

MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 01, 2007  
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 September 30, 2007

OR

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

Commission file number: 000-51026

---

**Monolithic Power Systems, Inc.**

(EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER)

---

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization)

**6409 Guadalupe Mines Road, San Jose, CA 95120 (408) 826-0600**

**77-0466789**  
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification Number)

(ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES, INCLUDING ZIP CODE AND TELEPHONE NUMBER)

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

---

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 is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

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

There were 32,896,309 shares of the registrant's common stock issued and outstanding as of October 17, 2007.

---

**Table of Contents**

**MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC.**

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>		<b>PAGE</b>
<b><u>PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u></b>		<b>3</b>
ITEM 1.	<u>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	3
	<u>CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS</u>	3
	<u>CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS</u>	4
	<u>CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS</u>	5
	<u>NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	6
ITEM 2.	<u>MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS</u>	15
ITEM 3.	<u>QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK</u>	22
ITEM 4.	<u>CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES</u>	22
<b><u>PART II. OTHER INFORMATION</u></b>		<b>23</b>
ITEM 1.	<u>LEGAL PROCEEDINGS</u>	23
ITEM 1A.	<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	24
ITEM 6.	<u>EXHIBITS</u>	33

**Table of Contents****PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(in thousands, except par value)

(Unaudited)

	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 77,408	\$ 50,816
Short-term investments	24,383	27,674
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$227 in 2007 and 2006	12,771	9,156
Inventories	15,837	6,738
Deferred income tax asset - current		1,658
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	3,555	1,118
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>133,954</b>	<b>97,160</b>
Property and equipment, net	13,723	11,358
Deferred income tax asset - long term	1,068	
Other assets	532	500
Restricted assets	8,281	8,309
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 157,558</b>	<b>\$ 117,327</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 10,050	\$ 5,909
Accrued compensation and related benefits	6,901	4,792
Accrued income tax payable		684
Accrued liabilities	15,701	8,737
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>32,652</b>	<b>20,122</b>
Deferred rent	304	484
Non-current income tax liability	4,494	
Long term liabilities	152	1,769
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 37,602</b>	<b>\$ 22,375</b>
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.001 per share par value, aggregating \$33 and \$30 as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively; shares authorized: 150,000; shares issued and outstanding: 32,755 and 30,369 as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively	136,400	113,532

Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

Deferred stock compensation	(32)	(487)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	110	(198)
Accumulated deficit	(16,522)	(17,895)
<b>Total stockholders' equity</b>	<b>119,956</b>	<b>94,952</b>
<b>Total liabilities and stockholders' equity</b>	<b>\$ 157,558</b>	<b>\$ 117,327</b>

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(in thousands, except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

	<b>Three months ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Revenue	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619
Cost of revenue*	14,662	9,382	34,874	28,588
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>25,526</b>	<b>17,873</b>	<b>60,643</b>	<b>50,031</b>
Operating expenses:				
Research and development*	7,489	5,897	19,849	16,391
Selling, general and administrative*	8,071	6,877	21,387	21,003
Lease abandonment			(496)	
Patent litigation settlement		3,000	9,800	3,000
Patent litigation expense	1,452	2,765	8,328	9,650
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>17,012</b>	<b>18,539</b>	<b>58,868</b>	<b>50,044</b>
<b>Income (loss) from operations</b>	<b>8,514</b>	<b>(666)</b>	<b>1,775</b>	<b>(13)</b>
Other income (expense):				
Interest and other income	1,223	662	3,399	1,887
Interest and other expense	8	(71)	(21)	(251)
<b>Total other income, net</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>3,378</b>	<b>1,636</b>
<b>Income (loss) before income taxes</b>	<b>9,745</b>	<b>(75)</b>	<b>5,153</b>	<b>1,623</b>
<b>Income tax provision</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>3,197</b>	<b>2,844</b>
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 8,270</b>	<b>\$ (1,872)</b>	<b>\$ 1,956</b>	<b>\$ (1,221)</b>
<b>Basic net income (loss) per common share</b>	<b>\$ 0.26</b>	<b>\$ (0.06)</b>	<b>\$ 0.06</b>	<b>\$ (0.04)</b>
<b>Diluted net income (loss) per common share</b>	<b>\$ 0.23</b>	<b>\$ (0.06)</b>	<b>\$ 0.06</b>	<b>\$ (0.04)</b>
<b>Weighted average shares used in basic net income (loss) per common share</b>	<b>31,995</b>	<b>29,736</b>	<b>31,293</b>	<b>29,335</b>
<b>Dilutive effect of stock options</b>	<b>3,958</b>		<b>3,697</b>	
<b>Weighted average shares used in diluted net income (loss) per common share</b>	<b>35,953</b>	<b>29,736</b>	<b>34,990</b>	<b>29,335</b>

\* Stock-based compensation has been included in the following line items:

Cost of revenue	\$ 149	\$ 121	\$ 373	\$ 409
Research and development	1,326	1,330	3,379	4,039

Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

Selling, general and administrative	1,748	1,518	4,296	4,292
Total	\$ 3,223	\$ 2,969	\$ 8,048	\$ 8,740

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(in thousands)

(Unaudited)

	<b>Nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,956	\$ (1,221)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation	2,962	1,963
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	99	55
Deferred income tax assets	590	155
Deferred income tax liabilities	(39)	(131)
Tax benefit from stock option transactions	3,049	1,401
Excess tax benefit from stock option transactions	(2,593)	(1,164)
Stock-based compensation	8,048	8,740
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(3,616)	(32)
Inventories	(9,097)	(1,220)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(2,450)	337
Accounts payable	3,620	(1,745)
Accrued and long term liabilities	5,369	2,861
Accrued income taxes payable and noncurrent tax liabilities	2,772	(2,915)
Accrued compensation and related benefits	2,077	435
Deferred rent	(160)	173
Net cash provided by operating activities	12,587	7,692
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Property and equipment purchases	(4,647)	(6,325)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	27	1
Purchase of short-term investments	(53,733)	(49,980)
Proceeds from sale of short-term investments	57,024	49,143
Changes in restricted assets		(912)
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,329)	(8,073)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	11,036	2,966
Proceeds from employee stock purchase plan	1,645	1,209
Excess tax benefit from stock option transactions	2,593	1,164
Repayment of stockholder note receivable		398
Net cash provided by financing activities	15,274	5,737
Effect of change in exchange rates on cash	60	32



Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>26,592</b>	<b>5,388</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	50,816	25,091
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 77,408	\$ 30,479
Supplemental disclosures of non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Cash paid (refunded) for taxes, net	\$ (1,285)	\$ 4,607
Liability accrued for equipment purchases	\$ 864	\$ 623

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Unaudited)**

**1. Basis of Presentation** The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared by Monolithic Power Systems, Inc. (the Company or MPS) in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). Certain information and disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States have been condensed or omitted in accordance with these rules and regulations. The information in this report should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in its Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 16, 2007.

In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary to summarize fairly the Company's financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods presented. The financial statements contained in this Form 10-Q are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2007 or for any other future period.

**2. Stock-Based Compensation** Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123(R), Share-Based Payment (SFAS 123(R)). SFAS 123(R) establishes accounting for stock-based awards based on the fair value of the award measured at grant date. Accordingly, stock-based compensation cost is recognized as an expense over the requisite service period. The Company previously recognized expense in accordance with Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations and provided the required pro forma disclosures of SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation (SFAS 123). The Company elected to adopt the modified prospective application method as provided by SFAS 123(R). Under the modified prospective method, prior period results are not restated. The fair value of (i) stock options granted after December 31, 2005 and (ii) the unvested portion of stock options granted after the Company's initial filing of its registration statement on Form S-1 on July 13, 2004 for its initial public offering and before the adoption of SFAS 123(R) are recognized as compensation expense using the Black-Scholes option pricing method. Stock options granted prior to July 13, 2004, the date the Company filed its initial registration statement on Form S-1, will continue to be accounted for and recognized as compensation expense using the intrinsic value method under APB Opinion No. 25 and related interpretations as required under SFAS 123(R). Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), tax benefits in excess of compensation cost recognized were reported as operating cash flows. SFAS 123(R) requires excess tax benefits to be reported as a financing cash flow rather than as a component of operating cash flows.

The Company has two stock option plans and an employee stock purchase plan the 1998 Stock Option Plan, the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan and the 2004 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. The Company recognized stock-based compensation expenses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, as follows (in thousands):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Non-Employee	\$ 72	\$ (61)	\$ 118	\$ (7)
ESPP	154	150	448	296
Restricted Stock	516	273	1,214	636
Stock Options	2,481	2,607	6,268	7,815
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,223</b>	<b>\$ 2,969</b>	<b>\$ 8,048</b>	<b>\$ 8,740</b>

**Stock Options****1998 Stock Option Plan**

Under the Company's 1998 Stock Option Plan (the 1998 Plan), the Company reserved 11,807,024 shares of common stock for issuance to the Company's employees, directors and consultants. Options granted under the 1998 Plan have a maximum term of 10 years and generally vest over four years at the rate of 25 percent one year from the date of grant and 1/48th monthly thereafter. The Plan provided for the granting of incentive stock options and nonstatutory stock options at a per share price of not less than 100% of the fair market value of the underlying stock at the grant date. However, when incentive stock options or nonstatutory stock options were granted to an employee, director or consultant who, at the

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

time of grant, owned stock representing more than 10% of the voting power of all classes of stock, the exercise price per share was no less than 110% of the fair market value of the underlying stock on the date of grant. On November 19, 2004, the effective date of the Company's initial public offering, the 1998 Plan was terminated for future grants and the remaining 1,392,750 shares available for grant were moved to the Company's 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. In addition, throughout the year, shares underlying options from the 1998 Plan that are cancelled (for example, upon termination of service) are transferred to the 2004 Plan based on the number of cancellations that occur throughout the year.

