2		12.0		23.8
Investments in subsidiaries	635.7	97.4		0.2	(733.3)	
Total Assets	\$ 810.6	\$ 1,141.0	\$ 127.0	\$ 158.3	\$ (733.3)	\$ 1,503.6
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>						
Current Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	\$ 0.7	\$ 178.5	\$	\$ 15.8	\$	\$ 195.0
Intercompany payable (receivable)	63.8	(30.0)	(60.2)	26.4		
Other accrued liabilities	15.6	97.6		13.1		126.3
Total Current Liabilities	80.1	246.1	(60.2)	55.3		321.3
Long-Term Debt		353.3				353.3
Deferred Income Taxes	(18.5)	28.5		0.2		10.2
Other Long-Term Liabilities	54.6	54.0		15.8		124.4
Total Stockholders Equity	694.4	459.1	187.2	87.0	(733.3)	694.4
Total Liabilities and Stockholders Equity	\$ 810.6	\$ 1,141.0	\$ 127.0	\$ 158.3	\$ (733.3)	\$ 1,503.6

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**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**  
*(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)*  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

**Three Months Ended February 28, 2011**

	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Subsidiary Issuer</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantor</b>	<b>Non- Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Net Sales:						
External sales	\$	\$ 369.2	\$	\$ 46.9	\$	\$ 416.1
Intercompany sales			6.3	16.4	(22.7)	
Total Sales		369.2	6.3	63.3	(22.7)	416.1
Cost of Products Sold		218.0		50.7	(16.4)	252.3
Gross Profit		151.2	6.3	12.6	(6.3)	163.8
Selling, Distribution, and Administrative Expenses	5.1	112.6	1.2	14.0	(6.3)	126.6
Intercompany charges	(0.9)	0.5		0.4		
Operating (Loss) Profit	(4.2)	38.1	5.1	(1.8)		37.2
Interest expense (income), net	2.1	5.5		(0.1)		7.5
Equity earnings in subsidiaries	(24.0)	0.9			23.1	
Miscellaneous (income) expense, net	(0.1)	0.6		0.2		0.7
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	17.8	31.1	5.1	(1.9)	(23.1)	29.0
Provision for Income Taxes	(2.1)	10.1	1.7	(0.6)		9.1
Net Income	\$ 19.9	\$ 21.0	\$ 3.4	\$ (1.3)	\$ (23.1)	\$ 19.9

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**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF INCOME**  
*(in millions)*

**Three Months Ended February 28, 2010**

	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Subsidiary Issuer</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantor</b>	<b>Non- Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Net Sales:						
External sales	\$	\$ 334.3	\$	\$ 49.2	\$	\$ 383.5
Intercompany sales			6.0	14.9	(20.9)	
Total Sales		334.3	6.0	64.1	(20.9)	383.5
Cost of Products Sold		201.3		44.8	(14.9)	231.2
Gross Profit		133.0	6.0	19.3	(6.0)	152.3
Selling, Distribution, and Administrative Expenses	6.3	104.7	1.0	13.1	(6.0)	119.1
Intercompany charges	(0.9)	0.5		0.4		
Special Charge		5.3		0.1		5.4
Operating (Loss) Profit	(5.4)	22.5	5.0	5.7	0.0	27.8
Interest expense, net	2.0	6.1				8.1
Equity earnings in subsidiaries	(12.1)	(3.8)			15.9	
Miscellaneous (income) expense, net	(0.1)	(0.8)		0.3		(0.6)
Loss on early debt extinguishment		10.5				10.5
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	4.8	10.5	5.0	5.4	(15.9)	9.8
Provision for Income Taxes	(2.4)	1.5	1.7	1.8		2.6
Income from Continuing Operations	7.2	9.0	3.3	3.6	(15.9)	7.2
Loss from Discontinued Operations	0.6					0.6
Net Income	\$ 7.8	\$ 9.0	\$ 3.3	\$ 3.6	\$ (15.9)	\$ 7.8

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**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**  
*(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)*  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

	<b>Six Months Ended February 28, 2011</b>					
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Subsidiary Issuer</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantor</b>	<b>Non- Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Net Sales:						
External sales	\$	\$ 743.3	\$	\$ 97.9	\$	\$ 841.2
Intercompany sales			12.7	34.3	(47.0)	
Total Sales		743.3	12.7	132.2	(47.0)	841.2
Cost of Products Sold		436.7		98.8	(34.3)	501.2
Gross Profit		306.6	12.7	33.4	(12.7)	340.0
Selling, Distribution, and Administrative Expenses	11.7	228.8	2.5	27.0	(12.7)	257.3
Intercompany charges	(1.8)	1.1		0.7		
Operating (Loss) Profit	(9.9)	76.7	10.2	5.7		82.7
Interest expense (income), net	4.2	10.9		(0.1)		15.0
Equity earnings in subsidiaries	(53.5)	(4.1)			57.6	
Miscellaneous (income) expense, net	(0.2)	0.5		1.7		2.0
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	39.6	69.4	10.2	4.1	(57.6)	65.7
Provision for Income Taxes	(4.7)	21.5	3.4	1.2		21.4
Net Income	\$ 44.3	\$ 47.9	\$ 6.8	\$ 2.9	\$ (57.6)	\$ 44.3

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**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**  
*(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)*  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF INCOME**  
*(in millions)*

	<b>Six Months Ended February 28, 2010</b>					
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Subsidiary Issuer</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantor</b>	<b>Non- Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Net Sales:						
External sales	\$	\$ 674.5	\$	\$ 100.7	\$	\$ 775.2
Intercompany sales			12.1	30.0	(42.1)	
Total Sales		674.5	12.1	130.7	(42.1)	775.2
Cost of Products Sold		400.2		91.4	(30.0)	461.6
Gross Profit		274.3	12.1	39.3	(12.1)	313.6
Selling, Distribution, and Administrative Expenses	11.1	209.4	2.0	27.3	(12.1)	237.7
Intercompany charges	(1.8)	1.0		0.8		
Special Charge		5.3		0.1		5.4
Operating (Loss) Profit	(9.3)	58.6	10.1	11.1		70.5
Interest expense (income), net	4.0	10.9		(0.1)		14.8
Equity earnings in subsidiaries	(39.4)	(7.5)		0.1	46.8	
Miscellaneous (income) expense, net	(0.1)	(0.8)		0.8		(0.1)
Loss on early debt extinguishment		10.5				10.5
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	26.2	45.5	10.1	10.3	(46.8)	45.3
Provision for Income Taxes	(4.3)	12.2	3.5	3.4		14.8
Income from Continuing Operations	30.5	33.3	6.6	6.9	(46.8)	30.5
Loss from Discontinued Operations	0.6					0.6
Net Income	\$ 31.1	\$ 33.3	\$ 6.6	\$ 6.9	\$ (46.8)	\$ 31.1

