

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORP
Form 10-Q
May 05, 2010

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

Form 10-Q

Quarterly report under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For The Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2010

Commission File No. 0-9115

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Exact Name of registrant as specified in its charter)

PENNSYLVANIA
(State or other jurisdiction of
Incorporation or organization)

25-0644320
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

TWO NORTHSORE CENTER,
PITTSBURGH, PA
(Address of principal executive offices)

15212-5851
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area
code

(412) 442-8200

NOT APPLICABLE

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit an post such files.

Yes

No

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

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

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

Yes No

As of April 30, 2010, shares of common stock outstanding were:

Class A Common Stock 30,209,257 shares

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION
MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

| | March 31, 2010 (unaudited) | September 30, 2009 |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$60,934 | \$57,732 |
| Short-term investments | 1,392 | 62 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 129,520 | 138,927 |
| Inventories | 95,339 | 94,455 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,797 | 1,816 |
| Other current assets | 15,112 | 12,430 |
| Total current assets | 304,094 | 305,422 |
| Investments | 13,619 | 13,389 |
| Property, plant and equipment: Cost | 302,671 | 305,098 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | (171,016) | (167,038) |
| | 131,655 | 138,060 |
| Deferred income taxes | 33,240 | 32,563 |
| Other assets | 24,588 | 19,999 |
| Goodwill | 385,550 | 385,219 |
| Other intangible assets, net | 53,749 | 55,001 |
| Total assets | \$946,495 | \$949,653 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Long-term debt, current maturities | \$13,921 | \$14,188 |
| Accounts payable | 32,826 | 28,604 |
| Accrued compensation | 34,055 | 35,592 |
| Accrued income taxes | 13,383 | 8,120 |
| Other current liabilities | 43,285 | 45,836 |
| Total current liabilities | 137,470 | 132,340 |
| Long-term debt | 218,981 | 237,530 |
| Accrued pension | 55,826 | 53,734 |
| Postretirement benefits | 25,090 | 24,599 |
| Deferred income taxes | 12,429 | 13,464 |
| Environmental reserve | 6,186 | 6,482 |
| Other liabilities and deferred revenue | 18,708 | 15,489 |
| Total liabilities | 474,690 | 483,638 |
| Arrangement with noncontrolling interest | 25,036 | 27,121 |

SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Shareholders' equity-Matthews:

| | | | |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|
| Common stock | 36,334 | 36,334 | |
| Additional paid in capital | 44,886 | 47,436 | |
| Retained earnings | 584,469 | 559,786 | |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (42,292) | (29,884) | |
| Treasury stock, at cost | (182,207) | (179,454) | |
| Total shareholders' equity-Matthews | | 441,190 | 434,218 |
| Noncontrolling interests | | 5,579 | 4,676 |
| Total shareholders' equity | | 446,769 | 438,894 |
| | | | |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | | \$946,495 | \$949,653 |

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

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED)
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Six Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Sales | \$200,866 | \$197,362 | \$393,839 | \$388,648 |
| Cost of sales | (123,085) | (124,245) | (242,668) | (247,679) |
| Gross profit | 77,781 | 73,117 | 151,171 | 140,969 |
| Selling and administrative expenses | (50,663) | (49,678) | (101,877) | (97,451) |
| Operating profit | 27,118 | 23,439 | 49,294 | 43,518 |
| Investment income (loss) | 809 | (307) | 2,004 | (695) |
| Interest expense | (1,812) | (3,030) | (3,751) | (6,294) |
| Other income (deductions), net | (633) | 114 | (731) | 3 |
| Income before income taxes | 25,482 | 20,216 | 46,816 | 36,532 |
| Income taxes | (9,187) | (7,388) | (16,865) | (12,424) |
| Net income | 16,295 | 12,828 | 29,951 | 24,108 |
| Less: net income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (364) | (86) | (1,024) | (77) |
| Net income attributable to Matthews' shareholders | \$15,931 | \$12,742 | \$28,927 | \$24,031 |
| Earnings per share attributable to Matthews' shareholders: | | | | |
| Basic | \$.53 | \$.42 | \$0.97 | \$0.79 |
| Diluted | \$.53 | \$.42 | \$0.96 | \$0.79 |

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

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2010 and 2009
 (Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

| | Shareholders' Equity – Matthews | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Retained Earnings | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) (net of tax) | Treasury Stock | Non- controlling interests | Total |
| Balance, September 30, 2009 | \$36,334 | \$47,436 | \$559,786 | \$ (29,884) | \$(179,454) | \$4,676 | \$438,894 |
| Net income | - | - | 28,927 | - | - | 1,024 | 29,951 |
| Minimum pension liability | - | - | - | 1,578 | - | - | 1,578 |
| Translation adjustment | - | - | - | (14,410) | - | 113 | (14,297) |
| Fair value of derivatives | - | - | - | 424 | - | - | 424 |
| Total comprehensive income | | | | | | | 17,656 |
| Stock-based compensation | - | 3,293 | - | - | - | - | 3,293 |
| Treasury stock transactions: | | | | | | | |
| Purchase of 272,125 shares | - | - | - | - | (9,386) | - | (9,386) |
| Issuance of 30,790 shares under stock plans | - | (5,843) | - | - | 6,633 | - | 790 |
| Dividends, \$.14 per share | - | - | (4,244) | - | - | - | (4,244) |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interests | | | | | | (234) | (234) |
| Balance, March 31, 2010 | \$36,334 | \$44,886 | \$584,469 | \$ (42,292) | \$(182,207) | \$5,579 | \$446,769 |

| | Shareholders' Equity - Matthews | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---|----------|---------------------|
| | Common | Additional Paid-in | Retained | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) | Treasury | Non- controlling |

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| | Stock | Capital | Earnings | (net of tax) | Stock | interests | Total |
|--|-----------|-----------|------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|------------|
| Balance, September 30, 2008 | \$ 36,334 | \$ 47,250 | \$ 511,130 | \$ (2,979) | \$ (157,780) | \$ 4,963 | \$ 438,918 |
| Net income | - | - | 24,031 | - | - | 77 | 24,108 |
| Minimum pension liability | - | - | - | 259 | - | - | 259 |
| Translation adjustment | - | - | - | (18,881) | - | (265) | (19,146) |
| Fair value of derivatives | - | - | - | (3,605) | - | - | (3,605) |
| Total comprehensive income | | | | | | | 1,616 |
| Stock-based compensation | - | 2,858 | - | - | - | - | 2,858 |
| Pension liability adjustment | - | - | (702) | - | - | - | (702) |
| Arrangement with noncontrolling interest | - | - | (174) | - | - | - | (174) |
| Treasury stock transactions: Purchase of 615,266 shares | - | - | - | - | (23,133) | - | (23,133) |
| Issuance of 59,611 shares under stock plans | - | (5,621) | - | - | 6,997 | - | 1,376 |
| Dividends, \$.13 per share | - | - | (4,109) | - | - | - | (4,109) |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interests | | | | | | (2,291) | (2,291) |
| Balance, March 31, 2009 | \$ 36,334 | \$ 44,487 | \$ 530,176 | \$ (25,206) | \$ (173,916) | \$ 2,484 | \$ 414,359 |

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

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

| | Six Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| | 2010 | 2009 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$29,951 | \$24,108 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 12,543 | 15,854 |
| (Gain) loss on investments | (601) | 1,375 |
| Loss on sale of assets | 68 | 21 |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 3,293 | 2,858 |
| Change in deferred taxes | (2,372) | (1,293) |
| Changes in working capital items | 10,966 | 1,220 |
| Increase in other assets | (3,513) | (513) |
| Increase (decrease) in other liabilities | 175 | (1,265) |
| Increase in pension and postretirement benefits | 5,170 | 2,353 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 55,680 | 44,718 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (8,410) | (6,605) |
| Proceeds from sale of assets | 100 | 160 |
| Acquisitions, net of cash acquired | (14,606) | (865) |
| Proceeds from sale of investments | 638 | - |
| Purchases of investments | (1,612) | (2,611) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (23,890) | (9,921) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Proceeds from long-term debt | 25,484 | 35,336 |
| Payments on long-term debt | (38,812) | (35,926) |
| Proceeds from the sale of treasury stock | 726 | 1,143 |
| Purchases of treasury stock | (9,386) | (23,133) |
| Tax benefit of exercised stock options | 64 | 98 |
| Dividends | (4,244) | (4,109) |
| Distributions to minority interests | (234) | (2,291) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (26,402) | (28,882) |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash | (2,186) | (7,002) |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | \$3,202 | \$(1,087) |

Non-cash investing and financing activities:

| | | |
|--|-----|---------|
| Acquisition of equipment under capital lease | \$- | \$2,068 |
|--|-----|---------|

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

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2010

(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 1. Nature of Operations

Matthews International Corporation ("Matthews" or the "Company"), founded in 1850 and incorporated in Pennsylvania in 1902, is a designer, manufacturer and marketer principally of memorialization products and brand solutions. Memorialization products consist primarily of bronze memorials and other memorialization products, caskets and cremation equipment for the cemetery and funeral home industries. Brand solutions include graphics imaging products and services, marking products and merchandising solutions. The Company's products and operations are comprised of six business segments: Bronze, Casket, Cremation, Graphics Imaging, Marking Products and Merchandising Solutions. The Bronze segment is a leading manufacturer of cast bronze memorials and other memorialization products, cast and etched architectural products, granite memorials and is a leading builder of mausoleums in the United States. The Casket segment is a leading casket manufacturer and distributor in North America and produces a wide variety of wood and metal caskets. The Cremation segment is a leading designer and manufacturer of cremation equipment and cremation caskets primarily in North America. The Graphics Imaging segment manufactures and provides brand management, printing plates, gravure cylinders, pre-press services and imaging services for the primary packaging and corrugated industries. The Marking Products segment designs, manufactures and distributes a wide range of marking and coding equipment and consumables, and industrial automation products for identifying, tracking and conveying various consumer and industrial products, components and packaging containers. The Merchandising Solutions segment designs and manufactures merchandising displays and systems and provides creative merchandising and marketing solutions services.

