

METHODE ELECTRONICS INC

Form 10-Q

December 08, 2011

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the quarterly period ended October 29, 2011

or

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Commission file number 0-2816

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC.

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

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

36-2090085

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

7401 West Wilson Avenue, Harwood Heights, Illinois

(Address of principal executive offices)

60706-4548

(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code) (708) 867-6777

None

(Former name, former address, 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 and post such files). Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Edgar Filing: METHODE ELECTRONICS INC - Form 10-Q

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

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

At December 6, 2011, registrant had 37,020,890 shares of common stock outstanding.

Table of Contents

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC.
FORM 10-Q
October 29, 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|-----------|
| <u>PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u> | |
| <u>Item 1. Financial Statements</u> | |
| <u>Condensed consolidated balance sheets as of October 29, 2011 (unaudited) and April 30, 2011</u> | <u>2</u> |
| <u>Condensed consolidated statements of operations (unaudited) – three months and six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Condensed consolidated statements of cash flows (unaudited) – six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010</u> | <u>4</u> |
| <u>Notes to condensed consolidated financial statements – October 29, 2011</u> | <u>5</u> |
| <u>Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | <u>18</u> |
| <u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk</u> | <u>34</u> |
| <u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u> | <u>34</u> |
| <u>PART II. OTHER INFORMATION</u> | |
| <u>Item 6. Exhibits</u> | <u>35</u> |
| <u>SIGNATURES</u> | <u>36</u> |
| <u>INDEX TO EXHIBITS</u> | <u>37</u> |

Table of Contents

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1 - Financial Statements

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
 (in thousands)

| | As of October 29, 2011 (Unaudited) | As of April 30, 2011 |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$75,548 | \$57,445 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 96,092 | 88,036 |
| Inventories: | | |
| Finished products | 7,212 | 6,271 |
| Work in process | 12,097 | 10,981 |
| Materials | 21,268 | 21,305 |
| | 40,577 | 38,557 |
| Deferred income taxes | 3,728 | 3,778 |
| Prepaid and refundable income taxes | 881 | 851 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 9,029 | 7,294 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 225,855 | 195,961 |
| PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | | |
| Less allowances for depreciation | 199,263 | 236,743 |
| | 66,988 | 61,511 |
| GOODWILL | 16,422 | 16,422 |
| INTANGIBLE ASSETS, net | 17,533 | 18,423 |
| PRE-PRODUCTION COSTS | 16,084 | 14,645 |
| OTHER ASSETS | 27,316 | 27,782 |
| | 77,355 | 77,272 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$370,198 | \$334,744 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Accounts payable | \$40,712 | \$37,152 |
| Other current liabilities | 25,912 | 26,335 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 66,624 | 63,487 |
| LONG-TERM DEBT | 36,500 | — |
| OTHER LIABILITIES | 4,793 | 5,619 |
| DEFERRED COMPENSATION | 4,801 | 4,494 |
| NON-CONTROLLING INTEREST | 422 | — |
| SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Common stock, \$0.50 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 38,363,078 and 38,312,243 shares issued as of October 29, 2011 and April 30, 2011, respectively | 19,182 | 19,156 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 75,588 | 72,113 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 20,849 | 23,152 |
| Treasury stock, 1,342,188 shares as of October 29, 2011 and April 30, 2011 | (11,377 |) (11,377) |

Edgar Filing: METHODE ELECTRONICS INC - Form 10-Q

| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Retained earnings | 152,614 | 155,989 |
| TOTAL METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | 256,856 | 259,033 |
| Noncontrolling interest | 202 | 2,111 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | 257,058 | 261,144 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | \$370,198 | \$334,744 |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

2

Table of Contents

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)
 (in thousands, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended | | Six Months Ended | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | |
| Net sales | \$115,890 | \$107,716 | \$226,695 | \$206,703 | |
| Cost of products sold | 94,972 | 84,073 | 185,794 | 162,853 | |
| Gross margins | 20,918 | 23,643 | 40,901 | 43,850 | |
| Restructuring | — | (21 |) — | (21 |) |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 18,278 | 21,293 | 36,840 | 37,650 | |
| Income from operations | 2,640 | 2,371 | 4,061 | 6,221 | |
| Interest expense, net | 1 | 61 | 5 | 88 | |
| Other expense, net | 194 | 2,032 | 152 | 1,183 | |
| Income before income taxes | 2,445 | 278 | 3,904 | 4,950 | |
| Income tax expense | 2,221 | 768 | 2,243 | 1,410 | |
| Net income/(loss) | 224 | (490 |) 1,661 | 3,540 | |
| Less: Net income/(loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest | (87 |) 23 | (145 |) (12 |) |
| NET INCOME/(LOSS) ATTRIBUTABLE TO METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. | \$311 | (513 |) 1,806 | 3,552 | |
| Amounts per common share attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc.: | | | | | |
| Basic | \$0.01 | \$(0.01 |) \$0.05 | \$0.10 | |
| Diluted | \$0.01 | \$(0.01 |) \$0.05 | \$0.10 | |
| Cash dividends: | | | | | |
| Common stock | \$0.07 | \$0.07 | \$0.14 | \$0.14 | |
| Weighted average number of Common Shares outstanding: | | | | | |
| Basic | 37,309,890 | 37,058,108 | 37,293,598 | 37,051,058 | |
| Diluted | 37,520,247 | 37,058,108 | 37,516,998 | 37,281,600 | |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)
 (in thousands)

| | Six Months Ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Net income | \$1,661 | \$3,540 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities: | | |
| Provision for depreciation | 7,047 | 6,647 |
| Impairment of tangible assets | — | 1,299 |
| Amortization of intangibles | 898 | 1,139 |
| Amortization of stock awards and stock options | 1,959 | 541 |
| Gain on bargain purchase | (255 |) — |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities | (10,112 |) (9,416 |
| Other | 539 | 77 |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES | 1,737 | 3,827 |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Purchases of property, plant and equipment | (9,125 |) (5,605 |
| Acquisition of businesses | (6,353 |) (750 |
| Proceeds from life insurance policies | — | 1,515 |
| NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES | (15,478 |) (4,840 |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | 198 | 13 |
| Cash dividends | (5,181 |) (5,154 |
| Net borrowings | 36,500 | 18,000 |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES | 31,517 | 12,859 |
| Effect of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash | 327 | 1,525 |
| INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | 18,103 | 13,371 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 57,445 | 63,821 |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD | \$75,548 | \$77,192 |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)
(Dollar amounts in thousands, except share data)

October 29, 2011

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Methode Electronics, Inc. was incorporated in 1946 as an Illinois corporation and reincorporated in Delaware in 1966. As used herein, "we," "us," "our," the "Company" or "Methode" means Methode Electronics, Inc. and its subsidiaries. Our business is managed and our financial results are reported on a segment basis, with those segments being Automotive, Interconnect, Power Products and Other. The condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures as of October 29, 2011 and results of operations for the three months and six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010 are unaudited, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). The April 30, 2011 condensed consolidated balance sheet was derived from audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. In our opinion, these financial statements include all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for the fair statement of the results for the interim periods. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements included in our Form 10-K for the year ended April 30, 2011 filed with the SEC on June 30, 2011. Results may vary from quarter to quarter for reasons other than seasonality. Certain amounts from the fiscal 2011 condensed consolidated balance sheet have been reclassified for comparability to the fiscal 2012 condensed consolidated balance sheet.

2. RECENTLY ADOPTED AND ISSUED ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

In October 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU"), 2009-13, "Revenue Recognition - Multiple-Deliverable Revenue Arrangements - a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force," which amends FASB Accounting Standards Codification, ("ASC") 605, "Revenue Recognition", by modifying the criteria used to separate elements in a multiple-element arrangement, introducing the concept of "best estimate of selling price" for determining the selling price of a deliverable, requiring use of the relative selling price method and prohibiting use of the residual method to allocate arrangement consideration among units of accounting, and expanding the disclosure requirements for all multiple-element arrangements within the scope of FASB ASC 605-25. The amended guidance is effective prospectively for revenue arrangements entered into or materially modified in fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2010, which is our current fiscal year that began May 1, 2011. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

In December 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance regarding ASC No. 805, "Business Combinations," on the disclosure of supplementary pro forma information for business combinations. ASC No. 805 requires a public entity to disclose pro forma information for business combinations that occurred in the current reporting period. The disclosures include pro forma revenue and earnings of the combined entity for the current reporting period as though the acquisition date for all business combinations that occurred during the year had been as of the beginning of the annual reporting period.

If comparable financial statements are presented, the pro forma revenue and earnings of the combined entity for the comparable prior reporting period should be reported as though the acquisition date for all business combinations that

occurred

during the current year had been as of the beginning of the comparable prior annual reporting period. This guidance specifies that if a public entity presents comparative financial statements, the entity should disclose revenue and earnings of the combined entity as though the business combinations that occurred during the current year had occurred as of the beginning of the comparable prior annual reporting period only. This guidance is effective for business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after May 1, 2011, the beginning of our 2012 fiscal year. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our financial statements.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-04, "Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and "International Financial Reporting Standards, ("IFRS")," which results in common fair value measurement and disclosure requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRS. Consequently, the amendments change the wording used to describe many of the requirements in U.S. GAAP for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements. ASU 2011-04 is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011,

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)
 (Dollar amounts in thousands, except share data)

which will be our fiscal 2012 third quarter beginning January 29, 2012. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on our financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, "Comprehensive Income" which requires companies to present the components of net income and other comprehensive income either as one continuous statement or as two consecutive statements. It eliminates the option to present components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity. We will adopt this pronouncement for our fiscal year 2013, beginning on April 29, 2012. The adoption of ASU 2011-05 is not expected to have a material impact on our financial statements.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, "Intangibles - Goodwill and Other." The objective of this standard is to simplify how entities test goodwill for impairment. This standard permits an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test. The standard is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011, which will be our fiscal year 2013, beginning on April 29, 2012. Early adoption is permitted, including for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed as of a date before September 15, 2011. The adoption of ASU 2011-08 is not expected to have a material impact on our financial statements.

3. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)

The components of our comprehensive income/(loss) for the three months and six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010 include net income/(loss) and adjustments to stockholders' equity for foreign currency translations. The foreign currency translation adjustment was due to exchange rate fluctuations in our foreign affiliates' local currency versus the U.S. dollar.

