

MESA LABORATORIES INC /CO  
Form 10-Q  
August 14, 2009

## U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

Washington, D.C. 20549

### Form 10-Q

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

**For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2009**

**OR**

**o** **TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE  
EXCHANGE ACT**

**For the transition period from to**

**Commission File Number 0-11740**

## MESA LABORATORIES, INC.

(Exact Name of Small Business Issuer as Specified in its Charter)

**COLORADO**  
(State or other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

**84-0872291**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**12100 WEST SIXTH AVENUE, LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**80228**  
(Zip Code)

Issuer's telephone number, including area code: **(303) 987-8000**

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Check whether the Issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Exchange Act, during the past 12 months and (2) has been subject to the 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 (Section 232.405 of the chapter) 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 a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (check one):

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐

Smaller reporting company ☒

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

State the number of shares outstanding of each of the Issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

There were **3,194,030** shares of the Issuer's common stock, no par value, outstanding as of **July 31, 2009**.

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PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATIONITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**MESA LABORATORIES, INC.****BALANCE SHEETS**

|                                                                                                                                            | <b>JUNE 30, 2009</b> | <b>MARCH 31, 2009</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
|                                                                                                                                            | <b>(Unaudited)</b>   |                       |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                                                                                                              |                      |                       |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                                                                                                                      |                      |                       |
| Cash and Cash equivalents                                                                                                                  | \$ 10,759,000        | \$ 9,111,000          |
| Accounts Receivable, Net                                                                                                                   | 3,504,000            | 4,323,000             |
| Inventories, Net                                                                                                                           | 4,749,000            | 4,499,000             |
| Prepaid Expenses and Other                                                                                                                 | 466,000              | 660,000               |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>                                                                                                                | <b>19,478,000</b>    | <b>18,593,000</b>     |
| <b>PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT, NET</b>                                                                                                | <b>3,826,000</b>     | <b>3,879,000</b>      |
| <b>OTHER ASSETS</b>                                                                                                                        |                      |                       |
| Goodwill, Intangibles and Other, Net                                                                                                       | 7,039,000            | 7,142,000             |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                                                                                                                        | <b>\$ 30,343,000</b> | <b>\$ 29,614,000</b>  |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>                                                                                                 |                      |                       |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                                                                                                                 |                      |                       |
| Accounts Payable                                                                                                                           | \$ 291,000           | \$ 296,000            |
| Accrued Salaries & Payroll Taxes                                                                                                           | 595,000              | 1,033,000             |
| Other Accrued Expenses                                                                                                                     | 44,000               | 36,000                |
| Taxes Payable                                                                                                                              | 543,000              | 119,000               |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                                                                                                           | <b>1,473,000</b>     | <b>1,484,000</b>      |
| <b>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</b>                                                                                                               |                      |                       |
| Deferred Income Taxes Payable                                                                                                              | 528,000              | 528,000               |
| <b>STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>                                                                                                                 |                      |                       |
| Preferred Stock, No Par Value                                                                                                              |                      |                       |
| Common Stock, No Par Value; authorized 8,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding, 3,192,015 shares (6/30/09) and 3,182,228 shares (3/31/09) | 4,817,000            | 4,817,000             |
| Retained Earnings                                                                                                                          | 23,525,000           | 22,785,000            |
| <b>TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>                                                                                                           | <b>28,342,000</b>    | <b>27,602,000</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>                                                                                           | <b>\$ 30,343,000</b> | <b>\$ 29,614,000</b>  |

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**MESA LABORATORIES, INC.****STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

