Citi Trends Inc Form 10-Q August 29, 2012 Table of Contents

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 July 28, 2012

OR

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

Commission File Number 000-51315

CITI TRENDS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

104 Coleman Boulevard Savannah, Georgia (Address of principal executive offices) **52-2150697** (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> **31408** (Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code (912) 236-1561

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes 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 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 the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large Accelerated Filer o

Non-Accelerated Filer o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

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

Class Common Stock, \$.01 par value Outstanding as of August 13, 2012 15,154,055 shares

Smaller Reporting Company o

Accelerated Filer x

CITI TRENDS, INC.

<u>FORM 10-Q</u>

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PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements.

Citi Trends, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

July 28, 2012 and January 28, 2012

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except share data)

	July 28, 2012	January 28, 2012
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 51,730	\$ 41,986
Short-term investment securities	3,311	902
Inventory	133,773	131,526
Prepaid and other current assets	10,131	10,522
Income tax receivable	6,309	11,195
Deferred tax asset	5,990	5,829
Assets held for sale	1,415	1,415
Total current assets	212,659	203,375
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$131,048 and		
\$118,875 as of July 28, 2012 and January 28, 2012, respectively	80,990	90,541
Long-term investment securities	16,397	18,840
Deferred tax asset	1,914	1,223
Other assets	774	798
Total assets	\$ 312,734	\$ 314,777
Liabilities and Stockholders Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 71,959	\$ 78,941
Accrued expenses	17,151	15,729
Accrued compensation	10,792	10,345
Layaway deposits	1,995	603
Total current liabilities	101,897	105,618
Other long-term liabilities	11,815	12,756
Total liabilities	113,712	118,374
Stockholders equity:		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value. Authorized 32,000,000 shares; 15,320,435 shares issued as of July 28, 2012 and 15,062,300 shares issued as of January 28, 2012; 15,154,685 shares		
outstanding as of July 28, 2012 and 14,896,550 outstanding as of January 28, 2012	148	148
Paid-in-capital	79,028	78,588

Retained earnings	120,011	117,832
Treasury stock, at cost; 165,750 shares as of July 28, 2012 and January 28, 2012	(165)	(165)
Total stockholders equity	199,022	196,403
Commitments and contingencies (note 9)		
Total liabilities and stockholders equity	\$ 312,734 \$	314,777

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

Citi Trends, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share data)

	Twenty-Six Weeks Ended		
	uly 28, 2012		July 30, 2011
Net sales	\$ 330,012	\$	319,401
Cost of sales	210,931		200,880
Gross profit	119,081		118,521
Selling, general and administrative expenses	103,601		101,760
Depreciation and amortization	12,183		11,935
Asset impairment			1,609
Income from operations	3,297		3,217
Interest income	128		119
Interest expense	(113)		(10)
Income before income tax expense	3,312		3,326
Income tax expense	1,133		1,264
Net income	\$ 2,179	\$	2,062
Basic net income per common share	\$ 0.15	\$	0.14
Diluted net income per common share	\$ 0.15	\$	0.14
Weighted average number of shares outstanding			
Basic	14,654		14,575
Diluted	14,656		14,585

Citi Trends, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

Thirteen Weeks Ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share data)

	July 28, 2012	July 30, 2011
Net sales	\$ 132,318	\$ 130,233
Cost of sales	87,903	86,781
Gross profit	44,415	43,452
Selling, general and administrative expenses	50,932	50,688
Depreciation and amortization	6,038	6,351
Asset impairment		1,609
Loss from operations	(12,555)	(15,196)
Interest income	66	65
Interest expense	(64)	(6)
Loss before income tax benefit	(12,553)	(15,137)
Income tax benefit	(4,628)	(5,106)
Net loss	\$ (7,925)	\$ (10,031)
Basic net loss per common share	\$ (0.54)	\$ (0.69)
Diluted net loss per common share	\$ (0.54)	\$ (0.69)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding		
Basic	14,673	14,596
Diluted	14,673	14,596

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

Citi Trends, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011

(Unaudited)

(in thousands)