The Company has manufacturing and marketing facilities in the United States, Mexico, Canada, Europe, Australia and Asia.

Note 2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information for commercial and industrial companies and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the six months ended March 31, 2010 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2009. The consolidated financial statements include all domestic and foreign subsidiaries in which the Company maintains an ownership interest and has operating control. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles 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 the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 3. Fair Value Measurements

The Company adopted new guidance issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) on fair value measurements as of October 1, 2008 for financial assets and liabilities. This new guidance defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. It establishes a three level fair value hierarchy to prioritize the inputs used in valuations, as defined below:

Level 1: Observable inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

As of March 31, 2010, the fair values of the Company’s assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis are categorized as follows:

| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
|---------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|----------|
| Assets: | | | | |
| Short term investments | \$1,392 | - | - | \$1,392 |
| Trading securities | 11,655 | - | - | 11,655 |
| Total assets at fair value | \$13,047 | - | - | \$13,047 |
| Liabilities: | | | | |
| Derivatives (1) | - | \$5,014 | - | \$5,014 |
| Total liabilities at fair value | - | \$5,014 | - | \$5,014 |

(1) Interest rate swaps are valued based on observable market swap rates and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Note 4. Inventories

Inventories consisted of the following:

| | March 31, 2010 | September 30, 2009 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Materials and finished goods | \$ 80,773 | \$ 80,692 |
| Labor and overhead in process | 14,566 | 13,763 |
| | \$ 95,339 | \$ 94,455 |

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 5. Debt

The Company has a domestic Revolving Credit Facility with a syndicate of financial institutions. The maximum amount of borrowings available under the facility is \$225,000 and the facility's maturity is September 2012. Borrowings under the facility bear interest at LIBOR plus a factor ranging from .40% to .80% based on the Company's leverage ratio. The leverage ratio is defined as net indebtedness divided by EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization). The Company is required to pay an annual commitment fee ranging from .15% to .25% (based on the Company's leverage ratio) of the unused portion of the facility. The Revolving Credit Facility requires the Company to maintain certain leverage and interest coverage ratios. A portion of the facility (not to exceed \$20,000) is available for the issuance of trade and standby letters of credit. Outstanding borrowings on the Revolving Credit Facility as of March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009 were \$173,000 and \$177,500, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding borrowings at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 3.01% and 3.92%, respectively.

The Company has entered into the following interest rate swaps:

| Date | Initial Amount | Fixed Interest Rate | Interest Rate Spread at March 31, 2010 | Maturity Date |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--|----------------|
| September 2007 | \$25,000 | 4.77% | .60% | September 2012 |
| May 2008 | 40,000 | 3.72% | .60% | September 2012 |
| October 2008 | 20,000 | 3.21% | .60% | October 2010 |
| October 2008 | 20,000 | 3.46% | .60% | October 2011 |

The interest rate swaps have been designated as cash flow hedges of the future variable interest payments under the Revolving Credit Facility which are considered probable of occurring. Based on the Company's assessment, all of the critical terms of each of the hedges matched the underlying terms of the hedged debt and related forecasted interest payments, and as such, these hedges were considered highly effective.

The fair value of the interest rate swaps reflected an unrealized loss of \$5,014 (\$3,058 after tax) at March 31, 2010 that is included in shareholders' equity as part of accumulated other comprehensive income. Assuming market rates remain constant with the rates at March 31, 2010, approximately \$1,522 of the \$3,058 loss included in accumulated other comprehensive income is expected to be recognized in earnings as an adjustment to interest expense over the next twelve months.

On January 1, 2009, the Company adopted guidance issued by the FASB regarding disclosures about derivative instruments and hedging activities. This guidance amends and expands the disclosure requirements of previous guidance to require qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of and gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements.

At March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, the interest rate swap contracts were reflected as a liability on the balance sheets. The following derivatives are designated as hedging instruments:

Liability Derivatives

| Balance Sheet Location: | March 31, 2010 | September 30, 2009 |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Other current liabilities | \$ 2,495 | \$ 2,441 |
| Long-term liabilities: | | |
| Other accrued liabilities and deferred revenue | 2,519 | 3,267 |
| Total derivatives | \$ 5,014 | \$ 5,708 |

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 5. Debt (continued)

The loss recognized on derivatives was as follows:

| Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships | Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative | Amount of Loss Recognized in Income on Derivatives Three Months ended March 31, 2010 | | Amount of Loss Recognized in Income on Derivatives Six Months ended March 31, 2009 | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|----------|---|----------|---|
| Interest rate swaps | Interest expense | \$(946 |) | \$(1,079 |) | \$(1,893 |) | \$(1,445 |) |

The Company recognized the following losses in accumulated other comprehensive loss ("OCL"):

| Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships | Amount of Loss Recognized in OCL on Derivatives March 31, 2010 | | September 30, 2009 | | Location of Loss Reclassified from Accumulated OCL into Income (Effective Portion*) | Amount of Loss Reclassified from Accumulated OCL into Income (Effective Portion*) March 31, 2010 | | September 30, 2009 | |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|---|---|--|---|-----------------------|---|
| Interest rate swaps | \$(3,058 |) | \$(3,482 |) | Interest expense | \$(1,155 |) | \$(2,134 |) |

*There is no ineffective portion or amount excluded from effectiveness testing.

The Company, through certain of its German subsidiaries, has a credit facility with a European bank. The maximum amount of borrowings available under this facility was 25.0 million Euros (\$33,773). Outstanding borrowings under the credit facility totaled 15.0 million Euros (\$20,264) and 18.0 million Euros (\$26,341) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding borrowings under this facility at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 1.58% and 2.93%, respectively.

The Company, through its German subsidiary, Saueressig GmbH & Co. KG ("Saueressig"), has several loans with various European banks. Outstanding borrowings under these loans totaled 9.2 million Euros (\$12,425) and 10.0 million Euros (\$14,717) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding borrowings of Saueressig at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 5.99% and 5.82%, respectively.

The Company, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Matthews International S.p.A., has several loans with various Italian banks. Outstanding borrowings on these loans totaled 10.8 million Euros (\$14,549) and 12.2 million Euros (\$17,962) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. Matthews International S.p.A. also has three lines of credit totaling 8.4 million Euros (\$11,307) with the same Italian banks. Outstanding borrowings on these lines were 2.9 million Euros (\$3,912) and 2.0 million Euros (\$2,855) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 5. Debt (continued)

The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding Matthews International S.p.A. borrowings at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 3.66% and 3.82%, respectively.

As of March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, the fair value of the Company's long-term debt, including current maturities, was as follows:

| | Carrying Value included in the Balance Sheet | | Fair Value | |
|--|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| | March 31, 2010 | September 30, 2009 | March 31, 2010 | September 30, 2009 |
| Long-term debt, including current maturities | \$232,902 | \$251,718 | \$213,719 | \$230,482 |

Note 6. Share-Based Payments

The Company maintains a stock incentive plan (the "1992 Incentive Stock Plan") that provided for grants of stock options, restricted shares and certain other types of stock-based awards. In February 2008, the Company's shareholders approved the adoption of a new plan, the 2007 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2007 Plan"), that provides for the grants of stock options, restricted shares, stock-based performance units and certain other types of stock-based awards. Under the 2007 Plan, which has a ten-year term, the maximum number of shares available for grants or awards is an aggregate of 2,200,000. There will be no further grants under the 1992 Incentive Stock Plan. At March 31, 2010, there were 1,534,764 shares reserved for future issuance under the 2007 Plan. Both plans are administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors.

The option price for each stock option granted under either plan may not be less than the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. Outstanding stock options are generally exercisable in one-third increments upon the attainment of 10%, 33% and 60% appreciation in the market value of the Company's Class A Common Stock. In addition, options generally vest in one-third increments after three, four and five years, respectively, from the grant date (but, in any event, not until the attainment of the market value thresholds). The options expire on the earlier of ten years from the date of grant, upon employment termination, or within specified time limits following voluntary employment termination (with the consent of the Company), retirement or death. The Company generally settles employee stock option exercises with treasury shares. With respect to outstanding restricted share grants, generally one-half of the shares vest on the third anniversary of the grant. The remaining one-half of the shares vest in one-third increments upon attainment of 10%, 25% and 40% appreciation in the market value of the Company's Class A Common Stock. Additionally, beginning in fiscal 2009, restricted shares cannot vest until the first anniversary of the grant date. Unvested restricted shares generally expire on the earlier of five years from the date of grant, upon employment termination, or within specified time limits following voluntary employment termination (with the consent of the Company), retirement or death. The Company issues restricted shares from treasury shares.