(UNAUDITED)

|                                             | <b>Three Months<br/>Ended<br/>June 30, 2009</b> | <b>Three Months<br/>Ended<br/>June 30, 2008</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Sales                                       | \$ 4,977,000                                    | \$ 5,054,000                                    |
| Cost of Goods Sold                          | 1,994,000                                       | 1,850,000                                       |
| Selling, General & Administrative           | 1,223,000                                       | 1,495,000                                       |
| Research and Development                    | 152,000                                         | 173,000                                         |
| Other (Income) and Expenses                 | (6,000)                                         | (29,000)                                        |
|                                             | 3,363,000                                       | 3,489,000                                       |
| Earnings Before Income Taxes                | 1,614,000                                       | 1,565,000                                       |
| Income Taxes                                | 588,000                                         | 549,000                                         |
| Net Income                                  | \$ 1,026,000                                    | \$ 1,016,000                                    |
| Net Income Per Share (Basic)                | \$ .32                                          | \$ .32                                          |
| Net Income Per Share (Diluted)              | \$ .31                                          | \$ .31                                          |
| Average Common Shares Outstanding (Basic)   | 3,187,000                                       | 3,170,000                                       |
| Average Common Shares Outstanding (Diluted) | 3,258,000                                       | 3,264,000                                       |

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**MESA LABORATORIES, INC.****STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(UNAUDITED)

|                                                             | <b>Three Months<br/>Ended<br/>June 30, 2009</b> | <b>Three Months<br/>Ended<br/>June 30, 2008</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities:</b>                |                                                 |                                                 |
| Net Income                                                  | \$ 1,026,000                                    | \$ 1,016,000                                    |
| Depreciation and Amortization                               | 186,000                                         | 191,000                                         |
| Stock Based Compensation                                    | 69,000                                          | 73,000                                          |
| <b>Change in Assets and Liabilities-</b>                    |                                                 |                                                 |
| (Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable                  | 818,000                                         | 307,000                                         |
| (Increase) Decrease in Inventories                          | (250,000)                                       | (478,000)                                       |
| (Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses                     | 194,000                                         | 299,000                                         |
| Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable                     | (5,000)                                         | 104,000                                         |
| Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Liabilities                  | (6,000)                                         | (359,000)                                       |
| <b>Net Cash (Used) Provided by Operating Activities</b>     | <b>2,032,000</b>                                | <b>1,153,000</b>                                |
| <b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities:</b>                |                                                 |                                                 |
| Deposits                                                    |                                                 | (194,000)                                       |
| Capital Expenditures, Net of Retirements                    | (29,000)                                        | (63,000)                                        |
| <b>Net Cash (Used) Provided by Investing Activities</b>     | <b>(29,000)</b>                                 | <b>(257,000)</b>                                |
| <b>Cash Flows From Financing Activities:</b>                |                                                 |                                                 |
| Dividends Paid                                              | (319,000)                                       | (317,000)                                       |
| Treasury Stock Purchases                                    | (40,000)                                        | (7,000)                                         |
| Proceeds From Stock Options Exercised                       | 4,000                                           | 48,000                                          |
| <b>Net Cash (Used) Provided by Financing Activities</b>     | <b>(355,000)</b>                                | <b>(276,000)</b>                                |
| <b>Net Increase (Decrease) In Cash and Cash Equivalents</b> | <b>1,648,000</b>                                | <b>620,000</b>                                  |
| <b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period</b>     | <b>9,111,000</b>                                | <b>5,770,000</b>                                |
| <b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period</b>           | <b>\$ 10,759,000</b>                            | <b>\$ 6,390,000</b>                             |
| <b>Supplemental disclosure of non-cash activity:</b>        |                                                 |                                                 |

**MESA LABORATORIES, INC.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE A. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The summary of the Issuer's significant accounting policies are incorporated by reference to the Company's annual report on Form 10-K, at March 31, 2009.

The accompanying unaudited condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and reflect all adjustments which, in the opinion of management, are necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations, financial position and cash flows. The results of the interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results for the full year.

**Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements**

**FAS 165 Pronouncement**

In May 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) No. 165, Subsequent Events ( SFAS No. 165 ), which established general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued or are available to be issued. This Statement introduces the concept of financial statements being available to be issued and requires disclosure of the date through which an entity has evaluated subsequent events and the basis for that date. This Statement is effective for interim financial periods ending after June 15, 2009. The Company adopted these provisions in the first fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2009 and it did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**FSP No. 107-1 Pronouncement**

