

Edgar Filing: ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES INC - Form 10-Q

ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 12, 2003

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 ending September 30, 2003

or

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 0-18672

ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

-----  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

51-0448969

-----  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

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

207 South Street, Boston, Massachusetts

02111

-----  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

-----  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code:

(617) 423-1072  
-----

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 an accelerated filer (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2). YES ☐ NO ☒

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value, as of November 4, 2003 was 7,909,266 shares.

ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY  
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and December 31, 2002 (unaudited)

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### PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited)

	September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,760,836	\$ 7,612,274
Accounts receivable, net of reserves for doubtful accounts, returns, and allowances of \$2,764,324 at September 30, 2003 and \$2,646,408 at December 31, 2002	4,460,229	3,714,202
Inventories, net	3,799,116	6,782,550
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	613,615	1,037,733
	17,633,796	19,146,759
Total current assets		
Property, plant and equipment, net	3,018,130	3,485,911
	\$ 20,651,926	\$ 22,632,670
Total assets		
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 221,691	\$ 191,550
Accounts payable	1,988,504	2,406,843
Accrued expenses	1,047,734	1,207,724
	3,257,929	3,806,117
Total current liabilities		

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Long-term debt, less current portion	5,153,023	5,342,057
	-----	-----
Total liabilities	8,410,952	9,148,174
	-----	-----
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value. Authorized 25,000,000 shares; issued 7,901,766 shares, outstanding 7,893,366 shares at September 30, 2003 and issued 7,860,866 shares, outstanding 7,858,266 at December 31,2002	79,018	78,609
Additional paid-in capital	28,241,914	28,166,606
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)	(16,194,918)	(14,770,278)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	122,282	11,755
Treasury stock, at cost	(7,322)	(2,196)
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity	12,240,974	13,484,496
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 20,651,926	\$ 22,632,670
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ending September 30,		
	2003	2002	
	----	----	
Net sales	\$ 9,103,652	\$ 10,878,334	\$ 24,000,000
Costs of goods sold	6,145,972	7,707,513	17,000,000
	-----	-----	-----
Gross profit	2,957,680	3,170,821	6,000,000
Operating expenses:			
Selling	1,376,364	1,423,216	3,000,000
General and administrative	611,753	824,863	2,000,000
Research and development	659,806	878,901	2,000,000
	-----	-----	-----
Total operating expenses	2,647,923	3,126,980	8,000,000
	-----	-----	-----
Operating income (loss)	309,757	43,841	(1,000,000)
Other income (expense):			
Interest income	17,017	23,091	0
Interest (expense)	(52,672)	(73,502)	0
Equity in losses of affiliate	--	--	0
Other, net	131,941	99,012	0
	-----	-----	-----
Total other income (expense), net	96,286	48,601	0
	-----	-----	-----
Income (loss) before income tax expense and extraordinary item	406,043	92,442	(1,000,000)
Income tax expense (benefit)	--	--	0
	-----	-----	-----
Income (loss) before extraordinary item	406,043	92,442	(1,000,000)
Extraordinary gain on elimination			

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of negative goodwill	--	--	
Net income (loss)	\$ 406,043	\$ 92,442	\$ (1
	=====	=====	=====
Earnings (loss) per common share before extraordinary item:			
Basic	\$ .05	\$ .01	\$
	=====	=====	=====
Diluted	\$ .05	\$ .01	\$
	=====	=====	=====
Extraordinary gain on elimination of negative goodwill:			
Basic and diluted	\$ --	\$ --	\$
	=====	=====	=====
Earnings (loss) per common share:			
Basic	\$ .05	\$ .01	\$
	=====	=====	=====
Diluted	\$ .05	\$ .01	\$
	=====	=====	=====
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares:			
Basic	7,857,117	7,860,866	7
	=====	=====	=====
Diluted	8,081,312	7,862,235	7
	=====	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ending September 30,	
	2003	2002
	-----	-----
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$ (1,424,640)	\$ (4,606,531)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Non-operating gain on refund of deposit	(40,237)	-
Extraordinary gain on elimination of negative goodwill	-	(255,287)
Depreciation and amortization	492,451	653,544
Write-off of net deferred tax assets	-	2,012,844
Equity in losses of affiliate	-	56,666
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable, net	(636,410)	332,873
Inventories, net	2,983,434	3,996,801
Prepaid expenses and other assets	464,355	508,188
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(578,329)	(49,177)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	1,260,624	2,649,921
	-----	-----
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Investment in Affiliates	-	(482,700)
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(24,670)	(138,266)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(24,670)	(620,966)
	-----	-----
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Principal payments on long-term debt	(158,893)	(304,569)
Exercise of nonqualified stock options	75,717	-

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Purchase of Treasury stock	(5,126)	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(88,302)	-----	(304,569)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	910	-----	13,800
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,148,562	-----	1,738,186
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of period	7,612,274	-----	5,252,058
Cash and cash equivalents - end of period	\$ 8,760,836	=====	\$ 6,990,244
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Cash paid during the period for:			
Interest	\$ 163,978	=====	\$ 235,937
Income taxes	\$ -	=====	\$ -

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

### ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

#### (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (a) Basis of Presentation and Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements of Zoom Technologies, Inc. (the "Company") presented herein have been prepared pursuant to the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission for quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and do not include all of the information and footnote disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ending December 31, 2002 included in the Company's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 2003, the consolidated statements of operations for the three and nine months ending September 30, 2003 and 2002, and the consolidated statements of cash flows for the nine months ending September 30, 2003 and 2002 are unaudited, but, in the opinion of management, include all adjustments (consisting of normal, recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of results for these interim periods.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts and operations of the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, Zoom Telephonics, Inc., a Delaware Corporation. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The results of operations for the periods presented are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the entire year ending December 31, 2003.

Certain amounts for prior periods have been reclassified to conform to current year presentations.

##### (b) Stock-Based Compensation

The Company accounts for its stock option plans under the recognition and

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measurement principles of Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and Related Interpretations." No stock-based compensation expense is reflected in net income (loss) for these plans, as all options granted under these plans had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. The following table illustrates the effect on net loss and loss per share if the Company had applied the fair value recognition provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement No. 123, "Accounting for Stock Based Compensation", to stock based compensation (in thousands, except per share data):

	FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, (UNAUDITED)		FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, (UNAUDITED)	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net income (loss), as reported.....	\$ 406,043	\$ 92,442	\$ (1,424,640)	\$ (4,606,000)
Deduct: Total stock-based employee Compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, net of related tax effects.....	(43,069)	(279,353)	(265,873)	(829,000)
Pro forma net income (loss).....	\$ 362,974	\$ (186,911)	\$ (1,690,513)	\$ (5,435,000)
Income (loss) per share:				
Basic and diluted - as reported.....	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.18)	\$ (0.22)
Basic - pro forma.....	\$ 0.05	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.22)
Diluted - pro forma.....	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.22)