For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, total stock-based compensation cost totaled \$1,684 and \$1,522, respectively. For the six-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, total stock-based compensation cost

totaled \$3,293 and \$2,858, respectively. The associated future income tax benefit recognized was \$656 and \$593 for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and \$1,284 and \$1,115 for the six-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 6. Share-Based Payments (continued)

For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, the amount of cash received from the exercise of stock options was \$54 and \$888, respectively. For the six-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, the amount of cash received from the exercise of stock options was \$726 and \$1,143, respectively. In connection with these exercises, the tax benefits realized by the Company were \$15 and \$153 for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and \$151 and \$242 for the six-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Changes to restricted stock for the six months ended March 31, 2010 were as follows:

| | Shares | Weighted- average grant-date fair value |
|----------------------------------|----------|--|
| Non-vested at September 30, 2009 | 271,656 | \$37.61 |
| Granted | 178,009 | 33.65 |
| Vested | - | - |
| Expired or forfeited | (1,110) | 34.28 |
| Non-vested at March 31, 2010 | 448,555 | 36.05 |

As of March 31, 2010, the total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested restricted stock was \$6,835 and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.7 years.

The transactions for shares under options for the six months ended March 31, 2010 were as follows:

| | Shares | Weighted- average exercise price | Weighted- average remaining contractual term | Aggregate intrinsic value |
|---------------------------------|------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Outstanding, September 30, 2009 | 1,224,909 | \$35.94 | | |
| Granted | - | - | | |
| Exercised | (31,600) | 22.99 | | |
| Expired or forfeited | (197,417) | 37.90 | | |
| Outstanding, March 31, 2010 | 995,892 | 35.96 | 5.3 | \$- |
| Exercisable, March 31, 2010 | 692,024 | 34.45 | 4.8 | \$727 |

The fair value of shares earned during the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$86 and \$73, respectively, and \$3,120 and \$2,799 during the six-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The intrinsic value of options (which is the amount by which the stock price exceeded the exercise price of the options on the date of exercise) exercised during the six-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$457 and \$657, respectively.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 6. Share-Based Payments (continued)

The transactions for non-vested options for the six months ended March 31, 2010 were as follows:

| | Shares | Weighted-average grant-date fair value |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| Non-vested shares | | |
| Non-vested at September 30, 2009 | 673,035 | \$ 12.17 |
| Granted | - | - |
| Vested | (283,018) | 11.03 |
| Expired or forfeited | (86,149) | 9.79 |
| Non-vested at March 31, 2010 | 303,868 | 13.92 |

As of March 31, 2010, the total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock options was approximately \$714. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.4 years in accordance with the vesting periods of the options.

The fair value of each restricted stock grant is estimated on the date of grant using a binomial lattice valuation model. The following table indicates the assumptions used in estimating fair value of restricted stock for the quarters ended March 31, 2010 and 2009.

| | Six Months Ended March | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---|------|---|
| | 2010 | | 2009 | |
| Expected volatility | 30.0 | % | 27.0 | % |
| Dividend yield | .8 | % | .6 | % |
| Average risk free interest rate | 2.3 | % | 2.4 | % |
| Average expected term (years) | 2.2 | | 2.3 | |

The risk free interest rate is based on United States Treasury yields at the date of grant. The dividend yield is based on the most recent dividend payment and average stock price over the 12 months prior to the grant date. Expected volatilities are based on the historical volatility of the Company's stock price. The expected term represents an estimate of the average period of time for restricted shares to vest. The option characteristics for each grant are considered separately for valuation purposes.

Under the Company's Director Fee Plan, directors who are not also officers of the Company each receive, as an annual retainer fee, either cash or shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock equivalent to \$60. An additional annual retainer fee of \$70 is paid to a non-employee Chairman of the Board. Where the annual retainer fee is provided in shares, each director may elect to be paid these shares on a current basis or have such shares credited to a deferred stock account as phantom stock, with such shares to be paid to the director subsequent to leaving the Board. The value of deferred shares is recorded in other liabilities. A total of 25,013 shares had been deferred under the Director Fee Plan at March 31, 2010. Additionally, directors who are not also officers of the Company each receive an annual stock-based grant (non-statutory stock options, stock appreciation rights and/or restricted shares) with a value of \$70. A total of 22,300 stock options have been granted under the plan. At March 31, 2010, 17,800 options

were outstanding and vested. Additionally, 51,525 shares of restricted stock have been granted under the plan, 27,695 of which were unvested at March 31, 2010. A total of 300,000 shares have been authorized to be issued under the Director Fee Plan.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 7. Earnings Per Share Attributable to Matthews' Shareholders

| | Three Months Ended | | Six Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| | March 31, | | March 31, | |
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Net income attributable to Matthews' shareholders | \$ 15,931 | \$ 12,742 | \$ 28,927 | \$ 24,031 |
| Weighted-average common shares outstanding | 29,841,709 | 30,314,212 | 29,910,728 | 30,403,150 |
| Dilutive securities, stock options and restricted shares | 182,664 | 122,928 | 220,402 | 181,041 |
| Diluted weighted-average common shares outstanding | 30,024,373 | 30,437,140 | 30,131,130 | 30,584,191 |
| Basic earnings per share | \$.53 | \$.42 | \$.97 | \$.79 |
| Diluted earnings per share | \$.53 | \$.42 | \$.96 | \$.79 |

Options to purchase 621,050 and 812,071 shares of common stock were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share for the three months and six months ended March 31, 2010, respectively, because the inclusion of these options would be anti-dilutive. Options to purchase 1,016,836 of shares of common stock and 7,399 restricted stock shares were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share for the three-month period ended March 31, 2009 because the inclusion of these options and restricted stock would be anti-dilutive. Options to purchase 771,316 shares of common stock were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share for the six-month period ended March 31, 2009 because the inclusion of these options would be anti-dilutive.

Note 8. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans

The Company provides defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans to certain employees. Net periodic pension and other postretirement benefit cost for the plans included the following:

| Three months ended March 31, | Pension | | Other Postretirement | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|--------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Service cost | \$1,078 | \$856 | \$173 | \$143 |
| Interest cost | 1,853 | 1,868 | 346 | 386 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (1,717) | (1,900) | - | - |
| Amortization: | | | | |
| Prior service cost | (10) | (9) | (181) | (322) |
| Net actuarial loss | 1,338 | 456 | 130 | 71 |
| Net benefit cost | \$2,542 | \$1,271 | \$468 | \$278 |

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 8. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans (continued)

| Six months ended March 31, | Pension | | Other Postretirement | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|--------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Service cost | \$2,156 | \$1,712 | \$346 | \$286 |
| Interest cost | 3,706 | 3,736 | 692 | 772 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (3,434) | (3,800) | - | - |
| Amortization: | | | | |
| Prior service cost | (20) | (18) | (362) | (644) |
| Net actuarial loss | 2,676 | 912 | 260 | 142 |
| Net benefit cost | \$5,084 | \$2,542 | \$936 | \$556 |

Benefit payments under the Company's principal retirement plan are made from plan assets, while benefit payments under supplemental retirement plan and the postretirement benefit plan are made from the Company's operating funds. Under IRS regulations, the Company is not required to make any significant contributions to its principal retirement plan in fiscal year 2010. During the six months ended March 31, 2010, contributions of \$387 and \$434 were made under the supplemental retirement plan and postretirement plan, respectively. The Company currently anticipates contributing an additional \$386 and \$617 under the supplemental retirement plan and postretirement plan, respectively, for the remainder of fiscal 2010.

On October 1, 2008, the Company adopted the FASB guidance on accounting for defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans. The measurement date for the Company's pension and postretirement plans was changed from July 31 to September 30. Accordingly, an additional pension liability of \$577 and postretirement liability of \$125, net of tax, was recorded as of December 31, 2008 to recognize the additional expense through September 30, 2008, with a corresponding adjustment to retained earnings.

Note 9. Income Taxes

Income tax provisions for the Company's interim periods are based on the effective income tax rate expected to be applicable for the full year. The Company's effective tax rate for the six months ended March 31, 2010 was 36.0%, compared to 34.0% for the first six months of fiscal 2009. The six months of fiscal 2009 included a one-time reduction in income tax expense of \$923 to reflect the Company's ability to utilize a European tax loss carryover. The difference between the Company's effective tax rate and the Federal statutory rate of 35.0% primarily reflected the impact of state and foreign income taxes.

The Company had unrecognized tax benefits (excluding penalties and interest) of \$3,418 and \$3,575 at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively, all of which, if recorded, would impact the fiscal 2010 annual effective tax rate. It is reasonably possible that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits could change by approximately \$342 in the next 12 months primarily due to tax examinations and the expiration of statutes related to specific tax positions.

The Company classifies interest and penalties on tax uncertainties as a component of the provision for income taxes. The Company included \$126 in interest and penalties in the provision for income taxes for the first six months of

fiscal 2010. Total penalties and interest accrued were \$2,964 and \$2,838 at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. These accruals may potentially be applicable in the event of an unfavorable outcome of uncertain tax positions.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

The Company is currently under examination in several tax jurisdictions and remains subject to examination until the statute of limitations expires for those tax jurisdictions. As of March 31, 2010, the tax years that remain subject to examination by major jurisdiction generally are:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| United States – Federal | 2007 and forward |
| United States – State | 2006 and forward |
| Canada | 2004 and forward |
| Europe | 2002 and forward |
| United Kingdom | 2008 and forward |
| Australia | 2005 and forward |
| Asia | 2004 and forward |

Note 10. Segment Information

The Company's products and operations consist of two principal businesses that are comprised of three operating segments each, as described under Nature of Operations (Note 1): Memorialization Products (Bronze, Casket, Cremation) and Brand Solutions (Graphics Imaging, Marking Products, Merchandising Solutions). Management evaluates segment performance based on operating profit (before income taxes) and does not allocate non-operating items such as investment income, interest expense, other income (deductions), net, and net income attributable to noncontrolling interests.