In April 2009, the FASB issued FSP No. 107-1 and APB No. 28, Interim Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments, to require disclosures about fair value of financial instruments for interim reporting periods of publicly traded companies as well as in annual financial statements. This FSP also amends Accounting Principles Board ( APB ) Opinion No. 28, Interim Financial Reporting, to require those disclosures in summarized financial information at interim reporting periods. This FSP is effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009. The Company adopted these provisions in the First fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2009 and it did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted**

In June 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 166, Accounting for Transfers of Financial Assets, an amendment to SFAS No. 140 ( SFAS No. 166 ). SFAS No. 166 was issued to improve the relevance, representational faithfulness, and comparability of the information that a reporting entity provides in its financial reports about a transfer of financial assets; the effects of a transfer on its financial position, financial performance, and cash flows; and a transferor's continuing involvement, if any, in transferred financial assets. This statement will be effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2009. We do not expect the adoption of this statement to have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In June 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 167, Amendments to FASB Interpretation No. 46(R) ( SFAS No. 167 ). SFAS No. 167 was issued to improve financial reporting by enterprises involved with variable interest entities and to provide more relevant and reliable information to users of financial statements. This statement will be effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2009. We do not expect the adoption of this statement to have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In June 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 168, The FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles - a replacement of FASB Statement No. 162 ( SFAS No. 168 ). This statement replaces SFAS No. 162 and establishes the FASB Accounting Standards Codification ( Codification ). Effective July 1, 2009, the Codification becomes the source of authoritative U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) recognized by the FASB to be applied by nongovernmental entities. On the effective date of this statement, the Codification supersedes all then-existing non-SEC accounting and reporting standards. This statement will be effective for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009. We do not expect the adoption of SFAS No. 168 to have any impact to our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. The adoption will require us to prospectively replace references to previously existing non-SEC accounting and reporting standards with the respective sections of the Codification.

NOTE B. STOCK BASED COMPENSATION

Effective April 1, 2006, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment (SFAS 123(R)) which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors. SFAS 123(R) supersedes our previous accounting under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees (APB 25).

We adopted the modified prospective transition method of applying SFAS 123(R) which requires the application of the standard as of April 1, 2006 and requires us to record compensation cost related to unvested stock options as of April 1, 2006, by recognizing the unamortized grant date fair value of these awards over the remaining service periods of those awards with no change in historical reported earnings. Awards granted after April 1, 2006 are valued at fair value in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123(R) and recognized on a straight line basis over the service periods of each award. We estimated forfeiture rates for the quarter based on historical experience.



Amounts recognized in the financial statements related to stock-based compensation are as follows:

|                                                                                   | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, 2009 |        | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, 2008 |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Total cost of stock-based compensation charged against income before income taxes | \$                                  | 69,000 | \$                                  | 73,000 |
| Amount of income tax benefit recognized in earnings                               |                                     | 25,000 |                                     | 26,000 |
| Amount charged against net income                                                 | \$                                  | 44,000 | \$                                  | 47,000 |
| Impact on net income per common share:                                            |                                     |        |                                     |        |
| Basic                                                                             | \$                                  | .01    | \$                                  | 0.01   |
| Diluted                                                                           | \$                                  | .01    | \$                                  | 0.01   |

Stock-based compensation expense was reflected as selling, general and administrative expense and cost of goods sold expense in the statement of operations for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and as selling, general and administrative expense in 2009.

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model (Black-Scholes). We use historical data to estimate the expected price volatility, the expected option life and expected forfeiture rate. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant for the estimated life of the option. The dividend yield is calculated based upon the dividend payments made during the prior four quarters as a percent of the average stock price for that period. The following assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of options granted during the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and 2009 using the Black-Scholes model:

|                              | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |            |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
|                              | 2009                           | 2008       |
| Stock options:               |                                |            |
| Volatility                   | 34.3%                          | 33.1%      |
| Risk-free interest rate      | 1.65-2.68%                     | 2.65-3.57% |
| Expected option life (years) | 5-10                           | 5-10       |
| Dividend yield               | 2.0%                           | 1.7%       |

