

AMPEX CORP /DE/  
Form 10-Q  
November 14, 2005  
Table of Contents

---

# 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, 2005

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 No. 0-20292

---

# AMPEX CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

---

Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

**Delaware**  
(State of Incorporation)

**13-3667696**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

**1228 Douglas Avenue**

**Redwood City, California 94063-3199**

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(650) 367-2011**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

---

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 Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

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

As of September 30, 2005, the aggregate number of outstanding shares of our Class A Common Stock, \$.01 par value, was 3,770,948. There were no outstanding shares of our Class C Common Stock, \$.01 par value.

---

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**FORM 10-Q**

**Quarter Ended September 30, 2005**

**INDEX**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION</b>	
Item 1. Financial Statements	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited) at September 30, 2005 and December 31, 2004</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004</u>	4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited) for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004</u>	5
<u>Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	6
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.</u>	23
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure about Market Risk</u>	47
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	47
<b>PART II OTHER INFORMATION</b>	
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	48
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	50
Item 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	50
Item 4. <u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	50
Item 5. <u>Other Information</u>	50
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	51
<u>Signatures</u>	52

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	September 30, 2005	December 31, 2004
	<u>(unaudited)</u>	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,676	\$ 8,840
Short-term investments		9,134
Accounts receivable (net of allowances of \$77 in 2005 and \$74 in 2004)	3,151	2,602
Inventories	5,225	5,187
Royalties receivable	923	
Other current assets	2,482	2,071
Property held for sale		2,670
	<u>23,457</u>	<u>30,504</u>
Total current assets	23,457	30,504
Property, plant and equipment	1,273	1,560
Other assets	367	555
	<u>25,097</u>	<u>32,619</u>
Total assets	\$ 25,097	\$ 32,619
<b>LIABILITIES, REDEEMABLE PREFERRED STOCK AND STOCKHOLDERS DEFICIT</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Notes payable	\$ 117	\$ 131
Accounts payable	4,115	1,577
Net liabilities of discontinued operations	1,347	1,042
Accrued restructuring costs	614	645
Other accrued liabilities	12,576	15,260
	<u>18,769</u>	<u>18,655</u>
Total current liabilities	18,769	18,655
Long-term debt	25,473	30,275
Other liabilities	65,595	77,993
Accrued restructuring costs	1,179	1,622
Net liabilities of discontinued operations	2,791	3,503
	<u>113,807</u>	<u>132,048</u>
Total liabilities	113,807	132,048
Commitments and contingencies (Note 15)		
Mandatorily redeemable nonconvertible preferred stock, \$1,000 liquidation value per share:		
Authorized: 69,970 shares in 2005 and in 2004		
Issued and outstanding - none in 2005 and in 2004		
Mandatorily redeemable preferred stock, \$2,000 liquidation value per share:		
Authorized: 21,859 shares in 2005 and in 2004		
Issued and outstanding - none in 2005 and in 2004		
Convertible preferred stock, \$2,000 liquidation value per share:		
Authorized: 10,000 shares in 2005 and in 2004		

Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Issued and outstanding - none in 2005 and in 2004

Stockholders' deficit:		
Preferred stock, \$1.00 par value:		
Authorized: 898,171 shares in 2005 and in 2004		
Issued and outstanding - none in 2005 and in 2004		
Common stock, \$.01 par value:		
Class A:		
Authorized: 175,000,000 shares in 2005 and in 2004		
Issued and outstanding - 3,770,948 shares in 2005; 3,692,517 in 2004	38	37
Class C:		
Authorized: 50,000,000 shares in 2005 and in 2004		
Issued and outstanding - none in 2005 and in 2004		
Other additional capital	454,708	454,525
Accumulated deficit	(455,430)	(463,680)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(88,026)	(90,311)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total stockholders' deficit	(88,710)	(99,429)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total liabilities, redeemable preferred stock and stockholders' deficit	\$ 25,097	\$ 32,619
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

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

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2005	2004	2005	2004
	(unaudited)			
Licensing revenue	\$ 5,150	\$ 1,759	\$ 26,450	\$ 4,861
Product revenue	3,379	4,390	11,449	15,767
Service revenue	2,199	2,173	6,581	6,496
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>10,728</b>	<b>8,322</b>	<b>44,480</b>	<b>27,124</b>
Intellectual property costs	2,432	1,653	9,701	4,595
Cost of product revenue	2,277	3,069	7,264	10,304
Cost of service revenue	670	688	2,121	1,993
Research, development and engineering	1,100	1,022	3,212	2,853
Selling and administrative	3,208	3,326	11,126	9,160
Restructuring charges (credits)		(1,410)		(1,410)
<b>Total costs and operating expenses</b>	<b>9,687</b>	<b>8,348</b>	<b>33,424</b>	<b>27,495</b>
Operating income (loss)	1,041	(26)	11,056	(371)
Media pension costs	193	322	580	965
Interest expense	471	2,534	1,881	7,312
Amortization of debt financing costs	1	14	194	42
Interest income	(70)	(30)	(184)	(88)
Other (income) expense, net	(1)	(385)	(545)	(381)
<b>Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes and equity in income of limited partnership, including sale of investment</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>(2,481)</b>	<b>9,130</b>	<b>(8,221)</b>
Provision for income taxes	620		880	248
Equity in income of limited partnership, including sale of investment		(591)		(2,149)
<b>Net income (loss) from continuing operations</b>	<b>(173)</b>	<b>(1,890)</b>	<b>8,250</b>	<b>(6,320)</b>
Income from discontinued operations (net of taxes of nil in 2004)		352		352
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>(173)</b>	<b>(1,538)</b>	<b>8,250</b>	<b>(5,968)</b>
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:				
Foreign currency translation adjustments	51	2	103	46
<b>Comprehensive income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ (122)</b>	<b>\$ (1,536)</b>	<b>\$ 8,353</b>	<b>\$ (5,922)</b>
Basic income (loss) per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.52)	\$ 2.22	\$ (1.72)
Basic income per share from discontinued operations	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.09

Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Basic income (loss) per share	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.42)	\$ 2.22	\$ (1.63)
Weighted average number of basic common shares outstanding	3,752,701	3,642,517	3,718,760	3,667,572
Diluted income (loss) per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.52)	\$ 2.14	\$ (1.72)
Diluted income per share from discontinued operations	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.09
Diluted income (loss) per share	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.42)	\$ 2.14	\$ (1.63)
Weighted average number of diluted common shares outstanding	3,752,701	3,642,517	3,853,663	3,667,572

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

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(in thousands)

	For the Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2005	September 30, 2004
	(unaudited)	
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$ 8,250	\$ (5,968)
Income from discontinued operations		(352)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	559	596
Accretion of interest expense		7,168
Equity in net gain of limited partnership, including sale of investment		(2,149)
Ampex periodic pension cost	1,808	1,418
Media periodic pension cost	580	965
Stock option compensation expense		60
Loss (gain) on disposal of assets	(453)	26
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(601)	1,587
Inventories	(38)	159
Royalties receivable	(923)	
Other assets	(432)	2,949
Accounts payable	2,545	1,077
Deferred revenue	(3,438)	(1,896)
Ampex pension contributions	(9,445)	(9,895)
Accrued restructuring costs	(474)	(2,325)
Other liabilities and income taxes payable	(2,138)	(417)
Net cash used in continuing operations	(4,200)	(6,997)
Net cash used in discontinued operations	(407)	(634)
Net cash used in operating activities	(4,607)	(7,631)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of short-term investments		(9,160)
Proceeds received on the maturity of short-term investments	9,134	
Deferred gain on sale of assets	(38)	(38)
Net proceeds on sale of assets	3,100	
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(62)	(91)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	12,134	(9,289)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Borrowings under debt agreements	5,900	9,895
Repayments under debt agreements	(10,716)	(1,539)
Proceeds from foreclosure of shareholders notes		13
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	184	



Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(4,632)	8,369
Effects of exchange rates on cash	(59)	(21)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	2,836	(8,572)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	8,840	14,023
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 11,676	\$ 5,451

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

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Note 1 - Ampex Corporation**

Ampex Corporation ( Ampex or the Company ) is a leading innovator and licensor of visual information technology. During its 60-year history, the Company has developed substantial proprietary technology relating to the electronic storage, processing and retrieval of data, particularly images. The Company currently holds patents and patent applications covering digital image-processing, data compression and recording technologies. The Company leverages its investment in technology through its corporate licensing division that licenses its patents to manufacturers of consumer electronics products. Through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Ampex Data Systems Corporation ( Data Systems ), the Company incorporates this technology in the design and manufacture of very high performance data storage products, principally used in intelligence gathering and airplane design to gather digital images and other data from aircraft, satellites and submarines.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Presentation***

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. The preparation of these consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principals requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in these consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from these estimates. The Company has prepared interim information included herein, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for reporting on Form 10-Q. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. In addition, certain reclassifications have been made to the prior period financial statements to conform to the current period's presentation. The statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004 and the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements included therein.

In the opinion of management, the financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods presented. The results of operations for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2005 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year.

***Use of Estimates***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires Management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of net revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

*Cash Equivalents and Short-term Investments*

Highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less at the date of purchase are classified as cash equivalents. Highly liquid investments with maturities greater than three months are classified as short-term investments. Management determines the appropriate classification of its investments in debt and marketable equity securities at the time of purchase and reevaluates such designation as of each balance sheet date. The Company's debt and marketable equity securities have been classified and accounted for as available-for-sale. These securities are carried at fair value, with the unrealized gains and losses, net of taxes, reported as a component of shareholders' deficit. The cost of securities sold is based upon the specific identification method.

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

***Long-Term Investments***

The Company owns a minority equity investment in a private company that conducts research and development and performs contract engineering services for the Department of Defense and high technology industries. This investment is included in other long-term assets. It is inherently risky because the products and technologies in development are not fully commercialized.

The Company's investment in a limited partnership was accounted for under the equity method. During the year ended December 31, 2004, the partnership sold or distributed to its partners all of the shares of common stock that it had purchased in a publicly held British promotional products company. No further investment activities are envisioned and the partnership has concluded its affairs. The Company received total distributions of \$3.3 million on its \$1.0 million investment. The Company's share of the equity in income of the partnership for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 is included in Equity in income of limited partnership, including sale of investment.

***Inventories***

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined on a standard cost basis, which approximates actual cost under the first in, first out (FIFO) method. Abnormal amounts of facility expense, freight, handling costs and scrap material are excluded from inventory cost and expensed during the period in which they are incurred. Appropriate consideration is given to obsolescence, excessive levels, deterioration and other factors in evaluating net realizable value.

***Property, Plant and Equipment***

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost and stated net of accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets ranging from three to nine years for furniture, fixtures and equipment, two to ten years for leasehold improvements and 50 years for buildings. When assets are disposed of, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts and the resulting gains or losses are included in the results of operations.

***Environmental Liabilities***

The Company's facilities and business practices are subject to numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations designed to protect the environment from waste emissions and hazardous substances. Also, we may have continuing liability with respect to environmental contamination related to the facilities and disposal activities of our former subsidiary Media ( Media ). The Company recognizes a liability for any contingency that is probable of occurrence and reasonably estimable in accordance with SFAS No. 5, Accounting for Contingencies. The Company continually assesses these contingencies based on a careful analysis of each matter with the assistance of outside legal counsel and, if

applicable, other experts. Such analysis includes making judgments concerning matters such as the extent of environmental damage and the Company's pro rata participation, if applicable, the most desirable remediation techniques and the time period during which the cleanup costs may be incurred. Because most contingencies are resolved over long periods of time, liabilities may change in the future due to new developments or other changes. Given the uncertainties regarding the status of laws, regulations, enforcement policies, the impact of other potentially responsible parties, technology and information related to individual sites, the Company does not believe it is possible to develop an estimate of the range of reasonably possible environmental loss in excess of our accruals.

*Foreign Currency Translation*

Assets and liabilities of subsidiaries located outside the United States have been translated at rates in effect at year-end. Revenues and expenses are translated at average rates during the year. Local currencies are considered to be the functional currencies for all of the Company's foreign subsidiaries. Accordingly, the effects of translating the financial statements of foreign subsidiaries into U.S. dollars are reported in the cumulative translation adjustment, a separate component of stockholders' deficit. Foreign currency transaction gains and losses, which are included in other expense, were not material in the periods reported.

---

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

***Revenue Recognition***

The Company recognizes revenue in accordance with applicable accounting standards including Staff Accounting Bulletin ( SAB ) No. 104, Revenue Recognition and Emerging Issues Task Force ( EITF ) Issue No. 00-21, Accounting for Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables, and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (the AICPA ) Statement of Position ( SOP ) 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition, as amended. Revenue is recognized when (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (2) delivery and acceptance has occurred or services have been rendered, (3) the fee is fixed or determinable, and (4) collection is reasonably assured. The Company derives its revenue from three principle sources: license fees (including royalties) through its Licensing segment, and product and parts sales and service contracts through its Recorders segment.

Determination of criteria (3) and (4) are based on Management's judgments regarding the fixed nature of the fee charged for services rendered and products delivered and the collectibility of those fees. 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 affected.

The Company's revenue recognition policy with respect to royalty income is as follows: when the Company enters into an agreement with a new licensee for use of its patents, the Company may receive settlement of past due royalties. This is a negotiated amount and is typically paid by the licensee within 30 days of signing the license agreement. Past due royalties cover the licensee's product shipments from the period when they were first notified of infringement up through the effective date of the license. The Company may also negotiate a prepayment of royalties that would otherwise be due up to a specific future date. The dollar amounts due under a negotiated agreement for both past due royalties and for prepayment of royalties are non-refundable and non-forfeitable. The Company recognizes both past due and prepayment amounts as revenue in the period when the agreement has been executed by both parties, which is when there is persuasive evidence of an arrangement, fees become fixed or determinable and collection becomes probable, as the Company has no future obligations with respect to these agreements and delivery has occurred. In addition, the Company's licensing agreement may include a running royalty which covers products shipped by the licensee after the date that the license agreement has been entered into and until the patent has expired or when the patent is no longer contractually available to the licensee, if shorter. The Company's royalties are computed as a percentage of the selling price of the licensee's products and are paid quarterly in arrears and recognized as revenue in the period when the amount payable is known and collection is reasonably assured.