Information about the Company's segments follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Six Months Ended March 31, | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Sales to external customers: | | | | |
| Memorialization: | | | | |
| Bronze | \$53,719 | \$52,711 | \$102,978 | \$102,445 |
| Casket | 55,249 | 54,972 | 105,913 | 107,571 |
| Cremation | 8,991 | 8,011 | 17,491 | 14,294 |
| | 117,959 | 115,694 | 226,382 | 224,310 |
| Brand Solutions: | | | | |
| Graphics Imaging | 60,335 | 55,627 | 120,141 | 112,821 |
| Marking Products | 11,867 | 9,517 | 23,433 | 21,102 |
| Merchandising Solutions | 10,705 | 16,524 | 23,883 | 30,415 |
| | 82,907 | 81,668 | 167,457 | 164,338 |
| | \$200,866 | \$197,362 | \$393,839 | \$388,648 |

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 10. Segment Information (continued)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Six Months Ended March 31, | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Operating profit: | | | | |
| Memorialization: | | | | |
| Bronze | \$12,200 | \$12,275 | \$22,560 | \$21,535 |
| Casket | 8,740 | 5,414 | 14,548 | 11,815 |
| Cremation | 953 | 1,297 | 2,083 | 2,110 |
| | 21,893 | 18,986 | 39,191 | 35,460 |
| Brand Solutions: | | | | |
| Graphics Imaging | 4,577 | 3,102 | 8,566 | 5,737 |
| Marking Products | 1,279 | 374 | 1,879 | 1,045 |
| Merchandising Solutions | (631) | 977 | (342) | 1,276 |
| | 5,225 | 4,453 | 10,103 | 8,058 |
| | \$27,118 | \$23,439 | \$49,294 | \$43,518 |

Note 11. Acquisitions

Acquisition spending, net of cash acquired, during the six months ended March 31, 2010 totaled \$14,606, and primarily included the following:

In March 2010, the Company acquired an 80% interest in Furnace Construction Cremators Limited (“FCC”), a manufacturer of cremation equipment located in the United Kingdom. The acquisition was structured as an asset purchase and was designed to expand the Company’s global presence in the European cremation markets.

In February 2010, the Company acquired A.J. Distribution, Inc. (“A.J. Distribution”), a distributor of primarily York brand caskets in the Northwest region of the United States. The transaction was structured as an asset purchase and was intended to expand the Company’s casket distribution capabilities in the Northwestern United States.

In December 2009, the Company acquired United Memorial Products, Inc. (“UMP”), a supplier of granite memorial products, burial vaults and caskets in the western United States. UMP reported sales of approximately \$11,000 in calendar 2009. The transaction was structured as an asset purchase and was designed to extend Matthews’ presence in the broad granite market. The purchase price for the acquisition is \$10,000, plus additional consideration of \$3,500 payable over five years.

In May 2008, the Company acquired a 78% interest in Saueressig, a manufacturer of gravure printing cylinders. The transaction was structured as a stock purchase with a purchase price of approximately 58.1 million Euros (\$90,783). In addition, the Company entered into an option agreement related to the remaining 22% interest in Saueressig. The option agreement contains certain put and call provisions for the purchase of the remaining 22% interest in future years at a price to be determined by a specified formula based on future operating results of Saueressig. The initial carrying value of minority interest was adjusted to the estimated future purchase price (“Redemption Value”) of the

minority interest, with a corresponding charge to retained earnings. For subsequent periods, the carrying value of minority interest reflected on the Company's balance sheet will be adjusted for changes in Redemption Value, with a corresponding

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 11. Acquisitions (continued)

adjustment to retained earnings. To the extent Redemption Value in future periods is less than or greater than the estimated fair value of the minority interest, income available to common shareholders in the determination of earnings per share will increase or decrease, respectively, by such amount. However, income available to common shareholders will only increase to the extent that a decrease was previously recognized. In any case, net income will not be affected by such amounts. At March 31, 2010, Redemption Value was equal to fair value, and there was no impact on income available to common shareholders.

Note 12. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Goodwill related to business combinations is not amortized but is subject to annual review for impairment. In general, when the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment loss must be recognized. For purposes of testing for impairment, the Company uses a discounted cash flow technique. Intangible assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives unless such lives are considered to be indefinite. A significant decline in cash flows generated from these assets may result in a write-down of the carrying values of the related assets. The Company performed its annual impairment review in the second fiscal quarter of 2010 and determined that no additional adjustments to the carrying values of goodwill or indefinite-lived intangible assets were necessary.

A summary of the carrying amount of goodwill attributable to each segment as well as the changes in such amounts are as follows:

| | Bronze | Casket | Cremation | Graphics Imaging | Marking Products | Merchandising Solutions | Consolidated |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Goodwill | \$79,707 | \$122,896 | \$13,887 | \$158,863 | \$9,980 | \$ 9,138 | \$ 394,471 |
| Accumulated impairment losses | (412) | - | (5,000) | (3,840) | - | - | (9,252) |
| Balance at September 30, 2009 | 79,295 | 122,896 | 8,887 | 155,023 | 9,980 | 9,138 | 385,219 |
| Additions during period | 7,399 | 3,525 | 2,968 | (1,464) | 36 | - | 12,464 |
| Translation and other adjustments | (1,991) | | (181) | (9,929) | (32) | - | (12,133) |
| Goodwill | 85,115 | 126,421 | 16,674 | 147,470 | 9,984 | 9,138 | 394,802 |
| Accumulated impairment losses | (412) | - | (5,000) | (3,840) | - | - | (9,252) |
| Balance at March 31, 2010 | \$84,703 | \$126,421 | \$11,674 | \$143,630 | \$9,984 | \$ 9,138 | \$ 385,550 |

The addition to Bronze goodwill represents the acquisition of UMP; the addition to Casket goodwill primarily represents the acquisition of A.J. Distribution; the addition to Cremation goodwill represents the acquisition of FCC;

and the change in Graphics goodwill represents the effect of an adjustment to the purchase price for the Saueressig acquisition.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 12. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets (continued)

The following tables summarize the carrying amounts and related accumulated amortization for intangible assets as of March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively.

| | Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| March 31, 2010: | | | |
| Trade names | \$24,308 | \$ - | * \$24,308 |
| Trade names | 1,475 | (593) | 882 |
| Customer relationships | 35,513 | (9,306) | 26,207 |
| Copyrights/patents/other | 8,113 | (5,761) | 2,352 |
| | \$69,409 | \$ (15,660) | \$53,749 |
| September 30, 2009: | | | |
| Trade names | \$24,418 | \$ - | * \$24,418 |
| Trade names | 1,598 | (458) | 1,140 |
| Customer relationships | 35,568 | (8,232) | 27,336 |
| Copyrights/patents/other | 7,777 | (5,670) | 2,107 |
| | \$69,361 | \$ (14,360) | \$55,001 |

* Not subject to amortization

The net change in intangible assets during fiscal 2010 included an increase for the acquisition of UMP, offset by the impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and additional amortization.

Amortization expense on intangible assets was \$937 and \$1,048 for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. For the six-month periods ended March 31, 2010 and 2009, amortization expense was \$1,787 and \$2,111, respectively. Amortization expense is estimated to be \$1,741 in 2010, \$3,131 in 2011, \$2,673 in 2012, \$2,338 in 2013 and \$2,158 in 2014.

Note 13. Accounting Pronouncements

On September 30, 2009, the Company adopted changes issued by the FASB to the authoritative hierarchy of generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). These changes establish the FASB Accounting Standards Codification™ ("Codification") as the source of authoritative accounting principles recognized by the FASB to be used in the preparation of financial statements of nongovernmental entities that are presented in conformity with GAAP in the U.S. The Codification was effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009. The adoption had no material impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

The Company adopted changes issued by the FASB regarding accounting for income tax benefits of dividends on share-based payment awards on October 1, 2008. The changes require that tax benefits generated by dividends on

equity classified non-vested equity shares, non-vested equity share units, and outstanding equity share options be classified as additional paid-in capital and included in a pool of excess tax benefits available to absorb tax deficiencies from share-based payment awards. The adoption had no material impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 13. Accounting Pronouncements (continued)

In December 2007, the FASB issued new guidance regarding business combinations. This guidance requires recognition and measurement of the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any noncontrolling interest in a business combination, goodwill acquired or a gain from a bargain purchase. It is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The Company adopted the new guidance effective October 1, 2009. See Note 12.

In December 2007, the FASB issued new guidance regarding noncontrolling interests in consolidated financial statements. This guidance establishes accounting and reporting standards for the noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary. It requires that consolidated net income reflect the amounts attributable to both the parent and the noncontrolling interest, and also includes additional disclosure requirements. It was effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008, and is to be applied prospectively as of the beginning of the fiscal year in which the guidance is initially applied, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements which shall be applied retrospectively for all periods presented. The Company adopted the new guidance effective October 1, 2009, as reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statements of Income and the Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity.