### (c) Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In January 2003 the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities" ("VIEs"). This Interpretation addresses the consolidation of variable interest entities in which the equity investors lack one or more of the essential characteristics of a controlling financial interest or where the equity investment at risk is not sufficient for the entity to finance its activities without subordinated financial support from other parties. The Interpretation applies to VIEs created after January 31, 2003 and to VIEs in which an interest is acquired after that date. Effective July 1, 2003 it also applies to VIEs in which an interest is acquired before February 1, 2003. The Company may apply the Interpretation prospectively, with a cumulative effect adjustment as of July 1, 2003 or by restating previously issued financial statements with a cumulative effect adjustment as of the beginning of the first year restated. The adoption of Interpretation No. 46 did not have any effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In May 2003 the FASB issued SFAS 150, "Accounting For Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of Both Liabilities and Equity" which establishes standards for how an issuer of financial instruments classifies and measures certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. It requires that an issuer classify a financial instrument that is within its scope as a liability (or an asset in some circumstances) if, at inception, the monetary value of the obligation is based solely or predominantly on a fixed monetary amount known at inception, variations in something other than the fair value of the issuer's equity shares or variations inversely related to changes in the fair value of the issuer's equity shares. SFAS No. 150 is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003 and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period

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beginning after June 15, 2003. The adoption of SFAS 150 did not have any impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

In November 2002, the FASB's Emerging Issues Task Force finalized EITF Issue No. 00-21 (EITF 00-21), "Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables." EITF 00-21 addresses how to determine whether an arrangement involving multiple deliverables contains more than one unit of accounting. EITF 00-21 also addresses how arrangement considerations should be measured and allocated to the separate units of accounting in the arrangement. However, it does not address when the criteria for revenue recognition are met or provide guidance on the appropriate revenue recognition convention for a given unit of accounting. EITF 00-21 is effective for all revenue arrangements entered into in fiscal periods beginning after June 15, 2003, and early application is permitted. Upon adoption, entities may elect to either apply EITF 00-21 prospectively or report the change in accounting as a cumulative-effect adjustment. The Company adopted EITF 00-21 in the second quarter of 2003. The adoption of EITF 00-21 did not have any impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

### (2) Liquidity

On December 31, 2002 Zoom had cash of approximately \$7.6 million. On September 30, 2003 Zoom had cash of approximately \$8.8 million. Currently, the Company does not have a debt facility, and the Company does not expect to obtain one on acceptable terms unless there is improvement in the Company's operating performance.

To conserve cash and manage its liquidity, the Company implemented expense reductions throughout 2002 and continued these reductions in the first nine months of 2003. The employee headcount was 185 at December 31, 2002 and 165 at September 30, 2003. The Company will continue to assess its cost structure as it relates to its revenues and cash position in 2003, and may make further reductions if these actions are deemed necessary.

During the past several years the Company has experienced declining demand for its dial-up modem products. The bundling by PC manufacturers of dial-up modems into computers and the increased popularity of broadband modems lower the total available market through the Company's sales channels. Because of this, the Company's dial-up modem sales are unlikely to grow unless the Company's market share grows significantly, promotions by the Internet Service Providers of V.92 grow the market, or the availability of new web acceleration techniques grows the market. If the Company's dial-up modem sales do not grow, the Company's future success will depend in large part on our ability to successfully penetrate the broadband modem market.

Management believes it has sufficient resources to fund its planned operations over the next 12 months. However if the Company is unable to increase its revenues, reduce or otherwise adequately control its expenses, or raise capital, the Company's longer-term ability to continue as a going concern and achieve its intended business objectives could be adversely affected.

### (3) Earnings Per Share

The reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted net earnings (loss) per share computations for the Company's reported net income (loss) is as follows:

Three Months Ending September 30,		Nine Months Ending September 30,	
2003	2002	2003	2002

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Basic:				
Net income (loss)	\$ 406,043	\$ 92,442	\$ (1,424,640)	\$ (4,606,000)
Weighted average shares outstanding	7,857,117	7,860,866	7,854,315	7,860,000
Net income (loss) per share	\$ .05	\$ .01	\$ (.18)	\$ (.18)
Diluted:				
Net income (loss)	\$ 406,043	\$ 92,442	\$ (1,424,640)	\$ (4,606,000)
Weighted average shares outstanding	7,857,117	7,860,866	7,854,315	7,860,000
Net effect of dilutive stock options based on the Treasury stock method using average market price	224,195	1,369	--	--
Weighted average shares outstanding	8,081,312	7,862,235	7,854,315	7,860,000
Net income (loss) per share	\$ .05	\$ .01	\$ (.18)	\$ (.18)

Potential common shares for which inclusion would have the effect of increasing diluted earnings per share (i.e., antidilutive) are excluded from the nine months ending September 30, 2003 computation. Options to purchase 35,511 and 14,167 shares of common stock at September 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively, were outstanding but not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share as their effect would be antidilutive.

## (4) Inventories

Inventories consist of the following:	September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
Raw materials	\$ 1,440,572	\$ 2,808,421
Work in process	354,873	673,275
Finished goods	2,003,671	3,300,854
	\$ 3,799,116	\$ 6,782,550

During the three months ending September 30, 2003 and September 30, 2002 the Company recorded lower of cost or market write-downs of zero and \$301,507, respectively, related to broadband and wireless inventory. For the nine months ending September 30, 2003 and September 30, 2002 the total lower of cost or market write-downs recorded were \$495,099 and \$1,041,059, respectively related to broadband and wireless inventory.

## (5) Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 130, "Reporting Comprehensive Income" establishes rules for the reporting and display of comprehensive income (loss) and its components; however, it has no impact on the Company's net income (loss). SFAS No. 130 requires all changes in equity from non-owner sources to be included in the determination of comprehensive income (loss).

The components of comprehensive income (loss), net of tax, are as follows:



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	Three Months Ending September 30,		Nine Months End
	2003	2002	2003
Net income (loss)	\$ 406,043	\$ 92,442	\$ (1,424,640)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	90,724	62,751	110,527
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 496,767	\$ 155,193	\$ (1,314,113)

## (6) Long-Term Debt

On January 10, 2001 the Company obtained a mortgage loan for \$6 million secured by the real estate property located at 201 and 207 South Street, Boston, Massachusetts. This is a 20-year direct reduction mortgage with a five-year balloon due January 10, 2006. The interest rate is fixed for one year, based on the one year Federal Home Loan Bank rate plus 2.5 % per annum. The rate is adjusted on January 10th of each calendar year commencing on January 10, 2002. The rate was adjusted to 3.81% on January 10, 2003.

## (7) Commitments

During the nine month period ending September 30, 2003 there were no material changes to the capital commitments and contractual obligations of the Company from those disclosed in the Form 10-K for the year ending December 31, 2002.

In March 2002 following the termination of discussions pursuant to which Zoom proposed to purchase a ground lease for a manufacturing facility located at 27 Drydock Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts (the "Drydock Building"), Zoom pursued an arrangement to purchase the Drydock Building in partnership with the following individuals: Frank B. Manning, President and a director of Zoom; Peter R. Kramer, Executive Vice President and a director of Zoom; Bruce M. Kramer, Peter Kramer's brother; and a third party. Under this arrangement these individuals, either directly or through entities controlled by them, joined together with the Company as of March 29, 2002 to form the Zoom Group LLC, a Massachusetts limited liability company ("Zoom Group") to purchase the Drydock Building. The Company and each of the investors owned a 20% interest in the Zoom Group.

In August 2002 the Zoom Group purchased the Drydock Building for a purchase price of \$6.1 million. The Zoom Group obtained a mortgage of \$4.2 million, less closing costs and legal fees. Each member of the Zoom Group contributed \$482,577 for their share of the investment plus initial working capital. These initial capital contributions include each member's share of the deposit.