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**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**  
*(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)*  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

	<b>Six Months Ended February 28, 2011</b>					
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Subsidiary Issuer</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantor</b>	<b>Non- Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities	\$ 20.1	\$ 9.7	\$	\$ 1.5	\$ (2.6)	\$ 28.7
Cash Provided by (Used for) Investing Activities:						
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment		(10.2)		(1.6)		(11.8)
Investments in subsidiaries	(80.5)				80.5	
Acquisitions of business and intangible assets		(80.5)				(80.5)
Net Cash Used for Investing Activities	(80.5)	(90.7)		(1.6)	80.5	(92.3)
Cash Provided by (Used for) Financing Activities:						
Proceeds from stock option exercises and other	5.3					5.3
Repurchases of common stock	(2.9)					(2.9)
Excess tax benefits from share-based payments	3.5					3.5
Intercompany dividends				(2.6)	2.6	
Intercompany capital		80.5			(80.5)	
Dividends paid	(11.2)					(11.2)
Net Cash (Used for) Provided by Financing Activities	(5.3)	80.5		(2.6)	(77.9)	(5.3)
Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash		1.1		2.3		3.4
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(65.7)	0.6		(0.4)		(65.5)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	163.1	0.4		27.5		191.0

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Cash and Cash  
Equivalents at End of  
Period

\$ 97.4    \$ 1.0    \$            \$ 27.1    \$            \$ 125.5

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**ACUITY BRANDS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**  
*(Amounts in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)*  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

	<b>Six Months Ended February 28, 2010</b>					
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Subsidiary Issuer</b>	<b>Subsidiary Guarantor</b>	<b>Non- Guarantors</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities	\$ 134.3	\$ (101.7)	\$	\$ 19.0	\$ (4.2)	\$ 47.4
Cash Provided by (Used for) Investing Activities:						
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment		(8.6)		(0.9)		(9.5)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant, and equipment		(0.1)		0.1		
Net Cash Used for Investing Activities		(8.7)		(0.8)		(9.5)
Cash Provided by (Used for) Financing Activities:						
Repayments of long-term debt		(237.9)				(237.9)
Issuance of long-term debt		346.5				346.5
Intercompany borrowings (payments)		2.4		(2.4)		
Proceeds from stock option exercises and other	2.9					2.9
Excess tax benefits from share-based payments	0.3					0.3
Intercompany dividends Dividends paid	(11.3)			(4.2)	4.2	(11.3)
Net Cash (Used for) Provided by Financing Activities	(8.1)	111.0		(6.6)	4.2	100.5
Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash		0.4		(1.7)		(1.3)
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	126.2	1.0		9.9		137.1
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning	2.4	0.6		15.7		18.7



of Period

Cash and Cash  
Equivalents at End of  
Period

\$ 128.6	\$	1.6	\$	\$	25.6	\$	\$	155.8
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**Table of Contents****Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

(\$ in millions, except per-share data and as indicated)

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the *Consolidated Financial Statements* and related notes. References made to years are for fiscal year periods.

The purpose of this discussion and analysis is to enhance the understanding and evaluation of the results of operations, financial position, cash flows, indebtedness, and other key financial information of Acuity Brands, Inc. (Acuity Brands), and its subsidiaries as of February 28, 2011 and for the three and six month periods ended February 28, 2011 and 2010. For a more complete understanding of this discussion, please read the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* included in this report. Also, please refer to the Company's 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2010, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) on October 29, 2010 (Form 10-K).

**Overview***Company*

Acuity Brands is the parent company of Acuity Brands Lighting, Inc. (ABL), and other subsidiaries (collectively referred to herein as the Company). The Company, with its principal office in Atlanta, Georgia, employs approximately 6,000 people worldwide.

The Company designs, produces, and distributes a broad array of indoor and outdoor lighting fixtures, control devices, components, systems, and services for commercial and institutional, industrial, infrastructure, and residential applications for various markets throughout North America and select international markets. The Company is one of the world's leading producers and distributors of lighting fixtures, with a broad, highly configurable product offering, consisting of roughly 500,000 active products as part of over 2,000 product groups, as well as lighting controls and other products, that are sold to approximately 5,000 customers. As of February 28, 2011, the Company operates 20 manufacturing facilities and six distribution facilities along with three warehouses to serve its extensive customer base.

On February 23, 2011, the Company acquired for cash all of the ownership interests in Washoe Equipment, Inc., d/b/a Sunoptics Prismatic Skylights, and CBC Plastics LLC (collectively, Sunoptics), a premier designer, manufacturer, and marketer of high-performance, prismatic daylighting solutions based in Sacramento, California. The operating results for Sunoptics since the date of acquisition are not material to the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

On October 14, 2010, the Company acquired for cash all of the outstanding capital stock of Winona Lighting, Inc. (Winona Lighting), a premier provider of architectural and high-performance indoor and outdoor lighting products headquartered in Winona, Minnesota. The operating results for Winona Lighting have been included in the Company's consolidated financial statements since the date of acquisition.

On July 26, 2010, the Company acquired for cash the remaining outstanding capital stock of Renaissance Lighting, Inc. (Renaissance), a privately-held innovator of solid-state light-emitting diode (LED) architectural lighting based in Herndon, Virginia. Previously, the Company entered into a strategic partnership with Renaissance, which included a noncontrolling interest in Renaissance and a license to Renaissance's intellectual property estate. The operating results of Renaissance have been included in the Company's consolidated financial statements since the date of acquisition.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The Company's principle sources of liquidity are operating cash flows generated primarily from its business operations, cash on hand, and various sources of borrowings. The ability of the Company to generate sufficient cash flow from operations and to access certain capital markets, including banks, is necessary to fund its operations, to pay dividends, to meet its obligations as they become due, and to maintain compliance with covenants contained in its financing agreements.