In December 2008, the FASB issued changes to employers' disclosures about postretirement benefit plan assets. These changes require enhanced disclosures regarding assets in defined benefit pension or other postretirement plans. It is effective for fiscal years ending after December 31, 2009. Earlier application is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting these changes, which is effective for the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2010.

In April 2009, the FASB issued changes to require disclosures about fair value of financial instruments for interim reporting periods of publicly traded companies as well as in annual financial statements. It also requires those disclosures in summarized financial information at interim reporting periods. These changes are effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009 and were adopted by the Company as of June 30, 2009. See Notes 3 and 5.

Effective September 30, 2007, the Company adopted the recognition and related disclosure provisions of guidance on employers' accounting for defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans which amended earlier guidance. In the first quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company adopted the provision requiring the Company to measure the plan assets and benefit obligations of defined benefit postretirement plans as of the date of its year-end balance sheet. Adoption of this provision did not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial condition. See Note 8.

In May 2009, the FASB issued new guidance regarding subsequent events, which was subsequently revised in February 2010. The guidance establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued or are available to be issued. The adoption of this guidance had no material impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial condition. See Note 14.

In June 2008, the FASB issued guidance regarding instruments granted in share-based payments. The guidance requires unvested share-based payment awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents (whether paid or unpaid) to be considered participating securities and therefore included in the computation of earnings per share pursuant to the two-class method. This guidance is effective for years beginning after December 31, 2008. The Company adopted the provisions of this guidance effective October 1, 2009, which did not have a material effect on the Company's financial statements.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 14. Subsequent Events:

On April 9, 2010, the Company acquired Reynoldsville Casket Company, a manufacturer and distributor of caskets primarily in the Northeast region of the United States. The purchase price for the acquisition was \$13,600, plus additional consideration up to \$3,500 contingent on operating performance over the next three years. Reynoldsville reported sales of approximately \$13,000 in calendar 2009.

Management has evaluated subsequent events and has concluded that all events that would require recognition or disclosure are appropriately reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Cautionary Statement:

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of Matthews International Corporation ("Matthews" or the "Company") and related notes thereto included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2009. Any forward-looking statements contained herein are included pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause the Company's actual results in future periods to be materially different from management's expectations. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, no assurance can be given that such expectations will prove correct. Factors that could cause the Company's results to differ materially from the results discussed in such forward-looking statements principally include changes in domestic or international economic conditions, changes in foreign currency exchange rates, changes in the cost of materials used in the manufacture of the Company's products, changes in death rates, changes in product demand or pricing as a result of consolidation in the industries in which the Company operates, changes in product demand or pricing as a result of domestic or international competitive pressures, unknown risks in connection with the Company's acquisitions, and technological factors beyond the Company's control. In addition, although the Company does not have any customers that would be considered individually significant to consolidated sales, changes in the distribution of the Company's products or the potential loss of one or more of the Company's larger customers are also considered risk factors.

Results of Operations:

The following table sets forth certain income statement data of the Company expressed as a percentage of net sales for the periods indicated.

| | Six months ended | | | | Years ended | | | |
|---|------------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | March 31, | | March 31, | | September 30, | | September 30, | |
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 |
| Sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 | % 100.0 |
| Gross profit | 38.4 | % 36.3 | % 37.7 | % 39.5 | % 37.7 | % 39.5 | % 37.7 | % 39.5 |
| Operating profit | 12.5 | % 11.2 | % 12.9 | % 16.2 | % 12.9 | % 16.2 | % 12.9 | % 16.2 |
| Income before taxes | 11.9 | % 9.4 | % 11.3 | % 14.9 | % 11.3 | % 14.9 | % 11.3 | % 14.9 |
| Net income | 7.6 | % 6.2 | % 7.6 | % 10.0 | % 7.6 | % 10.0 | % 7.6 | % 10.0 |
| Net income attributable to Matthews' shareholders | 7.3 | % 6.2 | % 7.4 | % 9.7 | % 7.4 | % 9.7 | % 7.4 | % 9.7 |

Sales for the six months ended March 31, 2010 were \$393.8 million, compared to \$388.6 million for the six months ended March 31, 2009. The increase mainly reflected the impact of recent acquisitions and a favorable impact of approximately \$11.3 million from changes in foreign currency values against the U.S. dollar. These increases were partially offset by the effects of a decline in the estimated number of casketed deaths on bronze memorial and casket unit volume and the impact of the global recession on the Company's operations.

In the Memorialization businesses, Bronze segment sales for the first six months of fiscal 2010 were \$102.9 million compared to \$102.4 million for the first six months of fiscal 2009. The increase primarily reflected the acquisition of

United Memorial Products, Inc. (“UMP”), a granite memorial manufacturer and distributor located in California, and increases in the value of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar, offset partially by a decline in the unit volume of memorial and architectural product sales. Sales for the Casket segment were \$105.9 million for the first six months of fiscal 2010 compared to \$107.6 million for the same period in fiscal 2009. The decrease resulted principally from lower unit volume and an unfavorable change in product mix, partially offset by the recent acquisition of several small casket businesses. The decline in unit sales volume for both the Bronze and Casket segments reflected a decline in the estimated number of casketed deaths compared to the same period a year ago. Based on available published data, U.S.

deaths for the six months ended March 31, 2010 were estimated to have declined approximately 2%. The “casketed death rate” (non-cremation) was estimated to have declined over 4%, from the same period last year. Sales for the Cremation segment were \$17.5 million for the first half of fiscal 2010 compared to \$14.3 million for the same period a year ago. The increase primarily reflected the impact of the acquisition of a small European cremation equipment manufacturer in fiscal 2009 and higher sales of urns and supplies. In the Company’s Brand Solutions businesses, sales for the Graphics Imaging segment in the first six months of fiscal 2010 were \$120.1 million, compared to \$112.8 million for the same period a year ago. The increase resulted principally from an increase in the value of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar, the impact of the acquisition of a small graphics operation headquartered in Hong Kong in the fiscal 2009 fourth quarter and higher sales by Saueressig GmbH KG & Co (“Saueressig”). These increases were partially offset by lower sales in the U.S. and U.K. markets, primarily reflecting the current economic environment. Marking Products segment sales for the six months ended March 31, 2010 were \$23.4 million, compared to \$21.1 million for the first six months of fiscal 2009. The increase was principally due to the acquisition of a small European distributor and the favorable impact of an increase in the value of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar. In addition, sales volume in the U.S. market improved compared to a year ago, particularly in the second fiscal quarter. Sales for the Merchandising Solutions segment were \$23.9 million for the first half of fiscal 2010, compared to \$30.4 million for the same period a year ago. The decrease principally reflected a decline in project volume resulting from the current U.S. economic conditions. In addition, the second quarter of fiscal 2009 included several large projects that did not repeat in fiscal 2010.

Gross profit for the six months ended March 31, 2010 was \$151.2 million, compared to \$141.0 million for the six months ended March 31, 2009. Consolidated gross profit as a percent of sales increased from 36.3% for the first half of fiscal 2009 to 38.4% for the first six months of fiscal 2010. Gross profit for the first six months of fiscal 2009 included the impact of unusual charges totaling approximately \$5.8 million. The unusual charges included expenses related to the consolidation of certain Bronze segment production facilities and cost structure initiatives in several of the Company’s other segments. The increase in fiscal 2010 consolidated gross profit and gross profit percentage compared to fiscal 2009 also reflected the current year benefits of the fiscal 2009 cost structure changes, particularly in the Saueressig operation and the Marking Products segment.

Selling and administrative expenses for the six months ended March 31, 2010 were \$101.9 million, compared to \$97.5 million for the first half of fiscal 2009. Consolidated selling and administrative expenses as a percent of sales were 25.9% for the six months ended March 31, 2010, compared to 25.1% for the same period last year. The increase in selling and administrative expenses primarily resulted from higher pension expense and the impact of recent acquisitions. Unusual charges included in selling and administrative expenses totaled \$4.9 million of the first six months of fiscal 2009, and consisted primarily of Saueressig integration costs, increased bad debt expense, termination related expenses and costs related to operational and systems improvements. These unusual charges included consulting fees incurred for assistance in the operational and financial integration of Saueressig into Matthews. Bad debt expense, particularly in the Casket segment, was significantly higher in fiscal 2009, reflecting economic conditions. The increase resulted from the deterioration in the aging of outstanding accounts receivable. Employee termination-related and the other costs in connection with operational and systems improvements primarily reflected the Company’s initiatives as a result of the recession. The principal objectives of these initiatives were to better align the cost structures of the Company’s businesses with their respective revenue run rates.

Operating profit for the six months ended March 31, 2010 was \$49.3 million, compared to \$43.5 million for the six months ended March 31, 2009. Operating profit for the first half of fiscal 2010 included an increase of \$2.6 million in pension cost. Operating profit for the first six months of fiscal 2009 included unusual charges of approximately \$10.7 million. In addition, changes in foreign currency rates had a favorable impact of approximately \$1.0 million for the

first six months of fiscal 2010, compared to the same period a year ago.