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A summary of the option activity for the first three months of fiscal 2010 is as follows:

|                               | Number of<br>Shares | Weighted-<br>average<br>Exercise<br>Price per<br>Share | Weighted-<br>average<br>Remaining<br>Contractual<br>Term | Aggregate<br>Intrinsic<br>Value |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Outstanding at March 31, 2009 | 358,725             | \$ 16.68                                               | 4.6                                                      |                                 |
| Options granted               | 96,500              | 16.60                                                  | 5.5                                                      |                                 |
| Options forfeited             | (380)               | 21.67                                                  |                                                          |                                 |
| Options expired               |                     |                                                        |                                                          |                                 |
| Options exercised             | (21,580)            | 10.30                                                  |                                                          |                                 |
| Outstanding at June 30, 2009  | 433,265             | \$ 16.98                                               | 4.8                                                      | \$ 1,141,000                    |
| Exercisable at June 30, 2009  | 170,280             | \$ 15.12                                               | 3.9                                                      | \$ 765,000                      |

The weighted average grant date fair value based on the Black-Scholes model for options granted in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 was \$4.39 and \$6.08 in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The Company issues new shares of common stock upon exercise of stock options. The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$228,000 and \$226,000 during the first quarters of fiscal 2010 and 2009, respectively.

A summary of the status of our unvested option shares as of June 30, 2009 is as follows:

|                            | Number of<br>Shares | Weighted-<br>average<br>Grant-Date<br>Fair Value |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Unvested at March 31, 2009 | 225,395             | \$ 5.92                                          |
| Options granted            | 96,500              | \$ 4.39                                          |
| Options forfeited          | (380)               | \$ 6.03                                          |
| Options vested             | (58,530)            | \$ 5.45                                          |
| Unvested at June 30, 2009  | 262,985             | \$ 5.47                                          |

As of June 30, 2009, there was \$1,003,000 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested share-based compensation granted under our plans. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 3.2 years.

## NOTE C. NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE

Basic net income per common share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per common share is computed using the treasury stock method to compute the weighted average common stock outstanding assuming the conversion of potential dilutive common shares.



The following table presents a reconciliation of the denominators used in the computation of net income per common share - basic and net income per common share - diluted for the three month period ended June 30, 2009 and 2008:

|                                                  | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |              |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
|                                                  | 2009                           | 2008         |
| Net income available for shareholders            | \$ 1,026,000                   | \$ 1,016,000 |
| Weighted avg. outstanding shares of common stock | 3,187,000                      | 3,170,000    |
| Dilutive effect of stock options                 | 71,000                         | 94,000       |
| Common stock and equivalents                     | 3,258,000                      | 3,264,000    |
| Earnings per share:                              |                                |              |
| Basic                                            | \$ .32                         | \$ .32       |
| Diluted                                          | \$ .31                         | \$ .31       |

For the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, 84,000 and no shares for each period, respectively, attributable to outstanding stock options were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share because the exercise prices of the stock options were greater than or equal to the average price of the common shares, and therefore their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive.

Note D. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Company recognizes in the financial statements the effects of all subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the date of the Condensed Balance Sheet, including the estimates inherent in the process of preparing financial statements. Subsequent events are subcategorized into two types: recognized and non-recognized. For the period ended June 30, 2009, subsequent events have been evaluated through August 14, 2009, the date the financial statements were issued or were available to be issued.

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Overview

Mesa Laboratories, Inc. manufactures and distributes electronic measurement systems and disposables for various niche applications, including renal treatment, food processing, medical sterilization, pharmaceutical processing and other industrial applications. Our Company follows a philosophy of manufacturing a high quality product and providing a high level of on-going service for those products. In order to optimize the performance of our Company and to build the value of the Company for its shareholders, we continually follow the trend of various key financial indicators. A sample of some of the most important of these indicators is presented in the following table.