The following table presents details of our comprehensive income/(loss):

| | Three Months Ended October 29, 2011 | | | Six Months Ended October 29, 2011 | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total | Methode Shareholders | Noncontrolling Interest | Total | Methode Shareholders | Noncontrolling Interest |
| Net income/(loss) | \$224 | 311 | \$ (87) | \$1,661 | \$1,806 | \$ (145) |
| Translation adjustment | (362) | (346) | (16) | (2,303) | (2,303) | — |
| Total comprehensive income/(loss) | \$(138) | \$(35) | \$ (103) | \$(642) | \$(497) | \$ (145) |

| | Three Months Ended October 30, 2010 | | | Six Months Ended October 30, 2010 | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total | Methode Shareholders | Noncontrolling Interest | Total | Methode Shareholders | Noncontrolling Interest |
| Net income/(loss) | \$(490) | (513) | \$ 23 | \$3,540 | \$3,552 | \$ (12) |
| Translation adjustment | 6,557 | 6,323 | 234 | 5,782 | 5,515 | 267 |
| Total comprehensive income | \$6,067 | \$5,810 | \$ 257 | \$9,322 | \$9,067 | \$ 255 |

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)
 (Dollar amounts in thousands, except share data)

4. GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS

We review our goodwill and other intangible assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of these assets may not be recoverable, and we also review our goodwill and indefinite-lived assets annually in accordance with ASC No. 350, "Intangibles — Goodwill and Other". The values assigned to goodwill and intangible assets are normally based on estimates and judgments regarding expectations for the success and life cycle of products and technologies acquired. A severe decline in expectations could result in significant impairment charges, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Based on general business declines in the white-goods market in the U.S., we performed "step one" of the goodwill impairment test as of October 29, 2011 on our TouchSensor Technologies reporting unit within our Interconnect segment. TouchSensor had \$11,146 of goodwill on the books as of October 29, 2011. We used an income approach to estimate the fair value of our reporting unit. Based on this test, we determined that the fair value was more than the carrying value of the net assets. Based on the results, management concluded that there was no impairment as of October 29, 2011.

The following tables present details of the Company's intangible assets:

As of October 29, 2011

| | Gross | Accumulated Amortization | Net | Wtd. Avg. Remaining Amortization Periods (Years) |
|--|----------|-----------------------------|----------|---|
| Customer relationships and agreements | \$14,995 | \$13,578 | \$1,417 | 12.2 |
| Trade names, patents and technology licenses | 25,774 | 9,682 | 16,092 | 12.1 |
| Covenants not to compete | 480 | 456 | 24 | 0.3 |
| Total | \$41,249 | \$23,716 | \$17,533 | |

As of April 30, 2011

| | Gross | Accumulated Amortization | Net | Wtd. Avg. Remaining Amortization Periods (Years) |
|--|----------|-----------------------------|----------|---|
| Customer relationships and agreements | \$14,995 | \$13,417 | \$1,578 | 12.7 |
| Trade names, patents and technology licenses | 25,774 | 8,978 | 16,796 | 12.4 |
| Covenants not to compete | 480 | 431 | 49 | 0.8 |
| Total | \$41,249 | \$22,826 | \$18,423 | |

The estimated aggregate amortization expense for the current fiscal year and each of the four succeeding fiscal years is as follows:

| | |
|------|---------|
| 2012 | \$1,804 |
| 2013 | 1,525 |
| 2014 | 1,481 |
| 2015 | 1,469 |
| 2016 | 1,317 |

As of October 29, 2011 and April 30, 2011, the trade names, patents and technology licenses include \$1,800 of trade names that are not subject to amortization.

5. INCOME TAXES

At October 29, 2011 and April 30, 2011, we had valuation allowances against our deferred tax assets of \$59,483 and \$54,015, respectively. In accordance with ASC No. 740, "Income Taxes," a valuation allowance is required to be recorded when it is more likely than not that deferred tax assets will not be realized. Future realization depends on the existence of

7

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)
 (Dollar amounts in thousands, except share data)

sufficient taxable income within the carry-forward period available under the tax laws. Sources of future taxable income include future reversals of taxable temporary differences, future taxable income exclusive of reversing taxable differences, taxable income in carry-back years and tax planning strategies. These sources of positive evidence of realizability must be weighed against negative evidence, such as cumulative losses in recent years.

In forming a judgment about the future realization of our deferred tax assets, we considered both the positive and negative evidence of realizability and gave significant weight to the negative evidence from our recent cumulative loss in the U.S. We will continue to assess this situation and make appropriate adjustments to the valuation allowance based on our evaluation of the positive and negative evidence existing at the time. We are currently unable to forecast when there will be sufficient positive evidence for us to reverse the valuation allowances that we have recorded.

The valuation allowance is associated with the deferred tax assets for the differences between book and tax that result from net operating losses (NOLs), foreign investment tax credits with unlimited carryovers generated in the current and prior years and temporary differences which become deductible when the related asset is recovered or related liability is settled.

A reconciliation of the consolidated provisions for income taxes to amounts determined by applying the prevailing statutory federal income tax rate to pre-tax earnings is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended | | Six Months Ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 |
| Income tax provision at statutory rate | \$887 | \$89 | \$1,418 | \$1,737 |
| Effect of: | | | | |
| State income taxes, net of federal benefit | (15 |) 21 | 8 | 47 |
| Foreign operations with lower statutory rates | (3,184 |) (2,863 |) (5,691 |) (5,699 |
| Valuation allowance | 3,374 | 3,749 | 5,307 | 5,981 |
| Uncertain tax positions | 3 | — | (20 |) — |
| Other, net | 1,156 | (228 |) 1,221 | (656 |
| Income tax provision | \$2,221 | \$768 | \$2,243 | \$1,410 |

We recognize interest and penalties accrued related to the unrecognized tax benefits in the provision for income taxes. During the six months ended October 29, 2011, we recognized an expense of \$5 in interest and zero in penalties. We had approximately \$327 accrued at October 29, 2011 for the payment of interest and penalties. The total unrecognized tax benefit as of October 29, 2011 was \$338.

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending amounts of unrecognized tax benefits:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Balance at April 30, 2011 | \$375 |
| Increases for positions related to the current year | — |
| Decreases for positions related to the prior years | — |
| Settlements | (37 |
| Lapsing of statutes of limitations | — |
| Balance at October 29, 2011 | \$338 |

We believe that it is reasonably possible that the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits will change within the next twelve months. We have certain tax return years subject to statutes of limitation, which will close within twelve

months of the end of the quarter. Unless challenged by tax authorities, the closure of those statutes of limitation is expected to result in the recognition of uncertain tax positions of approximately \$37.

The Company and all of its domestic subsidiaries file income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various states. Our foreign subsidiaries file income tax returns in certain foreign jurisdictions since they have operations outside the U.S. The Company and its subsidiaries are generally no longer subject to U.S. federal, state and local examinations by tax authorities for all years except fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2009.

Table of Contents

6. COMMON STOCK AND STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth the changes in the number of issued shares of common stock during the six-month periods presented:

| | Six Months Ended | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 |
| Balance at the beginning of the period | 38,312,243 | 38,149,946 |
| Options exercised | 21,975 | 1,350 |
| Restricted stock awards vested | 28,860 | 24,000 |
| Balance at the end of the period | 38,363,078 | 38,175,296 |

On July 29, 2011 and October 28, 2011, we paid a quarterly dividend of \$2,589 and \$2,591, respectively.

Stock Options Granted Under the 2010 Stock Plan

In July 2011, the Compensation Committee approved the grant of options to purchase 128,000 shares of our common stock to our executive officers. The stock options have a ten-year term and will vest 33.3% each year over a three-year period. The exercise price is the closing price on the date granted.

The following tables summarize the stock option activity and related information for the stock options granted under the 2010 Stock Plan for the six months ended October 29, 2011:

| | Summary of Option Activity | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Shares | Wtd. Avg. Exercise Price |
| Outstanding at April 30, 2011 | 128,000 | \$ 9.24 |
| Granted | 128,000 | 10.70 |
| Exercised | — | — |
| Cancelled | — | — |
| Outstanding at October 29, 2011 | 256,000 | \$ 9.97 |

Options Outstanding
at October 29, 2011

| Exercise Price | Shares | Avg. Remaining Life (Years) |
|----------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| \$9.24 | 128,000 | 9.0 |
| \$10.70 | 128,000 | 9.7 |

The options outstanding had an intrinsic value of \$55 at October 29, 2011. The intrinsic value represents the total pre-tax intrinsic value (the difference between the Company's closing stock price on the last trading day of the second quarter of fiscal 2012 and the exercise price, multiplied by the number of in-the-money options) that would have been received by the option holders had all option holders exercised their options on October 29, 2011.

We estimated the fair value of our employee stock options on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

| | Fiscal 2011 Awards | Fiscal 2012 Awards | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Average expected volatility | 85.83 | % 52.76 | % |
| Average risk-free interest rate | 0.60 | % 0.63 | % |

Edgar Filing: METHODE ELECTRONICS INC - Form 10-Q

| | | | |
|--|------------|------------|---|
| Dividend yield | 3.49 | %2.66 | % |
| Expected life of options | 7.03 years | 7.03 years | |
| Weighted-average grant-date fair value | \$5.19 | \$4.27 | |

9

Table of Contents

We recognized pre-tax compensation expense for stock options granted under the 2010 Stock Plan of \$141 for the three months ended October 29, 2011 and \$29 for the three months ended October 30, 2010. In addition, we recognized pre-tax compensation expense for these options of \$250 for the six months ended October 29, 2011 and \$29 for the six months ended October 30, 2010. We record the compensation expense related to the stock options in the selling and administrative section of our condensed consolidated statements of operations.

Restricted Stock Awards and Restricted Stock Units Granted Under the 2010 Stock Plan

Our Compensation Committee awarded 100,000 shares of common stock subject to performance-based restricted stock awards ("RSAs") to certain non-executive members of management during the second quarter of fiscal 2012. The performance measure will be the Company's internal enterprise value at the end of fiscal 2015. The internal enterprise value shall equal the product of (i) fiscal 2015 EBITDA and (ii) 7.5 (the historic multiple of EBITDA), subject to an adjustment for cash, short-term investments, debt, preferred stock, certain equity issuances, certain acquisitions and the changes in the dividend rate. The restricted stock awards will vest, i.e., the restrictions will lapse, one-third by the end of fiscal 2015, one-third as of the end of fiscal 2016 and the final one-third as of the end of fiscal 2017, based on the enterprise value as of the end of fiscal 2015 to the extent the performance goals have been achieved and provided the employee remains employed. The remaining shares will be forfeited.

Our Compensation Committee awarded 640,000 shares of common stock subject to performance-based restricted stock awards to certain members of management during the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The performance measure will be the Company's internal enterprise value at the end of fiscal 2015. The internal enterprise value shall equal the product of (i) fiscal 2015 EBITDA and (ii) 7.5 (the historic multiple of EBITDA), subject to an adjustment for cash, short-term investments, debt, preferred stock, certain equity issuances, certain acquisitions and the changes in the dividend rate. The restricted stock awards will vest, i.e., the restrictions will lapse, at the end of the performance period to the extent the performance goals have been achieved. The remaining shares will be forfeited.