In the Memorialization businesses, Bronze segment operating profit for the first half of fiscal 2010 was \$22.6 million, compared to \$21.5 million for the same period in fiscal 2009. Bronze segment operating profit for the first six months of fiscal 2009 included unusual charges of \$5.5 million, principally related to facilities consolidations. Excluding these unusual charges, operating profit was lower in the first six months of fiscal 2010 than the same period in fiscal 2009, primarily reflecting the impact of lower sales volume and higher pension cost. Operating profit for the Casket segment for the first six months of fiscal 2010 was \$14.5 million, compared to \$11.8 million for the first half of fiscal 2009. The first six

months of fiscal 2009 included unusual charges of approximately \$2.4 million which were principally related to an increase in bad debt expense and severance expenses. Excluding the impact of the unusual charges in fiscal 2009, Casket segment operating profit in the first six months of fiscal 2010 was relatively unchanged from the prior year, reflecting lower sales volume and unfavorable product mix, offset by the favorable impact of cost structure changes initiated in fiscal 2009. Cremation segment operating profit approximated \$2.1 million for the first six months of fiscal 2010 and 2009. Fiscal 2010 first half operating profit reflected higher sales and the acquisition of a small European equipment manufacturer in fiscal 2009, offset by the impact of an unfavorable change in product mix and higher pension cost. In the Brand Solutions businesses, Graphics Imaging segment operating profit for the six months ended March 31, 2010 was \$8.6 million, compared to \$5.7 million for the six months ended March 31, 2009. Operating profit in the first six months of fiscal 2009 included unusual charges of approximately \$1.8 million. Excluding the effect of the unusual charges, operating profit increased approximately \$1.1 million in the first six months of fiscal 2010 compared to the same period in fiscal 2009. The increase resulted primarily from higher operating profit from Saueressig, the favorable effect of foreign currency exchange rate changes and the acquisition of a small graphics business headquartered in Hong Kong. These increases were partially offset by a decline in operating profit for the U.S. operations. Operating profit for the Marking Products segment for the first six months of fiscal 2010 was \$1.9 million, compared to \$1.0 million for the same period a year ago. Operating profit for the first six months of fiscal 2009 included unusual charges of approximately \$467,000. The increase in year-over year operating profit, excluding unusual charges, primarily reflected higher sales, particularly in the second quarter of fiscal 2010, and the favorable impact of fiscal 2009 cost structure initiatives. The Merchandising Solutions segment reported an operating loss of \$342,000 for the six months ended March 31, 2010, compared to operating profit of \$1.3 million for the same period in fiscal 2009. The decrease primarily reflected lower sales.

Investment income was \$2.0 million for the six months ended March 31, 2010, compared to an investment loss of \$695,000 for the six months ended March 31, 2009. The fiscal 2010 investment income reflects improved investment performance. The investment loss in fiscal 2009 included unusual charges of approximately \$1.2 million, representing unrealized losses in the value of investments held in long-term trusts for certain employee benefit plans. Interest expense for the first half of fiscal 2010 was \$3.8 million, compared to \$6.3 million for the same period last year. The decrease in interest expense primarily reflected declines in average borrowing rates during the first half of fiscal 2010, compared to the same period a year ago.

Other income (deductions), net for the six months ended March 31, 2010 was a reduction of income of \$731,000, compared to an increase in income of \$3,000 for the same period last year. The fiscal 2010 reduction in income primarily reflected foreign currency exchange losses on intercompany loans.

The Company's effective tax rate for the six months ended March 31, 2010 was 36.0%, compared to 34.0% for the same period last year. The effective tax rate for the six-month period ended March 31, 2009 included the impact of a \$923,000 reduction in income tax expense to reflect the Company's ability to utilize a tax loss carryover in Europe. Excluding the one-time adjustment to income taxes in fiscal 2009, the Company's effective tax rate was 36.5% for the first six months of fiscal 2009. Excluding the one-time adjustment, the Company's effective tax rate for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009 was 35.9%. The difference between the Company's effective tax rate and the Federal statutory rate of 35.0% primarily reflected the impact of state and foreign income taxes.

Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests in the first six months of fiscal 2010 was \$1.0 million, compared to \$77,000 in the first six months of fiscal 2009. The increase primarily related to the improvement in operating results for Saueressig.

Goodwill:

Goodwill related to business combinations is not amortized, but is subject to annual review for impairment. In general, when the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment loss must be recognized. For purposes of testing for impairment, the Company uses a discounted cash flow technique. The Company performed its annual impairment review in the second quarter of fiscal 2010 and determined that no additional adjustments to the carrying values of goodwill were necessary at March 31, 2010.

Liquidity and Capital Resources:

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$55.7 million for the six months ended March 31, 2010, compared to \$44.7 million for the first six months of fiscal 2009. Operating cash flow for both periods primarily reflected net income adjusted for depreciation, amortization, and stock-based compensation expense, partially offset by decreases in deferred taxes. Additionally, in the first six months of fiscal 2010 a decrease in accounts receivable (reflected in working capital changes) contributed to the increase in operating cash flow.

Cash used in investing activities was \$23.9 million for the six months ended March 31, 2010, compared to \$9.9 million for the six months ended March 31, 2009. Investing activities for the first six months of fiscal 2010 primarily included capital expenditures of \$8.4 million, payments (net of cash acquired) of \$14.6 million for acquisitions and net purchases of investments of \$974,000. Investing activities for the first six months of fiscal 2009 primarily included capital expenditures of \$6.6 million and purchases of investments of \$2.6 million.

Capital expenditures reflected reinvestment in the Company's business segments and were made primarily for the purchase of new manufacturing machinery, equipment and facilities designed to improve product quality, increase manufacturing efficiency, lower production costs and meet regulatory requirements. Capital expenditures for the last three fiscal years were primarily financed through operating cash. Capital spending for property, plant and equipment has averaged \$17.4 million for the last three fiscal years. The capital budget for fiscal 2010 is \$25.8 million. The Company expects to generate sufficient cash from operations to fund all anticipated capital spending projects.

Cash used in financing activities for the six months ended March 31, 2010 was \$26.4 million, primarily reflecting net repayments of long-term debt of \$13.3 million, treasury stock purchases of \$9.4 million, proceeds of \$726,000 from the sale of treasury stock (stock option exercises), a tax benefit of \$64,000 from exercised stock options, payment of dividends of \$4.2 million to the Company's shareholders and distributions of \$234,000 to noncontrolling interests. Cash used in financing activities for the six months ended March 31, 2009 was \$28.9 million, primarily reflecting treasury stock purchases of \$23.1 million, proceeds of \$1.1 million from the sale of treasury stock (stock option exercises), payment of dividends of \$4.1 million to the Company's shareholders and distributions of \$2.3 million to noncontrolling interests.

The Company has a domestic Revolving Credit Facility with a syndicate of financial institutions. The maximum amount of borrowings available under the facility is \$225.0 million and the facility's maturity is September 2012. Borrowings under the facility bear interest at LIBOR plus a factor ranging from .40% to .80% based on the Company's leverage ratio. The leverage ratio is defined as net indebtedness divided by EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization). The Company is required to pay an annual commitment fee ranging from .15% to .25% (based on the Company's leverage ratio) of the unused portion of the facility. The Revolving Credit Facility requires the Company to maintain certain leverage and interest coverage ratios. A portion of the facility (not to exceed \$20 million) is available for the issuance of trade and standby letters of credit. Outstanding borrowings on the Revolving Credit Facility at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009 were \$173.0 million and \$177.5 million, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding borrowings at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 3.01% and 3.92%, respectively.

The Company has entered into the following interest rate swaps:

| Date | Initial Amount | Interest Rate | | Maturity Date |
|------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | | Fixed Interest Rate | Spread at March 31, 2010 | |
| | \$25 million | 4.77% | .60% | |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|-------|------|-------------------|
| September 2007 | | | | September 2012 |
| May 2008 | 40 million | 3.72% | .60% | September 2012 |
| October 2008 | 20 million | 3.21% | .60% | October 2010 |
| October 2008 | 20 million | 3.46% | .60% | October 2011 |

The interest rate swaps have been designated as cash flow hedges of the future variable interest payments under the Revolving Credit Facility which are considered probable of occurring. Based on the Company's assessment, all the critical terms of each of the hedges matched the underlying terms of the hedged debt and related forecasted interest payments, and as such, these hedges were considered highly effective.

The fair value of the interest rate swaps reflected an unrealized loss of \$5.0 million (\$3.1 million after tax) at March 31, 2010 that is included in shareholders' equity as part of accumulated other comprehensive income. Assuming market rates remain constant with the rates at March 31, 2010, approximately \$1.5 million of the \$3.1 million loss included in accumulated other comprehensive income is expected to be recognized in earnings as interest expense over the next twelve months.

The Company, through certain of its German subsidiaries, has a credit facility with a European bank for borrowings up to 25.0 million Euros (\$33.8 million). Outstanding borrowings under the credit facility totaled 15.0 million Euros (\$20.3 million) and 18.0 million Euros (\$26.3 million) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding borrowings under this facility at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 1.58% and 2.93%, respectively.

The Company, through its German subsidiary, Saueressig, has several loans with various European banks. Outstanding borrowings under these loans totaled 9.2 million Euros (\$12.4 million) and 10.0 million Euros (\$14.7 million) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding borrowings of Saueressig at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 5.99% and 5.82%, respectively.

The Company, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Matthews International S.p.A., has several loans with various Italian banks. Outstanding borrowings on these loans totaled 10.8 million Euros (\$14.5 million) and 12.2 million Euros (\$18.0 million) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. Matthews International S.p.A. also has three lines of credit totaling approximately 8.4 million Euros (\$11.3 million) with the same Italian banks. Outstanding borrowings on these lines were 2.9 million Euros (\$3.9 million) and 2.0 million Euros (\$2.9 million) at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on outstanding borrowings of Matthews International S.p.A. at March 31, 2010 and 2009 was 3.66% and 3.82%, respectively.