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Continued) (Unaudited)****2004 Equity Incentive Plan**

The Company's Board of Directors approved the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2004 Plan") in March 2004. The 2004 Plan was subsequently approved by the Company's stockholders in November 2004. Options granted under the 2004 Plan generally vest over four years at the rate of 25 percent one year from the date of grant and 1/48th monthly thereafter. There were 800,000 shares initially reserved for issuance under the 2004 Plan. The 2004 Plan provides for annual increases in the number of shares available for issuance beginning on January 1, 2005 equal to the least of: 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock on the first day of the year, 2,400,000 shares, or a number of shares determined by the Board of Directors. The following is a summary of the 2004 Plan, which includes stock options and restricted stock awards and units:

Available for Grant as of December 31, 2006	1,480,177
2007 Additions to Plan	1,518,469
2007 Grants	(1,538,900)
2007 Cancellations	210,359
Available for Grant as of September 30, 2007	1,670,105

A summary of the status of the Company's stock option plans at September 30, 2007 and changes during the nine months then ended is presented in the table below:

	Stock Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at December 31, 2006	9,078,195	\$ 7.77	7.21	\$ 37,698,914
Options granted (weighted-average fair value of \$7.12 per share)	1,399,400	16.59		
Options exercised	(2,229,207)	4.95		
Options forfeited	(189,398)	10.22		
Outstanding at September 30, 2007	8,058,990	\$ 10.02	6.85	\$ 123,921,353
Options exercisable at September 30, 2007 and expected to become exercisable	7,418,066	\$ 9.71	6.85	\$ 116,424,512
Options vested and exercisable at September 30, 2007	3,931,168	\$ 6.56	6.54	\$ 74,047,688

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Continued) (Unaudited)**

For the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, the compensation expense for option grants under the 1998 Plan and 2004 Plan was \$2.5 million and \$2.6 million, respectively. The compensation expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 was \$6.3 million and \$7.8 million, respectively. The total fair value of options that vested during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$2.5 million and \$6.3 million, respectively. The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$11.5 million and \$26.6 million, respectively. Net cash proceeds from the exercise of stock options were \$5.4 million and \$11.0 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, respectively. At September 30, 2007, unamortized compensation expense related to unvested options was approximately \$18.5 million. The weighted average period over which compensation expense related to these options will be recognized is approximately 2.3 years.

The employee stock-based compensation expense recognized under SFAS 123(R) was determined using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Option pricing models require the input of subjective assumptions and these assumptions can vary over time. The Company used the following weighted-average assumptions to determine for the fair values of stock based awards granted during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006:

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006
Expected term (years)	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.9
Expected volatility	42.8%	54.8%	45.3%	62.3%
Risk-free interest rate	4.6%	4.9%	4.7%	4.7%
Dividend yield				

In estimating the expected term, the Company considered its historical stock option exercise experience, post vesting cancellations and remaining contractual term of the options outstanding. The estimated expected volatility was based on the historical stock prices of companies similar to MPS, as the Company does not have sufficient historical data as a public company to determine reasonable estimates. MPS considered companies of similar size, industry and financial structure to devise its estimate. The Company uses the U.S. Treasury yield for its risk-free interest rate and a dividend yield of zero as it does not issue dividends.

**2004 Employee Stock Purchase Plan**

The 2004 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the Purchase Plan) became effective on the closing of the Company's initial public offering. The Purchase Plan allows employees to purchase the Company's common stock at 85 percent of the fair market value at certain specified dates. Participants may not purchase (i) more than 2,000 shares in a six-month offering period or (ii) stock having a value greater than \$25,000 in any calendar year as measured at the beginning of the offering period in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code and applicable Treasury Regulations. A total of 200,000 shares of common stock were reserved for issuance under the Purchase Plan. The Purchase Plan provides for annual automatic increases beginning on January 1, 2005 by an amount equal to the least of: 1,000,000 shares, 2% of the outstanding shares of common stock on the first day of the year, or a number of shares as determined by the Board of Directors. The following is a summary of the Purchase Plan:

Available for Grant as of December 31, 2006	1,069,978
2007 Additions to Plan	607,387
2007 Grants	(180,148)
Available for Grant as of September 30, 2007	1,497,217



**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Continued) (Unaudited)**

The Purchase Plan is considered compensatory under SFAS 123(R) and is accounted for in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Technical Bulletin 97-1 ( FTB97-1 ) *Accounting under Statement 123 for Certain Employee Stock Purchase Plans with a Look-Back Option*. The compensation expense for the Purchase Plan for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 was \$0.2 million and \$0.2 million, respectively. The compensation expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 was \$0.4 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. The Black-Scholes option pricing model was used to value the employee stock purchase rights. For the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, the following assumptions were used in the valuation of the stock purchase rights:

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Expected term (years)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Expected volatility	38.9%	50.9%	45.2%	50.2%
Risk-free interest rate	5.1%	5.2%	5.1%	4.8%
Dividend yield				

**Restricted Stock**

A portion of the Company's shares of common stock were issued under restricted stock purchase agreements. Under these agreements, in the event of termination of the employees, the Company has the right to repurchase the common stock at the original issuance price. The repurchase right expires over a 48 month period. A summary of the restricted stock awards is presented in the table below:

	Restricted Stock Awards	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	Weighted Average Remaining Recognition Period (Years)
Outstanding at December 31, 2006	301,486	\$ 10.54	
Awards released	(90,086)	9.99	
Awards forfeited	(23,861)	9.01	
Outstanding at September 30, 2007	187,539	\$ 10.99	1.59

The Company also grants restricted stock units, which vest generally two to four years as determined by the Company's Compensation Committee, and are issued upon vesting. A summary of the restricted stock units is presented in the table below:

	Restricted Stock Units	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	Weighted Average Remaining Recognition Period (Years)
Granted as of December 31, 2006	60,000	\$ 11.85	
Awards granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2007	139,500	16.24	
Total granted through September 30, 2007	199,500	\$ 14.92	1.98

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

The compensation expense related to restricted stock awards and units was \$0.5 million and \$0.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively. The compensation expense related to restricted stock awards and units was \$1.2 million and \$0.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively.



**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Continued) (Unaudited)**

**3. Inventories** Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
Work in progress	\$ 9,964	\$ 3,357
Finished goods	5,873	3,381
<b>Total inventories</b>	<b>\$ 15,837</b>	<b>\$ 6,738</b>

**4. Accrued Liabilities** Accrued liabilities consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
Warranty	\$ 973	\$ 1,038
Legal expenses and settlement costs	10,346	4,411
Professional fees	877	1,076
Deferred revenue	864	687
Other	2,641	1,525
<b>Total accrued liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 15,701</b>	<b>\$ 8,737</b>

**5. Comprehensive Income (Loss) and Net Income (Loss) per Share** Basic Net Income (Loss) per Share is computed based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period and does not include the dilutive effect of common equivalent shares, such as stock options. Diluted Net Income per Share is computed based on both the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period and the dilutive effect of common equivalent shares, such as stock options. Common equivalent shares are excluded as their effect would have been antidilutive.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, the Company had securities outstanding that could potentially dilute basic earnings per share in the future, but were excluded in the computation of diluted net income per share in the periods presented as their effect would have been antidilutive. The shares of common stock issuable upon conversion or exercise of such outstanding securities consist of the following (in thousands):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Stock Options	23	8,898	1,047	8,898
Restricted Stock		309		309
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9,207</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>9,207</b>

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Continued) (Unaudited)**

The Company's comprehensive income (loss) includes foreign currency translation adjustments. The following table sets forth the components of other comprehensive income (loss), net of income tax (in thousands):

	<b>Three months ended</b>		<b>Nine months ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Net income (loss)	\$ 8,270	\$ (1,872)	\$ 1,956	\$ (1,221)
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Foreign currency translation adjustments	169	(108)	308	55
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 8,439	\$ (1,980)	\$ 2,264	\$ (1,166)

**6. Income Taxes**

The Company computes income taxes for interim reporting purposes using estimates of the effective annual income tax rate for the entire fiscal year. This process involves estimating the full-year tax liability and assessing the temporary differences between the book and tax treatments. These temporary differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are recorded on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet in accordance with SFAS No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*, which established financial accounting and reporting standards for the effect of income taxes. The Company must assess the likelihood that its deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income and, to the extent the Company believes that recovery is not likely, the Company must establish a valuation allowance. Changes in the Company's valuation allowance in a period are recorded through the income tax provision on the condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Based on the available objective evidence, the recent history of profits and United States forecasted taxable income, management concluded that it is more likely than not that the Company's deferred tax assets would not be fully realizable. Accordingly, the Company had a valuation allowance of \$6.6 million and \$4.6 million as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively.

On January 1, 2007, the Company adopted FASB Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*. An interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 (FIN 48). FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an entity's financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes* and prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attributes for financial statement disclosure of tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return. Under FIN 48, the impact of an uncertain income tax position on the income tax return must be recognized at the largest amount that is more-likely-than-not to be sustained upon audit by the relevant taxing authority. An uncertain income tax position will not be recognized if it has less than a 50% likelihood of being sustained. Additionally, FIN 48 provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. As a result of the implementation of FIN 48, the Company recognized a cumulative adjustment in the liability for unrecognized income tax benefits in the amount of \$0.6 million, which was accounted for as a reduction to the January 1, 2007 balance of retained earnings. At the adoption date of January 1, 2007, the Company had \$5.0 million of unrecognized tax benefits, \$4.5 million of which would affect its effective tax rate if recognized. At September 30, 2007, the Company had \$5.1 million of unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company recognizes interest related to uncertain tax positions in its income tax provision. As of September 30, 2007, the Company has approximately \$0.2 million of accrued interest related to uncertain tax positions.

Uncertain tax positions relate to the allocation of income and deductions amongst the Company's global entities and to the determination of the research and experimental tax credit. The Company estimates that there will be no material changes in its uncertain tax positions in the next 12 months.

The Company files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction, and various states and foreign jurisdictions. Generally, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state and local, or non-U.S. income tax examinations by tax authorities for years prior to 2001.



**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Continued) (Unaudited)**

The Company adopted SFAS 123(R) as of January 1, 2006 and, as a result, incurred significant stock-based compensation expense, some of which related to incentive stock options for which no corresponding tax benefit is recognized unless a disqualifying disposition occurs. Disqualifying dispositions result in a reduction of income tax expense in the quarter when the disqualifying disposition occurs in an amount equal to the tax benefit relating to previously recognized stock compensation expense. Tax benefits related to realized tax deductions in excess of previously expensed stock compensation are recorded as an addition to paid-in-capital.