Revenue on product sales and services is recorded when all of the following have occurred: an agreement of sale exists, product delivery (principally FOB Ampex Factory) and acceptance has occurred or services have been rendered, pricing is fixed or determinable, and collection is reasonably assured. Service revenue is recognized ratably over the life of the service contract.

***Long-Term Contracts***

The Company had one long-term contract that qualified for percentage-of-completion accounting in prior years. Revenues and estimated profits on this long-term contract were recognized over an extended period of time on the percentage-of-completion method based on the total direct costs expected to be incurred on the contract. The Company's estimates to complete were reviewed periodically, with adjustments recorded in the period in which revisions were required. Historically, the Company had not incurred any losses on this long-term contract.

*Pension and Other Post-Retirement Benefits/Obligations*

The determination of the Company's obligation and expense for pension and other postretirement benefits payable to Ampex's and Media's employees and retirees is dependent on the Company's selection of certain assumptions used by actuaries in calculating such amounts. Those assumptions include, among others, the discount rate, expected long-term rate of return on plan assets and mortality assumptions for the plan participants. In accordance with SFAS No. 87, Employers Accounting for Pensions, actual results that differ from the Company's assumptions are accumulated and amortized over future periods and therefore, generally affect our recognized expense and recorded obligation in such future periods.

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

While the Company believes that its assumptions are appropriate, significant differences in its actual experience or significant changes in the Company's assumptions that may be required under new legislation or otherwise may materially affect its pension and other postretirement obligations and its future expense as well as amounts that may ultimately be required to be paid to fund the Media pension plan. On January 10, 2005, Media filed for Chapter 11 Reorganization. Accordingly, the Company does not expect to receive additional reimbursements from Media of amounts that the Company has paid to date or that the Company will be required to pay in the future.

***Research, Development and Engineering***

Research and development costs are expensed as incurred and amounted to \$3.2 million and \$2.7 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004, respectively. Other engineering costs, principally incurred in connection with product introductions and process enhancements, amounted to \$26,000 and \$0.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

***Restructuring Charges***

The Company accounts for severance and benefit termination costs and other costs associated with an exit or disposal activity initiated after January 1, 2003 in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 146 ( SFAS 146 ), Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities. SFAS 146 requires that a liability for a cost associated with an exit or disposal activity be recognized only when the liability is incurred, as opposed to when management commits to an exit plan. SFAS 146 also establishes that the liability should initially be measured and recorded at fair value, and subsequent adjustments to liabilities shall be measured using the credit-adjusted risk-free rate that was used to measure the liability initially.

***Income Taxes***

The Company follows Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109 ( SFAS 109 ), Accounting for Income Taxes. Under this method, deferred income taxes are recognized for temporary differences by applying enacted statutory rates applicable to future years to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts and the tax basis of existing assets and liabilities. The effect on deferred taxes of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amounts expected to be realized. See Note 18.

Foreign withholding taxes have been provided on the undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries, giving recognition to applicable tax rates.

***Concentrations of Credit Risk***



Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentrations of risk consist principally of short-term and long-term investments and trade receivables. The Company invests its temporary cash balances in U.S. treasury obligations and U.S. corporate securities and, by policy, limits the investment maturity and the amount of credit exposure to any one financial institution or type of investment. The Company performs ongoing credit evaluations on its customers, and collateral is generally not required for trade receivables.

***Comprehensive Income (Loss)***

Comprehensive income (loss) consists of two components, net income (loss) and other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax. Other comprehensive income (loss) refers to revenue, expenses, gains and losses that under generally accepted accounting principles are recorded as an element of total shareholders' deficit but are excluded from net income (loss). Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), as presented on the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets, consists of foreign currency translation adjustments and the minimum pension adjustment.

***Segment Information***

The Company reports segment information based on the management approach. The management approach designates the internal reporting used by management for making decisions and assessing performance as the source of the Company's reportable segments. See Note 19.

Table of Contents

## AMPEX CORPORATION

## NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

*Basic and Diluted Income (Loss) Per Share*

The basic income (loss) per share is calculated in accordance with the two-class method described in EITF Issue 03-6. Diluted income (loss) per share is computed using the as if converted method if such method results in additional dilution.

**Note 3 Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company accounts for stock-based awards to employees in accordance with APB No. 25 ( APB 25 ), Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and has adopted the disclosure-only alternative of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 ( SFAS 123 ), Accounting for Stock Based Compensation.

The Company has elected to account for employee stock options using the intrinsic value method prescribed by APB 25, and therefore compensation cost for stock options is measured as the excess, if any, of the quoted market price of the Company's stock at the date of the grant over the amount an employee must pay to acquire the stock. As required under SFAS 123, the pro forma effects of stock-based compensation on net income (loss) and income (loss) per share for employee stock options granted have been estimated at the date of grant and beginning of the period, respectively, using a Black-Scholes option pricing model. For purposes of pro forma disclosures, the estimated fair value of the options is amortized to pro forma net income (loss) over the options' vesting period. Had compensation cost for the Company's stock-based compensation plan been determined based on the fair value on the grant dates for awards under those plans consistent with the method of SFAS 123, the Company's net income (loss) would have been adjusted to the pro forma amounts indicated below:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	Sept. 30, 2005	Sept. 30, 2004	Sept. 30, 2005	Sept. 30, 2004
	(in thousands, except per share amounts)			
Net income (loss):				
As reported	\$ (173)	\$ (1,538)	\$ 8,250	\$ (5,968)
Add stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported income, net of related tax effects				
Less total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based methods for all awards, net of related tax effects	(135)	(64)	(207)	(116)
Pro forma	\$ (308)	\$ (1,602)	\$ 8,043	\$ (6,084)
Basic income (loss) per share:				
Income (loss) per share, as reported	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.42)	\$ 2.22	\$ (1.63)

Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Income (loss) per share, pro forma	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.44)	\$ 2.16	\$ (1.66)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Diluted income (loss) per share:				
Income (loss) per share, as reported	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.42)	\$ 2.14	\$ (1.63)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Income (loss) per share, pro forma	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.44)	\$ 2.09	\$ (1.66)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

These pro forma disclosures are not necessarily representative of the effects on reported net income (loss) for future years.

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The fair value of options at the date of grant was estimated using the Black-Scholes model with the following weighted average assumptions:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	Sept. 30, 2005	Sept. 30, 2004	Sept. 30, 2005	Sept. 30, 2004
Expected life (years)		1.0	1.0	1.0
Risk-free interest rate		2.00%	3.50%	1.18-2.00%
Expected volatility		158%	146%	158-247%
Expected dividend yield				

**Note 4 Recent Pronouncements**

In June 2005, the FASB issued FSP issued FSP FAS 143-1, Accounting for Electronic Equipment Waste Obligations ( FSP 143-1 ), which provides guidance on the accounting for obligations associated with the Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (the Directive ), which was adopted by the European Union ( EU ). Under the Directive, the waste management obligation for historical equipment (products put on the market on or prior to August 13, 2005) remains with the commercial user until the equipment is replaced. FSP 143-1 is required to be applied to the later of the first reporting period ending after June 8, 2005 or the date of the Directive s adoption into law by the applicable EU member countries in which the Company has significant operations. The Company is currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of FSP 143-1 will have on its consolidated results of operations and financial condition, but does not expect it to have a material impact.