The Company has a stock repurchase program, which was initiated in 1996. Under the program, the Company's Board of Directors had authorized the repurchase of a total of 12,500,000 shares of Matthews common stock. On January 22, 2010, the Company announced that its Board of Directors approved an additional 2,500,000 shares to the Company's repurchase authorization, increasing the total authorization to 15,000,000 shares. As of March 31, 2010, 2,448,203 shares remained to be purchased under the current authorization. The buy-back program is designed to increase shareholder value, enlarge the Company's holdings of its common stock, and add to earnings per share. Repurchased shares may be retained in treasury, utilized for acquisitions, or reissued to employees or other purchasers, subject to the restrictions of the Company's Articles of Incorporation.

Consolidated working capital of the Company was \$166.6 million at March 31, 2010, compared to \$173.1 million at September 30, 2009. Cash and cash equivalents were \$60.9 million at March 31, 2010, compared to \$57.7 million at September 30, 2009. The Company's current ratio was 2.2 at March 31, 2010, compared to 2.3 at September 30, 2009.

Environmental Matters:

The Company's operations are subject to various federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment. These laws and regulations impose limitations on the discharge of materials into the environment and require the Company to obtain and operate in compliance with conditions of permits and other government authorizations. As such, the Company has developed environmental, health, and safety policies and procedures that include the proper handling, storage and disposal of hazardous materials.

The Company is party to various environmental matters. These include obligations to investigate and mitigate the effects on the environment of the disposal of certain materials at various operating and non-operating sites. The Company is currently performing environmental assessments and remediation at these sites, as appropriate. In addition, prior to its acquisition, The York Group, Inc. (“York”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, was identified, along with others, by the Environmental Protection Agency as a potentially responsible party for remediation of a landfill site in York, Pennsylvania. At this time, the Company has not been joined in any lawsuit or administrative order related to the site or its clean-up.

At March 31, 2010, an accrual of approximately \$6.9 million had been recorded for environmental remediation (of which \$836,000 was classified in other current liabilities), representing management's best estimate of the probable and reasonably estimable costs of the Company's known remediation obligations. The accrual, which reflects previously established reserves assumed with the acquisition of York and additional reserves recorded as a purchase accounting adjustment, does not consider the effects of inflation and anticipated expenditures are not discounted to their present value. Changes in the accrued environmental remediation obligation from the prior fiscal year reflect payments charged against the accrual. While final resolution of these contingencies could result in costs different than current accruals, management believes the ultimate outcome will not have a significant effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial position.

Acquisitions:

Acquisition spending, net of cash acquired, during the six months ended March 31, 2010 totaled \$14.6 million, and primarily included the following:

In March 2010, the Company acquired an 80% interest in Furnace Construction Cremators Limited, ("FCC"), a manufacturer of cremation equipment located in the United Kingdom. The acquisition was structured as an asset purchase and was designed to expand the Company's global presence in the European cremation markets.

In February 2010, the Company acquired A.J. Distribution, Inc. ("A.J. Distribution"), a distributor of primarily York brand caskets in the Northwest region of the United States. The transaction was structured as an asset purchase and was intended to expand the Company's casket distribution capabilities in the Northwestern United States.

In December 2009, the Company acquired UMP, a supplier of granite memorial products, burial vaults and caskets in the western United States. UMP reported sales of approximately \$11,000 in calendar 2009. The transaction was structured as an asset purchase and was designed to extend Matthews' presence in the broad granite market. The purchase price for the acquisition is \$10 million, plus additional consideration of \$3.5 million payable over five years.

Forward-Looking Information:

Matthews has a three-pronged strategy to attain annual growth in earnings per share. This strategy consists of the following: internal growth (which includes productivity improvements, new product development and the expansion into new markets with existing products), acquisitions and share repurchases under the Company's stock repurchase program (see "Liquidity and Capital Resources"). For the past ten fiscal years, the Company has achieved an average annual increase in earnings per share of 11.1%.

One of the most significant factors expected to impact fiscal 2010 results is the continued weakness in the domestic and global economies. The current recession unfavorably affected sales and profits in both the Memorialization and Brand Solutions businesses in fiscal 2009, and has continued to affect the Company's segments in the first six months of fiscal 2010. Additionally, pension expense will increase by approximately \$5.2 million in fiscal 2010 compared to fiscal 2009 as a result of the market's impact on plan assets and the valuation of the pension obligation as of September 30, 2009. With these challenges, each of the Company's segments continues to emphasize the importance of cost structure relative to revenue run rates.

In November 2009, the Company indicated that, despite the increase in fiscal 2010 pension expense, fiscal 2010 earnings were expected to be relatively consistent with fiscal 2009 earnings, excluding unusual items. Based on the

Company's year-to-date results through March 31, 2010 and current projections for the remainder of the fiscal year, the Company is maintaining its earnings guidance at this time. The Company continues to remain cautious given the continued decline in casketed death rates, uncertain economic conditions and rising commodity costs.

Critical Accounting Policies:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles 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 the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Therefore, the determination of estimates requires the exercise of judgment based on various assumptions and other factors such as historical experience, economic conditions, and in some cases, actuarial techniques. Actual results may differ from those estimates. A discussion of market risks affecting the Company can be found in "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk" in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

A summary of the Company's significant accounting policies are included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements and in the critical accounting policies in Management's Discussion and Analysis included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2009. Management believes that the application of these policies on a consistent basis enables the Company to provide useful and reliable financial information about the company's operating results and financial condition.

LONG-TERM CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS AND COMMITMENTS:

The following table summarizes the Company's contractual obligations at March 31, 2010, and the effect such obligations are expected to have on its liquidity and cash flows in future periods.

| | Total | Payments due in fiscal year: | | | After 2014 |
|---|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | | 2010 Remainder | 2011 to 2012 | 2013 to 2014 | |
| (Dollar amounts in thousands) | | | | | |
| Contractual Cash Obligations: | | | | | |
| Revolving credit facilities | \$193,264 | \$- | \$193,264 | \$- | \$- |
| Notes payable to banks | 29,241 | 2,946 | 12,419 | 10,140 | 3,736 |
| Short-term borrowings | 3,914 | 3,914 | - | - | - |
| Capital lease obligations | 5,627 | 1,682 | 3,564 | 381 | - |
| Non-cancelable operating leases | 20,914 | 4,583 | 11,195 | 4,338 | 798 |
| Other | 1,284 | 1,284 | - | - | - |
| Total contractual cash obligations | \$254,244 | \$14,409 | \$220,442 | \$14,859 | \$4,534 |

A significant portion of the loans included in the table above bear interest at variable rates. At March 31, 2010, the weighted-average interest rate was 3.01% on the Company's domestic Revolving Credit Facility, 1.58% on the credit facility through the Company's German subsidiaries, 3.66% on bank loans to the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, Matthews International S.p.A., and 5.99% on bank loans to its majority-owned subsidiary, Saueressig.

Benefit payments under the Company's principal retirement plan are made from plan assets, while benefit payments under the supplemental retirement plan and postretirement benefit plan are funded from the Company's operating cash. The Company is not required to make any significant contributions to its principal retirement plan in fiscal 2010. During the six months ended March 31, 2010, contributions of \$387,000 and \$434,000 were made under the supplemental retirement plan and postretirement plan, respectively. The Company currently anticipates contributing an additional \$386,000 and \$617,000 under the supplemental retirement plan and postretirement plan,

respectively, for the remainder of fiscal 2010.

In connection with its acquisition of a 78% interest in Saueressig, the Company entered into an option agreement related to the remaining 22% interest. The option agreement contains certain put and call provisions for the purchase of the remaining 22% interest in future years at a price to be determined by a specified formula based on future operating results of Saueressig. The Company has recorded an estimate of \$25.0 million in "Arrangement with noncontrolling interest" in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2010 representing the current estimate of the future purchase price.

Unrecognized tax benefits are positions taken, or expected to be taken, on an income tax return that may result in additional payments to tax authorities. If a tax authority agrees with the tax position taken, or expected to be taken, or the applicable statute of limitations expires, then additional payments will not be necessary. The Company had unrecognized tax benefits, excluding penalties and interest, of approximately \$3.4 million and \$3.6 million at March 31, 2010 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The timing of potential future payments related to the unrecognized tax benefits is not presently determinable.

The Company believes that its current liquidity sources, combined with its operating cash flow and borrowing capacity, will be sufficient to meet its capital needs for the foreseeable future.

Accounting Pronouncements:

On September 30, 2009, the Company adopted changes issued by the FASB to the authoritative hierarchy of generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”). These changes establish the FASB Accounting Standards Codification™ (“Codification”) as the source of authoritative accounting principles recognized by the FASB to be used in the preparation of financial statements of nongovernmental entities that are presented in conformity with GAAP in the U.S. The Codification was effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009. The adoption had no material impact on the Company’s consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

The Company adopted changes issued by the FASB regarding accounting for income tax benefits of dividends on share-based payment awards on October 1, 2008. The changes require that tax benefits generated by dividends on equity classified non-vested equity shares, non-vested equity share units, and outstanding equity share options be classified as additional paid-in capital and included in a pool of excess tax benefits available to absorb tax deficiencies from share-based payment awards. The adoption had no material impact on the Company’s consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

In December 2007, the FASB issued new guidance regarding business combinations. This guidance requires recognition and measurement of the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any noncontrolling interest in a business combination, goodwill acquired or a gain from a bargain purchase. It is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The Company adopted the new guidance effective October 1, 2009.