**7. Segment Information**

As defined by the requirements of SFAS No. 131, *Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information*, the Company operates in one reportable segment: the design, development, marketing and sale of high-performance, mixed-signal analog semiconductors for the computing, consumer electronics, and wireless markets. Geographic revenue is based on the location to which customer shipments are delivered. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, the Company derived substantially all of its revenue from sales to customers located outside North America. The following is a list of customers whose sales exceeded 10% of revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006:

Customers	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
A	18%	13%	18%	17%
B	17%	13%	15%	13%
C	*%	14%	*%	11%

The following is a summary of revenue by geographic region based on customer ship-to location (in thousands):

Country	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
China	\$ 20,766	\$ 14,201	\$ 48,190	\$ 36,726
Taiwan	5,218	4,245	14,048	18,565
Korea	4,245	3,245	11,301	8,728
Europe	3,139	1,873	6,118	4,776
Japan	3,453	1,265	8,182	4,599
USA	1,178	1,871	2,670	3,831
Other	2,189	555	5,008	1,394
Total	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619

The following is a summary of revenue by product type (in thousands):

Product Family	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
DC to DC Converters	\$ 25,590	\$ 18,820	\$ 61,448	\$ 54,453
LCD Backlight Inverters	10,940	7,425	25,991	21,809
Audio Amplifiers	3,658	1,010	8,078	2,357

Total	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619
-------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****(Continued) (Unaudited)**

The following is a summary of long-lived assets by geographic region, excluding restricted assets (in thousands):

	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
China	\$ 10,166	\$ 6,839
United States	3,640	4,557
Other	161	190
TOTAL	\$ 13,967	\$ 11,586

**8. Litigation****O2 Micro, Inc.**

Since November 2000, the Company has been engaged in multiple legal proceedings with O2 Micro, Inc. and its parent corporation, O2 Micro International Limited (referred to hereinafter as "O2"). These proceedings involve various claims against the Company and counterclaims by the Company in the United States and Taiwan alleging patent infringement and unfair competition. All of these claims relate to the Company's CCFL backlight inverter products, which are part of its LCD backlight inverter family.

In the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, O2 alleged that certain of the Company's CCFL products and its customer ASUSTeK Computer, Inc., whose products incorporate the Company's inverter controllers, infringe O2's 722 patent. On May 15, 2007, the jury returned a verdict that all of the patent claims asserted by O2 Micro International against the Company are invalid. The jury also found that the Company's CCFL products do not literally infringe the patent. The court has entered final judgment and ruled on the post trial motions both parties filed after the trial affirming the verdict. On September 7, 2007, the Court dismissed with prejudice the parties' unfair competition claims and counterclaims pursuant to a stipulation between the parties. On May 1, 2007, the Company filed a declaratory judgment relief against O2 that certain of its CCFL products do not infringe O2's 129 patent and that the 129 patent is invalid and unenforceable. No trial date has been set and the Company is not able to reasonably estimate the probability of loss or the range of possible loss in this case.

In addition to the U.S. litigation described above, O2 has brought various legal proceedings against the Company in Taiwan based upon a Taiwan patent. The Company has obtained counter-injunctions from the Taiwan courts against O2, one of which prohibits O2 from interfering with the Company's or other parties' manufacture, sale, use or importation, by either the Company or a third party, of certain of the Company's CCFL products. In connection with the counter-injunctions, the Company posted cash bonds of approximately \$6.1 million, which are currently recorded as long-term restricted assets on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet. In addition, the Company posted an additional \$1.9 million, which is included in restricted assets on the balance sheet, to have its assets released and to avoid seizures until the matter with O2 is resolved. If the Company does not prevail at trial, the Company might have to forfeit some or all of these bonds. Any such forfeiture would be an expense in the quarter in which the outcome of the trial is probable and reasonably estimable which may materially and adversely affect the Company's results of operations and financial position for that quarter. The Company is not able to reasonably estimate the probability of loss or the range of possible loss in this case.

**Table of Contents**

**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Continued) (Unaudited)**

**Taiwan Sumida Electronics**

In August 2005, the Company sued Taiwan Sumida Electronics (TSE) and was countersued by TSE for material breach of the indemnity agreement seeking, among other things, reimbursement of attorney fees paid by the Company to TSE's attorneys. On July 30, 2007, the Company settled its litigation with Taiwan Sumida Electronics, Inc. ( TSE ) concerning the Company's December 25, 2002 Indemnification Agreement with TSE. Based on the settlement agreement, the Company provided an upfront payment to TSE of \$2.463 million. On October 22, 2007, the Company placed into escrow, an additional \$7.35 million for which the Company could be liable subject to the outcome of certain legal activities. The settlement agreement releases the Company and TSE from all claims and indemnification obligations that relate to or arise under the patent infringement lawsuit brought by O2 Micro International Limited in the Eastern District of Texas (O2 Micro International Limited v. Sumida Corp., et al., Case No. C 03-0007 TJW) and the lawsuit filed by MPS against TSE in the Northern District of California (Monolithic Power Systems, Inc. v. Taiwan Sumida Electronics, Inc., Case No. C 05-3522 CW). The settlement agreement also terminates the Indemnification Agreement.

The Company recorded a one-time settlement provision of \$9.8 million in the second quarter of 2007.

**Linear Technology Corporation**

On August 3, 2006, Linear Technology ( Linear ) filed an action in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware. Linear alleges that one of the Company's parts infringes Linear's 178 and 258 patents and constitutes a breach of the Settlement and License Agreement dated October 1, 2005 between the Company and Linear. Trial is currently scheduled for April 28, 2008. The case is currently in its early stages and as such, the Company is not able to reasonably estimate the probability of loss or the range of possible loss in this case.

## **Table of Contents**

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

*This quarterly report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve many risks and uncertainties. These statements relate to future events and our future performance and are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about the industries in which we operate and the beliefs and assumptions of our management. These include statements concerning:*

*the above-average industry growth of product and market areas that we have targeted,*

*our plan to introduce additional new products within our existing product families as well as in new product categories,*

*the impact of our outstanding litigation on the revenue we derive from our CCFL product line,*

*our belief that our products and the markets they target have the ability to offer above average industry growth over the long term,,*

*the cyclical nature of the semiconductor industry,*

*the factors that we believe will impact our ability to achieve revenue growth, and*

*estimates of our future liquidity requirements.*

*You can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as would, could, may, will, should, expect, intend, plan, anticipate, believe, estimate, predict, potential, targets, seek, or continue, the negative of these terms or other variations of such terms. These statements are only predictions based upon assumptions that we believe to be reasonable at the time made, and are subject to risks and uncertainties. Therefore, actual events or results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statement. In evaluating these statements, you should specifically consider the risks described below in the section entitled Risk Factors. These factors may cause our actual results to differ materially from any forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.*

#### **Overview**

We are a fabless semiconductor company that designs, develops, and markets proprietary, advanced analog and mixed-signal integrated circuits ( ICs ). We currently offer products that serve multiple markets, including notebook computers, flat panel displays, cellular handsets, digital cameras, telecommunications equipment, home entertainment systems, and set top boxes, among others. We believe that we differentiate ourselves by offering solutions that are more highly integrated, smaller in size, more energy efficient, more accurate with respect to performance specifications and, consequently, more cost-effective than many competing solutions. We plan to introduce additional new products within our existing product families, as well as in new product categories.

We operate in the cyclical semiconductor industry where there is seasonal demand for certain of our products. While we will not be immune from future industry downturns, we have targeted product and market areas that we believe have the ability to offer above average industry growth over the long term.

We work with third parties to manufacture and assemble our integrated circuits. This has enabled us to limit our capital expenditures and fixed costs, while focusing our engineering and design resources on our core strengths.

Following the introduction of a product, our sales cycle generally takes six to twelve months to achieve revenue. Volume production is usually achieved in three to six months after we receive an initial customer order for a new product. Typical lead times for orders are fewer than 90 days. These factors, combined with the fact that orders in the semiconductor industry can typically be cancelled or rescheduled without significant penalty to the customer, make the forecasting of our orders and revenue challenging.



## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

We derive most of our revenue from direct sales or sales through distribution arrangements to customers in Asia, where the components we produce are incorporated into an end-user product. We derive a majority of our revenue from the sales of our DC to DC converter product family which services the computing, consumer electronics and wireless markets. We believe our ability to achieve revenue growth will depend, in part, on our ability to develop new products, enter new market segments, gain market share, manage litigation risk, diversify our customer base and successfully secure manufacturing capacity.

---

## Table of Contents

### *Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates*

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We evaluate our estimates on an on-going basis, including those related to uncollectible accounts receivable, inventories, income taxes, warranty obligations, contingencies, litigation and valuation of stock-based compensation. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making the judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Estimates and judgments used in the preparation of our financial statements are, by their nature, uncertain and unpredictable, and depend upon, among other things, many factors outside of our control, such as demand for our products and economic conditions. Accordingly, our estimates and judgments may prove to be incorrect and actual results may differ, perhaps significantly, from these estimates.

We believe our critical accounting policies are as follows:

**Revenue Recognition.** We recognize revenue in accordance with Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 104, *Revenue Recognition* ( SAB 104 ) issued by the Staff of the SEC. SAB 104 requires that four basic criteria must be met before revenue can be recognized: (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; (2) delivery has occurred or services have been rendered; (3) the fee is fixed and determinable; and (4) collectibility is reasonably assured. Determination of criteria (3) and (4) are based on management's judgment regarding the fixed nature of the fee charged for products delivered and the collectibility of those fees. The application of these criteria has resulted in our generally recognizing revenue upon shipment (when title passes) to customers. Should changes in conditions cause management to determine these criteria are not met for certain future transactions, revenue recognized for any reporting period could be adversely impacted.

The majority of our sales are made through distribution arrangements with third parties. We recognize revenue upon our shipment to those third party distributors under these distribution arrangements. Some of these arrangements include limited stock rotation rights that permit the return of a small percent of the previous six months' purchases. In 2006, we established a sales reserve for those stock rotation rights, which is based on the terms set forth in the contract and calculated as a percentage of sales for the prior six months. Our normal payment terms with our distributors are generally 30 to 45 days from invoice date, and our arrangements with our largest distributors do not include price protection provisions. In addition, terms in a majority of our distribution agreements include the non-exclusive right to sell, and the agreement to use best efforts to promote and develop a market for, our products in certain regions of the world and the ability to terminate the agreement by either party with up to three months notice. Estimated sales returns are based on historical experience and are recorded at the time product revenue is recognized.

In the first quarter of 2006, we signed a distribution agreement with a major U.S. distributor. Revenue from this distributor is recognized upon sale by the distributor to the end customer because the distributor has certain rights of returns which management believes are not estimable. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, we recognized \$0.3 million and \$0.7 million in revenue, respectively, that is attributable to this distributor.