Under the Zoom Group Operating Agreement the Company had both the right to sell its interest in the Zoom Group to the other members of the Zoom Group by January 5, 2003 for the Company's original purchase price, and the right to purchase the other members' entire interests in the Zoom Group through December 31, 2005 in accordance with a predetermined formula. In December 2002 a special committee of Zoom's board of directors, appointed to review the Drydock transactions, determined that it was advisable and in the best interest of the Company to exercise its right to sell its interest in the Zoom Group to the remaining Zoom Group LLC members. Accordingly effective January 5, 2003 the Company exercised its right to sell and assign its interest in the Zoom Group to

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the remaining members of the Zoom Group for approximately \$482,000. In March 2003 Zoom received the proceeds from the sale of its interest from the remaining members of the Zoom Group. This action was taken to improve the Company's liquidity position and to reduce its exposure to the Boston real estate market.

### (8) Segment and Geographic Information

The Company's operations are classified into one reportable segment. The Company's United States and international net sales for the three and nine months ending September 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively, were comprised as follows:

	Three Months Ending Sept 30, 2003	% of Total	Three Months Ending Sept 30, 2002	% of Total	Nine months Ending Sept 30, 2003	% of Total
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
United States	\$ 5,526,123	61%	\$ 6,907,214	64%	\$14,423,455	60%
International-UK	2,805,007	31%	3,189,267	29%	7,415,266	30%
International-All Other	772,522	8%	781,853	7%	2,340,108	10%
	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---
Total	\$ 9,103,652	100%	\$10,878,334	100%	\$24,178,829	100%
	=====	===	=====	===	=====	===

### (9) Extraordinary Gain

In the quarter ending March 31, 2002 the Company recorded an extraordinary gain of \$255,287 upon the adoption of SFAS No. 142 "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets" (SFAS 142). The gain resulted from the elimination of the remaining negative goodwill on the Company's consolidated balance sheet related to a previous acquisition, and was recorded in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 142.

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

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the safe harbor statement and the risk factors contained herein and set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ending December 31, 2002. Readers should also be cautioned that results of any reported period are often not indicative of results for any future period.

#### Critical Accounting Policies

The following is a discussion of what we view as our more significant accounting policies. These policies are also described in the notes to our consolidated audited financial statements included in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ending December 31, 2002. As described below, management judgments and estimates must be made and used in connection with the preparation of our consolidated financial statements. Material differences could result in the amount and timing of our revenue and expenses for any period if we made different judgments or used different estimates.

**Revenue Recognition.** We sell hardware products to our customers. The products include dial-up modems, embedded modems, cable modems, PC cameras, ISDN and ADSL modems, telephone dialers, and wireless and wired networking equipment. We generally do not sell software or services. We earn a small amount of royalty revenue. We derive our revenue primarily from the sales of hardware products to three types of customers:

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- o computer product retailers,
- o computer product distributors, and
- o original equipment manufacturers (OEMs).

We recognize revenue for all three types of customers at the point when the customers take legal ownership of the delivered products. Legal ownership passes from Zoom to the customer based on the contractual FOB point specified in signed contracts and purchase orders, which are both used extensively. Many of our customer contracts or purchase orders specify FOB destination. Since it would be impractical to verify ownership change for each individual delivery to the FOB destination point, we estimate the day the customer receives delivery based on our ship date and the carrier's published delivery schedule specific to the freight class and location.

Our revenues are reduced by certain events which are characteristic of hardware sales to computer product retailers. These events are product returns, price protection refunds, store rebates, and consumer mail-in rebates. Each of these is accounted for as a reduction of revenue based on careful management estimates which are reconciled to actual customer or end-consumer refunds and credits on a monthly or quarterly basis. The estimates for product returns are based on recent historical trends plus estimates for returns prompted by new product introductions, announced stock rotations, announced customer store closings, etc. Management analyzes historical returns, current economic trends, and changes in customer demand and acceptance of our products when evaluating the adequacy of sales return allowances. Our estimates for price protection refunds require a detailed understanding and tracking by customer and by sales program. Estimated price protection refunds are recorded in the same period as the announcement of a pricing change. Information from customer inventory-on-hand reports or from direct communications with the customers is used to estimate the refund, which is recorded as a reserve against accounts receivable and a reduction of current period revenue. Our estimates for consumer mail-in rebates are comprised of actual rebate claims processed by the rebate redemption centers plus an accrual for an estimated lag in processing. Our estimates for store rebates are comprised of actual credit requests from the eligible customers.

To ensure that the discounts and sales and marketing incentives are recorded in the proper period we perform extensive tracking and documenting by customer, by period, and by type of marketing event. This tracking includes reconciliation to the accounts receivable records for deductions taken by our customers for these discounts and incentives.

**Accounts Receivable Valuation.** We establish accounts receivable reserves for product returns, store rebates, consumer mail-in rebates, price protection refunds, and bad debt. These reserves are drawn down as actual credits are issued to the customer's accounts. Our bad-debt write-offs have not been significant in recent years.

**Inventory Valuation and Cost of Goods Sold.** Inventory is valued on a standard cost basis where the material standards are periodically updated for current material pricing. Reserves for obsolete inventory are established by management based on usability reviews performed each quarter. Our reserves against this inventory range from 0% to 100%, based on management's estimate of the probability that the material will not be consumed. In the second half of 2000 when industry expectations were very high for expansion of the broadband and wireless markets, we purchased parts to support our aggressive forecast for a ramp-up of sales of cable modems, ADSL modems, and wireless networking products. The subsequent slow-down in the industry resulted in a significant excess inventory position of materials. During 2001 the market selling prices for the broadband and wireless products declined significantly because of an industry-wide oversupply. Starting in 2001 and to a lesser extent in 2002 and 2003, the sales prices for some of the products dropped below our cost and,

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accordingly, we then valued our inventory on a "lower of cost or market" basis. Our valuation process is to compare our cost to the selling prices each quarter, and if the selling price of a product is less than the "if completed" cost of our inventory, we write-down the inventory on a "lower of cost or market" basis (See Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements).

We have entered into supply arrangements with suppliers of some components that include price and other concessions, including no-charge components, for meeting certain purchase requirements or commitments. Under the most significant arrangement we have agreed to purchase approximately \$8.0 million of components over a period of approximately 30-months that commenced on January 1, 2002, provided that those components were offered at competitive terms and prices. We are required to purchase a minimum percentage, as measured by unit purchases or dollar amount of certain components, from the supplier over a two-year period commencing on January 1, 2002, and we are currently exceeding that percentage. In connection with one of these arrangements, we became entitled to receive at least \$3.0 million of no-charge components, based upon the supplier's market price for the components in late 2001 and early 2002, and other pricing concessions based on our purchase volumes. We received \$1.2 million of these no-charge components in the fourth quarter of 2001. We received the remainder of the no-charge components in the first quarter of 2002. The favorable impact of the free components is being recognized on a delayed basis as a purchase discount over the total number of components acquired through the 30 month supply agreement.

**Valuation and Impairment of Intangible Assets.** We assess the impairment of our goodwill assets whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. In the quarter ending March 31, 2002 the Company recorded an extraordinary gain of \$255,287, upon the adoption of SFAS No. 142 "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets" (SFAS 142). The gain resulted from the elimination of the remaining negative goodwill on the Company's consolidated balance sheet related to a previous acquisition, and was recorded in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 142.

**Valuation and Impairment of Deferred Tax Assets.** As part of the process of preparing our consolidated financial statements we are required to estimate our income taxes. This process involves the estimation of our actual current tax exposure together with assessing temporary differences resulting from differing treatment of items for tax and accounting purposes. These differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included in our consolidated balance sheet. We must then assess the likelihood that our deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income and to the extent we believe that recovery is not likely, we must establish a valuation allowance. To the extent we establish a valuation allowance or increase this allowance in a period, we must include an expense within the tax provision in the statement of operations.