### Key Financial Indicators

For The Quarters Ended June 30,

|                                 | 2009          | 2008          | 2007          | 2006         |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Cash and Investments            | \$ 10,759,000 | \$ 6,390,000  | \$ 3,907,000  | \$ 3,695,000 |
| Trade Receivables               | \$ 3,748,000  | \$ 3,768,000  | \$ 3,619,000  | \$ 2,999,000 |
| Days Sales Outstanding          | 66            | 63            | 73            | 60           |
| Inventory, Net                  | \$ 4,749,000  | \$ 4,498,000  | \$ 3,737,000  | \$ 3,061,000 |
| Inventory Turns                 | 1.7           | 1.7           | 1.5           | 1.9          |
| Working Capital                 | \$ 18,005,000 | \$ 13,571,000 | \$ 10,086,000 | \$ 8,849,000 |
| Current Ratio                   | 13:1          | 11:1          | 9:1           | 10:1         |
| Average Return On:              |               |               |               |              |
| Stockholder Investments (1)     | 14.7%         | 16.8%         | 19.3%         | 18.7%        |
| Assets                          | 13.7%         | 15.7%         | 18.0%         | 17.3%        |
| Invested Capital (2)            | 22.1%         | 22.2%         | 23.2%         | 25.3%        |
| Net Sales                       | \$ 4,977,000  | \$ 5,054,000  | \$ 4,286,000  | \$ 3,674,000 |
| Gross Profit                    | \$ 2,983,000  | \$ 3,204,000  | \$ 2,901,000  | \$ 2,387,000 |
| Gross Margin                    | 60%           | 63%           | 68%           | 65%          |
| Operating Income                | \$ 1,608,000  | \$ 1,536,000  | \$ 1,513,000  | \$ 1,195,000 |
| Operating Margin                | 32%           | 30%           | 35%           | 33%          |
| Net Profit                      | \$ 1,026,000  | \$ 1,016,000  | \$ 1,015,000  | \$ 790,000   |
| Net Profit Margin               | 21%           | 20%           | 24%           | 22%          |
| Earnings Per Diluted Share      | \$ .31        | \$ .31        | \$ .31        | \$ .25       |
| Capital Expenditures, Net       | \$ 29,000     | \$ 63,000     | \$ 6,000      | \$ 211,000   |
| Head Count                      | 114.0         | 118.0         | 100.0         | 92.0         |
| Sales Per Employee (Annualized) | \$ 175,000    | \$ 171,000    | \$ 171,000    | \$ 160,000   |



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(1) Average return on stockholder investment is calculated by dividing total annualized net income by the average of end of period and beginning of year total stockholder's equity.

(2) Average return on invested capital (invested capital = total assets - current liabilities - cash and short-term investments) is calculated by dividing total annualized net income by the average of end of period and beginning of year invested capital.

While we continually try to optimize the overall performance and trends, the table above does highlight various exceptions. These exceptions are usually influenced by a more important need. Most of the indicators above for the period ended June 30, 2009 are showing variation from the trends of the past years. Our balance sheet trends are improving due to cost reductions and only a small decline in sales. Our return trends are showing some decline due to the growth of assets. Factors currently impacting profitability include higher sales of Raven products, lower sales of Datatrace products, lower interest income on the Company's invested surplus cash, and a higher anticipated income tax rate for fiscal 2010.

#### Results of Operations

##### Net Sales

Net sales for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 decreased two percent from fiscal 2009. In real dollars, net sales of \$4,977,000 in fiscal 2010 decreased \$77,000 from \$5,054,000 in 2009.

Our revenues come from two main sources, which include product revenues and parts and service revenues. Parts and service revenues are derived from on-going repair and recalibration or certification of our products. The certification or recalibration of product is usually a key component of the customer's own quality system and many of our customers operate in regulated industries, such as food processing or medical and pharmaceutical manufacturing. For this reason, these revenues tend to be fairly stable and grow slowly over time. Also, it is important to note that the Raven products are disposables and thus do not contribute to the Company's parts and service revenues. During the first quarter of fiscal years 2010 and 2009 our Company had parts and service revenue of \$889,000 and \$932,000, respectively. As a percentage of total revenue, parts and service revenues were 18% in 2010 and 18% in 2009.

The performance of new product sales is dependent on several factors, including general economic conditions in the United States and abroad, capital spending trends and the introduction of new products. Over the past three quarters, both general economic conditions and capital spending patterns have been declining. Although overall economic conditions have softened this year we have seen little impact in our sales performance in total so far. We attribute this to the industries we serve which include various medical related markets, food processing and pharmaceuticals. While the medical markets have continued to improve, we have seen a decline in sales to our food and pharmaceutical markets. For fiscal first quarter 2010 and 2009, product sales for our company were \$4,088,000 and \$4,122,000, respectively.