In December 2009, the Company strengthened its liquidity position and extended its debt maturity profile following the issuance of \$350.0 of senior unsecured notes due in fiscal 2020.

Based on its cash on hand, availability under existing financing arrangements and current projections of cash flow from operations, the Company believes that it will be able to meet its liquidity needs over the next 12 months and beyond. These short-term needs are expected to include funding its operations as currently planned, making

anticipated capital investments, funding certain potential acquisitions, funding foreseen improvement initiatives, paying quarterly stockholder dividends as currently anticipated, paying interest on borrowings as currently scheduled, and making required contributions into its employee benefit plans, as well as potentially repurchasing shares of its outstanding common stock as authorized by the Board of Directors. The Company currently expects to invest during fiscal 2011 approximately \$30.0 primarily for equipment, tooling, and new and enhanced information technology capabilities. In addition, the Company expects to contribute approximately \$6.0 and \$2.5 to its domestic and international defined benefit plans, respectively, during fiscal 2011. Additionally, management believes that the Company's debt profile and sources of

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funding, including, but not limited to, cash flows from operations, will sufficiently support the long-term liquidity needs of the Company.

*Cash Flow*

The Company uses available cash and cash flow from operations, as well as proceeds from the exercise of stock options, to fund operations and capital expenditures, repurchase Company stock, fund acquisitions, and pay dividends. During the six months ended February 28, 2011, the Company generated net cash from operating activities of \$28.7 with additional cash received of \$5.3 from stock issuances in connection with stock option exercises and \$3.4 related to the effect of foreign currency transactions. Cash generated from operating activities, as well as cash on-hand, was used during the six months ended February 28, 2011, for acquisitions (net of cash assumed) of \$80.5 and capital expenditures of \$11.8. In addition, the Company paid dividends to stockholders of \$11.2 and repurchased common stock of the Company for \$2.9. The Company's cash position at February 28, 2011, was \$125.5, a decrease of \$65.5 from the \$191.0 at August 31, 2010.

The Company generated \$28.7 of net cash from operating activities during the first six months of fiscal 2011 compared with \$47.4 of cash generated in the prior-year period, a decrease of \$18.7. This decrease was due primarily to the cash flow impact of higher operating working capital (calculated by adding accounts receivable, net, plus inventories, and subtracting accounts payable) and a decrease in other current liabilities during the first six months of fiscal 2011 compared with the prior-year period. Operating working capital increased by approximately \$33.0 to \$242.1 at February 28, 2011 from \$209.1 at August 31, 2010, due primarily to increased inventory and lower accounts payable, partially offset by a reduction in accounts receivable. The increase in raw materials was due partly to strategic purchases of certain commodities and components to better support customer service and relocation of production. The Company expects to reduce inventory levels in the second half of fiscal 2011 once the production moves are completed. Excluding the impact of the current year acquisitions, the Company estimates that approximately one-third of the increase in raw materials was related to inflationary pressures on commodities prices. The reductions of accounts payable and accounts receivable were attributable to comparatively lower sales levels in the second quarter of fiscal 2011 than in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010. Net cash from operating activities was also negatively impacted by a decrease in other current liabilities due primarily to the payment of employee annual incentive compensation, which was attributable to fiscal 2010 performance.

Management believes that investing in assets and programs that, over time, will increase the overall return on its invested capital is a key factor in driving stockholder value. The Company invested \$11.8 and \$9.5 in the first six months of fiscal 2011 and 2010, respectively, primarily for new tooling, machinery, equipment, and information technology. As noted above, the Company expects to invest during fiscal 2011 approximately \$30.0 for new plant, equipment, tooling, and new and enhanced information technology capabilities.

*Capitalization*

The current capital structure of the Company is comprised principally of senior notes and equity of its stockholders. As of February 28, 2011, total debt outstanding of \$353.4 remained substantially unchanged from August 31, 2010 and consisted primarily of fixed-rate obligations.

On October 19, 2007, the Company executed a \$250.0 revolving credit facility, which matures in October 2012 (the Revolving Credit Facility). As of February 28, 2011, the Company was compliant with all financial covenants under the Revolving Credit Facility. At February 28, 2011, the Company had additional borrowing capacity under the Revolving Credit Facility of \$243.5 under the most restrictive covenant in effect at the time, which represents the full amount of the Revolving Credit Facility less outstanding letters of credit of \$6.5. See the *Debt* footnote of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements*.

During the first six months of fiscal 2011, the Company's consolidated stockholders' equity increased \$53.6 to \$748.0 from \$694.4 at August 31, 2010. The increase was due primarily to net income earned in the period, as well as foreign currency translation adjustments, stock issuances resulting primarily from the exercise of stock options, and amortization of stock-based compensation, partially offset by the payment of dividends. The Company's debt to total capitalization ratio (calculated by dividing total debt by the sum of total debt and total stockholders' equity) was 32.1% and 33.7% at February 28, 2011 and August 31, 2010, respectively. The ratio of debt, net of cash, to total capitalization, net of cash, was 23.4% at February 28, 2011 and 18.9% at August 31, 2010.

*Dividends*

The Company paid cash dividends on common stock of \$11.2 (\$0.26 per share) during the first six months of fiscal 2011 compared with \$11.3 (\$0.26 per share) during the first six months of fiscal 2010. The Company currently plans to continue to pay quarterly dividends at a rate of \$0.13 per share; however, each quarterly dividend must be approved by the Board of Directors, and the actual amount to be paid, if any, is subject to change.