Significant management judgment is required in determining our provision for income taxes and any valuation allowance recorded against our net deferred tax assets. In 2001 we recorded a \$3.8 million income tax charge to reflect an additional increase in our deferred tax asset valuation allowance. Management's decision to record the valuation allowance was based on the uncertain recoverability of our deferred tax asset balance. At December 31, 2001 a portion of our net deferred tax asset was supported by our specific tax planning strategy to sell our appreciated headquarters building in Boston. The amount of the projected tax benefit from this sale was used to support the \$2.0 million deferred tax asset that remained on our balance sheet as of December 31, 2001. In our first quarter ending March 31, 2002 we recorded an additional \$2.0 income tax charge and valuation reserve, which reduced our net deferred tax asset balance to zero. This additional reserve reflected our decision to discontinue our specific tax planning strategy to sell our headquarters building in Boston in light of the less favorable market conditions for the sale of such building. Due to our continued year-to-date operating losses and the continued uncertainty

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regarding the recoverability of our deferred tax assets, no tax benefit has been provided for in the financial statements for the nine months ending September 30, 2003. As such, as of September 30, 2003 our net deferred tax asset balance is zero.

### Results of Operations

Net sales were \$9.1 million for our third quarter ending September 30, 2003, down 16.3% from \$10.9 million in the third quarter of 2002. We had net income of \$0.4 million for the third quarter of 2003, compared to net income of \$0.1 million in the third quarter of 2002. Earnings per share was \$0.05 per diluted share for the third quarter of 2003 compared to earnings of \$0.01 per diluted share for the third quarter of 2002.

Our Q3 2003 net sales decrease of 16.3% from Q3 2002 was primarily due to decreased dial-up modem sales. Dial-up modem sales declined primarily due to a decrease of 21% in dial-up modem unit sales, a 3% decline in dial-up modem average selling prices, and higher promotional consumer rebates. The decline in dial-up modem sales was partially offset by a 63% increase in sales in our broadband and other product categories, with our strongest quarterly sales to date of ADSL modems.

Net sales were \$24.2 million and our net loss was \$1.4 million for the nine months ending September 30, 2003 compared to net sales of \$29.1 million and a net loss of \$4.6 million for the nine months ending September 30, 2002. Loss per share was a loss of \$.18 per diluted share for the nine months of 2003 compared to a loss of \$.59 per diluted share for the nine months of 2002. The \$4.9 million net sales decline was primarily due to decreased dial-up modem sales. Dial-up modem sales declined primarily due to a decrease in dial-up modem unit sales, a decline in dial-up modem average selling prices, and higher promotional consumer rebates. The decline in dial-up modem sales was partially offset by an increase in sales in our broadband and other product categories.

Our gross profit decreased to \$3.0 million in Q3 2003 from \$3.2 million in Q3 2002. Our gross profit as a percentage of net sales improved to 32.5% in Q3 2003 from 29.1% in Q3 2002. The improvement in gross profit percentage resulted primarily from lower inventory charges for obsolescence and lower of cost or market write-downs.

Our gross profit for the nine months ending September 30, 2003 and for the same period in 2002 was \$6.9 million, 28.4% and 23.9% of net sales respectively. This improvement in gross profit percentage was primarily due to lower inventory charges for obsolescence and lower of cost or market write-downs.

Our operating expenses decreased by \$0.5 million to \$2.6 million or 29.1% of net sales in Q3 2003 from \$3.1 million or 28.7% of net sales in Q3 2002. The decrease of \$0.5 million was comprised of lower selling expenses of \$0.05 million, lower research and development expenses of \$0.2 million, and lower general and administrative expenses of \$.2 million. We have reduced our worldwide staff to 165 employees on September 30, 2003 from 190 employees on September 30, 2002. We also continue to maintain a temporary wage freeze and tight controls on discretionary spending.

Our operating expenses decreased by \$1.4 million to \$8.5 million or 35.3% of net sales in the first nine months of 2003 from \$9.9 million or 34.0% of net sales in the first nine months of 2002. The decrease of \$1.4 million was comprised of lower selling expenses of \$0.5 million, lower research and development expenses of \$0.7 million, and lower general and administrative expense of \$.2 million.

Selling expenses in Q3 2003 were relatively consistent at \$1.4 million or 15.1% of net sales compared to \$1.4 million or 13.1% of net sales in Q3 2002.

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Selling expenses were slightly lower primarily because of lower personnel costs resulting from employee headcount reductions, reduced commissions and related sales expenses, and reduced marketing costs.

Selling expenses in the nine months ending September 30, 2003 decreased \$.5 million to \$4.0 million or 16.4% of net sales from \$4.5 million or 15.4% of net sales in the nine months ending September 30, 2002. Selling expenses were lower primarily because of lower personnel costs resulting from employee headcount reductions, reduced commissions and related sales expenses, and reduced marketing costs.

General and administrative expenses decreased \$.2 million to \$0.6 million or 6.7% of net sales in Q3 2003 from \$0.8 million or 7.6% of net sales in Q3 2002. General and administrative expenses were lower primarily because of reduced legal and audit fees, favorable bad debt recovery from an old customer settlement, reduced personnel costs related to employee headcount reductions, and reduced depreciation and amortization expenses.

General and administrative expenses decreased \$.2 million to \$2.4 million or 10.0% of net sales in the first nine months of 2003 from \$2.6 million or 8.9% of net sales in the first nine months of 2002. General and administrative expenses year-over-year for the first nine months were lower primarily because of lower depreciation expense, reduced business insurance expense, and lower legal fees, partially offset by increased employee-health expenses.

Research and development expenses decreased \$.2 million to \$0.7 million or 7.2% of net sales in Q3 2003 from \$0.9 million or 8.1% of net sales in Q3 2002. Research and development costs decreased primarily as a result of reduced personnel costs. Development and support continues on all of our major product lines.

Research and development expenses decreased \$.6 million to \$2.2 million or 8.9% of net sales in the first nine months of 2003 from \$2.8 million or 9.7% of net sales in the first nine months of 2002. Research and development costs decreased primarily as a result of reduced personnel costs.

Other income (expense) net improved from income of \$0.05 million in Q3 2002 to income of \$0.1 million in Q3 2003. Included in other income (expense) are interest income, interest expense, and other, net.

- o Interest income. Interest income decreased to \$0.017 million in Q3 2003 from \$0.023 million in Q3 2002. The decrease was the result of our lower earned interest rate partially offset by the interest earned on a higher average invested cash balance during Q3 2003 compared to Q3 2002. The average interest rate earned was approximately 62 basis points lower in Q3 2003 than in Q3 2002.
- o Interest expense. Interest expense decreased to \$0.05 million in Q3 2003 from \$0.07 million in Q3 2002. The interest expense decrease is due to lower interest expense on our \$6.0 million mortgage taken out in January 2001 on our headquarters building. The interest rate and the outstanding balance were both lower in Q3 2003 compared to Q3 2002. The mortgage interest rate is adjusted annually in January of each year.
- o Other, net. The total income increased to \$0.13 million in Q3 2003 from \$0.10 million in Q3 2002 due primarily to the sale of an internet domain name, partially offset by a foreign exchange loss.

Other income (expense) net improved from income of \$0.09 million in the first nine months of 2002 to income of \$0.2 million in the first nine months of 2003. Included in other income (expense) are interest income, interest expense, equity in losses of affiliate, and other, net.