Over the fiscal first quarter, our medical revenues increased 12 percent compared to the prior period. This increase was due to higher sales of dialysis meters, calibration solutions and dialysis meter service.

During the fiscal first quarter, sales of the Datatrace brand of products decreased 26 percent from the prior year. The decrease in DataTrace sales during the quarter is the result of declining economic and capital spending trends which influenced some industrial customers to delay their capital equipment purchases. The first fiscal quarter saw declines through the various categories of Micropack III products which were only partially off-set by sales of the new Micropack RF products. We are cautiously optimistic and look forward to improving Datatrace sales trends in both new product shipments and service sales in both the domestic and international markets for the later part of fiscal 2010.

Raven sales for the first quarter increased 16 percent compared to the first quarter of the prior year. The Raven biological indicator products saw sales gains in its core biological indicator strip business. Sales of Prospore and Protest products continue to increase, and we have expanded our manufacturing capacity for these products during the past fiscal year to allow the company to pursue additional opportunities for growth of these products. We also saw a substantial increase in sales of our chemical indicator products during the first quarter.

#### Cost of Sales

Cost of sales as a percent of net sales during the first fiscal quarter increased 3.5 percent from fiscal 2009 to 40.1 percent. Over the past two years we have made significant strides in lowering the cost to manufacture our medical products and currently both Medical and Datatrace products enjoy margins higher than the Raven products. Therefore, shifts in product mix toward higher sales of Medical and Datatrace products will tend to produce lower cost of goods sold expense and higher gross margins while shifts toward higher sales of Raven products will normally produce the opposite effect on cost of goods sold expense and gross margins.

Higher Raven sales this quarter are a contributing factor to the lower gross margins. The Company continues to monitor and implement cost reduction programs, price increases and improvements in freight cost recovery to improve gross margins.

#### Selling, General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses tend to be fairly fixed and stable from year-to-year. To the greatest extent possible, we work at containing and minimizing these costs. In the first fiscal quarter of 2010, we have not incurred additional costs to address the regulatory requirements of the Sarbanes Oxley Act, although we do expect additional costs over the remainder of the year. For the fiscal first quarter, total administrative costs were \$617,000 in the current quarter compared to \$738,000 for the same quarter last year.

Our selling and marketing costs tend to be far more variable in relation to sales, although there are various exceptions. Some of these exceptions include the introduction of new products and the mix of international sales to domestic sales. For a product line experiencing introduction of a new product, costs will tend to be higher as a percent of sales due to higher advertising costs and sales training programs. Our Company's international sales are usually discounted and recorded at the net discounted price, so that a change





in mix between international and domestic sales may influence sales and marketing costs. In dollars, selling costs were \$606,000 in the first fiscal quarter of 2010 and \$757,000 in the same prior year quarter. As a percent of sales, selling cost was 12.2% in the current quarter and 15.0% in the prior year quarter.

#### Research and Development

Company sponsored research and development cost was \$152,000 during the first fiscal quarter and \$173,000 during the previous year period. We are currently executing a strategy of increasing the flow of internally developed products. Late in the first quarter of the previous fiscal year we introduced our new Datatrace Micropack RF product. Unlike previous versions of the Micropack line, this product allows real time radio transmission of data in addition to logging of data as the instrument moves through a process. Currently, we continue to experience some on-going development cost for the Micropack RF and are continuing work that expands this radio frequency technology into new markets.

#### Net Income

Net income remained stable at \$1,026,000 or \$.31 per share on a diluted basis during the quarter compared to \$1,016,000 or \$.31 per share on a diluted basis in the previous year period. As previously discussed, margins decreased during the quarter. Other factors impacting net income during the quarter included the decreases in general and administrative costs, sales and marketing costs, and research and development costs which we also discussed earlier in this report. A final factor impacting net income this quarter is lower interest income on the Company's surplus cash due to a softening of interest rates over the past three quarters, and an increase in the estimate of income tax expense as a percent of earnings before income tax.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

On June 30, 2009, we had cash and short term investments of \$10,759,000. In addition, we had other current assets totaling \$8,719,000 and total current assets of \$19,478,000. Current liabilities of our Company were \$1,473,000 which resulted in a current ratio of 13:1.