**Table of Contents****Results of Operations****Second Quarter of Fiscal 2011 Compared with Second Quarter of Fiscal 2010**

The following table sets forth information comparing the components of net income for the three months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
	<b>February 28, 2011</b>	<b>2010</b>		
Net Sales	\$ 416.1	\$ 383.5	\$ 32.6	8.5%
Cost of Products Sold	252.3	231.2	21.1	9.1%
Gross Profit	163.8	152.3	11.5	7.6%
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	<i>39.4%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>(30)bps</i>	
Selling, Distribution, and Administrative Expenses	126.6	119.1	7.5	6.3%
Special Charge		5.4	(5.4)	(100.0)%
Operating Profit	37.2	27.8	9.4	33.8%
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>7.3%</i>	<i>160bps</i>	
Other Expense (Income)				
Interest Expense, net	7.5	8.1	(0.6)	(7.4)%
Miscellaneous Expense	0.7	(0.6)	1.3	(216.7)%
Loss on Early Debt Extinguishment		10.5	(10.5)	100.0%
Total Other Expense	8.2	18.0	(9.8)	(54.4)%
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	29.0	9.8	19.2	195.9%
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>2.6%</i>	<i>440bps</i>	
Provision for Taxes	9.1	2.6	6.5	250.0%
<i>Effective tax rate</i>	<i>31.4%</i>	<i>26.5%</i>		
Income from Continuing Operations	19.9	7.2	12.7	176.4%
Income from Discontinued Operations		0.6	(0.6)	(100.0)%
Net Income	\$ 19.9	\$ 7.8	\$ 12.1	155.1%
Diluted Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.29	181.3%
Diluted Earnings per Share from Discontinued Operations	\$	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.01)	(100.0)%

Net sales were \$416.1 for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 compared with \$383.5 for the same period in fiscal 2010, an increase of \$32.6, or 8.5%. For the three months ended February 28, 2011, the Company reported income from continuing operations of \$19.9 compared with \$7.2 for the three months ended February 28, 2010. For the three months ended February 28, 2010, the Company recorded a \$3.5 after-tax special charge related to estimated costs to be incurred to simplify and streamline operations and consolidate certain manufacturing facilities, which included an after-tax non-cash asset impairment charge of \$2.4. In addition, a \$6.8 after-tax loss associated with the early extinguishment of debt was incurred during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. Diluted earnings per share from

continuing operations increased \$0.29 to \$0.45 for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 as compared with \$0.16 for the second quarter of fiscal 2010, which included a \$0.24 reduction to diluted earnings per share related to the special charge and the loss on the early extinguishment of debt.

The table below reconciles certain U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ( U.S. GAAP ) financial measures to the corresponding non-U.S. GAAP measures, which exclude special charges associated with actions to streamline the organization, including the consolidation of certain manufacturing facilities, and the loss on the early extinguishment of debt. These non-U.S. GAAP financial measures, including adjusted operating profit, adjusted operating profit margin, adjusted income from continuing operations, and adjusted diluted earnings per share from continuing operations, are provided to enhance the user s overall understanding of the Company s current financial performance. Specifically, the Company believes these non-U.S. GAAP measures provide greater comparability and enhanced visibility into the results of operations, excluding the impact of the special charges and loss on the early extinguishment of debt. The non-U.S. GAAP financial measures should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for or superior to, results prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

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	<b>Three Months Ended February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Operating Profit	\$ 37.2	\$ 27.8
Addback: Special Charge		5.4
Adjusted Operating Profit	\$ 37.2	\$ 33.2
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	8.9%	8.7%
Income from Continuing Operations	\$ 19.9	\$ 7.2
Addback: Special Charge, net of tax		3.5
Addback: Loss on Early Debt Extinguishment, net of tax		6.8
Adjusted Income from Continuing Operations	\$ 19.9	\$ 17.5
Diluted Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.16
Addback: Special Charge, net of tax		0.08
Addback: Loss on Early Debt Extinguishment, net of tax		0.16
Adjusted Diluted Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.40

*Net Sales*

Net sales for the fiscal quarter ended February 28, 2011, increased by 8.5% compared with the prior-year period. Excluding the impact from acquisitions, fiscal 2011 second quarter net sales rose 6.6% year-over-year. Higher unit volumes contributed approximately 5% to the increase in net sales driven largely by increased shipments across multiple sales channels, primarily for smaller-size commercial projects and renovation. Although it is not possible to precisely quantify the separate impact of changes in product prices and the mix of product sold ( price/mix ), the Company estimates that favorable changes in price/mix contributed approximately one percentage point to the year-over-year increase in net sales with the remainder due to favorable foreign currency translation on international sales.

*Gross Profit*

Gross profit for the current period increased \$11.5, or 7.6%, to \$163.8 for the three months ended February 28, 2011, compared with \$152.3 for the prior-year period. The increase was due primarily to the rise in overall sales volumes, favorable contributions from acquired businesses, and benefits from productivity improvements. These benefits were partially offset by the impact of higher materials and components costs, which the Company estimates had an adverse effect on gross profit of approximately \$5.0 in the second quarter of fiscal 2011 compared with the prior-year period. In addition, higher materials and components costs were the primary contributors to the decrease in gross profit margin of approximately 30 basis points to 39.4% for the three months ended February 28, 2011, from 39.7% in the year-ago period.

*Operating Profit*

Selling, Distribution, and Administrative ( SD&A ) expenses for the three months ended February 28, 2011 were \$126.6 compared with \$119.1 in the prior-year period, which represented a \$7.5, or 6.3%, year-over-year increase. The increase in SD&A expenses was due primarily to higher commission and freight costs and higher incremental costs related to the acquired businesses. Compared with the prior-year period, SD&A expenses as a percent of sales decreased by 70 basis points to 30.4% for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 due primarily to higher sales, partially offset by the increase in variable commission and freight costs required to support the higher sales volume. Excluding variable commission and freight costs, SD&A expenses remained relatively flat for the comparative periods. During the second quarter of fiscal 2011, the Company achieved the annualized savings run rate of approximately \$10.0 from the streamlining efforts taken during fiscal 2010. During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company



recorded a pre-tax charge of \$5.4 related to the initiatives to streamline and simplify operations. The charge was comprised of a \$3.7 non-cash asset impairment charge associated with a facility that the Company planned to close with the remainder representing severance and related employee benefit costs associated with the consolidation of certain manufacturing facilities and a reduction in workforce. See the *Outlook* section for total expected savings from these actions.