Our Compensation Committee awarded 320,000 shares of common stock subject to time-based restricted stock units, ("RSUs") to certain members of management during the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The restricted stock units will vest 20% each year on the last day of our fiscal year and be 100% vested on the last day of fiscal 2015 provided the executive remains employed.

The following table summarizes the RSA and RSU activity for the six months ended October 29, 2011 for the RSA's and RSU's granted under the 2010 Stock Plan:

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Unvested and unissued at April 30, 2011 | | | | RSA Shares | RSU Shares |
| Awarded | | | | 640,000 | 320,000 |
| Vested | | | | 100,000 | — |
| Forfeited and Cancelled | | | | — | (64,000) |
| Unvested and unissued at October 29, 2011 | | | | 740,000 | 256,000 |
| | | | | Probable | Target |
| | | | | Unearned | Unearned |
| | | | Weighted | Compensation | Compensation |
| Grant Fiscal | Number of | Vesting Period | Average Value | Expense at | Expense at |
| Year | Shares | | | October 29, | October 29, |
| 2011 | 640,000 | 5-year cliff, performance based | \$9.70 | 2011 | 2011 |
| 2011 | 320,000 | 5-year, equal annual installments | 9.70 | 1,402 | N/A |
| 2012 | 100,000 | One-third per year, beginning in fiscal 2015, performance based | 8.10 | 726 | 726 |

We recognized pre-tax compensation expense for RSAs and RSUs issued under the 2010 Stock Plan of \$576 and zero for the three months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010, respectively. In addition, we recognized pre-tax compensation expense for these RSAs of \$1,125 and zero for the six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010, respectively. We record the expense in the selling and administrative section of our condensed consolidated statements of operations.

Table of Contents

Stock Options Granted Under the 2007 Stock Plan

In September 2011, our Compensation Committee awarded options to purchase 42,500 shares of our common stock to some non-executive members of the management team that vest one-third per year on each anniversary of the date of the grant. The stock options awarded under the 2007 Stock Plan have a ten-year term. The exercise price is the closing price on the date granted.

The following tables summarize the stock option activity and related information for the stock options granted under the 2007 Stock Plan for the six months ended months ended October 29, 2011:

| | | Summary of Option Activity | |
|---|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Shares | Wtd. Avg. Exercise Price |
| Outstanding at April 30, 2011 | | 720,500 | \$5.77 |
| Granted | | 42,500 | 8.10 |
| Exercised | | — | — |
| Cancelled | | — | — |
| Outstanding at October 29, 2011 | | 763,000 | \$5.90 |
| Options Outstanding at October 29, 2011 | | | |
| | | | Avg. Remaining Life (Years) |
| Exercise Price | Shares | | |
| \$2.72 | 285,000 | | 7.4 |
| \$6.46 | 275,000 | | 7.7 |
| \$8.13 | 35,500 | | 8.1 |
| \$10.55 | 125,000 | | 8.7 |
| \$8.10 | 42,500 | | 9.9 |
| \$5.90 | 763,000 | | |

The options outstanding had an intrinsic value of \$2,985 at October 29, 2011.

We estimated the fair value of our employee stock options on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

| | Fiscal 2009 Awards | Fiscal 2010 Awards | Fiscal 2011 Awards | Fiscal 2012 Awards |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Average expected volatility | 69.58 % | 86.88 % | 85.59 % | 63.55 % |
| Average risk-free interest rate | 1.39 % | 1.43 % | 1.09 % | 0.35 % |
| Dividend yield | 2.26 % | 2.77 % | 3.63 % | 2.84 % |
| Expected life of options | 6.87 years | 6.87 years | 7.03 years | 7.03 years |
| Weighted-average grant-date fair value | \$1.46 | \$4.02 | \$5.88 | \$3.75 |

We recognized pre-tax compensation expense for stock options granted under the 2007 Stock Plan of \$132 and \$169 for the three months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010, respectively. In addition, we recognized pre-tax compensation expense for these options of \$275 and \$236 for the six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010, respectively. We record the compensation expense related to the stock options in the selling and administrative section of our condensed consolidated statement of operations.

Table of Contents

Restricted Stock Awards Granted Under the 2007 Stock Plan

In April 2007, 225,000 shares of common stock subject to performance-based Restricted Stock Awards ("RSAs") granted to our CEO in fiscal 2006 and 2007 were converted to Restricted Stock Units (RSUs). The RSUs were subject to the same vesting schedule and other major provisions of the RSAs they replaced, except the shares for stock underlying the RSUs will not be issued and delivered until the earlier of: (1) thirty days after the CEO's date of termination of employment with the Company and all of its subsidiaries and affiliates; or (2) the last day of our fiscal year in which the payment of common stock in satisfaction of the RSUs becomes deductible to the Company under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. The RSUs are not entitled to voting rights or the payment of dividends. The RSU's are fully vested as of October 29, 2011. As of October 29, 2011, no shares have been delivered pursuant to the RSUs.

At the beginning of fiscal 2012, there were no RSAs outstanding related to the 2007 Stock Plan. During the first quarter of fiscal 2012, we awarded 28,860 restricted shares to our independent directors, all of which vested immediately upon grant.

There was no pre-tax compensation expense for RSAs issued under the 2007 Stock Plan for both the three months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010. In addition, we recognized pre-tax compensation expense for these RSAs of \$309 and \$298 for the six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010, respectively. We record the expense in the selling and administrative section of our condensed consolidated statement of operations.

Stock Options Granted Under the 2000 and 2004 Stock Plans

Options to purchase 259,537 shares of our common stock were granted in previous years under the 2000 and 2004 Stock Plans and are outstanding and exercisable as of October 29, 2011. There was no remaining compensation expense related to these options in the first half of fiscal 2012 and the first half of fiscal 2011.

The following tables summarize the stock option activity and related information for the stock options outstanding under the 2000 and 2004 Stock Plans for the six months ended October 29, 2011:

| | | Summary of Option Activity | |
|---|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Shares | Wtd. Avg. Exercise Price |
| Outstanding at April 30, 2011 | | 282,767 | \$ 10.82 |
| Exercised | | (21,975) |) 9.02 |
| Forfeited and Expired | | (1,255) |) 11.44 |
| Outstanding at October 29, 2011 | | 259,537 | \$ 10.97 |
| Options Outstanding and Exercisable at October 29, 2011 | | | |
| Range of Exercise Prices | Shares | Wtd. Avg. Exercise Price | Avg. Remaining Life (Years) |
| \$9.03 - \$11.44 | 259,537 | \$10.97 | 1.1 |

The options outstanding had no intrinsic value at October 29, 2011.

Table of Contents

7. NET INCOME/(LOSS) PER SHARE

Basic net income/(loss) per share is calculated by dividing net income/(loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the applicable period. Diluted net income per share is calculated after adjusting the denominator of the basic net income/(loss) per share calculation for the effect of all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding during the period.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net income/(loss) per share:

| | Three Months Ended | | Six Months Ended | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 |
| Numerator - net income/(loss) attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. | \$311 | (513 |) 1,806 | 3,552 |
| Denominator: | — | — | | |
| Denominator for basic net income/(loss) per share-weighted average shares | 37,309,890 | 37,058,108 | 37,293,598 | 37,051,058 |
| Dilutive potential common shares-employee stock options | 210,357 | — | 223,400 | 230,542 |
| Denominator for diluted net income/(loss) per share adjusted weighted average shares and assumed conversions | 37,520,247 | 37,058,108 | 37,516,998 | 37,281,600 |
| Net income/(loss) per share: | | | | |
| Basic and diluted | \$0.01 | \$(0.01 |) \$0.05 | \$0.10 |

For the three months ended October 30, 2010, potential common shares have not been included in the calculation of diluted net loss per share, as the effect would have been anti-dilutive. For the three months ended October 29, 2011, options to purchase 962,662 shares of common stock at a weighted-average exercise price of \$10.23 per share were outstanding, but were not included in the computation of net income per share because the exercise prices were greater than the average market price of \$8.60 for our common stock for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, and, therefore, the effect would have been anti-dilutive. For the six months ended October 29, 2011, options to purchase 514,412 shares of common stock at a weighted-average exercise price of \$10.80 per share were outstanding, but were not included in the computation of net income per share because the exercise prices were greater than the average market price of \$9.80 for our common stock for the first six months of fiscal 2012, and, therefore, the effect would have been anti-dilutive. For the six months ended October 30, 2010, options to purchase 395,867 shares of common stock at a weighted-average exercise price of \$10.84 per share were outstanding, but were not included in the computation of net income per share because the exercise prices were greater than the average market price of \$9.29 for our common stock for the first six months of fiscal 2011, and, therefore, the effect would have been anti-dilutive.

8. SEGMENT INFORMATION

We are a global manufacturer of component and subsystem devices. We design, manufacture and market devices employing electrical, electronic, wireless, sensing and optical technologies. Our components are found in the primary end markets of the automotive, appliance, communications (including information processing and storage, networking equipment, wireless and terrestrial voice/data systems), aerospace, rail and other transportation industries; and the consumer and industrial equipment markets.

ASC No. 280, "Segment Reporting" ("ASC No. 280"), establishes annual and interim reporting standards for an enterprise's operating segments and related disclosures about its products, services, geographic areas and major customers. An operating segment is defined as a component of an enterprise that engages in business activities from which it may earn revenues and incur expenses, and about which separate financial information is regularly evaluated

by the Chief Operating Decision Maker (“CODM”) in deciding how to allocate resources. The CODM, as defined by ASC No. 280, is the Company’s President and Chief Executive Officer.

The Automotive segment supplies electronic and electromechanical devices and related products to automobile OEMs, either directly or through their tiered suppliers, including control switches for electrical power and signals, connectors for electrical devices, integrated control components, switches and sensors that monitor the operation or status of a component or system, and packaging of electrical components.

Table of Contents

The Interconnect segment provides a variety of copper and fiber-optic interconnect and interface solutions for the appliance, computer, networking, telecommunications, storage, medical, military, aerospace, commercial and consumer markets. Solutions include solid-state field effect interface panels, PC and express card packaging, optical and copper transceivers, terminators, custom cable assemblies and conductive polymer and thick film inks. Services include the design and installation of fiber optic and copper infrastructure systems, and the manufacture of active and passive optical components.

The Power Products segment manufactures current-carrying laminated bus devices, custom power-product assemblies, powder coated bus bars, braided flexible cables and high-current low voltage flexible power cabling systems that are used in various markets and applications, including telecommunications, computers, transportation, industrial and power conversion, insulated gate bipolar transistor solutions, aerospace and military.

The Other segment includes a designer and manufacturer of magnetic torque sensing products, and independent laboratories that provide services for qualification testing and certification, and analysis of electronic and optical components.