Our Company has made capital acquisitions during the first fiscal quarter of \$29,000.

We have instituted a program to repurchase up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. Under the plan, the shares may be purchased from time to time in the open market at prevailing prices or in negotiated transactions off the market. Shares purchased will be canceled and repurchases will be made with existing cash reserves. We do not maintain a set policy or schedule for our buyback program.

On November 12, 2003 our Board of Directors instituted a policy of paying regular quarterly dividends. On June 15, 2009, a quarterly dividend of \$.10 per common share was paid to shareholders of record on June 2, 2009.

Our Company invests its surplus capital in various interest bearing instruments, including money market funds. All investments are fixed dollar investments with variable rates in order to minimize the risk of principal loss.

The Company does not currently maintain a line of credit or any other form of debt. Nor does the Company guarantee the debt of any other entity. The Company has maintained a long history of surplus cash flow from operations. This surplus cash flow has been used in the past to fund acquisitions and stock buybacks and is currently being partially utilized to fund our on-going dividend. If interesting candidates come to our attention, we may choose to pursue new acquisitions.

#### Contractual Obligations

At June 30, 2009 we had contractual obligations for open purchase orders for routine purchases of supplies and inventory, which would be payable in less than one year. Additionally, the Company has committed to purchase approximately \$140,000 of bottling equipment to automate the bottling of its dialysis solutions products, which is currently done by an outside vendor.

#### Forward Looking Statements

All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this annual report regarding our Company's financial position and operating and strategic initiatives and addressing industry developments are forward-looking statements. Where, in any forward-looking statement, the Company, or its management, expresses an expectation or belief as to future results, such expectation or belief is expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis, but there can be no assurance that the statement of expectation or belief will result or be achieved or accomplished. Factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated, include but are not limited to general economic, financial and business conditions; competition in the data logging market; competition in the kidney dialysis market; competition in the fluid measurement market; competition in the biological indicator market; the business abilities and judgment of personnel; the impacts of unusual items resulting from ongoing evaluations of business strategies; and changes in business strategy. We do not intend to update these forward looking statements. You are advised to review Item 1A. Risk Factors provided in our Company's most recent Form 10-K filing with the SEC for more information about risks that could affect the financial results of Mesa Laboratories, Inc.

#### Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of our financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in our financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

We believe that there are several accounting policies that are critical to understanding the Company's historical and future performance, as these policies affect the reported amounts of revenue and the more significant areas involving management's judgments and estimates. These significant accounting policies relate to revenue recognition, research and development costs, valuation of inventory, and valuation of long-lived assets. These policies, and the Company's procedures related to these policies, are described in detail below.

## Revenue Recognition

We sell our products directly through our sales force and through distributors. Revenue from direct sales of our product is recognized upon shipment to the customer. Revenue from ongoing product service and repair is fully recognized upon completion and shipment of serviced product.

## Accounts Receivable

At the time the accounts are originated, the Company considers a reserve for doubtful accounts based on the creditworthiness of the customer. The provision for uncollectible amounts is continually reviewed and adjusted to maintain the allowance at a level considered adequate to cover future losses. The allowance is management's best estimate of uncollectible amounts and is determined based on historical performance that is tracked by the Company on an ongoing basis. The losses ultimately incurred could differ materially in the near term from the amounts estimated in determining the allowance.

## Research & Development Costs

Research and development activities consist primarily of new product development and continuing engineering on existing products. Costs related to research and development efforts on existing or potential products are expensed as incurred.

## Valuation of Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market, using the first-in, first-out method (FIFO) to determine cost. The Company's policy is to periodically evaluate the market value of the inventory and the stage of product life cycle, and record a reserve for any inventory considered slow moving or obsolete.