Operating profit for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 was \$37.2 compared with \$27.8 reported for the prior-year period, an increase of \$9.4, or 33.8%. Compared to adjusted operating profit (excluding the special charge) of \$33.2 for the second quarter of fiscal 2010, operating profit for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 increased by \$4.0, or 12.0%. The increase in operating profit was due primarily to the higher sales volumes favorable price/ mix, and benefits from productivity improvements, which were partially offset by higher commissions and increased materials, components, and

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freight costs, as well as additional costs associated with recently acquired businesses.

Operating profit margin increased 160 basis points to 8.9% compared with 7.3% in the year-ago period. The operating profit margin for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 increased by 20 basis points as compared to the adjusted operating profit margin (excluding the special charge) of 8.7% reported in the prior-year period.

*Other Expense (Income)*

Other expense (income) for the Company consists principally of net interest expense and net miscellaneous expense (income) due primarily to foreign exchange related gains and losses. Interest expense, net, was \$7.5 and \$8.1 for the three months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The decrease in interest expense, net, was due primarily to lower average outstanding debt balances in the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The increase in net miscellaneous expense to \$0.7 in the second quarter of fiscal 2011 compared with \$0.6 of net miscellaneous income in the second quarter of fiscal 2010 was due primarily to the unfavorable impact of exchange rates on certain foreign currency items.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company recognized a pre-tax loss of \$10.5 related to debt refinancing activities.

*Provision for Income Taxes and Income from Continuing Operations*

The effective income tax rate reported by the Company was 31.4% and 26.5% for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 and 2010, respectively. In comparison to the statutory income tax rate, the effective income tax rate for the three months ended February 28, 2011, was positively affected by various discrete items, including federal and state tax credits and benefits from increased export of goods manufactured in the U.S. The Company estimates that the effective tax rate for fiscal 2011 will be approximately 34% if the rates in its taxing jurisdictions remain generally consistent throughout the year.

Income from continuing operations for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 increased by \$12.7 to \$19.9 from \$7.2 (including \$3.5 for the after-tax special charge and \$6.8 for the loss on early debt extinguishment) reported for the prior-year period. The increase in income from continuing operations resulted primarily from the above noted improvement in operating profit and no corresponding charge in the current period for the loss from the early debt extinguishment in fiscal 2010, partially offset by higher tax expense in fiscal 2011.

Income from continuing operations for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 was \$19.9 compared with \$17.5 of adjusted income from continuing operations (excluding the special charge and the loss on the early extinguishment of debt) in the year-ago period. Diluted earnings per share from continuing operations for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 was \$0.45 compared with adjusted diluted earnings per share (excluding the special charge and the loss on the early extinguishment of debt) of \$0.40 for the prior-year period.

*Results from Discontinued Operations and Net Income*

In the second quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company recorded \$0.6 of income from discontinued operations due to revisions of estimates of certain legal reserves established at the time of the Spin-off.

Net income for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 increased \$12.1, or 155.1%, to \$19.9 from \$7.8 for the year-ago period. The increase in net income resulted primarily from higher operating profit due to higher net sales in the current-year period and no repeat of a special charge that was recorded in the prior-year period. Additionally, no loss on the early extinguishment of debt occurred in the current-year period. The increase in operating profit was partially offset by higher tax and miscellaneous expenses.

**Table of Contents*****Six Months of Fiscal 2011 Compared with Six Months of Fiscal 2010***

The following table sets forth information comparing the components of net income for the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010:

	<b>Six Months Ended</b>		<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
	<b>February 28, 2011</b>	<b>2010</b>		
Net Sales	\$ 841.2	\$ 775.2	\$ 66.0	8.5%
Cost of Products Sold	501.2	461.6	39.6	8.6%
Gross Profit	340.0	313.6	26.4	8.4%
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>40.5%</i>	<i>(10)bps</i>	
Selling, Distribution, and Administrative Expenses	257.3	237.7	19.6	8.2%
Special Charge		5.4	(5.4)	(100.0)%
Operating Profit	82.7	70.5	12.2	17.3%
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	<i>9.8%</i>	<i>9.1%</i>	<i>70bps</i>	
Other Expense (Income)				
Interest Expense, net	15.0	14.8	0.2	1.4%
Miscellaneous Expense	2.0	(0.1)	2.1	(2,100.0)%
Loss on Early Debt Extinguishment		10.5	(10.5)	100.0%
Total Other Expense	17.0	25.2	(8.2)	(32.5)%
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	65.7	45.3	20.4	45.0%
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	<i>7.8%</i>	<i>5.8%</i>	<i>200bps</i>	
Provision for Taxes	21.4	14.8	6.6	44.6%
<i>Effective tax rate</i>	<i>32.6%</i>	<i>32.7%</i>		
Income from Continuing Operations	44.3	30.5	13.8	45.2%
Income from Discontinued Operations		0.6	(0.6)	(100.0)%
Net Income	\$ 44.3	\$ 31.1	\$ 13.2	42.4%
Diluted Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.32	46.4%
Diluted Earnings per Share from Discontinued Operations	\$	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.01)	(100.0)%

Net sales were \$841.2 for the six months ended February 28, 2011, compared with \$775.2 reported in the prior-year period, an increase of \$66.0, or 8.5%. For the six months ended February 28, 2011, the Company reported income from continuing operations of \$44.3 compared with \$30.5 for the six months ended February 28, 2010. For the first six months of fiscal 2011, diluted earnings per share from continuing operations increased 46.4% to \$1.01, from \$0.69 for the prior-year period. For the six months ended February 28, 2010, the Company recorded \$3.5 in after-tax special charge adjustments related to estimated costs to be incurred to simplify and streamline operations and consolidate certain manufacturing facilities, which included an after-tax non-cash asset impairment charge of \$2.4. In addition, a \$6.8 after-tax loss associated with the early extinguishment of debt was incurred during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. The special charge and loss on early extinguishment of debt negatively impacted fiscal 2010 six month-period

results by \$0.24 per diluted share, with no comparative charges recognized in same period for fiscal 2011. The table below reconciles certain U.S. GAAP financial measures to the corresponding non-U.S. GAAP measures, which exclude special charges associated with actions to accelerate the streamlining of the organization, including the consolidation of certain manufacturing facilities, and the loss on the early extinguishment of debt. These non-U.S. GAAP financial measures, including adjusted operating profit, adjusted operating profit margin, adjusted income from continuing operations, and adjusted diluted earnings per share, are provided to enhance the user's overall understanding of the Company's current financial performance. Specifically, the Company believes these non-U.S. GAAP measures provide greater comparability and enhanced visibility into the results of operations, excluding the impact of the special charges and loss on the early extinguishment of debt. The non-U.S. GAAP financial measures should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for or superior to, results prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