		Twenty-Six W July 28, 2012		Veeks Ended July 30, 2011	
Operating activities:					
Net income	\$	2,179	\$	2,062	
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:					
Depreciation and amortization		12,183		11,935	
Asset impairment				1,609	
Loss on disposal of property and equipment		10		216	
Deferred income taxes		(852)		79	
Noncash stock-based compensation expense		1,227		1,638	
Excess tax benefits from stock-based payment arrangements		432		(847)	
Changes in assets and liabilities:					
Inventory		(2,247)		(881)	
Prepaid and other current assets		391		1,798	
Other assets		24		(21)	
Accounts payable		(6,982)		(6,379)	
Accrued expenses and other long-term liabilities		1,365		3,135	
Accrued compensation		447		780	
Income tax receivable/payable		4,454		(2,877)	
Layaway deposits		1,392		1,225	
Net cash provided by operating activities		14,023		13,472	
Investing activities:					
Sales/redemptions of investment securities		34		835	
Purchases of investment securities				(11,012)	
Purchases of property and equipment		(3,526)		(23,214)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(3,492)		(33,391)	
Financing activities:					
Excess tax benefits from stock-based payment arrangements		(432)		847	
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options				22	
Shares acquired to settle withholding taxes on the vesting of nonvested restricted stock		(355)		(685)	
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities		(787)		184	
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		9,744		(19,735)	
Cash and cash equivalents:		-) -		(-)/	
Beginning of period		41,986		69,231	
End of period	\$	51,730	\$	49,496	
		- ,			
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:					
Cash paid for interest	\$	77	\$		
Cash (refunds) payments of income taxes	\$	(2,469)	\$	4,062	
Supplemental disclosures of noncash investing activities:	Ŧ	(-,)	Ŧ	.,	

Supplemental disclosures of noncash investing activities:

(Decrease) increase in accrual for purchases of property and equipment	\$ (884) \$	794

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

Citi Trends, Inc.

Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

July 28, 2012

1. Basis of Presentation

Citi Trends, Inc. and its subsidiary (the Company) operate as a value-priced retailer of urban fashion apparel and accessories for the entire family. As of July 28, 2012, the Company operated 512 stores in 29 states.

The condensed consolidated balance sheet as of July 28, 2012, the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the twenty-six and thirteen week periods ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011 and the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the twenty-six week periods ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011 have been prepared by the Company without audit. The condensed consolidated balance sheet as of January 28, 2012 has been derived from the audited financial statements as of that date, but does not include all required year-end disclosures. In the opinion of management, such statements include all adjustments considered necessary to present fairly the Company s financial position as of July 28, 2012 and January 28, 2012, and its results of operations and cash flows for all periods presented. It is suggested that these condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto include in the Company s latest Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 28, 2012.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (U.S. GAAP) for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. Operating results for the interim periods ended July 28, 2012 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending February 2, 2013.

The following contains references to years 2012 and 2011, which represent fiscal years ending or ended on February 2, 2013 and January 28, 2012, respectively. Fiscal 2012 has a 53-week accounting period and fiscal 2011 has a 52-week accounting period.

2. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and use 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 the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The most significant estimates made by management include those used in the valuation of inventory, property and equipment, self-insurance liabilities, leases and income taxes. Management periodically evaluates estimates used in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements for continued reasonableness. Appropriate adjustments, if any, to the estimates used are made prospectively based on such periodic evaluations.

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents/Concentration of Credit Risk

For purposes of the condensed consolidated balance sheets and condensed consolidated statements of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid investments with maturities at date of purchase of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to a concentration of credit risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalents. The Company places its cash and cash equivalents in what it believes to be high credit quality banks and institutional money market funds. The Company maintains cash accounts that exceed federally insured limits.

4. Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per common share amounts are calculated using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per common share amounts are calculated using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding plus the additional dilution for all potentially dilutive securities, such as nonvested restricted stock and stock options. During loss periods, diluted loss per share amounts are based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, because the inclusion of common stock equivalents would be antidilutive.

The dilutive effect of stock-based compensation arrangements is accounted for using the treasury stock method. This method assumes that the proceeds the Company receives from the exercise of stock options are used to repurchase common shares in the market. The Company includes as assumed proceeds the amount of compensation cost attributed to future services and not yet recognized, and the amount of tax benefits, if any, that would be credited to additional paid-in capital assuming exercise of outstanding options and vesting of nonvested restricted stock. For the twenty-six weeks ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011, there were 45,000 and 49,000 stock options, respectively, and 351,000 and 369,000 shares of nonvested restricted stock, respectively, excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share because of antidilution. For the thirteen weeks ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011, there were 40,000 and 49,000 stock options, respectively, and 414,000 and 388,000 shares of nonvested restricted stock, respectively, excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share because of antidilution.