The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2011. We allocate resources to segments based on operating income. Transfers between segments are recorded using internal transfer prices set by us. The following tables represent information regarding our segments:

| | Three Months Ended October 29, 2011 | | | | | | Consolidated |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------|------------------------|--|--------------|
| | Automotive | Interconnect | Power Products | Other | Eliminations/Corporate | | |
| Net sales | \$68,663 | \$32,276 | \$13,690 | \$3,225 | \$ (1,964) | | \$115,890 |
| Transfers between segments | (1,120) | (754) | (10) | (34) | 1,918 | | — |
| Net sales to unaffiliated customers | \$67,543 | \$31,522 | \$13,680 | \$3,191 | \$ (46) | | \$115,890 |
| Income (loss) from operations | \$3,237 | \$3,700 | \$831 | \$(225) | \$ (4,903) | | \$2,640 |
| Interest (income)/expense, net | (89) | — | — | — | 90 | | 1 |
| Other (income)/expense, net | (17) | 430 | 35 | — | (254) | | 194 |
| Income/(loss) before income taxes | \$3,343 | \$3,270 | \$796 | \$(225) | \$ (4,739) | | \$2,445 |
| | Three Months Ended October 30, 2010 | | | | | | |
| | Automotive | Interconnect | Power Products | Other | Eliminations/Corporate | | Consolidated |
| Net sales | \$55,853 | \$36,834 | \$12,101 | \$3,288 | \$ (360) | | \$107,716 |
| Transfers between segments | — | (284) | (70) | (13) | 367 | | — |
| Net sales to unaffiliated customers | \$55,853 | \$36,550 | \$12,031 | \$3,275 | \$ 7 | | \$107,716 |
| Income/(loss) from operations | \$1,589 | \$6,158 | \$1,206 | \$(428) | \$ (6,154) | | \$2,371 |
| Interest (income)/expense, net | (83) | (79) | — | — | 223 | | 61 |
| Other (income)/expense, net | 1,617 | 326 | 86 | 2 | 1 | | 2,032 |

Edgar Filing: METHODE ELECTRONICS INC - Form 10-Q

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|---------|---------|--------|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Income/(loss) before income taxes | \$55 | \$5,911 | \$1,120 | \$(430 |) | \$ (6,378 |) | \$278 |
|-----------------------------------|------|---------|---------|--------|---|-----------|---|-------|

14

Table of Contents

| | Six Months Ended October 29, 2011 | | | | | Consolidated |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | Automotive | Interconnect | Power Products | Other | Eliminations/Corporate | |
| Net sales | \$132,330 | \$65,790 | \$26,582 | \$6,170 | \$ (4,177) | \$226,695 |
| Transfers between segments | (2,110) | (1,880) | (56) | (49) | 4,095 | — |
| Net sales to unaffiliated customers | \$130,220 | \$63,910 | \$26,526 | \$6,121 | \$ (82) | \$226,695 |
| Income (loss) from operations | \$5,482 | \$7,997 | \$1,052 | \$(1,225) | \$ (9,245) | \$4,061 |
| Interest (income)/expense, net | (159) | 21 | — | — | 143 | 5 |
| Other (income)/expense, net | 18 | 730 | 131 | 3 | (730) | 152 |
| Income/(loss) before income taxes | \$5,623 | \$7,246 | \$921 | \$(1,228) | \$ (8,658) | \$3,904 |
| | Six Months Ended October 30, 2010 | | | | | |
| | Automotive | Interconnect | Power Products | Other | Eliminations/Corporate | Consolidated |
| Net sales | \$105,797 | \$71,610 | \$23,728 | \$6,188 | \$ (620) | \$206,703 |
| Transfers between segments | — | (436) | (147) | (51) | 634 | — |
| Net sales to unaffiliated customers | \$105,797 | \$71,174 | \$23,581 | \$6,137 | \$ 14 | \$206,703 |
| Income/(loss) from operations | \$4,573 | \$9,878 | \$1,759 | \$(1,000) | \$ (8,989) | \$6,221 |
| Interest (income)/expense, net | (148) | (146) | — | — | 382 | 88 |
| Other (income)/expense, net | 1,750 | 497 | 133 | 3 | (1,200) | 1,183 |
| Income/(loss) before income taxes | \$2,971 | \$9,527 | \$1,626 | \$(1,003) | \$ (8,171) | \$4,950 |

9. CONTINGENCIES

Certain litigation arising in the normal course of business is pending against us. We are from time to time subject to various legal actions and claims incidental to our business, including those arising out of alleged defects, breach of contracts, employment-related matters and environmental matters. We consider insurance coverage and third-party indemnification when determining required accruals for pending litigation and claims. Although the outcome of potential legal actions and claims cannot be determined, it is our opinion, based on the information available, that we have adequate reserves for these liabilities.

Delphi Related Litigation

On September 4, 2008, Methode and Delphi Automotive Systems LLC (“Delphi”) entered into a supply agreement pursuant to which Methode was to supply all of Delphi’s requirements for the seat bladders used in Delphi’s occupant restraint system from October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2011. On August 26, 2009, Delphi notified us that effective September 10, 2009, our supply arrangement was terminated. We are contesting Delphi’s right to terminate this long-term supply arrangement and the parties are engaged in litigation regarding this supply agreement and our related intellectual property.

In March 2010, DPH Holdings Corp., as successor to Delphi Corporation, served the Company with a complaint seeking to recover approximately \$19,726 in alleged preference payments that Delphi made to the Company within the 90-day preference period preceding Delphi's bankruptcy filing. The Company is seeking to dismiss the Delphi preference complaint based on violations of due process and the Company possesses several other substantive defenses.

10. PRE-PRODUCTION COSTS RELATED TO LONG-TERM SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS

We incur pre-production tooling costs related to certain products produced for our customers under long-term supply agreements. We had \$16,084 and \$14,645 as of October 29, 2011 and April 30, 2011, respectively, of pre-production tooling costs related to customer-owned tools for which reimbursement is contractually guaranteed by the customer or for which the customer has provided a non-cancelable right to use the tooling. The unreimbursed costs incurred related to customer-owned tooling, for which we have the right to use, that are not subject to reimbursement are capitalized and depreciated over the expected life of the tooling or the life of the related vehicle program, whichever is shorter. Engineering, testing and other costs incurred in the design and development of production parts are expensed as incurred, unless the costs are reimbursable, as

Table of Contents

specified in a customer contract. Net revenues and costs on projects are deferred and recognized over the life of the related long-term supply agreement on a gross basis in the consolidated statement of operations.

11. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

ASC No. 820, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures", defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants.

ASC No. 820 also specifies a fair value hierarchy based upon the observation of inputs in valuation techniques. Observable inputs (highest level) reflect market data obtained from independent sources, while unobservable inputs (lowest level) reflect internally developed market assumptions. In accordance with ASC No. 820, fair value measurements are classified under the following hierarchy:

- Level 1 — Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2 — Quoted prices in active markets for similar assets and liabilities, or other inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.
- Level 3 — Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets and liabilities. This includes certain pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies and similar techniques that use significant unobservable inputs.

Assets and liabilities recorded at fair value are valued using quoted market prices or under a market approach using other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable instruments and included in a table below which summarizes the fair value of assets and liabilities as of October 29, 2011:

| | Recorded Value | Fair Value Measurement Used | | |
|---|----------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| | | Quoted prices in active markets for identical instruments (Level 1) | Quoted prices in active markets for similar instruments (Level 2) | Other unobservable inputs (Level 3) |
| Assets: | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents ⁽¹⁾ | \$75,548 | \$75,548 | \$— | \$— |
| Assets related to deferred compensation plan | 3,813 | — | 3,813 | — |
| Total assets at fair value | \$79,361 | \$75,548 | \$3,813 | \$— |
| Liabilities: | | | | |
| Liabilities related to deferred compensation plan | \$3,069 | \$3,069 | \$— | \$— |
| Total liabilities at fair value | \$3,069 | \$3,069 | \$— | \$— |

(1)Includes cash, money-market investments and certificates of deposit.

Fair Value of Other Financial Instruments. The carrying values of our short-term financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and short-term debt, approximate their fair values because of the short maturity of these instruments.

12. DEBT AND CREDIT AGREEMENT

On February 25, 2011, we entered into an Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, and certain other financial institutions, which amends and restates our previous credit facility and extends the maturity to February 25, 2016. The new credit facility is in the aggregate principal amount of \$75,000, with an option to increase the principal amount by an additional \$25,000 subject to customary conditions and approval of the lender(s) providing new commitment(s). The new credit facility provides for variable rates of interest based on the type of borrowing and the Company's debt to EBITDA financial ratio. The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement is guaranteed by certain of our U.S. subsidiaries. At October 29, 2011, we were in compliance with the covenants of the agreement. During the first half of fiscal

Table of Contents

2012, we had borrowings of \$36,500 and interest payments of \$280. As of October 29, 2011, there were outstanding balances due against the credit facility of \$36,500.

13. ACQUISITIONS

At the beginning of fiscal 2012, we had an investment in Eetrex of \$2,720, for a 70% ownership in their stock. Eetrex is located in Boulder, Colorado and is a developer and manufacturer of chargers, inverters and battery systems for hybrid and plug-in hybrid electronic vehicles. In July 2011 and October 2011, we paid an additional \$600 and \$480, respectively, and acquired an additional 20% of their stock, for a total 90% ownership. Each of the existing stockholders of Eetrex will have the right to exercise put options, requiring us to purchase their remaining shares after the end of fiscal 2014 or 2016, and we will have an option to purchase any remaining shares after the end of fiscal 2016. The purchase price will be based on a percentage of net sales recorded in either fiscal 2014 or fiscal 2016 of between 2.0% and 3.5%. In accordance with ASC 480, "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity", our non-controlling interest previously reported in equity has been reclassified to "mezzanine equity" for \$422 in the second quarter, as the ability to exercise the remaining 10% put option is now outside of our control. The calculated redemption amount based on future year forecasts is presently below the recorded carrying value and has therefore not been adjusted. Additionally, future adjustments to our non-controlling interest may affect earnings per share based off projections of 2014 or 2016 revenues.

On September 9, 2011, we acquired certain assets and liabilities from Nypro Monterrey, S. de R.L. (Nypro Monterrey) from Nypro Inc. for \$6,353. We will operate this injection molding and painting business under the name of Advanced Molding and Decoration, S.A. de C.V. (AMD), and it will become a part of our existing Monterrey manufacturing campus. AMD operates a state-of-the-art facility, which provides us with high-quality injection molding, painting and decorating capabilities. The AMD assets include 52 injection mold machines, three paint lines and several pad print machines. AMD intends to continue production of injection-molded components for its current third party customers, whose contracts transferred to us along with the assets. In addition, 228 employees from Nypro Monterrey were transferred to us as part of the acquisition.