- o Interest income. Interest income decreased to \$0.06 million in the first

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nine months of 2003 from \$0.09 million in the first nine months of 2002. The decrease was the result of our lower earned interest rate partially offset by the interest earned on a higher average invested cash balance during the first nine months of 2003 compared to the first nine months of 2002. The average interest rate earned was approximately 56 basis points lower in the first nine months of 2003 than in the first nine months of 2002.

- o Interest expense. Interest expense decreased to \$0.15 million in the first nine months of 2003 from \$0.23 million in the first nine months of 2002. The interest expense decrease is due to lower interest expense on our \$6.0 million mortgage taken out in January 2001 on our headquarters building. The interest rate and the outstanding balance were both lower in the first nine months of 2003 compared to the first nine months of 2002. The mortgage interest rate is adjusted annually in January of each year.
- o Equity in losses of affiliate. Our affiliate losses were zero in the first nine months of 2003 and \$.06 million in the first nine months of 2002, as our carrying value of the investment, which was being accounted for under the equity method of accounting, was reduced to zero during Q2 2002.
- o Other, net. The total income increased to \$0.33 million in the first nine months of 2003 from \$0.24 million in the first nine months of 2002, primarily due to the sale of an internet domain name and higher rental income from the rental of vacant space in our headquarters facility.

Income tax expense was zero for the three months and nine months ending September 30, 2003 and the three months ending September 30, 2002. In the nine months ending September 30, 2002 we recorded income tax expense in the first quarter of 2002 of \$2.0 million as a result of an increase to our valuation reserve against our net deferred tax asset balance of \$2.0 million. The net deferred tax asset balance at September 30, 2003 is zero. This reserve is discussed in further detail under the caption "Critical Accounting Policies" set forth herein.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

On September 30, 2003 we had working capital of \$14.4 million, including \$8.8 million in cash and cash equivalents.

In the first nine months of 2003 operating activities generated \$1.3 million in cash. Our net loss in the first nine months of 2003 was \$1.4 million. Other uses of cash from operations included an increase of accounts receivable of \$0.6 million and a decrease of accounts payable and accrued expenses of \$0.6 million. Sources of cash from operations included a reduction of inventory of \$3.0 million, depreciation of \$0.5 million, and a decrease in prepaid expenses of \$0.5 million. The decrease in inventory was primarily the result of reduced sales activity and improved inventory turnover. The reduction of prepaid expenses resulted primarily from the receipt of a payment of \$0.48 million for the sale of our interest in the Zoom Group to the other members of the Zoom Group with the termination of our participation in the ownership of the Drydock building. The Drydock transaction is discussed in further detail under the caption "Commitments and Related Party Transaction" below.

In the first nine months of 2003 our net cash used in investing activities was \$0.02 million. We anticipate that we will continue with modest investments in equipment and in improvements to our facilities during the year.

In the first nine months of 2003 our net cash used in financing activities was \$.09 million, consisting primarily of principal payments of \$0.16 million on the mortgage on our headquarters facility, partially offset by the receipt of \$0.08 million of cash from the exercise of employee non-qualified stock options. Our mortgage is a 5-year balloon mortgage that is amortized on a 20-year basis and matures on January 10, 2006. The interest rate is adjusted annually in January of each year based on the Federal Home Loan Bank rate plus 2.5% per

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annum. In 2002 the interest rate was 4.97%. As of January 10, 2003 the rate of interest was changed to 3.81%.

Currently we do not have a debt facility, and we do not expect to obtain one on acceptable terms unless there is an improvement in our operating performance. However, we believe we would be able to obtain funds, if and when required, by factoring accounts receivable. We do not plan to put a factoring arrangement in place until and unless it is necessary since there would be an up-front cost to finalize the arrangement.

To conserve cash and manage our liquidity, we implemented expense reductions throughout 2002 and in the first nine months of 2003. Our employee headcount was 185 at December 31, 2002 which has been reduced to 165 at September 30, 2003. We will continue to assess our cost structure as it relates to our revenues and cash position in 2003, and we may make further reductions if the actions are deemed necessary.

The bundling by PC manufacturers of dial-up modems into computers and the increased popularity of broadband modems lower the total available market through our sales channels. Because of this, our dial-up modem sales are unlikely to grow unless our market share grows significantly, promotions by the Internet Service Providers of V.92 grow the market, PC manufacturers engage in less modem bundling with PCs, or the availability of new web acceleration techniques grows the market. If our dial-up modem sales do not grow, our future success will depend in large part on our ability to successfully penetrate the broadband modem market.

Management believes we have sufficient resources to fund our planned operations over the next 12 months. However, if we are unable to increase our revenues, reduce or otherwise adequately control our expenses, or raise capital, our longer-term ability to continue as a going concern and achieve our intended business objectives could be adversely affected. See "Risk Factors" below, for further information with respect to events and uncertainties that could harm our business, operating results, and financial condition.

### Commitments

During the three months and nine months ending September 30, 2003 there were no material changes to our capital commitments and contractual obligations from those disclosed in the Form 10-K for the year ending December 31, 2002.

On April 25, 2003 we agreed to purchase substantially all of the modem assets of SONICblue Incorporated, including the trade names Diamond and Supra, for approximately \$495,000, subject to adjustment, and certain end-user obligations, including customer support and firmware upgrades. SONICblue, a consumer electronics manufacturer, was involved in voluntary bankruptcy proceedings filed under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Our obligation to purchase the assets was subject to approval of the bankruptcy court, higher bids in the bankruptcy court, and customary closing conditions. On June 6, 2003 a Chapter 11 bankruptcy auction was held, and we chose not to outbid a higher bid from a modem competitor. In September 2003, we received the return of our deposit of \$.05 million and a break-up fee of \$.03 million, as approved by the bankruptcy court.

### Related Party Transactions

In March 2002 following the termination of discussions pursuant to which Zoom proposed to purchase a ground lease for a manufacturing facility located at 27 Drydock Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts (the "Drydock Building"), Zoom pursued an arrangement to purchase the Drydock Building in partnership with the following individuals: Frank B. Manning, President and a director of Zoom; Peter R. Kramer, Executive Vice President and a director of Zoom; Bruce M. Kramer,



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Peter Kramer's brother; and a third party. Under this arrangement, these individuals, either directly or through entities controlled by them, joined together with us as of March 29, 2002 to form the Zoom Group LLC, a Massachusetts limited liability company ("Zoom Group") to purchase the Drydock Building. Zoom and each of the investors owned a 20% interest in the Zoom Group. The managers of the Zoom Group are Peter Kramer and the third party.

In August, 2002 the Zoom Group purchased the Drydock Building for a purchase price of \$6.1 million. The Zoom Group obtained a mortgage of \$4.2 million, less closing costs and legal fees. Each member of the Zoom Group contributed \$482,577 for their share of the investment plus initial working capital. These initial capital contributions include each member's share of the deposit.

Under the Zoom Group Operating Agreement the Company had both the right to sell its interest in the Zoom Group to the other members of the Zoom Group by January 5, 2003 for the Company's original purchase price, and the right to purchase the other members' entire interests in the Zoom Group through December 31, 2005 in accordance with a predetermined formula. Effective January 5, 2003 we exercised our right to sell our interest in the Zoom Group to the other members of the Zoom Group. In March 2003 we received the proceeds from the sale of our interest from the remaining members of the Zoom Group, LLC to the value of \$.48 million, which represents the Company's investment amount less the non-refundable deposit and the negotiated share of losses in the Zoom Group, plus interest earned on the Company's original deposit. This action was taken to improve the Company's liquidity position and to reduce its exposure to the Boston real estate market.

### Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In January 2003 the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities" ("VIEs"). This Interpretation addresses the consolidation of variable interest entities in which the equity investors lack one or more of the essential characteristics of a controlling financial interest or where the equity investment at risk is not sufficient for the entity to finance its activities without subordinated financial support from other parties. The Interpretation applies to VIEs created after January 31, 2003 and to VIEs in which an interest is acquired after that date. Effective July 1, 2003 it also applies to VIEs in which an interest is acquired before February 1, 2003. The Company may apply the Interpretation prospectively, with a cumulative effect adjustment as of July 1, 2003 or by restating previously issued financial statements with a cumulative effect adjustment as of the beginning of the first year restated. The adoption of Interpretation No. 46 did not have any effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In May 2003 the FASB issued SFAS 150, "Accounting For Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of Both Liabilities and Equity" which establishes standards for how an issuer of financial instruments classifies and measures certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. It requires that an issuer classify a financial instrument that is within its scope as a liability (or an asset in some circumstances) if, at inception, the monetary value of the obligation is based solely or predominantly on a fixed monetary amount known at inception, variations in something other than the fair value of the issuer's equity shares or variations inversely related to changes in the fair value of the issuer's equity shares. SFAS No. 150 is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003 and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. The adoption of SFAS 150 did not have any impact on our financial position or results of operations.

In November 2002, the FASB's Emerging Issues Task Force finalized EITF Issue No. 00-21 (EITF 00-21), "Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables."

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EITF 00-21 addresses how to determine whether an arrangement involving multiple deliverables contains more than one unit of accounting. EITF 00-21 also addresses how arrangement considerations should be measured and allocated to the separate units of accounting in the arrangement. However, it does not address when the criteria for revenue recognition are met or provide guidance on the appropriate revenue recognition convention for a given unit of accounting. EITF 00-21 is effective for all revenue arrangements entered into in fiscal periods beginning after June 15, 2003, and early application is permitted. Upon adoption, entities may elect to either apply EITF 00-21 prospectively or report the change in accounting as a cumulative-effect adjustment. The Company adopted EITF 00-21 in the second quarter of 2003. The adoption of EITF 00-21 did not have any impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Some of the statements contained in this report are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our or our industry's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to statements regarding: Zoom's plans, expectations and intentions, including statements relating to Zoom's prospects and plans relating to sales of our dial-up, cable and ADSL modems, the anticipated benefits Zoom will receive as a result of V.92 rollout and the consolidation in the dial-up modem markets, the anticipated development of Zoom's markets and sales channels, the level of demand for Zoom's products, the anticipated effect that the "no charge" components will have on Zoom's liquidity, the anticipated impact of Zoom's cost-cutting initiatives, and Zoom's financial condition or results of operations.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "would," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "projects," "predicts," "potential" and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Given these uncertainties you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Also, these forward-looking statements represent our estimates and assumptions only as of the date of this report. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained in this report to reflect any change in our expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any of our forward-looking statements are based. Factors that could cause or contribute to differences in our future financial results include those discussed in the risk factors set forth below as well as those discussed elsewhere in this report and in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

### RISK FACTORS

This report contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, such as statements of our objectives, expectations and intentions. The cautionary statements made in this report should be read as applicable to all forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this report. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed herein. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include those

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discussed below, as well as those discussed elsewhere in this report.

Our revenues have declined and we have incurred significant losses over the last three years.

We incurred a net loss of \$1.4 million for the nine months ending September 30, 2003, \$5.1 million in 2002, \$18.3 million in 2001, and \$3.1 million in 2000. Our revenue has declined from \$57.7 million in 2000 to \$41.6 million in 2001, and to \$37.3 million in 2002. Our revenue was \$24.2 million for the nine months ending September 30, 2003.

We attribute the decline of our business primarily to a decline in the retail dial-up modem market.

Although we have reduced our operating expense levels significantly, our revenues must increase or we will probably continue to incur total year operating losses. We cannot guarantee that our expenditure reductions will continue or that we will be able to halt the decline in our revenues. Although we believe that we have sufficient resources to fund our planned operations over the next year, if we fail to increase our revenues, our longer-term ability to stay in business and to achieve our intended business objectives could be adversely effected. Our continuing losses and use of cash could also adversely affect our ability to fund the growth of our business should our strategies prove successful.

To stay in business we may require future additional funding which we may be unable to obtain on favorable terms, if at all.

Over the next twelve months, we may require additional financing for our operations either to fund losses beyond those we anticipate or to fund growth in our inventory and accounts receivable should growth occur. We currently do not have a debt facility from which we can borrow and we do not expect to obtain one on acceptable terms unless our operating performance improves. Additional financing may not be available to us on a timely basis if at all, or on terms acceptable to us. If we fail to obtain acceptable additional financing when needed, we may be required to further reduce planned expenditures or forego business opportunities, which could reduce our revenues, increase our losses, and harm our business. Moreover, additional equity financing could dilute the per share value of our common stock held by current shareholders, while additional debt financing could restrict our ability to make capital expenditures or incur additional indebtedness, all of which would impede our ability to succeed.

Our existing indebtedness could prevent us from obtaining additional financing and harm our liquidity.

In January 2001 we obtained a \$6 million, 20-year direct reduction mortgage from a bank, secured by our owned real estate in Boston, Massachusetts. Our outstanding indebtedness could adversely affect our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, acquisitions, or other purposes. Our existing indebtedness could also make us more vulnerable to economic downturns and competitive pressures, make it more difficult to obtain additional debt financing, and adversely affect our liquidity. In the event of a cash shortfall, we could be forced to reduce other expenditures to meet our requirements with respect to our outstanding debt. Our ability to meet our obligations will be dependent upon our future performance, which will be subject to financial, business and other factors affecting our operations. Many of these factors are beyond our control. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow from operations in the future to service our debt, we may be required to refinance all or a portion of these obligations or obtain additional financing in order to stay in business.

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Our revenues and operating results have been adversely affected because of a decline in average selling prices for our dial-up modems and because of the decline in the retail market for dial-up modems.

The dial-up modem industry has been characterized by declining average selling prices and a declining retail market. The decline in average selling prices is due to a number of factors, including technological change, lower component costs, and competition. The decline in the size of the retail market for dial-up modems is primarily due to the inclusion of dial-up modems as a standard feature contained in new PCs, and the advent of broadband products. As the market for cable and ADSL modems matures and competition between cable and ADSL service providers intensifies, it is likely that there will be increased retail distribution of cable and ADSL modems. While increased retail sale of broadband modems could increase our sales of these products, it could further reduce demand for our dial-up modems. Decreasing average selling prices and reduced demand for our dial-up modems would result in decreased revenue for dial-up modems, which has been our primary source of revenue.

We believe that our future success will depend in large part on our ability to more successfully penetrate the broadband modem markets, which have been challenging markets, with significant barriers to entry.

With the shrinking of the dial-up modem market we believe that our future success will depend in large part on our ability to more successfully penetrate the ADSL and cable broadband modem markets. These markets have been challenging with significant barriers to entry, that have adversely affected our sales to these markets. Although some cable and ADSL modems are sold at retail, the highest volume purchasers of these modems are concentrated in a relatively few large cable, telecommunications, and Internet service providers which offer broadband modem services to their customers. These customers, particularly cable services providers, also have extensive and varied approval processes for modems to be approved for use on their network. These approvals are expensive, time consuming, and continue to evolve. Successfully penetrating the broadband modem market therefore presents a number of challenges including:

- o the current limited retail market for broadband modems;
- o the relatively small number of cable, telecommunications and Internet service provider customers that make up a substantial part of the market for broadband modems;
- o the significant bargaining power of these large volume purchasers;
- o the time consuming, expensive, uncertain and varied approval process of the various cable service providers; and
- o the strong relationships with cable service providers enjoyed by incumbents cable equipment providers like Motorola and Scientific Atlanta.