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	<b>Six Months Ended February 28,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Operating Profit	\$ 82.7	\$ 70.5
Addback: Special Charge		5.4
Adjusted Operating Profit	\$ 82.7	\$ 75.9
<i>Percent of net sales</i>	<i>9.8%</i>	<i>9.8%</i>
Income from Continuing Operations	\$ 44.3	\$ 30.5
Addback: Special Charge, net of tax		3.5
Addback: Loss on Early Debt Extinguishment, net of tax		6.8
Adjusted Income from Continuing Operations	\$ 44.3	\$ 40.8
Diluted Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.69
Addback: Special Charge, net of tax		0.08
Addback: Loss on Early Debt Extinguishment, net of tax		0.16
Adjusted Diluted Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.93

*Net Sales*

Net sales for the six months ended February 28, 2011, increased by 8.5% compared with the prior-year period. Excluding the impact from acquisitions, fiscal 2011 first half net sales rose 6.8% year-over-year. Unit volumes increased approximately 6% over the prior-year period driven largely by increased shipments across multiple sales channels, primarily for smaller-size commercial projects and renovation. Although it is not possible to precisely quantify the separate impact of price and product mix changes, the Company estimates that favorable price/mix contributed less than 1% rise in year-over-year increase in net sales. Additionally, net sales for the six months ended February 28, 2011, were affected minimally by the impact of foreign currency translation on international sales.

*Gross Profit*

Gross profit for the current period increased \$26.4, or 8.4%, to \$340.0 compared with \$313.6 for the prior-year period. The increase was due primarily to the rise in overall sales volumes, favorable contributions from acquired businesses, and benefits from productivity improvements. These benefits were partially offset by the impact of significantly higher materials and components costs, which the Company estimates had an adverse effect on gross profit of approximately \$7.0 in the first six months of fiscal 2011 compared with the prior-year period. Gross profit margin decreased by 10 basis points to 40.4% for the six months ended February 28, 2011, from 40.5% in the year-ago period due mostly to the unfavorable impact from higher materials and components costs, partially offset by productivity improvements.

*Operating Profit*

Selling, Distribution, and Administrative ( SD&A ) expenses for the six months ended February 28, 2011, were \$257.3 compared with \$237.7 in the prior-year period, which represented a \$19.6, or 8.2%, year-over-year increase. The increase in SD&A expenses was due primarily to higher commission and freight costs, additional costs associated with recently acquired businesses, and selected investments in sales and marketing resources and new products and services. Compared with the prior-year period, SD&A expenses as a percent of sales decreased by 10 basis points to 30.6% for the first six months of fiscal 2011 due primarily to higher sales volumes, partially offset by the increases in variable commissions and freight costs required to support the higher sales volume. Excluding variable commission and freight costs, SD&A expenses remained relatively flat for the comparative periods.

During the first six months of fiscal 2011, the Company achieved the annualized savings run rate of approximately \$10.0 from the streamlining efforts taken during fiscal 2010. During the six months ended February 28, 2010, the

Company recorded a pre-tax charge of \$5.4 related to the initiatives to streamline and simplify operations. The charge was comprised of a \$3.7 non-cash asset impairment charge associated with a facility that the Company planned to close with the remainder representing severance and related employee benefit costs associated with the consolidation of certain manufacturing facilities and a reduction in workforce. See the *Outlook* section for total expected savings from these actions.

Operating profit for the first six months of fiscal 2011 was \$82.7 compared with \$70.5 reported for the prior-year period, an increase of \$12.2, or 17.3%. Operating profit for the first six months of fiscal 2011 increased by \$6.8, or 9.0%, compared to adjusted operating profit (excluding the special charge) of \$75.9 for the first six months of fiscal 2010. Operating profit margin increased 70 basis points

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to 9.8% compared with 9.1% in the year-ago period, while operating profit margin for the first half of fiscal 2011 remained flat compared to the prior-year period adjusted operating margin (excluding the special charge). Baseline operating profit margin was unchanged year-over-year due primarily to the higher net sales, favorable contributions from acquired businesses, and benefits from productivity improvements, which were partially offset by increases in materials and component costs and higher commissions and freight costs as discussed above.

*Other Expense (Income)*

Other expense (income) for the Company consists principally of net interest expense and net miscellaneous expense (income) due primarily to foreign exchange related gains and losses. Interest expense, net, was \$15.0 and \$14.8 for the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The increase in interest expense, net, was due primarily to higher average outstanding debt balances. The increase in net miscellaneous expense, to \$2.0 in the first half of fiscal 2011 compared with \$0.1 of net miscellaneous income in the first half of fiscal 2010 was due primarily to the unfavorable impact of exchange rates on certain foreign currency items.

During the first six months of fiscal 2010, the Company recognized a pre-tax loss of \$10.5 related to debt refinancing activities.

*Provision for Income Taxes and Income from Continuing Operations*

The effective income tax rate reported by the Company was 32.6% and 32.7% for the six months ended February 28, 2011 and 2010, respectively. In comparison to the statutory income tax rate, the effective income tax rate for the first half of fiscal 2011 was positively affected by deductions related to federal and state tax credits and benefits from increased export of goods manufactured in the U.S. The Company estimates that the effective tax rate for fiscal 2011 will be approximately 34% if the rates in its taxing jurisdictions remain generally consistent throughout the year.

Income from continuing operations for the first six months of fiscal 2011 increased \$13.8 to \$44.3 from \$30.5 (including \$3.5 for the after-tax special charge and \$6.8 for the loss on early debt extinguishment) reported for the prior-year period. The increase in income from continuing operations resulted primarily from higher operating profit and no corresponding charge in the current period for the loss from the early debt extinguishment in fiscal 2010, partially offset by the higher tax and miscellaneous expenses.