Based on a third-party valuation report, management determined the tangible net assets acquired in the transaction had a fair value of \$6,608, consisting primarily of fixed assets and inventory. There were no intangible assets or goodwill associated with the acquired net assets. We recorded a gain of \$255 related to the transaction, in other income, which represents the amount paid for the assets, compared to the fair market value at the time of acquisition due to the distressed nature of the business. The accounts and transactions of AMD have been included in the Automotive segment in the consolidated financial statements from the effective date of the acquisition. The proforma impact of this acquisition as if it were made at the beginning of the earliest period presented would not have had a material impact on the historical reported results of the Company.

Table of Contents

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

Cautionary Statement

Certain statements in this report are forward-looking statements that are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. We undertake no duty to update any such forward-looking statements to conform to actual results or changes in our expectations. Our business is highly dependent upon two large automotive customers and specific makes and models of automobiles. Our results will be subject to many of the same risks that apply to the automotive, appliance, computer and telecommunications industries, such as general economic conditions, interest rates, consumer spending patterns and technological changes. Other factors, which may result in materially different results for future periods, include the following risk factors. These risk factors should be considered in connection with evaluating the forward-looking statements contained in this report because these factors could cause our actual results and condition to differ materially from those projected in forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements in this report are subject to the safe harbor protection provided under the securities laws and are made as of the date of this report.

- We depend on a small number of large customers, specifically two large automotive customers. If we were to lose either of these customers or experienced a significant decline in the volume of products purchased by these customers, or if either of these customers declare bankruptcy, our future results could be adversely affected.

Because we derive a substantial portion of our revenues from customers in the automotive, appliance, computer and communications industries, we are susceptible to trends and factors affecting those industries.

Further downturns in the automotive industry or the bankruptcy of certain automotive customers could reduce the sales and profitability of our business.

Our technology-based business and the markets in which we operate are highly competitive. If we are unable to compete effectively, our sales will decline.

We face risks relating to our international operations, including political and economic instability, expropriation, or the imposition of government controls.

We are dependent on the availability and price of materials.

Disruption of our supply chain could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We may be unable to keep pace with rapid technological changes, which would adversely affect our business.

Products we manufacture may contain design or manufacturing defects that could result in reduced demand for our products or services and liability claims against us.

If we are unable to protect our intellectual property or we infringe, or are alleged to infringe, on another person's intellectual property, our business, financial condition and operating results could be materially adversely affected.

We are subject to continuing pressure to lower our prices.

We were awarded new North American automotive business in fiscal 2011 for programs that will not begin production until fiscal 2013. We anticipate that it will take a significant amount of our cash and resources to launch these programs.

• We currently have a significant amount of our cash located outside the U.S. and we may suffer adverse tax consequences if we repatriate this cash.

• A significant fluctuation between the U.S. dollar and other currencies could adversely impact our operating results.

• We may acquire businesses or divest business operations. These transactions may pose significant risks and may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and operating results.

• We could suffer significant business interruptions, which could adversely affect our sales and operating results.

18

Table of Contents

• Unfavorable tax law changes may adversely affect results.

• We cannot ensure that the newly acquired Eetrex and Advanced Molding and Decoration businesses will be successful or that we can implement and profit from any new applications of the acquired technology.

• The future trading price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to a variety of factors.

Any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ materially from those foreseen in such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of the report, press release, statement, document, webcast or oral discussion in which they are made. We do not intend to update any forward-looking statements, all of which are expressly qualified by the foregoing. See Part I — Item 1A, Risk Factors of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2011, for a further discussion regarding some of the reasons that actual results may be materially different from those we anticipate.

Overview

We are a global manufacturer of component and subsystem devices with manufacturing, design and testing facilities in China, Germany, India, Lebanon, Malta, Mexico, the Philippines, Singapore, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. We are a global designer and manufacturer of electronic and electro-mechanical devices. We design, manufacture and market devices employing electrical, radio remote control, electronic, wireless, sensing and optical technologies. Our business is managed on a segment basis, with those segments being Automotive, Interconnect, Power Products and Other. For more information regarding the business and products of these segments, see “Item 1. Business.” of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2011.

Our components are found in the primary end markets of the aerospace, appliance, automotive, construction, consumer and industrial equipment markets, communications (including information processing and storage, networking equipment, wireless and terrestrial voice/data systems), rail and other transportation industries.

Recent Transactions

In July 2011 and October 2011, we paid \$0.6 million and \$0.5 million, respectively for an additional 20% investment in Eetrex Incorporated to facilitate our expansion into the electric vehicle market. We now have a 90% ownership in Eetrex. Eetrex is located in Boulder, Colorado and is a developer and manufacturer of chargers, inverters and battery systems for hybrid and plug-in hybrid electronic vehicles.

In September 2011, we acquired certain assets and liabilities from Nypro Monterrey, S. de R.L. (Nypro Monterrey) from Nypro Inc. for \$6.4 million. We will operate this injection molding and painting business under the name of Advanced Molding and Decoration, S.A. de C.V. (“AMD”), and it will become a part of our existing Monterrey manufacturing campus. AMD operates a state-of-the-art facility, which provides us with high-quality injection molding, painting and decorating capabilities. The AMD assets include 52 injection mold machines, three paint lines and several pad print machines. AMD intends to continue production of injection-molded components for its current third party customers, whose contracts transferred to us along with the assets. In addition, 228 employees from Nypro Monterrey transferred to us as part of the acquisition.

Results may differ materially from what is expressed or forecasted. See “Item 1A Risk Factors” of our Form 10-K, for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2011.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended October 29, 2011 as Compared to the Three Months Ended October 30, 2010

Consolidated Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the three months ended:

(in millions)

("N/M" equals not meaningful)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|----|
| Net sales | \$115.9 | \$107.7 | \$8.2 | 7.6 | % |
| Cost of products sold | 95.0 | 84.1 | 10.9 | 13.0 | % |
| Gross margins | 20.9 | 23.6 | (2.7 |) (11.4 |)% |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 18.3 | 21.2 | (2.9 |) (13.7 |)% |
| Interest expense, net | — | 0.1 | (0.1 |) N/M | |
| Other expense, net | 0.2 | 2.0 | (1.8 |) (90.0 |)% |
| Income tax expense | 2.2 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 175.0 | % |
| Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest | (0.1 |) — | (0.1 |) N/M | |
| Net income/(loss) attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. | \$0.3 | \$(0.5 |) \$0.8 | N/M | |

| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|----|--|
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | |
| Cost of products sold | 82.0 | % 78.1 | % | |
| Gross margins | 18.0 | % 21.9 | % | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 15.8 | % 19.7 | % | |
| Interest expense, net | — | % 0.1 | % | |
| Other expense, net | 0.2 | % 1.9 | % | |
| Income tax expense | 1.9 | % 0.7 | % | |
| Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest | (0.1 |)% — | % | |
| Net income/(loss) attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. | 0.3 | % (0.5 |)% | |

Net Sales. Consolidated net sales increased \$8.2 million, or 7.6%, to \$115.9 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from \$107.7 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The Automotive segment net sales increased \$11.6 million, or 20.8%, to \$67.5 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, from \$55.9 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The Interconnect segment net sales decreased \$5.0 million, or 13.7%, to \$31.5 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to \$36.5 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The Power Products segment net sales increased \$1.7 million, or 14.2%, to \$13.7 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, as compared to \$12.0 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The Other segment net sales decreased \$0.1 million, or 3.0%, to \$3.2 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, as compared to \$3.3 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2011. Translation of foreign operations net sales for the three months ended October 29, 2011 increased reported net sales by \$1.0 million or 0.8% due to average currency rates in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to the average currency rates in the second quarter of fiscal 2011.

Cost of Products Sold. Consolidated cost of products sold increased \$10.9 million, or 13.0%, to \$95.0 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$84.1 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Consolidated cost of products sold as a percentage of sales were 82.0% for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to 78.1% for the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The Automotive segment experienced costs for design, development, engineering and launch costs of \$1.0 million related to new programs that will not begin production until fiscal 2013 and costs of \$0.7 million related to a vendor's production and delivery issues, compared to \$0.6 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The Power Products segment experienced costs of \$0.6 million for new product development, specifically for an on board charger for an

Table of Contents

electric truck. The second quarter of fiscal 2011 includes a charge of \$1.3 million for negotiated program termination costs for certain products manufactured in our Malta facility.

Gross Margins. Consolidated gross margins decreased \$2.7 million, or 11.4%, to \$20.9 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to \$23.6 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of net sales were 18.0% for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to 21.9% for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of sales decreased due to new program and product launch costs. In addition, gross margins were negatively impacted by increased sales of automotive product that has higher material cost due to the current high percentage of purchased content. Gross margins were negatively impacted by \$1.3 million in the second quarter of of fiscal 2011 for negotiated program termination costs for certain products manufactured in our Malta facility.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses decreased by \$2.9 million, or 13.7%, to \$18.3 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$21.2 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. During the second quarter of fiscal 2011, we recorded an expense of \$3.8 million for litigation regarding unsecured claims sold to Blue Angel LLC, related to the Delphi bankruptcy. Stock award amortization expense increased by \$0.6 million, to \$0.8 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2012 compared \$0.2 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2011. Legal expenses increased \$0.2 million, to \$1.7 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to \$1.5 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2011, primarily due to higher Delphi litigation expenses and legal expenses related to the Advanced Molding and Decoration acquisition, partially offset with lower other general legal fees. The second quarter of fiscal 2011 includes income of \$0.5 million received for grants at our Malta facility. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased to 15.8% for the three months ended October 29, 2011 from 19.7% for the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Other Expense, Net. Other expense, net decreased \$1.8 million, or 90.0%, to \$0.2 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to \$2.0 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The second quarter of fiscal 2012 includes a gain of \$0.3 million related to the acquisition of Advanced Molding and Decoration. All other amounts for both periods relate to expenses for currency rate fluctuations. The functional currencies of these operations are the British pound, Chinese yuan, Euro, Indian Rupee, Mexican peso, Singapore dollar and Swiss Franc. Some foreign operations have transactions denominated in currencies other than their functional currencies, primarily sales in U.S. dollars and Euros, creating exchange rate sensitivities.

Income Tax Expense. Income tax expense increased by \$1.4 million, to \$2.2 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$0.8 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The income tax expense for the second quarter of fiscal 2012 relates to income taxes on foreign profits of \$1.1 million, \$0.9 million for foreign taxes on a foreign dividend, and other taxes of \$0.2 million. The income tax expense for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 relates to income taxes on foreign profits.

Net Income/(Loss) Attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. Net income/(loss) attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. increased \$0.8 million, to income of \$0.3 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to a loss of \$0.5 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The increase is primarily due to increased sales, the absence of expense for Blue Angel claims, lower other expense, partially offset with expenses for new product development and product launches, increased stock award amortization, higher legal expense and higher income tax expense.