Our initial sales of broadband products have been adversely affected by all of these factors. We cannot assure that we will be able to successfully penetrate these markets.

Our customer base is concentrated and the loss of one or more of our customers could harm our business.

Relatively few customers have accounted for a significant portion of our net sales. In 2002 43% of our net sales were attributable to three customers, each of whom accounted for 10% or more of our net sales. In Q3 2003 approximately 41% of our net sales were attributable to three customers, each of whom accounted for more than 10% of net sales. Because our customer base is concentrated, a loss of one or more of these significant customers or a reduction or delay in orders or a default in payment from any of our top customers could significantly reduce our sales which would materially harm our business, results of operations, and financial condition.

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Our failure to meet changing customer requirements and emerging industry standards would adversely impact our ability to sell our products.

The market for PC communications products and high-speed broadband access products is characterized by aggressive pricing practices, continually changing customer demand patterns, rapid technological advances, emerging industry standards and short product life cycles. Some of our product developments and enhancements have taken longer than planned and have delayed the availability of our products, which adversely affected our sales and profitability in the past. Any significant delays in the future may adversely impact our ability to sell our products, and our results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected. Our future success will depend in large part upon our ability to:

- o identify and respond to emerging technological trends in the market;
- o develop and maintain competitive products that meet changing customer demands;
- o enhance our products by adding innovative features that differentiate our products from those of our competitors;
- o bring products to market on a timely basis;
- o introduce products that have competitive prices;
- o manage our product transitions, inventory levels and manufacturing processes efficiently; and
- o respond effectively to new technological changes or new product announcements by others.

Our product cycles tend to be short, and we may incur significant non-recoverable expenses or devote significant resources to sales that do not occur when anticipated. Therefore, the resources we devote to product development, sales and marketing may not generate material revenues for us. In addition short product cycles have resulted in and may in the future result in excess and obsolete inventory, which has had and may in the future have an adverse affect on our results of operations. In an effort to develop innovative products and technology we have incurred and may in the future incur substantial development, sales, marketing, and inventory costs. If we are unable to recover these costs our financial condition and operating results could be adversely affected. In addition if we sell our products at reduced prices in anticipation of cost reductions and we still have higher cost products in inventory, our business would be harmed and our results of operations and financial condition would be adversely affected.

Our operating results have been adversely affected because of price protection programs.

Our operating results have been adversely affected by reductions in average selling prices because we gave credits to some of our customers as a result of contractual price protection guarantees. Specifically when we reduce the price for a product, the customer receives a credit for the difference between the customer's most recent purchase price and our reduced price for the product for all unsold product at the time of the price reduction. For the first nine months of 2002 and the first nine months of 2003 we recorded a reduction of revenue of \$0.3 million and \$0.2 million, respectively, for customer price protection. We may be subject to product returns resulting from defects or from overstocking of our products. Product returns could result in the failure to attain market acceptance of our products, which would harm our business.

If our products contain undetected defects, errors, or failures, we could face:

- o delays in the development of our products;
- o numerous product returns; and
- o other losses to us or to our customers or end users.

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Any of these occurrences could also result in the loss of or delay in market acceptance of our products, either of which would reduce our sales and harm our business. We are also exposed to the risk of product returns from our customers as a result of contractual stock rotation privileges and our practice of assisting some of our customers in balancing their inventories. Overstocking has in the past led and may in the future lead to higher than normal returns.

Our failure to effectively manage our inventory levels could materially and adversely affect our liquidity and harm our business.

During 2000 in anticipation of future sales of our broadband access products, particularly cable modems, we significantly increased our inventory for these products. We also built up this inventory in response to shortages of components for these products earlier in that year. We have also had difficulty in generating significant orders for some of our products, particularly broadband products, and as a result, we experienced a significant increase in our inventory, to \$21.7 million on December 31, 2000. During 2001 we were able to reduce our inventory levels to \$11.1 million as a result of sales, raw material returns to suppliers, and the write-down of value of some of our inventory. At September 30, 2003 our inventory level was \$3.8 million, a reduction of \$7.3 million from December 31, 2001 primarily attributable to reduced inventory purchases attributable to the delivery of no-charge components from our key component vendors, lower inventory levels to support the reduced sales activity in 2002 and the first nine-months of 2003, improved inventory turnover, inventory write-downs for lower of cost or market adjustments and obsolescence, and sales of excess broadband and wireless inventory. Our failure to effectively manage our inventory may adversely affect our liquidity and increases the risk of inventory obsolescence, a decline in market value of the inventory, or losses from theft, fire, or other casualty.

We may be unable to produce sufficient quantities of our products because we depend on third party manufacturers. If these third party manufacturers fail to produce quality products in a timely manner, our ability to fulfill our customer orders would be adversely impacted.

We use contract manufacturers to partially manufacture our products. We use these third party manufacturers to help ensure low costs, rapid market entry, and reliability. Any manufacturing disruption could impair our ability to fulfill orders, and failure to fulfill orders would adversely affect our sales. Although we currently use six contract manufacturers for the bulk of our purchases, in some cases a given product is provided by only one of these companies. The loss of the services of any of our significant third party manufacturers or a material adverse change in the business of or our relationships with any of these manufacturers could harm our business. Since third parties manufacture our products and we expect this to continue in the future, our success will depend, in part, on the ability of third parties to manufacture our products cost effectively and in sufficient quantities to meet our customer demand.

We are subject to the following risks because of our reliance on third party manufacturers:

- o reduced management and control of component purchases;
- o reduced control over delivery schedules;
- o reduced control over quality assurance;
- o reduced control over manufacturing yields;
- o lack of adequate capacity during periods of excess demand;
- o limited warranties on products supplied to us;
- o potential increases in prices;
- o interruption of supplies from assemblers as a result of a fire, natural calamity, strike or other significant event; and

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- o misappropriation of our intellectual property or consigned inventory.

We may be unable to produce sufficient quantities of our products because we obtain key components from, and depend on, sole or limited source suppliers.

We obtain certain key parts, components, and equipment from sole or limited sources of supply. For example, we purchase dial-up and broadband modem chipsets from Conexant Systems and Agere Systems. Integrated circuit product areas covered by one or both companies include dial-up modems, ADSL modems, cable modems, networking, routers, and gateways. In the past, we have experienced delays in receiving shipments of modem chipsets from our sole source suppliers. We may experience similar delays in the future. In addition, some products may have other components that are available from only one source. If we are unable to obtain a sufficient supply of components from our current sources, we could experience difficulties in obtaining alternative sources or in altering product designs to use alternative components. Resulting delays or reductions in product shipments could damage relationships with our customers and our customers could decide to purchase products from our competitors. Inability to meet our customers' demand or a decision by one or more of our customers to purchase products from our competitors could harm our operating results.

Our failure to satisfy minimum purchase requirements or commitments we have with our sole source suppliers could have an adverse affect on our results of operations.

We have entered into supply arrangements with suppliers of some components that include price and other concessions, including no-charge components, for meeting minimum purchase requirements or commitments. Our business and results of operations could be harmed if we fail to satisfy the minimum purchase requirements or commitments contained in our supply arrangements.