The following table provides a reconciliation of the average number of common shares outstanding used to calculate basic earnings per share to the number of common shares and common stock equivalents outstanding used in calculating diluted earnings per share for the twenty-six and thirteen week periods ended July 28, 2012 and July 30, 2011:

	Twenty-Six Weeks Ended		
	July 28, 2012 July 30, 20		
Average number of common shares outstanding	14,654,456	14,574,935	
Incremental shares from assumed exercises of stock options	1,548	9,699	
Incremental shares from assumed vesting of nonvested restricted stock			
Average number of common shares and common stock equivalents outstanding	14,656,004	14,584,634	

	Thirteen Weeks Ended			
	July 28, 2012 July 30, 2			
Average number of common shares outstanding	14,673,403	14,595,985		
Incremental shares from assumed exercises of stock options				
Incremental shares from assumed vesting of nonvested restricted stock				
Average number of common shares and common stock equivalents outstanding	14,673,403	14,595,985		

5. Fair Value Measurement

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants in the principal or most advantageous market at the measurement date. Fair value is established according to a hierarchy that prioritizes observable and unobservable inputs used to measure fair value into three broad levels, which are described below:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for assets or liabilities. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs.

Level 2: Observable prices that are based on inputs not quoted on active markets, but corroborated by market data.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs are used when little or no market data is available. Level 3 inputs are given the lowest priority in the fair value hierarchy.

As of July 28, 2012, the Company s investment securities are classified as held-to-maturity since the Company has the intent and ability to hold the investments to maturity. Such securities are carried at amortized cost plus accrued interest and consist of the following (in thousands):

Amortized
Cost

Gross Unrealized Gains Gross Unrealized Losses

Fair Market Value

\$ 259	\$	1	\$	\$	260
3,052		3			3,055
\$ 3,311	\$	4	\$	\$	3,315
\$ 4,989	\$	56	\$	\$	5,045
1,511		12			1,523
9,897		4			9,901
\$ 16,397	\$	72	\$	\$	16,469
\$ \$ \$	\$ 259 3,052 \$ 3,311 \$ 4,989 1,511 9,897	\$ 259 \$ 3,052 \$ 3,311 \$ \$ 4,989 \$ 1,511 9,897	\$ 259 \$ 1 3,052 3 \$ 3,311 \$ 4 \$ 4,989 \$ 56 1,511 12 9,897 4	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

The amortized cost and fair market value of investment securities as of July 28, 2012 by contractual maturity are as follows (in thousands):

	nortized Cost	Fair Market Value
Mature in one year or less	\$ 3,311	\$ 3,315
Mature after one year through five years	16,397	16,469
	\$ 19,708	\$ 19,784

As of January 28, 2012, the Company s investment securities were classified as held-to-maturity and consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Market Value
Short-term:				
Bank certificates of deposit (Level 2)	\$ 902	\$ 1	\$	\$ 903
Long-term:				
Obligations of the U.S. Treasury (Level 1)	\$ 4,986	\$ 77	\$	\$ 5,063
Obligations of states and municipalities (Level				
2)	1,809	19		1,828
Bank certificates of deposit (Level 2)	12,045		1	12,044
	\$ 18,840	\$ 96	\$ 1	\$ 18,935

The amortized cost and fair market value of investment securities as of January 28, 2012 by contractual maturity were as follows (in thousands):

	A	Amortized Cost	Fair Market Value		
Mature in one year or less	\$	902	\$	903	
Mature after one year through five years		18,840		18,935	
	\$	19,742	\$	19,838	

There were no changes among the levels in the twenty-six weeks ended July 28, 2012.

Fair market values of Level 2 investments are determined by management with the assistance of a third party pricing service. Since quoted prices in active markets for identical assets are not available, these prices are determined by the third party pricing service using observable market information such as quotes from less active markets and quoted prices of similar securities.