In December 2007, the FASB issued new guidance regarding noncontrolling interests in consolidated financial statements. This guidance establishes accounting and reporting standards for the noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary. It requires that consolidated net income reflect the amounts attributable to both the parent and the noncontrolling interest, and also includes additional disclosure requirements. It was effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008 and is to be applied prospectively as of the beginning of the fiscal year in which the guidance is initially applied, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements which shall be applied retrospectively for all periods presented. The Company adopted the new guidance effective October 1, 2009.

In December 2008, the FASB issued changes to employers’ disclosures about postretirement benefit plan assets. These changes require enhanced disclosures regarding assets in defined benefit pension or other postretirement plans. It is effective for fiscal years ending after December 31, 2009. Earlier application is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of these changes, which is effective for the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2010.

In April 2009, the FASB issued changes to require disclosures about fair value of financial instruments for interim reporting periods of publicly traded companies as well as in annual financial statements. It also requires those disclosures in summarized financial information at interim reporting periods. These changes are effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009 and were adopted by the Company as of June 30, 2009.

On September 30, 2007, the Company adopted the recognition and related disclosure provisions of guidance on employers' accounting for defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans which amended earlier guidance. In the first quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company adopted the provision requiring the Company to measure the plan assets and benefit obligations of defined benefit postretirement plans as of the date of its year-end balance sheet. Adoption of this provision did not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

In May 2009, the FASB issued new guidance regarding subsequent events, which was subsequently revised in February 2010. The guidance establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued or are available to be issued. The adoption of this guidance had no material impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

In June 2008, the FASB issued guidance regarding instruments granted in share-based payments. The guidance requires unvested share-based payment awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents (whether paid or unpaid) to be considered participating securities and therefore included in the computation of earnings per share pursuant to the two-class method. This guidance is effective for years beginning after December 31, 2008. The Company adopted the provisions of this guidance effective October 1, 2009, which did not have a material effect on the Company's financial statements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

The following discussion about the Company's market risk involves forward-looking statements. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. The Company has market risk related to changes in interest rates, commodity prices, foreign currency exchange rates and actuarial assumptions for pension and other postretirement plans. The Company does not generally use derivative financial instruments in connection with these market risks, except as noted below.

Interest Rates - The Company's most significant long-term debt instrument is the domestic Revolving Credit Facility, as amended, which bears interest at variable rates based on LIBOR. The Company has entered into interest rate swaps as listed under "Liquidity and Capital Resources". The interest rate swaps have been designated as cash flow hedges of the future variable interest payments under the Revolving Credit Facility which are considered probable of occurring. Based on the Company's assessment, all the critical terms of each of the hedges matched the underlying terms of the hedged debt and related forecasted interest payments, and as such, these hedges were considered highly effective. The fair value of the interest rate swaps reflected an unrealized loss of \$5.0 million (\$3.1 million after tax) at March 31, 2010 that is included in equity as part of accumulated other comprehensive income. A decrease of 10% in market interest rates (e.g. a decrease from 5.0% to 4.5%) would result in an increase of approximately \$532,000 in the fair value liability of the interest rate swaps.

Commodity Price Risks - In the normal course of business, the Company is exposed to commodity price fluctuations related to the purchases of certain materials and supplies (such as bronze ingot, steel, wood and photopolymers) used in its manufacturing operations. The Company obtains competitive prices for materials and supplies when available. In addition, based on competitive market conditions and to the extent that the Company has established pricing terms with customers through contract or similar arrangements, the Company's ability to immediately increase the price of its products to offset the increased costs may be limited.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rates - The Company is subject to changes in various foreign currency exchange rates, including the Euro, British Pound, Canadian dollar, Australian dollar, Swedish Krona, Chinese Yuan, Hong Kong

dollar and Polish Zloty, in the conversion from local currencies to the U.S. dollar of the reported financial position and operating results of its non-U.S. based subsidiaries. A strengthening of the U. S. dollar of 10% would have resulted in a decrease in reported sales of \$15.0 million and a decrease in reported operating income of \$1.6 million for the six months ended March 31, 2010.

Actuarial Assumptions – The most significant actuarial assumptions affecting pension expense and pension obligations include the valuation of retirement plan assets, the discount rate and the estimated return on plan assets. The estimated return on plan assets is currently based upon projections provided by the Company’s independent investment advisor, considering the investment policy of the plan and the plan’s asset allocation. The fair value of plan assets and discount rate are “point-in-time” measures, and the recent volatility of the debt and equity markets makes estimating future changes in fair value of plan assets and discount rates more challenging. The following table summarizes the impact on the September 30, 2009 actuarial valuations of changes in the primary assumptions affecting the Company’s principal retirement plan and supplemental retirement plan.

| | Impact of Changes in Actuarial Assumptions | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------|---------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|----------|
| | Change in Discount Rate | | Change in Expected Return | | Change in Market Value of Assets | |
| | +1% | -1% | +1% | -1% | +5% | -5% |
| | (Dollar amounts in thousands) | | | | | |
| Increase (decrease) in net benefit cost | \$(1,909) | \$2,287 | \$(766) | \$766 | \$(692) | \$692 |
| Increase (decrease) in projected benefit obligation | (16,440) | 20,566 | - | - | - | - |
| Increase (decrease) in funded status | 16,440 | (20,566) | - | - | 3,940 | (3,940) |

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

The Company’s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed under that Act (the “Exchange Act”), such as this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. These disclosure controls and procedures also are designed to provide reasonable assurance that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

Management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures in effect as of March 31, 2010. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of March 31, 2010, the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective to provide reasonable assurance that material information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, and that such information is recorded, summarized and properly reported within the appropriate time period, relating to the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries, required to be included in the Exchange Act reports, including this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

There have been no changes in the Company’s internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2010 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company’s internal controls over financial reporting.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Matthews is subject to various legal proceedings and claims arising in the ordinary course of business. Management does not expect that the results of any of these legal proceedings will have a material adverse effect on Matthews' financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

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Item 2. Changes in Securities, Use of Proceeds, and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Stock Repurchase Plan

The Company has a stock repurchase program, which was initiated in 1996. Under the program, the Company's Board of Directors had authorized the repurchase of a total of 12,500,000 shares of Matthews common stock. On January 22, 2010, the Company announced that its Board of Directors approved the continuation of its stock repurchase program and increased the total authorization for stock repurchases by an additional 2,500,000 shares, increasing the total authorization to 15,000,000 shares. As of March 31, 2010, 2,448,203 shares remained to be purchased under the current authorization. All purchases of the Company's common stock during the first six months of fiscal 2010 were part of the repurchase program.

The following table shows the monthly fiscal 2010 stock repurchase activity:

| Period | Total number of shares purchased | Average price paid per share | Total number of shares purchased as part of a publicly announced plan | Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plan |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| October 2009 | - | \$ - | - | 220,078 |
| November 2009 | 65,000 | 35.50 | 65,000 | 155,078 |
| December 2009 | 81,636 | 34.73 | 81,636 | 73,442 |
| January 2010 | 6,475 | 34.05 | 6,475 | 2,566,967 |
| February 2010 | 66,708 | 32.42 | 66,708 | 2,500,259 |
| March 2010 | 52,056 | 35.73 | 52,056 | 2,448,203 |
| Total | 271,875 | \$34.52 | 271,875 | |

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

(a) Exhibits

Exhibit

| No. | Description |
|------|---|
| 10.1 | Revolving Credit Facility Form of Revolving Credit Note |
| 10.2 | Revolving Credit Facility Swing Line Note |
| 10.3 | Revolving Credit Facility Form of Guaranty and Suretyship Agreement |
| 10.4 | Revolving Credit Facility Form of Assignment Agreement |
| 10.5 | Revolving Credit Facility Form of Compliance Certificate |
| 10.6 | First Amendment to Revolving Credit Facility Form of Term Loan |
| 10.7 | First Amendment to Revolving Credit Facility Form of Compliance Certificate |
| 31.1 | Certification of Principal Executive Officer for Joseph C. Bartolacci |
| 31.2 | Certification of Principal Financial Officer for Steven F. Nicola |
| 32.1 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 for Joseph C. Bartolacci |
| 32.2 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 for Steven F. Nicola |

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

On January 21, 2010, Matthews filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Item 2.02 in connection with a press release announcing its earnings for the first fiscal quarter of 2010.

On January 22, 2010, Matthews filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Item 8.01 in connection with a press release announcing that its Board of Directors approved the continuation of its stock repurchase program and increased the total authorization for stock repurchases by an additional two million five hundred thousand shares.

On February 19, 2010, Matthews filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Item 5.02 in connection with a press release announcing that John D. Turner was named as the Company's new Chairman of the Board of Directors and that William J. Stallkamp had retired from the Board of Directors.

On March 1, 2010 Matthews filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Item 5.07 reporting the results of the matters voted on at the Company's Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on February 18, 2010.

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.

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Registrant)

Date: May 5, 2010

/s/ Joseph C. Bartolacci
Joseph C. Bartolacci, President
and Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 5, 2010

/s/ Steven F. Nicola
Steven F. Nicola, Chief Financial Officer,
Secretary and Treasurer