**Warranty Reserves.** We currently provide a 12-month warranty against defects in materials and workmanship and will either repair the goods or provide replacement products at no charge to the customer for defective products. We record estimated warranty costs by product, which are based on historical experience over the preceding 12 months by product, at the time we recognize product revenue. As the complexity of our products increases, we could experience higher warranty claims relative to sales than we have previously experienced, and we may need to increase these estimated warranty reserves.

**Inventory Valuation.** We value our inventory at the lower of the standard cost (which approximates actual cost on a first-in, first-out basis) or its current estimated market value. We write down inventory for obsolescence or lack of demand on assumptions about future demand and market conditions. If actual market conditions are less favorable than those projected by management, additional inventory write-downs may be required.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Accounting for Income Taxes.** Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Interpretation No. 48 ( FIN 48 ), *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes* establishes financial accounting and reporting standards for the effect of income taxes. In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) No. 109, we recognize federal, state and foreign current tax liabilities or assets based on our estimate of taxes payable or refundable in the current fiscal year by tax jurisdiction. We also recognize federal, state and foreign deferred tax assets or liabilities for our estimate of future tax effects attributable to temporary differences and carryforwards. We record a valuation allowance to reduce any deferred tax assets by the amount of any tax benefits that, based on available evidence and judgment, are not expected to be realized.

Our calculation of current and deferred tax assets and liabilities is based on certain estimates and judgments and involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex tax laws. Our estimates of current and deferred tax assets and liabilities may change based, in part, on added certainty or finality to an anticipated outcome, changes in accounting or tax laws in the U.S., or foreign jurisdictions where we operate, or changes in other facts or circumstances. In addition, we recognize liabilities for potential U.S. and foreign income tax for uncertain income tax positions on the tax returns if it has less than a 50% likelihood of being sustained. If we determine that payment of these amounts is unnecessary or if the recorded tax liability is less than our current assessment, we may be required to recognize an income tax benefit or additional income tax expense in our financial statements, accordingly. Due to the adoption of FIN 48 effective January 1, 2007, we calculated our contingencies based on certain estimates and judgments related to transfer pricing, cost sharing and our international tax structure exposure.

**Contingencies.** We are engaged in legal proceedings resulting from several patent infringement actions against us. In addition, from time to time, we become aware that we are subject to other contingent liabilities. When this occurs, we will evaluate the appropriate accounting for the potential contingent liabilities using SFAS No. 5, *Accounting for Contingencies*, to determine whether a contingent liability should be recorded. In making this determination, management may, depending on the nature of the matter, consult with internal and external legal counsel and technical experts. Based on the facts and circumstances in each matter, we use our judgment to determine whether it is probable that a contingent loss has occurred and whether the amount of such loss can be estimated. If we determine a loss is probable and estimable, we record a contingent loss in accordance with SFAS 5. In determining the amount of a contingent loss, we take into account advice received from experts for each specific matter regarding the status of legal proceedings, settlement negotiations (which may be ongoing), prior case history and other factors. Should the judgments and estimates made by management need to be adjusted as additional information becomes available, we may need to record additional contingent losses that could materially and adversely impact our results of operations. Alternatively, if the judgments and estimates made by management are adjusted, for example, if a particular contingent loss does not occur, the contingent loss recorded would be reversed which could result in a favorable impact on our results of operations.

**Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation.** Effective January 1, 2006, we adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 123R, *Share-Based Payment*, under the modified prospective method. SFAS 123R eliminates the alternative of applying the intrinsic value measurement provisions of Accounting Principles Board ( APB ) Opinion 25 to stock compensation awards issued to employees. Rather, the standard requires us to measure the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments based on the grant-date fair value of the award. That cost will be recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide services in exchange for the award, known as the requisite service period (usually the vesting period). We currently use the Black-Scholes option-pricing model to estimate the fair value of our share-based payments. The Black-Scholes option-pricing model is based on a number of assumptions, including expected volatility for which we use the average volatility of a number of our competitors and combine them with our limited historical volatility to come up with an overall volatility that is used in the model. The Black-Scholes option pricing model also includes an assumption of expected life, risk-free interest rate and expected dividends. If these assumptions change, stock-based compensation may differ significantly from what we have recorded in the past. The amount of stock-based compensation that we recognize is also based on an expected forfeiture rate. If there is a difference between the forfeiture assumptions used in determining stock-based compensation costs and the actual forfeitures which become known over time, we may change the forfeiture rate, which could have a significant impact on our stock-based compensation expense.

**Table of Contents****Results of Operations**

The table below sets forth the data from our statement of operations as a percentage of revenue for the periods indicated:

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Revenue	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of revenue	36.5%	34.4%	36.5%	36.4%
Gross profit	63.5%	65.6%	63.5%	63.6%
Operating expenses:				
Research and development	18.6%	21.6%	20.8%	20.9%
Selling, general and administrative	20.1%	25.2%	22.4%	26.7%
Lease abandonment	0.0%	0.0%	-0.5%	0.0%
Patent litigation settlement	0.0%	11.0%	10.3%	3.8%
Patent litigation expense	3.6%	10.2%	8.7%	12.3%
Total operating expenses	42.3%	68.0%	61.7%	63.7%
Income (loss) from operations	21.2%	(2.4)%	1.8%	-0.1%
Other income (expense):				
Interest and other income	3.1%	2.4%	3.5%	2.4%
Interest and other expense	0.0%	(0.3)%	0.0%	-0.3%
Total other income, net	3.1%	2.1%	3.5%	2.1%
Income (loss) before income taxes	24.3%	(0.3)%	5.3%	2.0%
Income tax provision	3.7%	6.6%	3.3%	3.6%
Net income (loss)	20.6%	(6.9)%	2.0%	-1.6%

**Revenue.**

	For the three months ended September 30,			For the nine months ended September 30,		
	2007	2006	Change	2007	2006	Change
	(in thousands)			(in thousands)		
Revenue	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	47.5%	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619	21.5%

Revenue for the three months ended September 30, 2007 was \$40.2 million, an increase of \$12.9 million, or 47.5%, from \$27.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006. The increase in revenue between the two periods resulted from increased sales of our DC to DC converters of \$6.8 million, LCD backlight inverter products of \$3.5 million and audio products of \$2.6 million. Revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$95.5 million, an increase of \$16.9 million, or 21.5%, from \$78.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increase in revenue between the two periods resulted from increased sales of our DC to DC converters of \$7.0 million, LCD backlight inverter products of \$4.2 million and audio products of \$5.7 million.

For the three months ended September 30, 2007, despite a decline in our average sales price for certain of our units, revenue from our DC to DC converters increased 36.0% due to increased sales of flat panel TVs and other consumer devices. Revenue for our CCFL products, which are a part of our LCD backlight inverter family increased 47.3% due to strength in the notebook market over the same period in 2006. However, given the uncertainty of the outcome of our litigation with O2 Micro, Inc., we cannot predict the impact that such litigation will have on such revenue in the future. Revenue for our audio amplifier product family increased by 262.2% primarily due to increased demand for new and existing products used in consumer electronic applications.

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

The following table illustrates changes in our revenue by product family:

	For the three months ended					For the nine months ended				
	September 30,		September 30,		Change	September 30,		September 30,		Change
	2007	2006	2007	2006		2007	2006	2007	2006	
(in thousands)	% of Revenue	(in thousands)	% of Revenue	Change	(in thousands)	% of Revenue	(in thousands)	% of Revenue	Change	
DC to DC Converters	\$ 25,590	63.7%	\$ 18,820	69.1%	36.0%	\$ 61,448	64.3%	\$ 54,453	69.3%	12.8%
LCD Backlight Inverters	10,940	27.2%	7,425	27.2%	47.3%	25,991	27.2%	21,809	27.7%	19.2%
Audio Amplifiers	3,658	9.1%	1,010	3.7%	262.2%	8,078	8.5%	2,357	3.0%	242.7%
	\$ 40,188	100.0%	\$ 27,255	100.0%	47.5%	\$ 95,517	100.0%	\$ 78,619	100.0%	21.5%

**Table of Contents**

**Gross Profit.** Gross profit as a percentage of revenue, or gross margin, was 63.5% for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 65.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2006. Our gross margin declined as a result of a slight decrease in the average selling price of certain of our mature DC to DC products and an increase in the sales of our lower margin audio products. We decreased net inventory in the amount of \$0.6 million due to shifts in demand. We sold inventory in the amount of \$0.4 million that was previously not valued, which accounted for an approximate 1% increase in gross margin.

Gross margin was 63.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 63.6% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. Our gross margin declined as a result of a slight decrease in the average selling price of certain of our mature DC to DC products and an increase in the sales of our lower margin audio products. We decreased net inventory in the amount of \$1.1 million due to shifts in demand. We sold inventory in the amount of \$0.7 million that was previously not valued, which accounted for an approximate 1% increase in gross margin. Margins for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 were lower due to \$0.8 million in start-up costs for our Chengdu facilities.

**Research and Development.**

	For the three months ended			For the nine months ended		
	September 30, 2007	2006	Change	September 30, 2007	2006	Change
Revenue	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	47.5%	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619	21.5%
Research and development ( R&D ) (including stock-based compensation of \$1,326 and \$1,330 for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively and \$3,379 and \$4,039 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively)	7,489	5,897	27.0%	19,849	16,391	21.1%
R&D as a percentage of revenue	18.6%	21.6%		20.8%	20.8%	

R&D expenses were \$7.5 million, or 18.6% of revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and \$5.9 million, or 21.6% of revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2006. R&D expenses were \$19.8 million, or 20.8% of revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and \$16.4 million, or 20.8% of revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The increase in R&D expenses for both the three and nine month periods was due to increased bonus accruals for R&D personnel, costs associated with an increase in headcount for design engineering personnel as well as new product development activities, primarily in the DC to DC product line both in the U.S. and Asia. R&D expenses also increased because of patent related activities.

**Selling, General and Administrative.**

	For the three months ended			For the nine months ended		
	September 30, 2007	2006	Change	September 30, 2007	2006	Change
Revenue	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	47.5%	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619	21.5%
Sales, general and administrative ( SG&A ) (including stock-based compensation of \$1,748 and \$1,518 for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively and \$4,296 and \$4,292 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively)	8,071	6,877	17.4%	21,387	21,003	1.8%
SG&A as a percentage of revenue	20.1%	25.2%		22.4%	26.7%	

SG&A expenses were \$8.1 million, or 20.1% of revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and \$6.9 million, or 25.2% of revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2006. SG&A expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2007 increased due to an increase in bonus accruals and sales commissions for SG&A personnel resulting from an increase in sales.