## Valuation of Long-Lived Assets, Goodwill and Intangibles

The Company assesses the realizable value of long-lived assets, goodwill and intangibles for potential impairment at least annually or when events and circumstances warrant such a review. The carrying value of a long-lived asset is considered impaired when the anticipated fair value is less than its carrying value. In assessing the recoverability of our long-lived assets, goodwill and intangibles, we must make assumptions regarding estimated future cash flows and other factors to determine the fair value of the respective assets. In addition, we must make assumptions regarding the useful lives of these assets.

## Stock Based Compensation

## Accounts Receivable

The Company implemented the provisions of SFAS 123(R) effective April 1, 2006 using the modified prospective method. Under this transition method, stock based compensation expense for the year ended March 31, 2007 includes compensation expense for all stock based compensation awards granted subsequent to April 1, 2006 and previously granted awards not vested as of April 1, 2006. The Company uses the Black-Scholes valuation model to value option grants. We use historical data to estimate the expected price volatility, expected option life and expected forfeiture rate. The risk-free rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield in effect at the time of the grant for the estimated life of the option. The dividend yield is estimated using the dividend payments made during the prior four quarters as a percent of average stock price for that period.

The above listing is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all of our accounting policies. In many cases, the accounting treatment of a particular transaction is specifically dictated by accounting principles, generally accepted in the United States of America, with no need for management's judgment in their application. There are also areas in which management's judgment in selecting any viable alternative would not produce a materially different result. See our audited financial statements and notes thereto which begin at Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of the Annual Report on Form 10-K which contain accounting policies and other disclosures required by accounting principles, generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We are exposed to a variety of market risks, currently all investments are in dollar denominated accounts, such as money market funds, with variable interest rates. In the normal course of business, we employ established policies and procedures to manage our exposure to changes in the market value of our investments.

### ITEM 4T. Controls and Procedures

#### Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) that are designed to reasonably ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our chief executive and chief financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of such period to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in our Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that material information relating to our company is made known to management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, particularly during the period when our periodic reports are being prepared.

#### Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during our first quarter ended June 30, 2009 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.





PART II-OTHER INFORMATIONITEM 1. Legal proceedings

None.

ITEM 1A. Risk factors

We are affected by risks specific to us as well as factors that affect all businesses operating in a global market. The significant factors known to us that could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results are described in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 under the heading Part I Item 1A. Risk Factors. There has been no material change in those risk factors.

ITEM 2. Changes in securities, use of proceeds and issuer purchases of equity Securities

We made the following repurchases of our common stock, by month, within the first quarter of the fiscal year covered by this report:

|                   | Shares<br>Purchased | Avg. Price<br>Paid | Total<br>Share Purchased<br>as Part of<br>Publicly<br>Announced Plan | Remaining<br>Shares<br>to Purchase<br>Under Plan |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| April 1-30, 2009  | 542                 | \$ 19.43           | 116,174                                                              | 183,826                                          |
| May 1-31, 2009    | 150                 | \$ 20.00           | 116,324                                                              | 183,676                                          |
| June 1-30, 2009   | 1,308               | \$ 20.37           | 117,632                                                              | 182,368                                          |
| Total 1st Quarter | 2,000               | \$ 20.09           |                                                                      |                                                  |

On November 7, 2005, the Board of Directors of Mesa Laboratories, Inc. adopted a share repurchase plan which allows for the repurchase of up to 300,000 of the company's common shares. This plan will continue until the maximum is reached or the plan is terminated by further action of the Board.

ITEM 6. Exhibits and reports on Form 8-K

a) Exhibits:

- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

b) Reports on Form 8-K:

On May 26, 2009, the Registrant filed a Report on Form 8-K, under Item 2.02, reporting the issuance of a press release reporting revenues and earnings for the quarter and twelve months ended March 31, 2009.

MESA LABORATORIES, INC.

JUNE 30, 2009

SIGNATURES

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

MESA LABORATORIES, INC.

(Issuer)

DATED: August 14, 2009

BY: /s/ John J. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
John J. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer,  
President and Director

DATED: August 14, 2009

BY: /s/ Steven W. Peterson  
Steven W. Peterson  
Vice President-Finance, Chief  
Financial and Accounting Officer and  
Secretary