The market for high-speed communications products and services has many competing technologies and, as a result, the demand for our products and services is uncertain.

The market for high-speed communications products and services has a number of competing technologies. For instance, Internet access can be achieved by:

- o using a standard telephone line and appropriate service for dial-up modems, ISDN modems, or ADSL modems, possibly in combination;
- o using a cable modem with a cable TV line and cable modem service;
- o using a router and some type of modem to service the computers connected to a local area network; or
- o other approaches, including wireless links to the Internet.

Although we currently sell products that include these technologies the market for high-speed communication products and services is fragmented and unstable, and in the cases of cable and ADSL modems, the market is dominated by large cable and telephone service providers. The introduction of new products by competitors, market acceptance of products based on new or alternative technologies, or the emergence of new industry standards could render and have in the past rendered our products less competitive or obsolete. If any of these events occur we may be unable to sustain or grow our business. In addition if any of one or more of the alternative technologies gain market share at the expense of another technology, demand for our products may be reduced, and we may be unable to sustain or grow our business.

We face significant competition which could result in decreased demand for our products or services.

We may be unable to compete successfully. A number of companies have developed, or are expected to develop, products that compete or will compete

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with our products. Furthermore many of our current and potential competitors have significantly greater resources than we do. Intense competition, rapid technological change and evolving industry standards could decrease demand for our products or make our products obsolete. Our competitors by product group include the following:

- o Dial-up modem competitors: Actiontec, Askey, Best Data, Creative Labs, Liteon, Intel, Sitecom, and US Robotics.
- o Cable modem competitors: Ambit, D-Link, Linksys, Motorola, Scientific Atlanta, Terayon, Thomson, and Toshiba.
- o ADSL modem competitors: Actiontec, Alcatel, Siemens (formerly Efficient Networks), US Robotics, and Westell.

Changes in current or future laws or governmental regulations that negatively impact our products and technologies could harm our business.

The jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission, or the FCC, extends to the entire United States communications industry including our customers and their products and services that incorporate our products. Our products are also required to meet the regulatory requirements of other countries throughout the world where our products are sold. Obtaining government regulatory approvals is time-consuming and very costly. In the past we have encountered delays in the introduction of our products, such as our cable modems, as a result of government certifications. We may face further delays if we are unable to comply with governmental regulations. Delays caused by the time it takes to comply with regulatory requirements may result in cancellations or postponements of product orders or purchases by our customers, which would harm our business.

Our international operations are subject to a number of risks inherent in international activities.

Our international sales accounted for approximately 30% in fiscal 2000, 38% in fiscal 2001 and approximately 40% in 2002. In Q3 2003 our international sales accounted for approximately 39% of our revenues. Currently our operations are significantly dependent on our international operations, and may be materially and adversely affected by many factors including:

- o international regulatory and communications requirements and policy changes;
- o favoritism toward local suppliers;
- o local language and technical support requirements;
- o difficulties in inventory management, accounts receivable collection and the management of distributors or representatives;
- o difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations;
- o political and economic changes and disruptions;
- o governmental currency controls;
- o shipping costs;
- o currency exchange rate fluctuations; and
- o tariff regulations.

We anticipate that our international sales will continue to account for a significant percentage of our revenues. If foreign markets for our current and future products develop more slowly than currently expected, our future results of operations may be harmed.

Fluctuations in the foreign currency exchange rates in relation to the U.S. dollar could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

Changes in currency exchange rates that increase the relative value of the U.S. dollar may make it more difficult for us to compete with foreign manufacturers on price, or may otherwise have a material adverse effect on our



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sales and operating results. A significant increase in our foreign currency denominated sales would increase our risk associated with foreign currency fluctuations.

Our future success will depend on the continued services of our executive officers and key research and development personnel with expertise in hardware and software development.

The loss of any of our executive officers or key research and development personnel, the inability to attract or retain qualified personnel in the future or delays in hiring skilled personnel could harm our business. Competition for skilled personnel is significant. We may be unable to attract and retain all the personnel necessary for the development of our business. In addition the loss of Frank B. Manning, our president and chief executive officer, or Peter Kramer, our executive vice president, some other member of the management team, a key engineer, or other key contributors, could harm our relations with our customers, our ability to respond to technological change, and our business.

Our business may be harmed by acquisitions we may complete in the future.

We may pursue acquisitions of related businesses, technologies, product lines, or products. Our identification of suitable acquisition candidates involves risk inherent in assessing the values, strengths, weaknesses, risks and profitability of acquisition candidates, including the effects of the possible acquisition on our business, diversion of our management's attention, risk of increased leverage, shareholder dilution, risk associated with unanticipated problems, and risks associated with liabilities we assume.

We may have difficulty protecting our intellectual property.

Our ability to compete is heavily affected by our ability to protect our intellectual property. We rely primarily on trade secret laws, confidentiality procedures, patents, copyrights, trademarks, and licensing arrangements to protect our intellectual property. The steps we take to protect our technology may be inadequate. Existing trade secret, trademark and copyright laws offer only limited protection. Our patents could be invalidated or circumvented. We have more intellectual property assets in some countries than we do in others. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries in which our products are or may be developed, manufactured or sold may not protect our products or intellectual property rights to the same extent as do the laws of the United States. This may make the possibility of piracy of our technology and products more likely. We cannot assure that the steps that we have taken to protect our intellectual property will be adequate to prevent misappropriation of our technology.

We could infringe the intellectual property rights of others.

Particular aspects of our technology could be found to infringe on the intellectual property rights or patents of others. Other companies may hold or obtain patents on inventions or may otherwise claim proprietary rights to technology necessary to our business. We cannot predict the extent to which we may be required to seek licenses. We cannot assure that the terms of any licenses we may be required to seek will be reasonable. We are often indemnified by our suppliers relative to certain intellectual property rights but these indemnifications do not cover all possible suits, and there is no guarantee that a relevant indemnification will be honored by the indemnifying company.

### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

We own financial instruments that are sensitive to market risks as part of our investment portfolio. The investment portfolio is used to preserve our capital until it is required to fund operations, including our research and development activities. None of these market-risk sensitive instruments are held

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for trading purposes. We do not own derivative financial instruments in our investment portfolio. The investment portfolio contains instruments that are subject to the risk of a decline in interest rates.

Investment Rate Risk - Our investment portfolio consists entirely of money market funds, which are subject to interest rate risk. Due to the short duration and conservative nature of these instruments, we do not believe that it has a material exposure to interest rate risk. The 20 year mortgage of our headquarters building is a variable rate loan with the interest rate adjusted annually. A 1% change in the interest rate would result in a decrease or increase of approximately \$58,000 of interest expense per year.

### Item 4. Controls and Procedures.

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our Securities Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's 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. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, as ours are designed to do, and management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

As of September 30, 2003, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective in enabling us to record, process, summarize and report information required to be included in our periodic SEC filings within the required time period.

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 6. Exhibits and reports on Form 8-K

#### (a) Exhibits

31.1 CEO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

31.2 CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.1 CEO Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.2 CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

#### (b) No reports on Form 8-K were filed by the Company during the quarter ending September 30, 2003.

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ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

## SIGNATURES

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

ZOOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Date: November 12, 2003      By: /s/ Frank B. Manning  
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Frank B. Manning, President

Date: November 12, 2003      By: /s/ Robert Crist  
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Robert Crist, Vice President of Finance and  
Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial  
and Accounting Officer)

## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
31.1	CEO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	CEO Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.2	CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002