Income from continuing operations for the first half of fiscal 2011 was \$44.3 compared with \$40.8 of adjusted income from continuing operations (excluding the special charge and the loss on the early extinguishment of debt) in the year-ago period. Diluted earnings per share from continuing operations for the first six months of fiscal 2011 was \$1.01 compared with adjusted diluted earnings per share (excluding the special charge and the loss on the early extinguishment of debt) of \$0.93 for the prior-year period.

*Results from Discontinued Operations and Net Income*

The Company recorded \$0.6 of income from discontinued operations for the first half of fiscal 2010 due to revisions of estimates of certain legal reserves established at the time of the Spin-off.

Net income for the first half of fiscal 2011 increased \$13.2, or 42.4%, to \$44.3 from \$31.1 for the year-ago period. The increase in net income resulted primarily from the above noted increase in operating profit mostly driven by higher net sales in the current-year period and no repeat of a special charge that was recorded in the prior-year period. Additionally, no loss on the early extinguishment of debt occurred in the current year-period. The increase in operating profit was partially offset by higher income tax and miscellaneous expenses.

**Outlook**

The performance of the Company, like most companies, is influenced by a multitude of factors, including the vitality of the economy, employment, credit availability and cost, consumer confidence, commodity costs, and government policy, particularly as it impacts capital formation and risk taking by businesses and commercial developers. Key indicators suggest activity is expected to continue to decline for the remainder of fiscal 2011 for the North American non-residential construction market, a key market for the Company. However, third-party forecasts suggest that the market for lighting fixtures will grow modestly during the remainder of fiscal 2011 due primarily to increased renovation activity of commercial and institutional buildings and outdoor lighting, due in part to efforts to achieve energy savings and sustainability goals. Additionally, the controls market is expected to continue to outpace the growth of lighting fixtures.

The Company's backlog at the end of the second quarter of fiscal 2011 was \$178.9. Excluding the incremental backlog attributable to the recent acquisitions, comparable backlog was up approximately 45% year-over-year. While much of the increase in comparable backlog was likely attributable to a pull-forward of orders in advance of the announced price increase that became effective at the end of the quarter, March order levels continue to provide encouraging signals of future shipment volume increases.

The Company experienced a challenging second quarter for fiscal 2011 due primarily to continued weakness in non-residential construction, normal seasonal factors, and higher input costs. Management anticipates a challenging second half for fiscal 2011 due primarily to continuing inflationary cost pressures resulting from higher commodity costs, such as steel and petroleum, as discussed in more detail below.

Prices for certain materials and components, including steel and petroleum, continue to rise, placing pressure on the Company's margins. While the Company previously announced a price increase to recover these higher input costs, which became effective at the end of the second quarter, the Company is not expected to fully realize the benefit of the price increase until later in the third quarter.



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Assuming no further significant rise in commodity costs, the shortfall in profitability from higher commodity costs experienced in the second quarter of fiscal 2011 is expected to be temporary as the benefits of the announced product price increases should begin to be realized in the second half of the fiscal year. However, due to the competitive forces in the current market environment, there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to pass along all cost increases or adjust prices quickly enough to offset all or a portion of potentially higher material and component prices. Additionally, the industry-wide shortage of certain types of electronic ballasts and drivers due to a global shortage of certain common electronic components moderated during the second quarter of fiscal 2011. However, based on the recent disaster in Japan and the resulting damage to that country's infrastructure, we continue to monitor potential supply chain disruptions and will, if necessary, attempt to preserve customer service levels.

The Company has achieved the annualized savings run rate of approximately \$10.0 due to the streamlining efforts announced during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. These actions related to the consolidation of certain manufacturing operations and a reduction in workforce. The Company initiated such actions in an effort to continue to redeploy and invest resources in areas where the Company believes it can create greater value and accelerate profitable growth opportunities, including a continued focus on customer connectivity and industry-leading product innovation incorporating energy-efficiency and sustainable design.

In addition to the acquisitions of the last two years, which significantly increased the Company's presence in the growing lighting controls market and further positioned the Company for future growth, management believes the execution of the Company's strategies to accelerate investments in innovative and energy-efficient products and services, enhance service to its customers, and expand market presence in key geographies and sectors, such as home centers and the renovation market, will provide growth opportunities, which should enable the Company to continue to outperform the overall markets it serves. The Company believes it is strategically positioned to take advantage of opportunities within the market, as complete lighting systems will likely become an integral part of the development of smart building energy management. Additionally, management believes these actions and investments will position the Company to meet or exceed its financial goals over the longer term.

The Company expects cash flow from operations to remain strong for fiscal 2011 and intends to invest approximately \$30.0 in capital expenditures during the year. In addition, the Company expects to contribute during fiscal 2011 approximately \$6.0 and \$2.5 to its domestic and international defined benefit plans, respectively. The Company estimates the annual tax rate to approximate 34% for fiscal 2011.

Management remains positive about the long-term potential of the Company and its ability to outperform the market. Looking beyond the current environment, management believes the lighting and lighting-related industry will experience solid growth over the next decade, particularly as energy and environmental concerns come to the forefront, and that the Company is well-positioned to fully participate in the industry.

**Critical Accounting Policies**

*Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations* addresses the financial condition and results of operations as reflected in the Company's *Consolidated Financial Statements*, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. As discussed in the *Description of Business and Basis of Presentation* footnote of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements*, the preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting period. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates its estimates and judgments, including those related to inventory valuation; depreciation, amortization and the recoverability of long-lived assets, including goodwill and intangible assets; share-based compensation expense; medical, product warranty, and other reserves; litigation; and environmental matters. Management bases its estimates and judgments on its substantial historical experience and other relevant factors, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Management discusses the development of accounting estimates with the Company's Audit Committee.

For a detailed discussion of other significant accounting policies that may involve a higher degree of judgment, please refer to the Company's Form 10-K.