In May 2005, the FASB issued SFAS No. 154, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections ( SFAS 154 ) which replaces APB Opinion No. 20 Accounting Changes and SFAS No. 3, Reporting Accounting Changes in Interim Financial Statements - An Amendment of APB Opinion No. 28. SFAS 154 provides guidance on the accounting for and reporting of accounting changes and error corrections. It establishes retrospective application, or the latest practicable date, as the required method for reporting a change in accounting principle and the reporting of a correction of an error. SFAS 154 is effective for accounting changes and corrections of errors made in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2005. The Company is currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of SFAS 154 will have on its consolidated results of operations and financial condition, but does not expect it to have a material impact.

In March 2005, the FASB issued FIN 47, Accounting for Conditional Asset Retirement Obligations, an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 143 ( FIN 47 ), which requires an entity to recognize a liability for the fair value of a conditional asset retirement obligation when incurred if the liability s fair value can be reasonably estimated. FIN 47 is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2005. The Company is currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of FIN 47 will have on its consolidated results of operations and financial condition, but does not expect it to have a material impact.

In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment ( SFAS 123R ), which replaces SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, ( SFAS 123 ) and supercedes APB Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees.

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

SFAS 123R requires all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, to be recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values beginning with the first interim or annual period after December 15, 2005, with early adoption encouraged. The pro forma disclosures shown above and previously permitted under SFAS 123 no longer will be an alternative to financial statement recognition. The Company is required to adopt SFAS 123R in the first quarter of fiscal 2006, beginning January 1, 2006. The Company expects to use the Black-Scholes valuation model in determining the fair value of share-based payments to employees and directors, and to amortize such amounts to compensation cost on a straight-line basis. The Company expects to apply the modified prospective method which requires that compensation expense be recorded for all unvested stock options and restricted stock at the beginning of the first quarter of adoption of SFAS 123R. The Company is evaluating the requirements of SFAS 123R and the effect the adoption of SFAS 123R, including Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 ( SAB 107 ) regarding the SEC's interpretation of SFAS 123R, will have on its consolidated results of operations and financial position but has not yet determined whether the effect of adopting SFAS 123R will be material, or whether the adoption will result in amounts that are similar to the current pro forma disclosures under SFAS 123.

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 153, Exchanges of Nonmonetary Assets - An Amendment of APB Opinion No. 29, Accounting for Nonmonetary Transactions ( SFAS 153 ). SFAS 153 eliminates the exception from fair value measurement for nonmonetary exchanges of similar productive assets in paragraph 21(b) of APB Opinion No. 29, Accounting for Nonmonetary Transactions, and replaces it with an exception for exchanges that do not have commercial substance. SFAS 153 specifies that a nonmonetary exchange has commercial substance if the future cash flows of the entity are expected to change significantly as a result of the exchange. SFAS 153 is effective for fiscal periods beginning after June 15, 2005. The Company is currently evaluating the effect the adoption of SFAS 153 will have on its financial position, cash flows or results of operations, but does not expect it to have a material impact.

In November 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 151, Inventory Costs - An Amendment of ARB No. 43, Chapter 4 ( SFAS 151 ). SFAS 151 amends the guidance in ARB No. 43, Chapter 4, Inventory Pricing, to clarify the accounting for abnormal amounts of idle facility expense, freight, handling costs, and wasted material (spoilage). Among other provisions, the new rule requires that items such as idle facility expense be recognized as current-period charges regardless of whether they meet the criterion of so abnormal as stated in ARB No. 43. Additionally, SFAS 151 requires that the allocation of fixed production overheads to the costs of conversion be based on the normal capacity of the production facilities. SFAS 151 is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2005. The Company is currently evaluating the effect the adoption of SFAS 151 will have on its financial position, cash flows or results of operations, but does not expect it to have a material impact.

**Note 5 - Computation of Basic and Diluted Income (Loss) per Share**

In accordance with the disclosure requirements of SFAS 128, a reconciliation of the numerator and denominator of basis and diluted income (loss) per common share is provided as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	Sept. 30, 2005	Sept. 30, 2004	Sept. 30, 2005	Sept. 30, 2004
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)				
<b>Numerator</b>				
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (173)	\$ (1,890)	\$ 8,250	\$ (6,320)
Net income (loss)	\$ (173)	\$ (1,538)	\$ 8,250	\$ (5,968)
<b>Denominator</b>				
Weighted average number of basic common shares outstanding	3,752,701	3,642,517	3,718,760	3,667,572
Effect of dilutive stock options			134,903	
Weighted average number of diluted common shares outstanding	3,752,701	3,642,517	3,853,663	3,667,572
Basic income (loss) per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.52)	\$ 2.22	\$ (1.72)

Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Basic income (loss) per share	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.42)	\$ 2.22	\$ (1.63)
Diluted income (loss) per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.52)	\$ 2.14	\$ (1.72)
Diluted income (loss) per share	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.42)	\$ 2.14	\$ (1.63)

Stock options to purchase 172,891 shares of Common Stock at prices ranging from \$1.15 to \$38.25 per share were outstanding at September 30, 2005 and were not included in the computation of diluted loss per share for the three months ended September 30, 2005 because they were anti-dilutive. Stock options to purchase 144,891 shares of Common Stock at prices ranging from \$1.15 to \$21.25 were included in the computation of diluted weighted average common stock outstanding for the nine months ended September 30, 2005.

Stock options to purchase 289,803 shares of Common Stock at prices ranging from \$1.15 to \$32.50 per share were outstanding at September 30, 2004 and were not included in the computation of diluted loss per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 because they were anti-dilutive.

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****Note 6 - Supplemental Schedule of Cash Flow Information**

	<b>Nine Months Ended Sept. 30,</b>	
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
	(in thousands)	
Interest paid	\$ 2,444	\$ 497
Income taxes paid	1,578	1,031

**Note 7 - Inventories**

	<b>September 30,</b>	<b>December 31,</b>
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
	(in thousands)	
Raw materials	\$ 4,246	\$ 3,833
Work in process	3,043	3,299
Finished goods	4,041	3,884
	11,330	11,016
Less inventory reserve	(6,105)	(5,829)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,225</b>	<b>\$ 5,187</b>

**Note 8 Royalties Receivable**

Royalties receivable represents amounts based on royalty reports submitted by licensees covering their product sales made prior to the end of the period and received in cash in the subsequent period.

**Note 9 Property Held for Sale and Property, Plant and Equipment**Property Held for Sale



Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

	September 30, 2005	December 31, 2004
	—	—
	(in thousands)	
Land	\$	\$ 952
Buildings and improvements		4,916
Furniture, fixtures and equipment		65
	—	—
		5,933
Less accumulated depreciation		(3,263)
	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 2,670</b>

The Company's subsidiary, Ampex Data Systems Corporation, sold its former manufacturing facility in Colorado Springs, CO on April 15, 2005 and the Company received net proceeds of approximately \$3.0 million. A gain on sale of assets of \$0.5 million was recognized in Other (income) expense, net in the second quarter of 2005.