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

SG&A expenses were \$21.4 million, or 22.4% of revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and \$21.0 million, or 26.7% of revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. SG&A expenses remained relatively flat for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 despite an increase in bonus accruals and sales commissions for the nine months ended September 30, 2007. In 2007, we did not incur expenses related to our restatement efforts in 2006 related to our fiscal 2005 consolidated financial statements. Furthermore, our expenses related to compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act decreased in the nine months ended September 30, 2007 relative to the same period in 2006.

**Table of Contents****Lease Abandonment.**

	For the three months ended September 30,			For the nine months ended September 30,		
	2007	2006	Change	2007	2006	
	(in thousands)			(in thousands)		
Revenue	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	47.5%	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619	21.5%
Lease abandonment				(496)		
Lease abandonment as a percentage of revenue	0.0%	0.0%		-0.5%	0.0%	

In December 2006, we abandoned our lease in Los Gatos and wrote off \$1.2 million in operating expenses based on the fair value of the liability in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 146, *Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities*. In May 2007, we entered into a sublease agreement to rent a portion of our Los Gatos property for a period of 21 months commencing on June 1, 2007 during which we are to receive gross payments of \$0.7 million. As the amount we expect to receive is greater than the amount we originally estimated, we reduced the estimate of our remaining liability by \$0.5 million in the second quarter of 2007.

**Patent Litigation Settlement.**

	For the three months ended September 30,			For the nine months ended September 30,		
	2007	2006	Change	2007	2006	
	(in thousands)			(in thousands)		
Revenue	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	47.5%	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619	21.5%
Patent litigation settlement		3,000	-100.0%	9,800	3,000	226.7%
Patent litigation settlement as a percentage of revenue	0.0%	11.0%		10.3%	3.8%	

During the three months ended September 30, 2006, we settled our litigation with Micrel in the amount of \$3.0 million. In July 2007, we received an unfavorable ruling in our litigation with TSE, for which we recorded a provision for litigation of \$9.8 million in the second quarter of 2007, of which \$2.463 million was paid in the third quarter.

**Patent Litigation Expense.**

	For the three months ended September 30,			For the nine months ended September 30,		
	2007	2006	Change	2007	2006	
	(in thousands)			(in thousands)		
Revenue	\$ 40,188	\$ 27,255	47.5%	\$ 95,517	\$ 78,619	21.5%
Patent litigation expense	1,452	2,765	-47.5%	8,328	9,650	-13.7%
Patent litigation expense as a percentage of revenue	3.6%	10.2%		8.7%	12.3%	

Patent litigation expenses were \$1.5 million, or 3.6% of revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to \$2.8 million, or 10.2% of revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2006. Patent litigation expenses were \$8.3 million, or 8.7% of revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to \$9.7 million, or 12.3% of revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The decrease in patent litigation expenses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was due to reduced litigation expenses as a result of the settlement and preliminary resolution of certain lawsuits in the second quarter of 2007.



## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

**Income Tax Provision.** The income tax provision for the three months ended September 30, 2007 was \$1.5 million or 15.1% of our income before income taxes. The income tax provision for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$3.2 million or 62.0% of our income before income taxes. This differs from the federal statutory rate of 34% primarily because we recorded a one-time write off of our deferred tax assets in the amount of \$1.5 million in the quarter ended March 31, 2007, as we no longer expect that any of our deferred tax assets will be realized. Our tax rate differs from statutory rate as a result of a full valuation allowance against the benefits from the unpaid portion of the TSE litigation settlement offset by deductions from stock option exercises and the paid portion of the TSE litigation settlement.

---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources.**

As of September 30, 2007, we had working capital of \$101.3 million, including cash and cash equivalents of \$77.4 million and short-term investments of \$24.4 million compared to working capital of \$77.0 million, including cash and cash equivalents of \$50.8 million and short-term investments of \$27.7 million as of December 31, 2006. We financed our growth primarily with proceeds from cash generated from operating activities and proceeds from the issuance of common stock through the Employee Stock Purchase Program and the exercise of stock options.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2007, net cash provided by operating activities was \$12.6 million, primarily due to increased sales and an increase in accrued liabilities, primarily resulting from a provision for litigation of \$9.8 million for the TSE lawsuit, \$7.35 million of which has been placed in escrow and for which the Company could be potentially liable. This was partially offset by an increase in purchases of inventory in anticipation of future demand requirements. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$7.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2007, net cash used by investing activities was \$1.3 million, primarily due to capital equipment purchases in the US and Chengdu of \$4.6 million. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we used \$8.1 million for investing activities, primarily due to the purchase of \$6.3 million in capital equipment, of which \$3.8 million was for our Chengdu, China facility and \$1.3 million was used to renovate our San Jose headquarters.

We use professional investment management firms to manage the majority of our invested cash. Our fixed income portfolio is primarily invested in auction rate securities, municipal bonds, government securities and highly rated corporate notes. The balance of the fixed income portfolio is managed internally and invested primarily in money market funds for working capital purposes.

Net cash provided by financing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$15.3 million, primarily from the proceeds related to the issuance of common stock in the amount of \$12.7 million and excess tax benefits related to the exercise of options in the amount of \$2.6 million. Net cash provided by financing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$5.7 million. We generated cash from financing activities in 2006 primarily through proceeds of \$4.2 million from the issuance of common stock, \$1.2 million from excess tax benefits related to the exercise of options and \$0.4 million for the repayment of a note by a stockholder.

Although cash requirements will fluctuate based on the timing and extent of many factors such as those discussed above, we believe that cash generated from operations, together with the liquidity provided by existing cash balances and short term investments, will be sufficient to satisfy our liquidity requirements for the next 12 months. For further details regarding our operating, investing and financing activities, see our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*. This Statement defined fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This Statement applies to fair value measurements under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, the Board having previously concluded in those accounting pronouncements that fair value is the relevant measurement attribute. Accordingly, this Statement does not require any new fair value measurements. This statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. We are currently assessing the impact of SFAS No. 157 on our consolidated financial position and results of operations.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities*. SFAS No. 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected are reported in earnings. SFAS No. 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We are currently assessing the impact of SFAS No. 159 on our consolidated financial position and results of operations.

### ***Contractual Obligation and Off Balance Sheet Arrangements.***

We lease our headquarters and sales offices in San Jose, California under a non-cancelable operating lease which expires in October 2009. Although we relocated our headquarters from Los Gatos, California to San Jose, we have a non-cancelable lease on our Los Gatos facility which expires in February 2009, for which we signed an agreement in May 2007 to sublease a



## **Table of Contents**

portion of the property for the remaining term. In the second quarter of 2007, we reversed \$0.5 million of the \$1.3 million write-off that we recorded in the fourth quarter of 2006 as a result of the aforementioned sublease. Certain of our facility leases provide for periodic rent increases. In addition, we have a five-year lease arrangement which we entered into in September 2004 for our manufacturing facility located in Chengdu, China. We also lease our sales offices in Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea.

There were no material changes to our contractual obligations since December 31, 2006. However, as of September 30, 2007, our total outstanding purchase commitments were \$15.9 million, which includes wafer purchases from our foundry and the purchase of assembly services primarily from two contractors in Asia. This compares to purchase commitments of \$9.3 million as of December 31, 2006.

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

For a discussion of market risks at December 31, 2006, refer to Item 7A, *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk* in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006 filed with the SEC on March 16, 2007. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, there were no material changes or developments that would materially alter the market risk assessment performed as of December 31, 2006.

### **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### *(a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.*

Our management, with the participation of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives. In addition, the design of disclosure controls and procedures must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints and that management is required to apply its judgment in evaluating the benefits of possible controls and procedures relative to their costs.

Based on our evaluation, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are designed at a reasonable assurance level and are effective to provide reasonable assurance that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

#### *(b) Changes in internal control over financial reporting.*

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q 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 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

**O2 Micro, Inc.**

Since November 2000, we have been engaged in multiple legal proceedings with O2 Micro, Inc. and its parent corporation, O2 Micro International Limited (referred to hereinafter as "O2"). These proceedings involve various claims against us and counterclaims by us in the United States and Taiwan alleging patent infringement and unfair competition. All of these claims relate to our CCFL backlight inverter products, which are part of its LCD backlight inverter family.

In the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, O2 alleged that certain of our CCFL products and our customer ASUSTeK Computer, Inc., whose products incorporate our inverter controllers, infringe O2's 722 patent. On May 15, 2007, the jury returned a verdict that all of the patent claims asserted by O2 Micro International against us are invalid. The jury also found that our CCFL products do not literally infringe the patent. The court has entered final judgment and ruled on the post trial motions both parties filed after the trial affirming the verdict. On September 7, 2007, the Court dismissed with prejudice the parties' unfair competition claims and counterclaims pursuant to a stipulation between the parties. On May 1, 2007, we filed a declaratory judgment relief against O2 that certain of our CCFL products do not infringe O2's 129 patent and that the 129 patent is invalid and unenforceable. No trial date has been set.

In addition to the U.S. litigation described above, O2 has brought various legal proceedings against us in Taiwan based upon a Taiwan patent. We have obtained counter-injunctions from the Taiwan courts against O2, one of which prohibits O2 from interfering with our or other parties' manufacture, sale, use or importation, by either us or a third party, of certain of our CCFL products. In connection with the counter-injunctions, we posted cash bonds of approximately \$6.1 million, which are currently recorded as long-term restricted assets on our condensed consolidated balance sheet. In addition, we posted an additional \$1.9 million, which we have included in restricted assets on the balance sheet, to have our assets released and to avoid seizures until the matter with O2 is resolved. If we do not prevail at trial, we might have to forfeit some or all of these bonds. Any such forfeiture would be an expense in the quarter in which the outcome of the trial is probable and reasonably estimable which may materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial position for that quarter.

**Taiwan Sumida Electronics**

In August 2005, we sued Taiwan Sumida Electronics (TSE) and was countersued by TSE for material breach of the indemnity agreement seeking, among other things, reimbursement of attorney fees paid by us to TSE's attorneys. On July 30, 2007, we settled our litigation with Taiwan Sumida Electronics, Inc. ("TSE") concerning our December 25, 2002 Indemnification Agreement with TSE. Based on the settlement agreement, we provided an upfront payment to TSE of \$2.463 million. On October 22, 2007, we placed into escrow, an additional \$7.35 million for which we could be liable subject to the outcome of certain legal activities. The settlement agreement releases us and TSE from all claims and indemnification obligations that relate to or arise under the patent infringement lawsuit brought by O2 Micro International Limited in the Eastern District of Texas (O2 Micro International Limited v. Sumida Corp., et al., Case No. C 03-0007 TJW) and the lawsuit filed by us against TSE in the Northern District of California (Monolithic Power Systems, Inc. v. Taiwan Sumida Electronics, Inc., Case No. C 05-3522 CW). The settlement agreement also terminates the Indemnification Agreement.