**Table of Contents****Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

This filing contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Statements made herein that may be considered forward-looking include statements incorporating terms such as *expects*, *believes*, *intends*, *anticipates* and similar terms that relate to future events, performance, or results of the Company. In addition, the Company, or the executive officers on the Company's behalf, may from time to time make forward-looking statements in reports and other documents the Company files with the SEC or in connection with oral statements made to the press, potential investors, or others. Forward-looking statements include, without limitation: (a) the Company's projections regarding financial performance, liquidity, capital structure, capital expenditures, and dividends; (b) expectations about the impact of volatility and uncertainty in general economic conditions; (c) external forecasts projecting industry unit volumes; (d) expectations about the impact of volatility and uncertainty in component and commodity costs and availability, and the Company's ability to manage those challenges, as well as the Company's response with pricing of its products; (e) the Company's ability to execute and realize benefits from initiatives related to streamlining its operations, capitalizing on growth opportunities, expanding in key markets, enhancing service to the customer, and investing in product innovation; (f) the Company's estimate of its fiscal 2011 annual tax rate; and (g) the Company's ability to achieve its long-term financial goals and measures. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this quarterly report. Except as required by law, the Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or release any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect any events or circumstances after the date of this quarterly report or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. The Company's forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the historical experience of the Company and management's present expectations or projections. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, customer and supplier relationships and prices; competition; ability to realize anticipated benefits from initiatives taken and timing of benefits; market demand; litigation and other contingent liabilities; and economic, political, governmental, and technological factors affecting the Company. Also, additional risks that could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the Company's forward-looking statements are discussed in Part I, Item 1a. Risk Factors of the Company's Form 10-K, and are specifically incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk**

*General.* Acuity Brands is exposed to market risks that may impact the *Consolidated Balance Sheets*, *Consolidated Statements of Income*, and *Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows* due primarily to fluctuation in interest rates, foreign exchange rates, and commodity prices. There have been no material changes to the Company's exposure from market risks from those disclosed in Part II, Item 7a of the Company's Form 10-K.

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and other procedures that are designed to reasonably ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports filed or submitted by the Company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the *Exchange Act*) is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to reasonably ensure that information required to be disclosed by Acuity Brands in the reports filed under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

As required by SEC rules, the Company has evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures as of February 28, 2011. This evaluation was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer. Based on this evaluation, these officers have concluded that the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable assurance level as of February 28, 2011. However, because all disclosure procedures must rely to a significant degree on actions or decisions made by employees throughout the organization, such as reporting of material events, the Company and its reporting officers believe that they cannot provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud or errors and omissions, if any, within the Company will be detected. Limitations within any control system, including the Company's control system, include faulty judgments in decision-making or simple errors or mistakes. In addition, controls can be circumvented by an individual, by collusion

between two or more people, or by management override of the control. Because of these limitations, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and may not be detected.

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Company's most recent completed fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

**Table of Contents****PART II. OTHER INFORMATION****Item 1. *Legal Proceedings***

Acuity Brands is subject to various legal claims arising in the normal course of business. The Company is self-insured up to specified limits for certain types of claims, including product liability, and is fully self-insured for certain other types of claims, including environmental, product recall, and patent infringement. Based on information currently available, it is the opinion of management that the ultimate resolution of pending and threatened legal proceedings will not have a material adverse effect on the results of operations, financial position, or cash flows of the Company. However, in the event of unexpected future developments, it is possible that the ultimate resolution of such matters, if unfavorable, could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations, financial position, or cash flows of the Company in future periods. The Company establishes reserves for legal claims when the costs associated with the claims become probable and can be reasonably estimated. The actual costs of resolving legal claims may be substantially higher or lower than the amounts reserved for such claims. However, the Company cannot make a meaningful estimate of actual costs to be incurred that could possibly be higher or lower than the amounts reserved. Information regarding reportable legal proceedings is contained in Part I, Item 3. Legal Proceedings in the Company's Form 10-K. Information set forth in this report's *Commitments and Contingencies* footnote of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* describes any legal proceedings that became reportable during the quarter ended February 28, 2011, and updates any descriptions of previously reported legal proceedings in which there have been material developments during such quarter. Discussion of legal proceedings included within the *Commitments and Contingencies* footnote of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements* is incorporated into this Item 1 by reference.

**Item 1a. *Risk Factors***

There have been no material changes in the Company's risk factors from those disclosed in Part I, Item 1a. Risk Factors of the Company's Form 10-K.

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

During fiscal 2010, the Company's Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of two million shares of the Company's outstanding common stock, of which approximately 535,500 shares had been repurchased as of February 28, 2011. No shares were repurchased during the Company's most recently completed fiscal quarter.

**Item 6. *Exhibits***

Exhibits are listed on the Index to Exhibits (page 36).

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**SIGNATURES**

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

ACUITY BRANDS, INC.  
REGISTRANT

DATE: March 30, 2011

/s/ Vernon J. Nagel

VERNON J. NAGEL  
CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT, AND  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DATE: March 30, 2011

/s/ Richard K. Reece

RICHARD K. REECE  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (Principal Financial  
and  
Accounting Officer)

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**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

EXHIBIT 3	(a) Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Acuity Brands, Inc. (formerly Acuity Brands Holdings, Inc.), dated as of September 26, 2007.	Reference is made to Exhibit 3.1 of registrant's Form 8-K as filed with the Commission on September 26, 2007, which is incorporated herein by reference.
	(b) Certificate of Amendment of Acuity Brands, Inc. (formerly Acuity Brands Holdings, Inc.), dated as of September 26, 2007.	Reference is made to Exhibit 3.2 of registrant's Form 8-K as filed with the Commission on September 26, 2007, which is incorporated herein by reference.
	(c) Amended and Restated By-Laws of Acuity Brands, Inc., effective as of January 8, 2009.	Reference is made to Exhibit 3.1 of registrant's Form 8-K as filed with the Commission on October 7, 2008, which is incorporated herein by reference.
EXHIBIT 31	(a) Certification of the Chief Executive Officer of the Company pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.	Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 10-Q.
	(b) Certification of the Chief Financial Officer of the Company pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.	Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 10-Q.
EXHIBIT 32	(a) Certification of the Chief Executive Officer of the Company pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.	Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 10-Q.
	(b) Certification of the Chief Financial Officer of the Company pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.	Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 10-Q.
EXHIBIT 101*	(a) The following unaudited financial statements from the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended February 28, 2011, filed on March 30, 2011, formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Income, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, and (v) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, tagged as blocks of text.	Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 10-Q.

\* Users of this data are advised that, in accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, these interactive data files are deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, are deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act of

1934, as amended, and otherwise are not subject to liability under these sections.