6. Revolving Line of Credit

On October 27, 2011, the Company entered into a five-year, \$50 million credit facility with Bank of America to replace its prior \$20 million credit facility. The facility includes a \$25 million uncommitted accordion feature that under certain circumstances could allow the Company to increase the size of the facility to \$75 million. Borrowings, if any, under the facility will bear interest (a) for LIBOR Rate Loans, at LIBOR plus 1.5%, or (b) for Base Rate Loans, at a rate equal to the highest of (i) the prime rate plus 0.5%, (ii) the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.0%, or (iii) LIBOR plus 1.5%. The facility is secured by the Company s inventory, accounts receivable and related assets, but not its real estate, fixtures and equipment, and it contains one financial covenant, a fixed charge coverage ratio, which is applicable and tested only in certain circumstances. The facility has an unused commitment fee of 0.25% and permits the payment of cash dividends subject to certain limitations, including a requirement that there were no borrowings outstanding in the 30 days prior to the dividend payment and no borrowings are expected in the 30 days subsequent to the payment. The Company has had no borrowings under either the existing or prior facility.

7. Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of its deferred tax assets will not be realized.

The Company s effective income tax rate of 34.2% for the twenty-six weeks ended July 28, 2012 was lower than the 38.0% rate for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2011, because a valuation allowance of \$0.7 million was established in the second quarter of fiscal 2011 when the Company concluded that its ability to utilize certain tax credits in one state was no longer more likely than not. The effect of the fiscal 2011 valuation allowance on the tax rate comparison between years was partially offset by the effect on fiscal 2012 of the expiration of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC). It is possible that Congress will retroactively reinstate the WOTC back to the beginning of 2012; however, due to the uncertainty involved, no WOTC benefits were recorded in the twenty-six weeks ended July 28, 2012. Such benefits would be recorded if and when the legislation is enacted.

8. Other Long-Term Liabilities

The components of other long-term liabilities as of July 28, 2012 and January 28, 2012 are as follows (in thousands):

	July 28, 2012		January 28, 2012
Deferred rent	\$,900 \$	4,433
Tenant improvement allowances	(,458	7,158
Other	1	,457	1,165
	\$ 11	,815 \$	12,756

9. Commitments and Contingencies

On August 12, 2011, the Company received a letter of determination from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (the EEOC) commencing a conciliation process regarding alleged discrimination against males by the Company in its hiring and promotion practices during the years 2004 through 2006. In its letter of determination, the EEOC sought recovery in the amount of \$0.2 million on behalf of a former male employee and in the additional amount of \$3.8 million in a settlement fund for a class of unidentified males who sought or considered seeking manager or assistant manager positions in the Company's stores. The EEOC also seeks certain undertakings by the Company with regard to its employment policies and procedures and a reporting obligation to the EEOC with respect to the Company's compliance with these undertakings.

The Company has not received full documentation or information from the EEOC in support of its letter of determination, but has undertaken its own internal analysis of the EEOC s claims and defenses to such claims and has had discussions with the EEOC in that regard. Following discussions with the EEOC regarding possible settlement, the EEOC has proposed a settlement amount of up to \$2.5 million and requested certain additional information. In the interest of reaching a satisfactory conciliation agreement with the EEOC, the Company has proposed a total economic settlement offer of up to \$1.6 million. The Company is currently in discussions with the EEOC regarding these offers for settlement and options for resolution of the matter. The Company is also evaluating other aspects of the conciliation process established by the EEOC.

On February 24, 2012, a suit was filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Middle Division, by certain individuals as a purported collective action on behalf of current and former employees of the Company holding store managerial positions. The plaintiffs allege that store managers have been improperly classified as exempt from the obligation to pay overtime in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The Company intends to vigorously defend the claims that have been asserted in this lawsuit. Because of the early stage of this action and the fact that no discovery has been conducted to date, the Company is unable to determine the probability of outcome and it is not reasonably possible to estimate a range of loss with respect to this matter. Accordingly, no accrual for costs has been recorded, and the potential impact of this matter on the Company s financial position, results of operations and cash flows cannot be determined at this time.