We recorded a one-time settlement provision of \$9.8 million in the second quarter of 2007.

**Linear Technology Corporation**

On August 3, 2006, Linear Technology ("Linear") filed an action in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware. Linear alleges that one of our parts infringes Linear's 178 and 258 patents and constitutes a breach of the Settlement and License Agreement dated October 1, 2005. Trial is currently scheduled for April 28, 2008 and as the case is in its early stages, we are not able to reasonably estimate the probability of loss or the range of possible loss in this case.

---

**Table of Contents**

**ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

Our business involves risks and uncertainties. You should carefully consider the risks described below, together with all of the other information in this Form 10-Q and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission in evaluating our business. If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, operating results and growth prospects would likely be adversely affected. In such an event, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment in our common stock. Our past financial performance should not be considered to be a reliable indicator of future performance, and investors should not use historical trends to anticipate results or trends in future periods. These risks involve forward-looking statements and our actual results may differ substantially from those discussed in these forward-looking statements.

**If we are unsuccessful in any of the legal proceedings involving us and O2 Micro or Linear Technology, we could be prevented from selling many of our products and/or be required to pay substantial damages. An unfavorable outcome or an additional award of damages, attorneys' fees or an injunction could cause our revenue to decline significantly and could severely harm our business and operating results.**

We are engaged in legal proceedings with O2 and Linear. These proceedings involve various claims and counterclaims in the United States and Taiwan alleging, among other things, patent infringement and breach of contract. O2 has also taken legal action against one of our customers of our products in Taiwan, which we are indemnifying. See Part II, Item 1, of this quarterly report.

If we or our customer are not ultimately successful in any of these proceedings or other litigation that could be brought against us, or if any of the decisions in our favor are reversed on appeal, we could be ordered to pay monetary fines and/or damages. If we are found liable for willful patent infringement, damages could be doubled or tripled. We and/or our customers could also be prevented from selling some or all of our products, either into Taiwan or in the U.S. Moreover, our customers and end-users could decide not to use our products, our wafer manufacturer could decide to reduce or eliminate its manufacturing of some of our products, or our products or our customers' accounts payable to us could be seized in Taiwan. Finally, interim developments in these proceedings could increase the volatility in our stock price as the market assesses the impact of such developments on the likelihood that we will or will not ultimately prevail in these proceedings.

In July 2007, we settled our litigation with Taiwan Sumida Electronics, Inc. ( TSE ) concerning our December 25, 2002 Indemnification Agreement with TSE. If certain conditions are met under the Settlement Agreement, we could be liable for additional potential payments up to a total sum of \$7.35 million, which amount does not include approximately \$2.463 million that we paid TSE as an upfront payment.

**Given our inability to control the timing and nature of significant events in our legal proceedings, our legal expenses are difficult to forecast and may vary substantially from our publicly-disclosed forecasts with respect to any given quarter, which could contribute to increased volatility in our stock price and business.**

Until our legal proceedings with O2 and Linear are resolved, we will continue to incur significant legal expenses that vary with the level of activity in each of these proceedings. This level of activity is not entirely within our control as we may need to respond to legal actions by the opposing parties or scheduling decisions by the judges. Consequently, it is difficult for us to forecast our legal expenses for any given quarter, which adversely affects our ability to forecast our expected results of operations in general. If we fail to meet the expectations of securities or industry analysts as a result of unexpected changes in our legal expenses, our stock price could be impacted.

**Our ongoing legal proceedings and the potential for additional legal proceedings have diverted financial and management resources.**

The semiconductor industry is characterized by frequent claims of infringement and litigation regarding patent and other intellectual property rights, such as our litigation matters with O2 and Linear. Patent infringement is an ongoing risk, in part because other companies in our industry could have patent rights that may not be identifiable when we initiate development efforts. Litigation may be necessary to enforce our intellectual property rights, and we may have to defend ourselves against additional infringement claims. Such litigation is very costly. In the event any third party makes a new infringement claim against us or our customers, we could incur additional ongoing legal expenses. Our management team may also be required to devote a great deal of time, effort and energy to these legal proceedings, which could adversely affect our business.

## **Table of Contents**

### **We may be unsuccessful in developing and selling new products or in penetrating new markets required to maintain or expand our business.**

Our competitiveness and future success depend on our ability to design, develop, manufacture, assemble, test, market, and support new products and enhancements on a timely and cost-effective basis. A fundamental shift in technologies in any of our product markets could have a material adverse effect on our competitive position within these markets. Our failure to timely develop new technologies or to react quickly to changes in existing technologies could materially delay our development of new products, which could result in product obsolescence, decreased revenue, and/or a loss of market share to competitors.

As we develop new product lines, we must adapt to market conditions that are unfamiliar to us, such as competitors and distribution channels that are different from those we have known in the past. Some of our new product lines require us to re-equip our labs to test parameters we have not tested in the past. If we are unable to adapt rapidly to these new and additional conditions, we may not be able to successfully penetrate new markets.

The success of a new product depends on accurate forecasts of long-term market demand and future technological developments, as well as on a variety of specific implementation factors, including:

timely and efficient completion of process design and device structure improvements;

timely and efficient implementation of manufacturing, assembly, and test processes;

the ability to secure and effectively utilize fabrication capacity in different geometries;

product performance;

the quality and reliability of the product; and

effective marketing, sales and service.

To the extent that we fail to timely introduce new products or to quickly penetrate new markets, our revenue and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

### **If demand for our products declines in the major end markets that we serve, our revenue will decrease.**

We believe that the application of our products in the computer, consumer electronics, networking and wireless markets will continue to account for the majority of our revenue. If the demand for our products declines in the major end markets that we serve, our revenue will decrease. For example, as technology evolves, the ability to integrate the functionalities of various components, including our discrete semiconductor products, onto a single chip and/or onto other components of systems containing our products increases. Should our customers require integrated solutions that we do not offer, demand for our products could decrease, and our business and results of operations could be adversely affected.

Moreover, approximately 27% of our business is based on products that are used in systems that contain cold cathode fluorescent lighting (CCFL). CCFL tubes contain mercury, which is the subject of environmental concerns, particularly in Europe. Should environmental issues impair the widespread use of our CCFL-based products, and should we be unable to produce replacement products based on LED lighting fast enough to compensate for the loss of our CCFL-related business, our business and results of operations could be adversely affected.

### **We do not expect to sustain our recent growth rate.**

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

From 2002 through 2005, our revenues increased significantly from \$12.2 million to \$99.1 million due primarily to increased sales of our DC to DC converter and LCD backlight inverter product families. Our revenue for fiscal 2006 was \$105.0 million, as we experienced some slowing in revenue growth across several of our product lines, including our DC to DC product line in which we experienced increased price competition for some of our products as well as longer than expected new product acceptance by our customers. In addition, we experienced a decline in revenue growth of our CCFL backlight inverter products, in which we experienced increased competition and customer concerns resulting from our ongoing litigation with O2. Due to increased competition, market acceptance and penetration of our current and future products and ongoing litigation, we do not expect our growth rate to be comparable to past periods.

**We expect our operating results to fluctuate from quarter to quarter and year to year, which may make it difficult to predict our future performance and could cause our stock price to decline.**



## **Table of Contents**

Our revenue, expenses, and results of operations are difficult to predict, have varied significantly in the past and will continue to fluctuate significantly in the future due to a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control. We expect fluctuations to continue for a number of reasons, including:

the timing of developments and related expenses in our litigation matters with O2, TSE and Linear and any future litigation;

the possibility of additional lost business as a result of customer and prospective customer concerns about adverse outcomes in our litigations or about being litigation targets;

continued dependence on our turns business (orders received and shipped within the same fiscal quarter);

the timing of new product introductions by us and our competitors;

the acceptance of our new products in the marketplace;

our ability to develop new process technologies and achieve volume production;

the scheduling, rescheduling, or cancellation of orders by our customers;

the cyclical nature of demand for our customers' products;

inventory levels and product obsolescence;

seasonality and variability in the computer, consumer electronics, and wireless markets;

the availability of adequate manufacturing capacity from our outside suppliers;

changes in manufacturing yields;

general economic conditions in the countries where our products are sold or used; and

movements in exchange rates, interest rates or tax rates.

Due to the factors noted above and other risks described in this section, many of which are beyond our control, you should not rely on quarter-to-quarter or year-over-year comparisons to predict our future financial performance. Unfavorable changes in any of the above factors may seriously harm our business and cause our stock price to decline.

**We have a history of losses, and we may not be profitable on a quarterly or annual basis.**

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

Since our inception in 1997, we have only been profitable in one year. Our accumulated deficit was \$16.5 million as of September 30, 2007. We expect to incur significant operating expenses over the next several years in connection with the continued development and expansion of our business. Our operating expenses include general and administrative expenses, selling and marketing expenses, litigation expenses, stock-based compensation expenses and research and development expenses relating to products that will not be introduced and will not generate revenue until later periods, if at all. In addition, we expect to continue to incur significant legal expenses in connection with the litigation in which we are involved. We may not achieve profitability on a quarterly or annual basis in the future.

Finally, a significant percentage of our revenue in each quarter is dependent on sales that are booked and shipped in the same quarter. This is referred to as our turns business. Due to increased dependence on our turns business and the fact that we typically do not enter into long-term agreements with our customers or require them to provide us with quarterly forecasts, it is difficult for us to accurately forecast our revenue for any given quarter.

**The highly cyclical nature of the semiconductor industry, which has produced significant and sometimes prolonged downturns, could materially adversely affect our operating results, financial condition and cash flows.**

Historically, the semiconductor industry has been highly cyclical and, at various times, has experienced significant downturns and wide fluctuations in supply and demand. These conditions have caused significant variances in product demand and production capacity, as well as rapid erosion of average selling prices. The industry may experience severe or prolonged downturns in the future, which could result in downward pressure on the price of our products as well as lower demand for our products. Because significant portions of our expenses are fixed in the short term or incurred in advance of anticipated sales, we may not be able to decrease our expenses in a timely manner to offset any sales shortfall. These conditions could have a material adverse effect on our operating results, financial condition and cash flows.