Property, Plant and Equipment

	September 30, 2005	December 31, 2004
	—	—
	(in thousands)	
Leasehold improvements	\$ 4,436	\$ 4,445
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	6,585	7,025
	—	—
	11,021	11,470
Less accumulated depreciation	(9,748)	(9,910)
	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,273</b>	<b>\$ 1,560</b>

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****Note 10 Discontinued Operations**

The Company disposed of the Media subsidiary in 1995. However, the Company has a continuing liability with respect to environmental matters pertaining to Media's sites and activities. The measurement of its obligation and recognition of expense for environmental matters directly related to Media's operations is accounted for under SFAS No.5, Accounting for Contingencies. On January 10, 2005, Media filed for Chapter 11 Reorganization. Based on the Company's assessment of Media's financial condition and understanding of its environmental remediation obligations, the Company recorded an estimate of amounts probable of incurrence by it for future clean up costs of \$2.5 million at December 31, 2004. The unamortized balance in the net liabilities of discontinued operations totaled \$2.4 million at September 30, 2005. The balance in net liabilities is expected to be paid out over the next ten years. This obligation has not been discounted to present value.

In 2001, the Company closed its Internet video operations. The Company established a reserve of \$10.3 million at June 30, 2001 to write down its investment to net realizable value and to provide for the costs of closure. The unamortized balance in the net liabilities of discontinued operations totaled \$1.7 million at September 30, 2005. The Company expects to make payments on office leases as it relates to this discontinued operation through 2008. This obligation has not been discounted to present value.

A reconciliation of the changes in the net liabilities of discontinued operations accounts for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004 is as follows:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
	(in thousands)	
Balance at January 1	\$ 4,545	\$ 3,147
Recovery during the period		(352)
Payments made during the period	(407)	(634)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Balance at September 30	<u>\$ 4,138</u>	<u>\$ 2,161</u>

**Note 11 Restructuring Charges**

Data Systems vacated certain administrative offices in Redwood City, CA in 2002 to consolidate operations to lower continuing operating expenses. In 2003, the Company established an additional reserve to reflect the inability to sublease the premises due to the continued depressed real estate market. In 2004, the Company decided to seek a buyer for its Colorado Springs manufacturing facility and reutilize, in part, the Redwood City leased facilities that had been charged to restructuring in prior periods. The Company remeasured the restructuring accrual pursuant to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 146 ( SFAS 146 ), Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities. Lease costs associated with the manufacturing activities in Redwood City are being charged as incurred to the Cost of product sales. The unamortized balance in accrued restructuring totaled \$1.8 million at September 30, 2005. This obligation has been discounted to present value. The Company expects to make payments as it relates to the remaining balance of accrued restructuring through 2008. The Company

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

evaluates the amount of accrued restructuring costs, including projected sublet income, on a quarterly basis, and it may make additional adjustments in future periods if the Company determines that its actual obligations will differ significantly from remaining amounts accrued.

A reconciliation of the changes in the restructuring liability accounts for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004 is as follows:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
	(in thousands)	
Balance at January 1	\$ 2,267	\$ 4,750
Recovery during the period		(1,410)
Payments made during the period	(474)	(915)
	<u>\$ 1,793</u>	<u>\$ 2,425</u>

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****Note 12 - Other Accrued Liabilities**

	September 30, 2005	December 31, 2004
	(in thousands)	
Compensation and employee benefits	\$ 1,845	\$ 2,446
Pension	7,948	5,501
Deferred revenue	1,170	4,608
Customer deposits		380
Taxes	388	1,007
Warranty and other product costs	438	471
Interest payable	184	70
Other	603	777
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total	\$ 12,576	\$ 15,260
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

A reconciliation of the changes in the warranty and other product costs liability account for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004 is as follows:

	2005	2004
	(in thousands)	
Balance at January 1	\$ 471	\$ 641
Accruals for warranties issued during the period	33	7
Settlements made during the period in cash or in kind	(66)	(155)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Balance at September 30	\$ 438	\$ 493
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**Note 13 - Debt**

	September 30, 2005	December 31, 2004
	(in thousands)	
<b>Notes Payable</b>		
Note payable - other	\$ 117	\$ 131

Total	\$ 117	\$ 131
<b><i>Long-term Debt</i></b>		
Hillside notes payable	\$ 19,879	\$ 13,979
Senior notes	5,594	16,296
Total	\$ 25,473	\$ 30,275

***Note Payable Other***

The note is a non-interest-bearing demand promissory note held by NH Holding Incorporated. The outstanding balance at September 30, 2005 of \$0.1 million is expected to be paid or converted into shares of Common Stock.

***Hillside Notes***

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ( the PBGC ), Hillside Capital Incorporated, a former affiliate, and Ampex entered into a Joint Settlement Agreement in 1994, whereby Hillside agreed to retain plan termination liability to the PBGC under the Ampex and Media pension plans after the reorganization of NH Holdings Incorporated, our former parent. Pursuant to this agreement, Hillside was also required to advance pension contributions for the Ampex pension plan and Media pension plan in the event that Ampex was unable to make the pension contributions. Failure by Hillside to advance funds in subsequent periods would enable the PBGC to terminate the plans and seek recovery of termination benefits from Hillside.

---

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Company has issued notes to Hillside ( Hillside Notes ) in the amount of the pension contributions and amounts advanced in prior years. Hillside paid the Ampex pension contribution of \$5.9 million on September 15, 2005. The Company may request Hillside to fund additional contributions in future years based on the Company's liquidity.

If Hillside is required to make all or a portion of the above pension contributions, the Company will issue additional Hillside Notes. Under the terms of the Hillside Notes, \$150,000 is due on the first anniversary of each of the notes with the remainder due on the fourth anniversary of the Notes. Pursuant to amendments to the senior debt agreements, all principal payments on the Hillside Notes will be deferred until after December 31, 2006 with earlier repayment in the event that the Senior Notes have been repaid in full. The Hillside Notes provide for interest paid quarterly at 1 percent plus 175% of the applicable mid-term Federal rate (effective rate of 8.20% at September 30, 2005). The Company granted to Hillside a security interest in Data Systems' inventory as collateral for advances, which the Company is required to make pursuant to the agreement. The agreement contains certain restrictive covenants which, among other things, restrict the Company's ability to declare dividends, sell all or substantially all of its assets or commence liquidation, or engage in specified transactions with certain related parties, breach of which could result in acceleration of the Company's potential termination liabilities.

Hillside is legally obligated to comply with the terms of the Joint Settlement Agreement, and they have represented that they have sufficient assets to fund pension contributions scheduled in future years. Ampex has no direct or indirect financial ownership interest in Hillside and, accordingly, has no ability to control Hillside or to mandate its compliance with the terms of the Joint Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, Ampex's ability to borrow pension contributions from Hillside is beyond its control.

***Senior Notes and Senior Discount Notes***

In March 2004, the Company received consent from the holders of its senior debt securities (i) to extend the maturity date of its 20% Senior Discount Notes from January 5, 2005 to January 5, 2006, (ii) to extend the measurement date from December 31, 2004 to December 31, 2006, by which the Company is required to generate at least \$30 million of Available Cash Flow, as defined in the indenture governing the 12% Senior Notes due 2008 and (iii) to defer scheduled principal repayments on Hillside Notes through December 31, 2006. Interest on the Senior Discount Notes and Senior Notes, if not paid in cash, is added to the outstanding debt balance.

In the fourth quarter of 2004, the Company repaid all of the Senior Discount Notes that were outstanding at that date with an accreted value of \$10.2 million and redeemed \$52.2 million of its Senior Notes and related accrued interest. At that time, the Company satisfied the Available Cash Flow covenant discussed above. In the second quarter of 2005, the Company redeemed an additional \$10.4 million of its Senior Notes and related accrued interest.