Table of Contents

Operating Segments

Automotive Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the three months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|---|
| Net sales | \$67.5 | \$55.9 | \$11.6 | 20.8 | % |
| Cost of products sold | 57.2 | 45.1 | 12.1 | 26.8 | % |
| Gross margins | 10.3 | 10.8 | (0.5) | (4.6) | % |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 7.1 | 9.2 | (2.1) | (22.8) | % |
| Income from operations | \$3.2 | \$1.6 | \$1.6 | 100.0 | % |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | | |
| Cost of products sold | 84.7 | % 80.7 | % | | |
| Gross margins | 15.3 | % 19.3 | % | | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 10.5 | % 16.5 | % | | |
| Income from operations | 4.7 | % 2.9 | % | | |

Net Sales. Automotive segment net sales increased \$11.6 million, or 20.8%, to \$67.5 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from \$55.9 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Net sales increased in North America, Europe and Asia by 95.8%, 6.6% and 15.0%, respectively. The increase in North America is primarily due to increased sales for our Ford Center Console Program, which represented 52.2% of the 95.8% increase and the remaining increase relates to the newly acquired Advanced Molding and Decoration business in September 2011. The increase in Asia is due to increases in our transmission lead-frame and steering angle sensor products and the increase in Europe is primarily due to the euro strengthening against the U.S. dollar. Translation of foreign operations net sales for the three months ended October 29, 2011 increased reported net sales by \$1.0 million, or 1.5%, due to average currency rates in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to the average currency rates in the second quarter of fiscal 2011.

Cost of Products Sold. Automotive segment cost of products sold increased \$12.1 million, or 26.8%, to \$57.2 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from \$45.1 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The Automotive segment cost of products sold as a percentage of sales were 84.7% in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to 80.7% in the second quarter of fiscal 2011. During the second quarter of fiscal 2012, our North American operations experienced additional costs for design, development, engineering and product launches of \$1.0 million related to new programs that will not begin production until fiscal 2013, as well as costs of \$0.7 million related to a vendor's production and delivery issues, compared to \$0.6 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The increase in costs of products sold as a percentage of sales was also affected by increased sales of product that has a higher material cost due to the current high percentage of purchased content. The second quarter of of fiscal 2011 includes a charge of \$1.3 million for negotiated program termination costs for certain products manufactured in our Malta facility.

Gross Margins. Automotive segment gross margins decreased \$0.5 million, or 4.6%, to \$10.3 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to \$10.8 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The Automotive segment gross margins as a percentage of net sales were 15.3% for the three months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to 19.3% for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of sales decreased due to design, development, engineering and launch costs related to new programs and new product launches, as well as increased costs related to a vendor's production and delivery issues. In addition, gross margins were negatively impacted in the second quarter

Table of Contents

of fiscal 2012 due to increased sales of product that has higher material cost due to the current high percentage of purchased content. The gross margins for the second quarter of fiscal 2011 were negatively impacted by the negotiated program termination costs.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses decreased \$2.1 million, or 22.8%, to \$7.1 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$9.2 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. During the second quarter of fiscal 2011, we recorded an expense of \$3.8 million for litigation regarding unsecured claims sold to Blue Angel LLC, related to the Delphi bankruptcy. Legal expenses related to the Delphi litigation increased \$0.3 million, to \$1.2 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to \$0.9 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2011. In addition, salary expenses and stock award amortization expense increased in the second quarter of fiscal 2012 compared to the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The second quarter of fiscal 2011 includes income of \$0.5 million for grants received at our Malta facility. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales were 10.5% for the three months ended October 29, 2011 and 16.5% for the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Income from Operations. Automotive segment income from operations increased \$1.6 million, to \$3.2 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$1.6 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 due to increased sales, absence of expense for Blue Angel claims, partially offset by expenses related to new programs and new product launches, costs related to a vendor's production and delivery issues, higher Delphi legal expenses, stock award amortization expense and expatriate salary costs for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Interconnect Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the three months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Net sales | \$31.5 | \$36.5 | \$(5.0) | (13.7)% |
| Cost of products sold | 23.4 | 25.2 | (1.8) | (7.1)% |
| Gross margins | 8.1 | 11.3 | (3.2) | (28.3)% |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 4.4 | 5.2 | (0.8) | (15.4)% |
| Income from operations | 3.7 | 6.1 | (2.4) | (39.3)% |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | |
| Cost of products sold | 74.3 | % 69.0 | % | |
| Gross margins | 25.7 | % 31.0 | % | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 14.0 | % 14.2 | % | |
| Income from operations | 11.7 | % 16.7 | % | |

Net Sales. Interconnect segment net sales decreased \$5.0 million, or 13.7%, to \$31.5 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from \$36.5 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Net sales decreased 14.5%

in North America primarily due to weak sales for white goods and interface solutions products, partially offset by stronger sales for our remote control devices. Net sales in Europe decreased 15.3% primarily due to no optical sales in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, due to the sale of the optical business in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011, partially offset by higher sales for data and remote control devices. Net sales in Asia decreased 7.0% primarily due to lower sales for legacy products resulting from the planned exit of a product line.

Table of Contents

Cost of Products Sold. Interconnect segment cost of products sold decreased \$1.8 million, or 7.1%, to \$23.4 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$25.2 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Interconnect segment cost of products sold as a percentage of net sales increased to 74.3% for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to 69.0% for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The increase in cost of products sold as a percentage of sales is primarily due to lower sales volumes for white goods and interface solutions products.

Gross Margins. Interconnect segment gross margins decreased \$3.2 million, or 28.3%, to \$8.1 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$11.3 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of net sales decreased to 25.7% for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from 31.0% for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The decrease in gross margins as a percentage of net sales primarily relates to lower sales volumes for white goods and interface solutions products.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses decreased \$0.8 million, or 15.4%, to \$4.4 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$5.2 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Selling and administrative expenses decreased due to no selling and administrative expenses for our optical business, as well as lower salary and bonus expenses for our sensor business. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased to 14.0% for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from 14.2% for the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Income from Operations. Interconnect segment income from operations decreased \$2.4 million, or 39.3%, to \$3.7 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$6.1 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 primarily due to lower sales of white goods and interface solutions products, partially offset with lower selling and administrative expenses.

Power Products Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the three months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|----|
| Net sales | \$13.7 | \$12.0 | \$1.7 | 14.2 | % |
| Cost of products sold | 11.0 | 9.5 | 1.5 | 15.8 | % |
| Gross margins | 2.7 | 2.5 | 0.2 | 8.0 | % |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 1.9 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 46.2 | % |
| Income from operations | \$0.8 | \$1.2 | \$(0.4) | (33.3) |)% |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | | |
| Cost of products sold | 80.3 | % 79.2 | % | | |
| Gross margins | 19.7 | % 20.8 | % | | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 13.9 | % 10.8 | % | | |
| Income from operations | 5.8 | % 10.0 | % | | |

Net Sales. Power Products segment net sales increased \$1.7 million, or 14.2%, to \$13.7 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$12.0 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Net sales increased by 18.6% in North America and by 10.5% in Asia. The increase in North America was driven by higher demand for our busbar and heat sink products, partially offset by lower demand for our flexible cabling products. The increase in Asia was due to higher demand for our busbar products. Sales in Europe declined by 23.7% due to lower demand for busbar products.

Table of Contents

Cost of Products Sold. Power Products segment cost of products sold increased \$1.5 million, or 15.8%, to \$11.0 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$9.5 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The Power Products segment cost of products sold as a percentage of sales increased to 80.3% for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from 79.2% for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The increase in cost of products sold as a percentage of sales is due to increased costs for the product development, including \$0.6 million for an on board charger for an electric truck in North America. The second quarter of fiscal 2011 includes an inventory and equipment write-down charge of \$0.4 million relating to a customer cancellation of certain products manufactured in our U.S. facility.

Gross Margins. Power Products segment gross margins increased \$0.2 million, or 8.0%, to \$2.7 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$2.5 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of net sales decreased to 19.7% for the three months ended October 29, 2011 from 20.8% for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The decrease in gross margins as a percentage of sales is due to increased costs for product development in North America.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses increased \$0.6 million, or 46.2%, to \$1.9 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$1.3 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Selling and administrative expenses increased due to new product development in North America and higher stock award amortization expense. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales increased to 13.9% for the three months ended October 29, 2011 from 10.8% for the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Income From Operations. Power Products income from operations decreased \$0.4 million, or 33.3%, to \$0.8 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$1.2 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, due to increased expenses for new product development and stock award amortization expense, partially offset with higher sales.

Other Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the three months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|----|
| Net sales | \$3.2 | \$3.3 | \$(0.1) | (3.0) |)% |
| Cost of products sold | 2.5 | 3.0 | (0.5) | (16.7) |)% |
| Gross margins | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 133.3 | % |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 28.6 | % |
| Loss from operations | \$(0.2) | \$(0.4) | \$0.2 | (50.0) |)% |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | | |
| Cost of products sold | 78.1 | % 90.9 | % | | |
| Gross margins | 21.9 | % 9.1 | % | | |

Edgar Filing: METHODE ELECTRONICS INC - Form 10-Q

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|----|-------|----|
| Selling and administrative expenses | 28.1 | % | 21.2 | % |
| Loss from operations | (6.3 |)% | (12.1 |)% |

Net Sales. The Other segment net sales decreased \$0.1 million, or 3.0%, to \$3.2 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$3.3 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Net sales from our torque-sensing business decreased 10.1% in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to the second quarter of fiscal 2011. Net sales from our testing facilities increased 5.7% in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to the second quarter of fiscal 2011.

Table of Contents

Cost of Products Sold. Other segment cost of products sold decreased \$0.5 million to \$2.5 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$3.0 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. Cost of products sold as a percentage of sales decreased to 78.1% in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to 90.9% in the second quarter of fiscal 2011. The decrease in cost of goods sold as a percentage of sales is primarily due to higher sales from our testing facilities as well as favorable product mix from our torque-sensing business.