**We receive a significant portion of our revenue from a small number of customers, and the loss of any one of these customers or failure to collect a receivable from them could adversely affect our operations and financial position.**

We market our products through distribution arrangements and through our direct sales and applications support organization to customers that include original equipment manufacturers, original design manufacturers, and electronic manufacturing

## **Table of Contents**

service providers. Receivables from our customers are not secured by any type of collateral and are subject to the risk of being uncollectible. For the quarter ended September 30, 2007, sales to our two largest customers accounted for 35% of our total revenue. Significant deterioration in the liquidity or financial condition of any of our major customers or any group of our customers could have a material adverse impact on the collectibility of our accounts receivable and our future operating results. We primarily conduct our sales on a purchase order basis, and we do not have any long-term supply contracts.

Moreover, we believe a high percentage of our products are eventually sold to a number of original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs. Although we communicate with OEMs in an attempt to achieve design wins, which are decisions by OEMs and/or original design manufacturers to incorporate our products, we do not have purchase commitments from these end users. Therefore, there can be no assurance that the OEMs and/or original design manufacturers will continue to incorporate our ICs into their products. OEM technical specifications and requirements can change rapidly, and we may not have products that fit new specifications from an end-customer for whom we have had previous design wins. We cannot be certain that we will continue to achieve design wins from large OEMs, that our direct customers will continue to be successful in selling to the OEMs, or that the OEMs will be successful in selling products which incorporate our ICs. The loss of any significant customer, any material reduction in orders by any of our significant customers or by their OEM customers, the cancellation of a significant customer order, or the cancellation or delay of a customer's or OEM's significant program or product could reduce our revenue and adversely affect our operations and financial condition.

### **Failure to protect our proprietary technologies or maintain the right to certain technologies may negatively affect our ability to compete.**

We rely heavily on our proprietary technologies. Our future success and competitive position depend in part upon our ability to obtain and maintain protection of certain proprietary technologies used in our products. We pursue patents for some of our new products and unique technologies, and we also rely on a combination of nondisclosure agreements and other contractual provisions, as well as our employees' commitment to confidentiality and loyalty, to protect our technology, know-how, and processes. Despite the precautions we take, it may be possible for unauthorized third parties to copy aspects of our current or future technology or products or to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary. We intend to continue to protect our proprietary technology, including through patents. However, there can be no assurance that the steps we take will be adequate to protect our proprietary rights, that our patent applications will lead to issued patents, that others will not develop or patent similar or superior products or technologies, or that our patents will not be challenged, invalidated, or circumvented by others. Furthermore, the laws of the countries in which our products are or may be developed, manufactured, or sold may not protect our products and intellectual property rights to the same extent as laws in the United States. Our failure to adequately protect our proprietary technologies could harm our business.

### **Our products must meet exacting specifications, and undetected defects and failures may occur, which may cause customers to return or stop buying our products and may expose us to product liability risk.**

Our customers generally establish demanding specifications for quality, performance, and reliability that our products must meet. Integrated circuits as complex as ours often encounter development delays and may contain undetected defects or failures when first introduced or after commencement of commercial shipments, which might require product replacement or recall. We have from time to time in the past experienced product quality, performance or reliability problems. In 2005, we extended our standard warranty period from 90 days to one year. As a result, we now have an increased risk of claims for defects and failures. If defects and failures occur in our products, we could experience lost revenue, increased costs, including warranty expense and costs associated with customer support, delays in, cancellations or rescheduling of orders or shipments, and product returns or discounts, any of which would harm our operating results.

In addition, product liability claims may be asserted with respect to our technology or products. Although we currently have insurance, there can be no assurance that we have obtained a sufficient amount of insurance coverage, that asserted claims will be within the scope of coverage of the insurance, or that we will have sufficient resources to satisfy any asserted claims.

### **We currently depend on one third-party supplier to provide us with wafers for our products. If our wafer supplier fails to provide us sufficient wafers at acceptable yields and at anticipated costs, our revenue and gross margin may decline.**

We have a supply arrangement with ASMC for the production of wafers. Although certain aspects of our relationship with ASMC are contractual, many important aspects of this relationship depend on ASMC's continued cooperation and our management relationships. O2 sued ASMC for patent infringement because ASMC manufactures our products. It is possible that our relationship with ASMC could be materially and adversely affected by the O2 litigation. In addition, the fabrication of ICs is a highly complex and precise process. Problems in the fabrication process can cause a substantial percentage of wafers to be rejected or numerous ICs on each wafer to be non-functional. This could potentially reduce the yields. The failure of ASMC to supply us wafers at acceptable yields could prevent us from fulfilling our customer orders for our products and would likely cause a decline in our revenue.



## **Table of Contents**

Although we provide ASMC with rolling forecasts of our production requirements, ASMC's ability to provide wafers to us is limited by the available capacity, particularly capacity in the geometries we require, at the facilities in which it manufactures wafers for us. An increased need for capacity to meet internal demands or demands of other customers could cause ASMC to reduce capacity available to us. ASMC may also require us to pay amounts in excess of contracted or anticipated amounts for wafer deliveries or require us to make other concessions in order to acquire the wafer supply necessary to meet our customer requirements. If ASMC extends lead times, limits supplies or the types of capacity we require, or increases prices due to capacity constraints or other factors, our revenue and gross margin may decline.

Further, as is common in the semiconductor industry, our customers may reschedule or cancel orders on relatively short notice. Under our agreement with ASMC, we have an option to order wafers based on a committed forecast that can cover a period of one to six months. If our customers cancel orders after we submit a committed forecast to ASMC for the corresponding wafers, we may be required to purchase wafers that we may not be able to resell, which would adversely affect our operating results, financial condition, and cash flows.

### **We might not be able to deliver our products on a timely basis if our relationships with our assembly and test subcontractors are disrupted or terminated.**

All of our products are assembled by third-party subcontractors and a portion of our testing is currently performed by third-party subcontractors. We do not have any long-term agreements with these subcontractors. As a result, we may not have direct control over product delivery schedules or product quality. Also, due to the amount of time typically required to qualify assembly and test subcontractors, we could experience delays in the shipment of our products if we were forced to find alternate third parties to assemble or test our products. Any future product delivery delays or disruptions in our relationships with our subcontractors could have a material adverse effect on our operating results, financial condition, and cash flows.

### **We derive most of our revenue from direct or indirect sales to customers in Asia and have significant operations in Asia, which may expose us to political, cultural, regulatory, economic, foreign exchange, and operational risks.**

We derive most of our revenue from customers located in Asia through direct or indirect sales through distribution arrangements with parties located in Asia. As a result, we are subject to increased risks due to this geographic concentration of business and operations. For the three months ended September 30, 2007, approximately 89% of our revenue was from customers in Asia. There are risks inherent in doing business internationally, including:

changes in, or impositions of, legislative or regulatory requirements, including tax laws in the United States and in the countries in which we manufacture or sell our products;

trade restrictions, including restrictions imposed by the United States government on trading with parties in foreign countries;

transportation delays;

recent changes in tax regulations in China may impact our tax status in Chengdu;

multi-tiered distribution channels that lack visibility to end customer pricing and purchase patterns;

international political relationships and threats of war;

terrorism and threats of terrorism;

epidemics and illnesses;

work stoppages;

economic and political instability;

changes in import/export regulations, tariffs, and freight rates;

longer accounts receivable collection cycles and difficulties in collecting accounts receivables;

enforcing contracts generally;

currency exchange rate fluctuations impacting intra-company transactions; and

less effective protection of intellectual property and contractual arrangements.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Devaluation of the U.S. Dollar relative to other foreign currencies, including the Chinese Yuan, may adversely affect results of operations.**

Our manufacturing and packaging suppliers are and will be substantially located in China. Should the value of the Chinese Yuan continue to rise against the U.S. Dollar, there could be an increase in our manufacturing costs relative to competitors who have manufacturing facilities located in the U.S., which could adversely affect our operations. In addition, because we collect payments from all customers in U.S. dollars, fluctuations in the value of foreign currencies could have an adverse impact on our customers' business, which could negatively impact our business and results of operations.

### **We and our manufacturing partners are or will be subject to extensive Chinese government regulation, and may receive the benefit of various incentives from Chinese governments that include conditions or may be reduced or eliminated, any of which could increase our costs or limit our ability to sell products and conduct activities in China.**

Most of our manufacturing partners, including ASMC, our current foundry, are located in China. In addition, we have established a facility in China, initially for the testing of our ICs. The Chinese government has broad discretion and authority to regulate the technology industry in China. China's government has implemented policies from time to time to regulate economic expansion in China. It also exercises significant control over China's economic growth through the allocation of resources, controlling payment of foreign currency-denominated obligations, setting monetary policy and providing preferential treatment to particular industries or companies. New regulations or the readjustment of previously implemented regulations could require us and our manufacturing partners to change our business plans, increase our costs, or limit our ability to sell products and conduct activities in China, which could adversely affect our business and operating results.

In addition, the Chinese government and provincial and local governments have provided, and continue to provide, various incentives to encourage the development of the semiconductor industry in China. Such incentives include tax rebates, reduced tax rates, favorable lending policies, and other measures, some or all of which may be available to our manufacturing partners and to us with respect to the facility we are establishing in China. Any of these incentives could be reduced or eliminated by governmental authorities at any time. Any such reduction or elimination of incentives currently provided to our manufacturing partners could adversely affect our business and operating results.

### **We may incur additional expenses in connection with the operation of our testing facility in China, which could increase product costs.**

We have a testing facility in China that began operations in 2006. In addition to the risks discussed elsewhere in this quarterly report, we face the following risks, among others:

inability to maintain appropriate and acceptable manufacturing controls; and

higher than anticipated overhead and other costs of operation.

If we are unable to continue a fully operational status with appropriate controls, we may incur higher costs than our current expense levels, which would affect our gross margins. In addition, if capacity restraints result in significant delays in product shipments, our business and results of operations would be adversely affected.