Accrued interest, interest expense and principal transactions for the Senior Notes and Senior Discount Notes are as follows:

**Nine Months Ended Sept. 30,**

	2005	2004
	(in thousands)	
<u>Senior Notes</u>		
Accrued interest, beginning of the period	\$ 702	\$ 2,627
Interest expense	1,014	5,572
Cash payments applied to interest	(1,632)	
Issuance of Notes in lieu of cash payment of interest		(7,215)
Accrued interest, end of period	\$ 84	\$ 984
Cash payments applied to principal	\$ 10,000	\$

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

	Nine Months Ended Sept. 30,	
	2005	2004
	(in thousands)	
<b>Senior Discount Notes</b>		
Accrued interest, beginning of the period	\$	\$ 244
Interest expense		1,461
Cash payments applied to interest		(278)
Interest capitalized to principal		(1,318)
	\$	\$ 109
Accrued interest, end of period		109
	\$	\$ 1,247
Cash payments applied to principal		1,247

The indenture under which the Senior Notes were issued contains customary affirmative and negative restrictive covenants that limit the payment of dividends, the incurrence of additional indebtedness or liens, certain sales of assets and other actions by the Company and its restricted subsidiaries. In the event of default, the holders of the Notes would be entitled to enforce the liens granted by the Company on its future patent royalty stream and to apply amounts collected to repayment of the Notes.

**Note 14 - Other Liabilities**

	September 30, 2005	December 31, 2004
	(in thousands)	
Pension	\$ 63,794	\$ 76,178
Reserve for tax liabilities	1,150	1,150
Other postemployment benefits	145	149
Environmental	90	100
Other	416	416
Total	\$ 65,595	\$ 77,993

**Note 15 - Commitments and Contingencies***Legal Proceedings*



In October 2004, the Company initiated litigation against Eastman Kodak Company ( Kodak ) for their infringement of one of our patents, the 121 patent, in the International Trade Commission ( ITC ) and also, at the same time, in U.S. District Court in Delaware ( District Court ). In the ITC proceeding the remedies available are to bar Kodak from the importation or sale of digital still cameras or in certain circumstances to require Kodak to post a forfeitable bond on digital still cameras imported into the United States, in each case for the life of the 121 patent which expires in April 2006. In the separate District Court case, the Company is seeking monetary damages for infringement of the patent. As discussed below, until recently the District Court suit, although filed, had not proceeded as it was automatically stayed for the duration of the ITC proceeding.

The Company had several settlement discussions with Kodak but, although it has negotiated licenses with thirteen other manufacturers of digital still cameras, the Company now believes that it is unlikely that a settlement with Kodak can be reached. The Company withdrew its litigation in the ITC on July 29, 2005, in order to accelerate the proceedings in the District Court to seek unspecified financial damages for unauthorized use of the Company s patent from August 2001 (the date on which the Company gave notice of infringement) through April 11, 2006, and the Company intends to pursue the litigation vigorously. A trial date has been scheduled for December 2006.

Also, the Company is currently a defendant in lawsuits that have arisen in the ordinary course of its business. Certain subsidiaries have been assessed income and value-added taxes together with penalties and interest. Management does not believe that any such lawsuits or unasserted claims will have a material adverse effect on the Company s financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

---

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

***Environmental Matters***

Ampex's facilities are subject to numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations designed to protect the environment from waste emissions and hazardous substances. Also the Company may have continuing liability with respect to environmental contamination related to the facilities and disposal activities of our former Media subsidiary. The Company is also subject to the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and other laws and regulations affecting the safety and health of employees in its facilities. Management believes that the Company is generally in compliance in all material respects with all applicable environmental and occupational safety laws and regulations or has plans to bring operations into compliance. Management does not anticipate that capital expenditures for pollution control equipment for fiscal 2005 or 2006 will be material.

Owners and occupiers of sites containing hazardous substances, as well as generators and transporters of hazardous substances, are subject to broad liability under various federal and state environmental laws and regulations, including liability for investigative and cleanup costs and damages arising out of past disposal activities. The Company has three environmental investigations, remediation and/or monitoring activities outstanding at September 30, 2005. Some of these activities involve the participation of state and local government agencies. Two sites are associated with the operations of Media while the third relates directly to a disposal activity of the Company. Although the Company disposed of Media in November 1995, it remains liable with respect to environmental contamination at these sites if Media fails to discharge its responsibilities with respect to such sites. On January 10, 2005, Media filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Company was named as a potentially responsible party by the United States Environmental Protection Agency with respect to four contaminated sites that have been designated as Superfund sites on the National Priorities List under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980. In the second quarter of 2005, the Company determined that there is no further liability with respect to the Superfund sites. In the one Superfund site associated with operations of the Company, the Company entered into a settlement agreement with the EPA as a de minimus participant and paid the required settlement of approximately \$24,000. The remaining three Superfund sites were associated with the operations of Media. The Company has determined, with the advice of outside legal counsel, that the EPA terminated its proceedings in these matters by acknowledging completion of removal activities or by the entry of consent decrees.

With respect to environmental matters involving site contamination, the Company continually conducts studies, individually or jointly with other responsible parties, to determine the feasibility of various remedial techniques to address environmental matters. It is the Company's policy to record appropriate liabilities for environmental matters when remedial efforts or damage claim payments are probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. Such liabilities are based on the Company's best estimate of the undiscounted future costs required to complete the remedial work. At September 30, 2005, the Company has recorded a liability of \$0.1 million for pending environmental liabilities associated with activities by the Company and has recorded a liability within discontinued operations of \$2.4 million for the estimated expenses it projects it will incur with respect to the two Media sites. These liabilities have not been discounted. The recorded liabilities are adjusted periodically as remediation efforts progress or as additional technical or legal information becomes available. Given the uncertainties regarding the status of laws, regulations, enforcement policies, the impact of other potentially responsible parties, technology and information related to individual sites, the Company does not believe it is possible to develop an estimate of the range of reasonably possible environmental loss in excess of our accruals. The Company expects to fund expenditures for these matters from operating cash flow. The timing of cash expenditures depends on a number of factors, including regulatory approval of cleanup projects, remedial techniques to be utilized and agreements with other parties.

Although the Company does not currently possess sufficient information to reasonably estimate the amounts of liabilities to be recorded upon future completion of studies, and neither the timing nor the amount of the ultimate costs associated with environmental matters can be determined, they could be material to the Company's consolidated results of operations or operating cash flows in the periods recognized or paid. However, considering the Company's past experience and existing reserves, it does not expect that these environmental matters will have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial position.



**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

***Guarantees***

The Company, as permitted under Delaware law and in accordance with its Bylaws, indemnifies its officers and directors for certain events or occurrences, subject to certain limits, while they were serving at its request in such capacity. The maximum amount of potential future indemnification is unlimited; however, the Company has a Director and Officer Insurance Policy that enables the Company to recover a portion of any future amounts paid. As a result of the insurance policy coverage, the Company believes the fair value of these indemnification agreements is minimal.

The Company's sales agreements indemnify its customers for any expenses or liability resulting from claimed infringements of patents, trademarks or copyrights of third parties. The terms of these indemnification agreements are generally perpetual any time after execution of the agreement. The maximum amount of potential future indemnification is unlimited. However, to date, the Company has not paid any claims or been required to defend any lawsuits with respect to any claim.