The Company from time to time is also involved in various other legal proceedings incidental to the conduct of its business, including claims by customers, employees or former employees. Once it becomes probable that the Company will incur costs in connection with a legal proceeding and such costs can be reasonably estimated, it establishes appropriate reserves. While legal proceedings are subject to uncertainties and the outcome of any such matter is not predictable, the Company is not aware of any other legal proceedings pending or threatened against it that it expects to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

Item 2. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Forward-Looking Statements

Except for specific historical information, many of the matters discussed in this Form 10-Q may express or imply projections of revenues or expenditures, statements of plans and objectives for future operations, growth or initiatives, statements of future economic performance, or statements regarding the outcome or impact of pending or threatened litigation. These, and similar statements, are forward-looking statements concerning matters that involve risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual performance of the Company to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. All forward-looking information should be evaluated in the context of these risks, goal, uncertainties and other factors. The words believe, anticipate, project, plan, expect, estimate, objective, forecast. intend. or will continue and similar words and expressions generally identify forward-looking statements. The Company believes the assumptions underlying these forward-looking statements are reasonable; however, any of the assumptions could be inaccurate, and therefore, actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements.

The factors that may result in actual results differing from such forward-looking information include, but are not limited to: transportation and distribution delays or interruptions; changes in freight rates; the Company s ability to negotiate effectively the cost and purchase of merchandise; inventory risks due to shifts in market demand; the Company s ability to gauge fashion trends and changing consumer preferences; changes in consumer spending on apparel; changes in product mix; interruptions in suppliers businesses; a deterioration in general economic conditions caused by acts of war or terrorism or other factors; temporary changes in demand due to weather patterns; seasonality of the Company s business; delays associated with building, opening and operating new stores; delays associated with building, opening new or existing distribution centers; and other factors described in the section titled Item 1A. Risk Factors and elsewhere in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2012 and in Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors and elsewhere in the Company s Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and any amendments thereto and in the other documents the Company files with the SEC, including reports on Form 8-K.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this Form 10-Q. Except as may be required by law, the Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date of this Form 10-Q or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. Readers are advised, however, to read any further disclosures the Company may make on related subjects in its public disclosures or documents filed with the SEC, including reports on Form 8-K.

Overview

We are a value-priced retailer of urban fashion apparel and accessories for the entire family. Our merchandise offerings are designed to appeal to the preferences of fashion conscious consumers, particularly African-Americans. We operated 512 stores in both urban and rural markets in 29 states as of July 28, 2012.

We measure performance using key operating statistics. One of the main performance measures we use is comparable store sales growth. We define a comparable store as a store that has been opened for an entire fiscal year. Therefore, a store will not be considered a comparable store until its 13th month of operation at the earliest or until its 24th month at the latest. As an example, stores opened in fiscal 2011 and fiscal 2012

are not considered comparable stores in fiscal 2012. Relocated and expanded stores are included in the comparable store sales results. We also use other operating statistics, most notably average sales per store, to measure our performance. As we typically occupy existing space in established shopping centers rather than sites built specifically for our stores, store square footage (and therefore sales per square foot) varies by store. We focus on overall store sales volume as the critical driver of profitability. The average sales per store has increased over the years, as we have increased comparable store sales and opened new stores that are generally larger than our historical store base. Average sales per store have increased from \$0.8 million in fiscal 2000 to \$1.3 million in fiscal 2011.

In addition to sales, we measure gross profit as a percentage of sales and store operating expenses, with a particular focus on labor, as a percentage of sales. These results translate into store level contribution, which we use to evaluate overall performance of each individual store. Finally, we monitor corporate expenses against budgeted amounts. All of the statistics discussed above are critical components of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) and Adjusted EBITDA (comprised of EBITDA plus non-cash asset impairment expense), which are considered our most important operating statistics. Although EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA provide useful information on an operating cash flow basis, they are limited measures in that they exclude the impact of cash requirements for capital expenditures, income taxes and interest expense. Therefore, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA should be used as supplements to results of operations and cash flows as reported under U.S. GAAP and should not be used as a singular measure of operating performance or as a substitute for U.S. GAAP results. Provided below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) to EBITDA and to Adjusted EBITDA for the twenty-six and thirteen week periods ended July 28, 2012, and July 30, 2011:

Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 28, 2012 July 30, 2011 July 28, 2012

Thirteen Weeks Ended3, 2012July 30, 2011