### **Due to the nature of our business as a component supplier, we may have difficulty both in accurately predicting our future revenue and appropriately budgeting our expenses.**

We were incorporated in 1997 and did not generate significant revenue until 2000. Because we provide components for end products and systems, demand for our products is influenced by our customers' end product demand. As a result, we may have difficulty in accurately forecasting our revenue and expenses. Our revenue depends on the timing, size, and speed of commercial introductions of end products and systems that incorporate our products, all of which are inherently difficult to forecast, as well as the ongoing demand for previously introduced end products and systems. In addition, demand for our products is influenced by our customers' ability to manage their inventory. Our sales to distributors are subject to higher volatility because they service demand from multiple levels of the supply chain which, in itself, is inherently difficult to forecast. If our customers, including distributors, do not manage their inventory correctly or misjudge their customers' demand, our shipments to and orders from our customers may vary significantly on a quarterly basis.

**We purchase inventory in advance based on expected demand for our products, and if demand is not as expected, we may have insufficient or excess inventory, which could adversely impact our financial position.**

As a fabless semiconductor company, we purchase our inventory from a third party manufacturer in advance of selling our product. We place orders with our manufacturer based on existing and expected orders from our customers for particular products. While our contracts with our customers and distributors include lead time requirements and cancellation penalties



## **Table of Contents**

that are designed to protect us from misalignment between customer orders and inventory levels, we must nonetheless make some predictions when we place orders with our manufacturer. In the event that our predictions are inaccurate due to unexpected increases in orders or unavailability of product within the time frame that is required, we may have insufficient inventory to meet our customer demands. In the event that we order products that we are unable to sell due to a decrease in orders, unexpected order cancellations, injunctions due to patent litigations, or product returns, we may have excess inventory which, if not sold, may need to be disposed of. If any of these situations were to arise, it could have a material impact on our business and financial position.

### **Because of the lengthy sales cycles for our products and the fixed nature of a significant portion of our expenses, we may incur substantial expenses before we earn associated revenue and may not ultimately achieve our forecasted sales for our products.**

The introduction of new products presents significant business challenges because product development plans and expenditures must be made up to two years or more in advance of any sales. It takes us up to 12 months or more to design and manufacture a new product prototype. Only after we have a prototype do we introduce the product to the market and begin selling efforts in an attempt to achieve design wins. This sales process, which averages six to twelve months, requires us to expend significant sales and marketing resources without any assurance of success. Volume production of products that use our ICs, if any, may not be achieved for an additional three to six months after an initial sale. Sales cycles for our products are lengthy for a number of reasons:

our customers usually complete an in-depth technical evaluation of our products before they place a purchase order;

the commercial adoption of our products by original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs, and original device manufacturers is typically limited during the initial release of their product to evaluate product performance and consumer demand;

our products must be designed into a customer's product or system; and

the development and commercial introduction of our customers' products incorporating new technologies frequently are delayed.

As a result of our lengthy sales cycles, we may incur substantial expenses before we earn associated revenue because a significant portion of our operating expenses is relatively fixed and based on expected revenue. The lengthy sales cycles of our products also make forecasting the volume and timing of orders difficult. In addition, the delays inherent in lengthy sales cycles raise additional risks that customers may cancel or change their orders. Our sales are made by purchase orders. Because industry practice allows customers to reschedule or cancel orders on relatively short notice, backlog is not always a good indicator of our future sales. If customer cancellations or product changes occur, we could lose anticipated sales and not have sufficient time to reduce our inventory and operating expenses.

### **If we fail to retain key employees in sales, applications and finance and make continued improvements to our internal systems, particularly in the accounting and finance area, our business may suffer.**

In 2006, we significantly increased the quantity and quality of our sales, applications and financial staff. However, if we fail to continue to adequately staff these areas and maintain internal controls that meet the demands of our business, our ability to operate effectively will suffer. The operation of our business also depends upon our ability to retain these employees, as these employees hold a significant amount of institutional knowledge about the Company and its products, and, if they were to terminate their employment, our sales and internal control over financial reporting could be adversely affected.

### **The loss of any of our key personnel or the failure to attract or retain specialized technical and management personnel could impair our ability to grow our business.**

Our future success depends upon our ability to attract and retain highly qualified technical and managerial personnel. We are particularly dependent on the continued services of our key executives, including Michael Hsing, our President and Chief Executive Officer, who founded our company and developed our proprietary process technology. In addition, personnel with highly skilled analog and mixed-signal design engineering expertise are scarce and competition for personnel with these skills is intense. There can be no assurance that we will be able to retain existing key employees or that we will be successful in attracting, integrating or retaining other highly qualified personnel with critical

## Edgar Filing: MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS INC - Form 10-Q

capabilities in the future. If we are unable to retain the services of existing key employees or are unsuccessful in attracting new highly qualified employees quickly enough to meet the demands of our business, including design cycles, our business could be harmed.

## **Table of Contents**

### **We intend to continue to expand our operations, which may strain our resources and increase our operating expenses.**

We plan to continue to expand our domestic and foreign operations through internal growth, strategic relationships, or acquisitions. We expect that any such expansion will strain our systems and operational and financial controls. In addition, we are likely to incur significantly higher operating costs. To manage our growth effectively, we must continue to improve and expand our systems and controls, as well as hire experienced administrative and financial personnel. If we fail to do so, our growth will be limited. If we fail to effectively manage our planned expansion of operations, our business and operating results may be harmed.

### **We may engage in future acquisitions that dilute the ownership interests of our stockholders and cause us to incur debt or to assume contingent liabilities, and we may be unable to successfully integrate these companies into our operations, which would adversely affect our business.**

As a part of our business strategy, we may review acquisition prospects that would complement our current product offerings, enhance our design capability or offer other growth opportunities. In the event of future acquisitions, we could use a significant portion of our available cash, issue equity securities which would dilute current stockholders' percentage ownership, and/or incur substantial debt or contingent liabilities. Such actions by us could impact our operating results and/or the price of our common stock. In addition, if we are unsuccessful in integrating any acquired company into our operations or if integration is more difficult than anticipated, we may experience disruptions that could harm our business.

### **We compete against many companies with substantially greater financing and other resources, and our market share may be reduced if we are unable to respond to our competitors effectively.**

The analog and mixed-signal semiconductor industry is highly competitive, and we expect competitive pressures to continue. Our ability to compete effectively and to expand our business will depend on our ability to continue to recruit applications and design talent, our ability to introduce new products, and our ability to maintain the rate at which we introduce these new products. We compete with several domestic and non-domestic semiconductor companies, many of which have substantially greater financial and other resources with which to pursue engineering, manufacturing, marketing, and distribution of their products. We are in direct and active competition, with respect to one or more of our product lines with at least 10 manufacturers of such products, of varying size and financial strength. The number of our competitors has grown due to the expansion of the market segments in which we participate. We consider our competitors to include, but not be limited to: Analog Devices, Fairchild Semiconductor, Intersil, Linear, Maxim Integrated Products, Micrel, Microsemi, National Semiconductor, O2, RichTech, Semtech, STMicroelectronic and Texas Instruments. We expect continued competition from existing competitors as well as competition from new entrants in the semiconductor market.

We cannot assure you that our products will continue to compete favorably or that we will be successful in the face of increasing competition from new products and enhancements introduced by existing competitors or new companies entering this market, which would materially and adversely affect our results of operations and our financial condition.

### **Changes in effective tax rates or adverse outcomes resulting from examination of our income tax returns could adversely affect our results**

Our future effective tax rates could be adversely affected by earnings being lower than anticipated in countries where we have lower statutory rates and higher than anticipated in countries where we have higher statutory rates, by changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities, or by changes in tax laws, regulations, accounting principles or interpretations thereof. In addition, we are subject to the continuous examination of our income tax returns by the Internal Revenue Service and other tax authorities. We regularly assess the likelihood of adverse outcomes resulting from these examinations to determine the adequacy of our provision for income taxes. There can be no assurance that the outcomes from these continuous examinations will not have an adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

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

The future trading price of our common stock is likely to be highly volatile and could be subject to wide fluctuations in price in response to various factors, many of which are beyond our control, including:

the depth and liquidity of the market for our common stock;

developments generally affecting the semiconductor industry;

commencement of or developments relating to our involvement in litigation, including the ongoing O2, TSE and Linear litigation matters;

**Table of Contents**

investor perceptions of us and our business;

changes in securities analysts' expectations or our failure to meet those expectations;

actions by institutional or other large stockholders;

terrorist acts or acts of war;

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our results of operations;

developments with respect to intellectual property rights;

announcements of technological innovations or significant contracts by us or our competitors;

introduction of new products by us or our competitors;

our sale of common stock or other securities in the future;

conditions and trends in technology industries;

changes in market valuation or earnings of our competitors;

changes in the estimation of the future size and growth rate of our markets;

our results of operations and financial performance; and

general economic, industry and market conditions.

In addition, the stock market in general often experiences substantial volatility that is seemingly unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

**If securities or industry analysts do not continue to publish research or reports about our business, our stock price and trading volume could decline.**

The trading market for our common stock will depend on the research and reports that industry or securities analysts publish about us or our business. We do not have any control over these analysts. If one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrade our stock, our stock price would likely decline. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of the Company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline.

**Because of their significant stock ownership, our officers and directors will be able to exert significant influence over our future direction.**

Executive officers, directors, and affiliated entities beneficially own in aggregate, approximately 25% of our outstanding common stock as September 30, 2007. These stockholders, if acting together, would be able to significantly influence all matters requiring approval by our stockholders, including the election of directors and the approval of mergers or other business combination transactions.

**Major earthquakes or other natural disasters and resulting systems outages may cause us significant losses.**

Our corporate headquarters, the production facilities of our third-party wafer supplier, a portion of our assembly and research and development activities, and certain other critical business operations are located in or near seismically active regions and are subject to periodic earthquakes. We do not maintain earthquake insurance and could be materially and adversely affected in the event of a major earthquake. Much of our revenue, as well as our manufacturers and assemblers, are concentrated in Southeast Asia. Such concentration increases the risk that other natural disasters, labor strikes, terrorism, war, political unrest, epidemics, and/or health advisories could disrupt our operations. In addition, we rely heavily on our internal information and communications systems and on systems or support services from third parties to manage our operations efficiently and effectively. Any of these are subject to failure due to a natural disaster or other disruption. System-wide or local failures that affect our information processing could have material adverse effects on our business, financial condition, operating results, and cash flows.

**Table of Contents**

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1\* Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

---

\* This exhibit shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filings under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any filings.

**Table of Contents**

**MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC**

**SIGNATURE**

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.

Dated: November 1, 2007

MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC.

/s/ C. RICHARD NEELY, JR.  
C. Richard Neely, Jr.  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1\* Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

---

\* This exhibit shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filings under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any filings.