The Company has guaranteed certain lease payments with respect to equipment and real estate of subsidiaries. The Company has recorded a liability for substantially the full amount of its guarantee, net of the anticipated sublease income expected to be realized. If no sublease income were realized, the Company's additional unreserved exposure would be \$0.2 million.

Products sold are generally covered by a warranty for periods ranging from 90 days to one year. The Company accrues a warranty reserve for estimated costs to provide warranty services. The estimate of costs to service the Company's warranty obligations is based on historical experience and expectation of future conditions. To the extent that the Company experiences increased warranty claim activity or increased costs associated with servicing those claims, the warranty accrual will increase resulting in decreased gross profit.

***Plan Sponsor of Defined Benefit Plans***

The Company is the Plan Sponsor of the Ampex pension plan and of the Media pension plan. The Company amended these plans in early 1994 to terminate benefit service and compensation accruals as of February 1, 1994 in order to reduce payments that would otherwise be required. These pension plans remain underfunded and actuaries have forecasted that substantial pension contributions will be required through 2010 in order to fully fund benefits payable to plan participants.

The Company accounts for its obligations under these pension plans in accordance with SFAS No. 87, Employers Accounting for Pensions. Under this accounting principle, the Company recognizes a liability on our Consolidated Balance Sheet for unfunded accumulated benefit obligations earned by Ampex's and Media's U.S. employees and retirees through the 1994 plan termination date, which at September 30, 2005 totaled \$43.4 million and \$19.0 million, respectively.

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

The 1995 sale agreement for Media required the buyer, Quantegy Corporation, to pay directly or to reimburse Ampex for required contributions to the Media pension plan. This agreement was intended to make Ampex whole from any expense or cash outlay as it pertained to the Media pension plan. However, the Company remained the Plan Sponsor of the Media pension plan and remained obligated to make pension contributions to that plan. During 2003, the Company and Media entered into the Retirement Plan Funding and Settlement Agreement, which provided for monthly payments of \$74,000 by Media to Ampex in settlement of future pension contributions that may be required under the Media pension plan that would be funded by the Company. During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, Media paid directly or reimbursed Ampex for pension contributions made on Media's behalf of \$0.7 million. During the nine months ended September 30, 2005, Media did not pay directly or reimburse Ampex for pension contributions made on Media's behalf. Reimbursement payments reduce actuarially determined Media pension costs and are reflected in the Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) when such payments are assured of collection.

On January 10, 2005, Media filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, the Company does not expect to receive any additional payments or to be reimbursed for future pension contributions that Ampex will be required to make under the Media pension plan as its Plan Sponsor.

The following schedule lists the annual estimated contributions as computed by the plans' actuary for the Ampex pension plan and Media pension plan through 2010. The following amounts are substantially less than the unfunded accumulated benefit obligation recognized by the Company as liabilities on its Consolidated Balance Sheets due to differing actuarial assumptions prescribed by ERISA in each instance.

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

	<u>Estimated Contributions</u>	
	<u>Ampex Pension Plan</u>	<u>Media Pension Plan</u>
	(in thousands)	
Remainder of 2005	\$	\$ 240
2006	1,641	7,827
2007	11,224	1,725
2008	6,478	2,326
2009	2,730	764
2010	1,170	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 23,243</b>	<b>\$ 12,882</b>

As discussed in Note 13, Hillside paid a portion of the 2005 Ampex pension contribution, in the amount of \$5.9 million, on September 15, 2005. The Company issued additional notes to Hillside.

**Note 16 - Related Party Transactions*****Equity Investment:***

The Company made an investment in a limited partnership in 2003, which it accounted for under the equity method of accounting. In the first quarter of 2004 the partnership sold a portion of its investment in a publicly-held British promotional products company and the Company recognized its pro rata share of the gain on that sale. The partnership sold or distributed to its partners all of the remaining investments. No further investment activities are envisioned by this partnership. The Company has received total distributions of \$3.3 million on its \$1 million investment, which includes incentive fees earned of \$0.6 million from the carried interest assigned from the general partner.

The following table provides summarized financial information on a 100% basis for the limited partnership accounted for under the equity method as of September 30, 2004 and for the nine months then ended (in thousands):

<b>Earnings Data:</b>	
Income from operations	\$ 71
Equity in net income of products company	213
Gain on sale of stock of products company	8,597

Net gain	\$ 8,881
----------	----------

***Capital Transaction:***

During the period from 1995 to 1998, the Company sold shares of its Class A Common Stock at the then-current fair market value to First Jeffson Corporation ( FJC ) and to Second Jeffson Corporation ( SJC ), affiliated corporations controlled by Edward Bramson, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ampex Corporation. The purchase price was paid partly in cash and partly with promissory notes. The notes were collateralized by a pledge of shares of Class A Common Stock that were purchased. For several years, the market value of the pledged shares was substantially less than the principal amount of the notes. In 2002, these companies advised the Company that there could be no assurance that they would be able to obtain additional funds from Mr. Bramson or others to make future payments of interest or principal on the notes. In 2002, the Company offset the Notes receivable from stockholders against Other additional capital in the Consolidated Balance Sheets, effectively negating the original transactions. During 2003, FJC failed to make scheduled interest payments amounting to \$205,953 on outstanding notes aggregating \$2,794,050 that were to mature in January 2005 and October 2007. Accordingly, in March 2004, after reviewing the matter with legal advisors, Ampex foreclosed on these notes and caused the 85,000 pledged shares, which had a fair market value of \$153,000, to be registered in the Company's name. In connection with the foreclosure transaction, FJC also transferred to the Company 500 additional shares of Class A Common Stock and \$12,600 in cash, which represented substantially all of FJC's other assets. The foreclosure action did not affect the Company's net assets or results of operations, exclusive of tax benefits that may be realized in future years. The Company has cancelled the shares received from FJC and has excluded them from shares outstanding at December 31, 2004 and September 30, 2005. Interest and principal paid by FJC on the notes in prior years totaling \$2.4 million will be retained by Ampex.

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Company continues to hold the note issued to it by SJC, which is a 5.74% non-recourse note secured by a pledge of 20,000 shares of Class A Stock. The principal amount of the note totaled \$1,848,000 at September 30, 2005 and is scheduled to mature in October 2008. Under the terms of the note, interest of \$106,075 is forgiven annually so long as Mr. Bramson continues as an officer and director of the Company. Should SJC not repay the note when it matures, Ampex's only recourse is to the 20,000 pledged shares, which had a market value of \$594,800 at September 30, 2005. Should Ampex be required to foreclose on the note in the future, there is no assurance that the value of the pledged shares would be sufficient to repay the note in full. However, management believes that there would be no financial statement effect on net income or net assets of the Company from a future foreclosure, except for possible future tax benefits that may be realized in future years.

**Note 17 - Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income**

The balances of each classification within accumulated other comprehensive income are as follows:

	<b>Minimum Pension Liability</b>	<b>Foreign Currency Items</b>	<b>Accumulated Other Income</b>
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
		(in thousands)	
December 31, 2004	\$ (91,055)	\$ 744	\$ (90,311)
Current period change	2,388	(103)	2,285
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
September 30, 2005	\$ (88,667)	\$ 641	\$ (88,026)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

The net periodic pension cost for the Ampex and Media pension plan for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 is reflected as the current period change in minimum pension liability. The net periodic pension cost for 2005, which is charged to the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) ratably over the year to Selling and administrative expenses for the Ampex pension plan and to Media pension costs for the Media pension plan, was determined by the Company's actuary.