Gross Margins. The Other segment gross margins increased \$0.4 million, to \$0.7 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$0.3 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The increase in gross margins as a percentage of sales is primarily due to higher sales from our testing facilities as well as favorable product mix from our torque-sensing business.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses increased \$0.2 million, or 28.6%, to \$0.9 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$0.7 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The increase is primarily due to expenses related to higher stock award amortization expense. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased to 28.1% for the three months ended October 29, 2011, from 21.2% for the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Loss From Operations The Other segment loss from operations decreased \$0.2 million, or 50.0%, to \$0.2 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$0.4 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. The loss decreased primarily due to increased sales from our testing facilities, favorable product mix from our torque-sensing business, partially offset with higher stock award amortization expense.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations for the Six Months Ended October 29, 2011 as Compared to the Six Months Ended October 30, 2010

Consolidated Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the six months ended:

(in millions)

("N/M" equals not meaningful)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|----|
| Net sales | \$226.7 | \$206.7 | \$20.0 | 9.7 | % |
| Cost of products sold | 185.8 | 162.9 | 22.9 | 14.1 | % |
| Gross margins | 40.9 | 43.8 | (2.9 |) (6.6 |)% |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 36.8 | 37.5 | (0.7 |) (1.9 |)% |
| Interest expense, net | — | 0.1 | (0.1 |) N/M | |
| Other expense, net | 0.2 | 1.2 | (1.0 |) (90.0 |)% |
| Income tax expense | 2.2 | 1.4 | 0.8 | 175.0 | % |
| Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest | (0.1 |) — | (0.1 |) N/M | |
| Net income attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. | \$1.8 | \$3.6 | \$(1.8 |) (50.0 |)% |

| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | |
| Cost of products sold | 82.0 | % 78.8 | % | |
| Gross margins | 18.0 | % 21.2 | % | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 16.2 | % 18.1 | % | |
| Other expense, net | 0.1 | % 0.6 | % | |
| Income tax expense | 1.0 | % 0.7 | % | |
| Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest | — | % — | % | |
| Net income attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. | 0.8 | % 1.7 | % | |

Net Sales. Consolidated net sales increased \$20.0 million, or 9.7%, to \$226.7 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from \$206.7 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The Automotive segment net sales increased \$24.4 million, or 23.1%, to \$130.2 million for the first six months of fiscal 2012, from \$105.8 million for the first six months of fiscal 2011. The Interconnect segment net sales decreased \$7.3 million, or 10.3%, to \$63.9 million for the first six months fiscal 2012, compared to \$71.2 million for the first six months of fiscal 2011. The Power Products segment net sales increased \$2.9 million, or 12.3%, to \$26.5 million for the first six months of fiscal 2012, as compared to \$23.6 million for the first six months of fiscal 2011. The Other segment net sales remained flat at \$6.1 million for both periods. Translation of foreign operations net sales for the six months ended October 29, 2011 increased reported net sales by \$3.7 million or 1.7% due to average currency rates in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to the average currency rates in the first six months of fiscal 2011.

Cost of Products Sold. Consolidated cost of products sold increased \$22.9 million, or 14.1%, to \$185.8 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$162.9 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Consolidated cost of products sold as a percentage of sales were 82.0% for the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to 78.8% for the first six months of fiscal 2011. The Automotive segment experienced costs for design,

development, engineering and launch costs of \$1.9 million related to new programs that will not begin production until fiscal 2013 and costs of \$1.3 million related to a vendor's production and delivery issues, compared to \$0.6 million in the six months ended October 30, 2010. The Power Products segment experienced costs of \$1.2 million for new product development, specifically for an on board charger for an electric truck. The six months ended October 30, 2010 includes a charge of \$1.3 million for negotiated program termination costs for certain products manufactured in our Malta facility.

Table of Contents

Gross Margins. Consolidated gross margins decreased \$2.9 million, or 6.6%, to \$40.9 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to \$43.8 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of net sales were 18.0% for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to 21.2% for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of sales decreased due to new program and product launch costs and costs related to a vendor's production and delivery issues. In addition, gross margins were negatively impacted by increased sales of automotive product that has higher material cost due to the current high percentage of purchased content. Gross margins were negatively impacted by \$1.3 million in the six months ended October 30, 2010 for negotiated program termination costs for certain products manufactured in our Malta facility.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses decreased by \$0.7 million, or 1.9%, to \$36.8 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$37.5 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. During the six months ended October 30, 2010, we recorded an expense of \$3.8 million for litigation regarding unsecured claims sold to Blue Angel LLC, related to the Delphi bankruptcy. Stock award amortization expense increased by \$1.5 million, to \$2.0 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011 compared \$0.5 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Selling and administrative expenses increased \$0.5 million in the six months ended October 29, 2011 due to the acquisitions of Eetrex and Advanced Molding and Design. Legal expenses increased \$0.3 million, to \$3.6 million for the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to \$3.3 million for the first six months of fiscal 2011, primarily due to higher Delphi litigation expenses and legal expenses related to the Advanced Molding and Decoration acquisition, partially offset with lower other general legal fees. In addition, selling and administrative expenses increased by \$0.7 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011 due to additional support staff needed for the development of products not expected to begin production until fiscal 2013. The first six months of fiscal 2011 includes income of \$0.5 million received for grants at one of our Malty facility. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased to 16.2% for the six months ended October 29, 2011 from 18.1% for the six months ended October 30, 2010.

Other Expense, Net. Other expense, net decreased \$1.0 million, or 90.0%, to \$0.2 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to \$1.2 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Other income included income of \$0.1 million and \$1.2 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011 and October 30, 2010, respectively, related to life insurance policies in connection with an employee deferred compensation plan. The six months ended October 29, 2011 includes a gain of \$0.3 million related to the acquisition of Advanced Molding and Decoration. All other amounts for both periods relate to expenses for currency rate fluctuations. The functional currencies of these operations are the British pound, Chinese yuan, Euro, Indian Rupee, Mexican peso, Singapore dollar and Swiss Franc. Some foreign operations have transactions denominated in currencies other than their functional currencies, primarily sales in U.S. dollars and Euros, creating exchange rate sensitivities.

Income Tax Expense. Income tax expense increased by \$0.8 million to \$2.2 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$1.4 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The income tax expense for the first six months of fiscal 2012 relates to income taxes on foreign profits of \$2.2 million and \$0.9 million for foreign taxes on a foreign dividend. In addition, the first six months of fiscal 2012 includes a benefit of \$1.1 million was recorded relating to tax credits from our Malta facility. The income tax expense for the six months ended October 29, 2011 includes income taxes on foreign profits of \$2.2 million and other taxes of \$0.2 million. The income tax expense of \$1.4 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010 relates to income taxes on foreign profits.

Net Income Attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. Net income attributable to Methode Electronics, Inc. decreased \$1.8 million, to \$1.8 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$3.6 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The decrease is primarily due to higher expenses for new product development and product launches, stock award amortization expense, costs related to a vendor's production and delivery issues, higher tax expense and lower life insurance proceeds, partially offset by higher sales, absence of expense for Blue Angel claims and lower currency translation expense.

Table of Contents

Operating Segments

Automotive Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the six months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|----|
| Net sales | \$130.2 | \$105.8 | \$24.4 | 23.1 | % |
| Cost of products sold | 110.6 | 85.5 | 25.1 | 29.4 | % |
| Gross margins | 19.6 | 20.3 | (0.7) | (3.4) |)% |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 14.1 | 15.7 | (1.6) | (10.2) |)% |
| Income from operations | \$5.5 | \$4.6 | \$0.9 | 19.6 | % |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | | |
| Cost of products sold | 84.9 | % 80.8 | % | | |
| Gross margins | 15.1 | % 19.2 | % | | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 10.8 | % 14.8 | % | | |
| Income from operations | 4.2 | % 4.3 | % | | |

Net Sales. Automotive segment net sales increased \$24.4 million, or 23.1%, to \$130.2 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from \$105.8 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Net sales increased in North America, Europe and Asia by 106.8%, 12.3% and 11.5%, respectively. The increase in North America is primarily due to increased sales for our Ford Center Console Program, which represented 76.6% of the 106.8% increase and the remaining increase relates to the newly acquired Advanced Molding and Decoration business in September 2011. The increase in Asia is due to increases in our transmission lead-frame and steering angle sensor products and the increase in Europe is primarily due to the euro strengthening against the U.S. dollar. Translation of foreign operations net sales for the six months ended October 29, 2011 increased reported net sales by \$3.5 million, or 2.7%, due to average currency rates in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to the average currency rates in the first six months of fiscal 2011.

Cost of Products Sold. Automotive segment cost of products sold increased \$25.1 million, or 29.4%, to \$110.6 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from \$85.5 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The Automotive segment cost of products sold as a percentage of sales were 84.9% in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to 80.8% in the first six months of fiscal 2011. During the first six months of fiscal 2012, our North American operations experienced additional costs for design, development, engineering and product launches of \$1.9 million related to new programs that will not begin production until fiscal 2013, as well as costs of \$1.3 million related to a vendor's production and delivery issues, compared to \$0.6 million in the first six months of fiscal 2011. The increase in costs of products sold as a percentage of sales was also affected by increased sales of product that has a higher material cost due to the current high percentage of purchased content, which was exacerbated by the vendor production and delivery issues. The first six months of fiscal 2011 includes a charge of \$1.3 million for negotiated program termination costs for certain products manufactured in our Malta facility.

Gross Margins. Automotive segment gross margins decreased \$0.7 million, or 3.4%, to \$19.6 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to \$20.3 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The Automotive segment gross margins as a percentage of net sales were 15.1% for the six months ended October 29, 2011, as compared to 19.2% for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of sales decreased in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011, due to design, development, engineering and launch costs related to new programs and new product launches, as well as increased costs related to a vendor's production and delivery issues. In addition, gross margins were negatively impacted in the first six months of fiscal 2012 by increased sales of product that has higher material cost due to the current high percentage of purchased content. The gross margins for the first six months of fiscal 2011 were negatively impacted by the negotiated program termination costs.

Table of Contents

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses decreased \$1.6 million, or 10.2%, to \$14.1 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$15.7 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. During the first six months of fiscal 2011, we recorded an expense of \$3.8 million for litigation regarding unsecured claims sold to Blue Angel LLC, related to the Delphi bankruptcy. Legal expenses related to the Delphi litigation increased \$0.2 million, to \$2.4 million for the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to \$2.2 million for the first six months of fiscal 2011. In addition, salary expense and stock award amortization expense increased in the first six months of fiscal 2012 compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011. The first six months of fiscal 2011 includes income of \$0.5 million received for grants at our Malta facility. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales were 10.8% for the six months ended October 29, 2011 and 14.8% for the six months ended October 30, 2010.

Income from Operations. Automotive segment income from operations increased \$0.9 million, to \$5.5 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$4.6 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010 due to increased sales, absence of expense for Blue Angel claims, partially offset with expenses related to new programs and new product launches, costs related to a vendor's production and delivery issues and expenses related to expatriate salaries, legal and stock award amortization for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to the six months ended October 30, 2010.

Interconnect Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the six months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Net sales | \$63.9 | \$71.2 | \$(7.3) | (10.3)% |
| Cost of products sold | 46.5 | 50.5 | (4.0) | (7.9)% |
| Gross margins | 17.4 | 20.7 | (3.3) | (15.9)% |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 9.4 | 10.8 | (1.4) | (13.0)% |
| Income from operations | 8.0 | 9.9 | (1.9) | (19.2)% |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | |
| Cost of products sold | 72.8 | % 70.9 | % | |
| Gross margins | 27.2 | % 29.1 | % | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 14.7 | % 15.2 | % | |
| Income from operations | 12.5 | % 13.9 | % | |

Net Sales. Interconnect segment net sales decreased \$7.3 million, or 10.3%, to \$63.9 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from \$71.2 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Net sales decreased 14.5% in North America primarily due to weak sales for white goods and interface solutions products, partially offset by stronger sales for data and remote control devices. Net sales in Europe decreased 5.5% primarily due to no optical sales in the first six months of fiscal 2012, due to the sale of the optical business in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011, partially offset by higher sales for data and remote control devices. Net sales in Asia increased 7.1% primarily due to higher

sales of remote control devices, partially offset by lower sales for legacy products resulting from the planned exit of a product line.

Cost of Products Sold. Interconnect segment cost of products sold decreased \$4.0 million, or 7.9%, to \$46.5 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$50.5 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Interconnect segment cost of products sold as a percentage of net sales increased to 72.8% for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to 70.9% for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The increase in cost of products sold as a percentage of sales is primarily due to lower sales volumes for white goods and interface solutions products.

Gross Margins. Interconnect segment gross margins decreased \$3.3 million, or 15.9%, to \$17.4 million for the six

Table of Contents

months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$20.7 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a percentage of net sales decreased to 27.2% for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from 29.1% for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The decrease in gross margins as a percentage of net sales primarily relates to lower sales volumes for white goods and interface solutions products.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses decreased \$1.4 million, or 13.0%, to \$9.4 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$10.8 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Selling and administrative expenses decreased due to no selling and administrative expenses for our optical business, as well as lower salary and bonus expenses for our sensor business. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased to 14.7% for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from 15.2% for the six months ended October 30, 2010.

Income from Operations. Interconnect segment income from operations decreased \$1.9 million, or 19.2%, to \$8.0 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$9.9 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010 primarily due to lower sales of white goods products, partially offset with lower selling and administrative expenses.

Power Products Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the six months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|----|
| Net sales | \$26.5 | \$23.6 | \$2.9 | 12.3 | % |
| Cost of products sold | 21.8 | 18.8 | 3.0 | 16.0 | % |
| Gross margins | 4.7 | 4.8 | (0.1) | (2.1) |)% |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 3.6 | 3.1 | 0.5 | 16.1 | % |
| Income from operations | \$1.1 | \$1.7 | \$(0.6) | (35.3) |)% |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | | |
| Cost of products sold | 82.3 | % 79.7 | % | | |
| Gross margins | 17.7 | % 20.3 | % | | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 13.6 | % 13.1 | % | | |
| Income from operations | 4.2 | % 7.2 | % | | |

Net Sales. Power Products segment net sales increased \$2.9 million, or 12.3%, to \$26.5 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$23.6 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Net sales increased by 15.1% in North America and by 11.3% in Asia. The increase in North America was driven by higher demand for our busbar and heat sink products, partially offset by lower demand for our flexible cabling products. The increase in Asia was due to higher demand for our busbar products. Sales in Europe declined by 15.9% due to lower demand for busbar products.

Cost of Products Sold. Power Products segment cost of products sold increased \$3.0 million, or 16.0%, to \$21.8 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$18.8 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The Power Products segment cost of products sold as a percentage of sales increased to 82.3% for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from 79.7% for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The increase in cost of products sold as a percentage of sales is due to increased costs for the product development, including \$1.2 million for an on board charger for an electric truck in North America. The first six months of fiscal 2011 includes an inventory and equipment write-down charge of \$0.4 million relating to a customer cancellation of certain products manufactured in our U.S. facility.

Gross Margins. Power Products segment gross margins decreased \$0.1 million, or 2.1%, to \$4.7 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$4.8 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Gross margins as a

Table of Contents

percentage of net sales decreased to 17.7% for the six months ended October 29, 2011 from 20.3% for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The decrease in gross margins as a percentage of sales is due to increased costs for product development in North America.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses increased \$0.5 million, or 16.1%, to \$3.6 million the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$3.1 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Selling and administrative expenses increased due to new product development in North America and higher stock award amortization expense. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales increased to 13.6% for the six months ended October 29, 2011 from 13.1% for the six months ended October 30, 2010.

Income From Operations. Power Products income from operations decreased \$0.6 million, or 35.3%, to \$1.1 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$1.7 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010, due to increased expenses for new product development and higher stock award amortization expense, partially offset by higher sales in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011.

Other Segment Results

Below is a table summarizing results for the six months ended:
(in millions)

| | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | Net Change | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|----|
| Net sales | \$6.1 | \$6.1 | \$— | — | % |
| Cost of products sold | 5.2 | 5.7 | (0.5 |) (8.8 |)% |
| Gross margins | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 125.0 | % |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 2.1 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 50.0 | % |
| Loss from operations | \$(1.2 |) \$(1.0 |) \$(0.2 |) 20.0 | % |
| Percent of sales: | October 29, 2011 | October 30, 2010 | | | |
| Net sales | 100.0 | % 100.0 | % | | |
| Cost of products sold | 85.2 | % 93.4 | % | | |
| Gross margins | 14.8 | % 6.6 | % | | |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 34.4 | % 23.0 | % | | |
| Loss from operations | (19.7 |)% (16.4 |)% | | |

Net Sales. The Other segment net sales were flat at \$6.1 million for both periods. Net sales from our torque-sensing business decreased 3.0% in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011. Net sales from our testing facilities increased 2.6% in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011.

Cost of Products Sold. Other segment cost of products sold decreased \$0.5 million to \$5.2 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$5.7 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Cost of products sold as a percentage of sales decreased to 85.2% in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to 93.4% in the first six months of fiscal 2011. The decrease in cost of goods sold as a percentage of sales is primarily due to higher sales from

our testing facilities as well as favorable product mix from our torque-sensing business.

Gross Margins. The Other segment gross margins increased \$0.5 million, to \$0.9 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$0.4 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The increase in gross margins as a percentage of sales is primarily due to higher sales from our testing facilities as well as favorable product mix from our torque-sensing business.

Selling and Administrative Expenses. Selling and administrative expenses increased \$0.7 million, or 50.0%, to \$2.1

Table of Contents

million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$1.4 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The increase is primarily due to expenses related to higher stock award amortization expense and severance. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased to 34.4% for the six months ended October 29, 2011, from 23.0% for the six months ended October 30, 2010.

Loss From Operations The Other segment loss from operations increased \$0.2 million, or 20.0%, to \$1.2 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$1.0 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The loss increased primarily due to increased sales from our testing facilities, favorable product mix from our torque-sensing business, partially offset with higher stock award amortization expense in the first six months of fiscal 2012, as compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We believe our current world-wide cash balances together with expected future cash flows to be generated from operations will be sufficient to support current operations. However, due to the shifting of operations from the U.S. to foreign locations, a significant amount of cash and expected future cash flows are located outside of the U.S. Of the total cash and cash equivalents, as of October 29, 2011, \$67.6 million was held in subsidiaries outside the U.S. which is deemed to be permanently reinvested and therefore not available to fund our domestic operations. We currently have \$60.3 million of net operating loss carry-forwards in the U.S. which would reduce the cash tax obligation upon any future repatriation of funds.

During fiscal 2011, we were awarded a next generation center stack program for multiple GM vehicle platforms as well as transmission lead-frame assemblies for GM transmissions. Both programs are expected to be manufactured in our plants in Monterrey, Mexico. We anticipate that these programs will require a significant amount of cash for the purchase of equipment, tooling and initial inventory as well as additional staffing for the development and launching of the programs. We expect to begin production and generate sales on these programs in fiscal 2013. Therefore, we anticipate our cash balances may decline due to the launching of these programs without a corresponding increase in sales.

Our Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, and certain other financial institutions, is in the aggregate principal amount of \$75.0 million, with an option to increase the principal amount by an additional \$25.0 million subject to customary conditions and approval of the lender(s) providing new commitment(s). The credit facility provides for variable rates of interest based on the type of borrowing and the Company's debt to EBITDA financial ratio. The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement is guaranteed by certain of our U.S. subsidiaries and matures in February 2016. At October 29, 2011, we were in compliance with the covenants of the agreement. During the first six months of fiscal 2012, we had borrowings of \$36.5 million and interest payments of \$0.3 million, under this credit facility. As of October 29, 2011, there were outstanding balances due against the credit facility of \$36.5 million.

Cash Flow Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities decreased \$2.1 million to \$1.7 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$3.8 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. The decrease in operating cash flow was primarily attributable to the changes in operating assets and liabilities in the first six months of fiscal 2012, as compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011. The operating activities decrease is primarily driven by lower net income as well as an increase in accounts receivable balances due to timing of sales in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to the first six months of fiscal 2011.

Cash Flow Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities increased \$10.7 million to \$15.5 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, compared to \$4.8 million for the six months ended October 30, 2010. Purchases of property, plant and equipment was \$9.1 million for the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to \$5.6 million for the first six months of fiscal 2011. In the first six months of fiscal 2012, we acquired the Advanced Molding and Decoration business for \$6.4 million. In the first six months of fiscal 2011, we invested \$0.8 million in Eetrex. In addition, the first six months of fiscal 2011 includes proceeds from life insurance policies of \$1.5 million.

Cash Flow Financing Activities

Net cash provided by financing activities increased \$18.6 million to \$31.5 million in the first six months of fiscal 2012, compared to \$12.9 million for the first six months of fiscal 2011. During the first six months of fiscal 2012, the Company had net borrowings against the credit facility of \$36.5 million, compared to \$18.0 million in the first six months of

Table of Contents

fiscal 2011. We paid dividends of \$5.2 million for both the first six months of fiscal 2012 and fiscal 2011. In addition, the first six months of fiscal 2012 included \$0.2 million of proceeds for the exercise of stock options.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements, other than operating leases and purchase obligations entered into in the normal course of business.

Item 3. Quantitative And Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Certain of our foreign operations enter into transactions in currencies other than their functional currency, primarily the U.S. dollar and the Euro. A 10% change in foreign currency exchange rates from balance sheet date levels could impact our income before income taxes by \$2.8 million as of October 29, 2011 and \$3.8 million as of April 30, 2011. We also have foreign currency exposure arising from the translation of our net equity investment in our foreign operations to U.S. dollars. We generally view our investments in foreign operations with functional currencies other than the U.S. dollar as long-term. The currencies to which we are exposed are the British pound, Chinese yuan, Euro, Indian Rupee, Mexican peso, Singapore dollar and Swiss franc. A 10% change in foreign currency exchange rates from balance sheet date levels could impact our net foreign investments by \$19.8 million at October 29, 2011 and \$17.9 million at April 30, 2011.

Item 4. Controls And Procedures

As of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report on Form 10-Q, we performed an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, of our "disclosure controls and procedures" (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). The Company's disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's applicable rules and forms. As a result of this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended October 29, 2011 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 6. Exhibits

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| 31.1 | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer |
| 31.2 | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Financial Officer |
| 32 | Certification of Periodic Financial Report Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 |

Table of Contents

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.

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC.

By: /s/ Douglas A. Koman
Douglas A. Koman
Chief Financial Officer
(principal financial officer)

Dated: December 8, 2011

Table of Contents

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| 31.1 | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer |
| 31.2 | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Financial Officer |
| 32 | Certification of Periodic Financial Report Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 |

37