**Note 18 - Income Taxes**

The Company's effective tax rate for 2005 is lower than the statutory rate due to the anticipated utilization of net operating loss carry forwards and timing differences. The provision for income taxes consists primarily of federal and state alternative minimum taxes and withholding taxes on royalty revenue. At December 31, 2004, the Company had net operating loss carryforwards for federal income tax purposes of approximately \$178 million expiring in the years 2005 through 2023. Accordingly, the Company has the ability to shelter a substantial amount of future federal taxable income, including future licensing revenue, if any is ultimately realized. Effective July 1, 2004 the U.S./Japanese tax treaty eliminated withholding tax on royalty payments. Prior to July 1, 2004, the Company's Japanese licensing revenue was subject to foreign tax withholding of up to 10% of licensing revenue.



**Note 19 - Segment Reporting**

The Company has two operating segments referred to as the Recorders segment and the Licensing segment. The Recorders segment includes the sale and service of instrumentation recorders, data storage systems, and professional video products, all of which are made by the manufacturing subsidiary Data Systems. The Licensing segment involves the licensing of Ampex intellectual property through the corporate licensing division. The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies.

The Company evaluates segment performance based on return on operating assets employed. Profitability is measured as income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes and equity in income of limited partnership, including sale of investment, excluding restructuring charges, corporate administrative costs and elimination entries.

**Table of Contents****AMPEX CORPORATION****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

There were no intersegment sales or transfers.

**Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005**

(in thousands)

	<b>Recorders</b>	<b>Licensing of Intellectual Property</b>	<b>Eliminations and Corporate</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Revenues from external customers	\$ 18,030	\$ 26,450	\$	\$ 44,480
Interest income	138		46	184
Interest expense			1,881	1,881
Depreciation and amortization	173		386	559
Segment income (loss)	1,687	16,749	(9,306)	9,130
Segment assets	18,033	923	6,141	25,097
Expenditures for segment assets	62			62

**Nine Months Ended September 30, 2004**

(in thousands)

	<b>Recorders</b>	<b>Licensing of Intellectual Property</b>	<b>Eliminations and Corporate</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Revenues from external customers	\$ 22,263	\$ 4,861	\$	\$ 27,124
Interest income	66		22	88
Interest expense	1,462		5,850	7,312
Depreciation and amortization	311		285	596
Segment income (loss)	1,490	266	(11,387)	(9,631)
Segment assets	28,671		3,999	32,670
Expenditures for segment assets	64		27	91

A reconciliation of Segment income (loss) to Net income (loss) from continuing operations as reported on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) is as follows:

**Nine Months Ended Sept. 30,**

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
--	-------------	-------------

(in thousands)

Segment income (loss) reported above	\$ 9,130	\$ (9,631)
--------------------------------------	----------	------------

Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Provision for (benefit of) income taxes	(880)	(248)
Restructuring credits		1,410
Equity in income of limited partnership, including sale of investment		2,149
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 8,250	\$ (6,320)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

## Table of Contents

### Forward-Looking Statements

This Form 10-Q contains predictions, projections and other statements about the future that are intended to be forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause our actual results, performance or achievements, or industry results, to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such risks, uncertainties and other important factors include, among others, those described under Risk Factors, below. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this Report. We disclaim any obligation or undertaking to disseminate updates or revisions of any expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based. **IN ASSESSING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS FORM 10-Q, READERS ARE URGED TO READ CAREFULLY ALL SUCH CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS.**

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

### Overview

Our continuing operations include the results of our Licensing and Recorders segments. Beginning in the fourth quarter of 2004 and continuing through 2005, we entered into new license agreements and received royalty receipts for past and, in some cases, future use of our patents covering various consumer digital imaging products. We applied these proceeds to repay all of our outstanding 20% Senior Discount Notes with an accreted value of \$10.2 million and redeemed all but \$5.6 million of our 12% Senior Notes and related accrued interest.

As of September 30, 2005, we have completed license agreements with thirteen manufacturers of digital still cameras that, with one exception, represent substantially all of the major manufacturers of digital still cameras. In the third quarter of 2005, we concluded a license agreement with a manufacturer of digital video tape recorders, including MiniDV camcorders, permitting the use of several of our patents, which bring the total number of digital camcorder licensees to six. Accordingly, we now have license agreements with substantially all of the major manufacturers of digital video camcorders. We have one license agreement with a manufacturer of DVD recorders and are in negotiations with other manufacturers. We continue to attempt to negotiate new patent license agreements with manufacturers of digital still cameras, camera equipped cellular phones, hard disk T.V recorders and cable set top boxes and other consumer products that we believe may use our patents. As discussed more fully below, these negotiations cover the use of our other digital imaging patents, including our feed forward quantization patent, that expire at various dates from 2012 to 2014.

During 2004, we brought litigation against three manufacturers of digital video products who we believe infringed our rapid image retrieval patents in digital still cameras and in certain camera-equipped cellular phones that they produce. Two of these suits were settled by concluding licensing agreements, and one suit continues. We have incurred significant external litigation expenses associated with these suits of \$4.9 million during the twelve months ended December 31, 2004 and \$8.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005. While we believe our litigation costs will decline temporarily over the next several quarters from levels experienced during the nine months ended September 30, 2005, it may be necessary to initiate additional litigation at some future date in order to enforce our patents if our ongoing licensing negotiations are not successful.

In the first nine months of 2005, our Recorders segment revenues decreased by approximately 19% from 2004 levels. This decrease is attributable to declining sales of our older tape-based data recorders and mass data storage systems. In order to counter this trend, during 2004, we introduced our new solid-state and disk-based data acquisition and instrumentation recorders to a select number of customers in limited

quantities for performance evaluation. These products are intended to replace over several years the large installed base of tape-based data recorders and, if successful, should generate

## **Table of Contents**

increased sales and profits for the Recorders segment. We have incurred increased research and development costs associated with these new products which, we expect, will continue at similar levels for the foreseeable future. Our Recorders segment was awarded a contract in the second quarter of 2005 from The Boeing Company valued at approximately \$6.3 million for our new disk and solid state-based data instrumentation recorders to be used in the development of the 787 airplane. Revenue recognized from this contract since its award was \$0.5 million. The majority of the recorders ordered by Boeing are scheduled to be delivered over the next two years. The undelivered value of this contract has been included in reported backlog as of September 30, 2005.

We are obligated to make significant pension contributions to the Ampex pension plan and to the pension plan of a former subsidiary that was sold in 1995 ( *Media* ), as discussed below. Due to the application of accounting principals generally accepted in the United States with respect to pensions, pension costs charged to the Statement of Operations do not correspond with pension contributions paid in cash during the period. Also, there are a number of legislative proposals under consideration that, if enacted, would adversely affect the amount and timing of required future pension contributions.

Our effective federal annual tax rate for 2005 is estimated at 2% of pretax U.S. net income, which represents alternative minimum taxes payable on the amount of net operating loss carry forwards utilized to reduce taxable income, plus applicable state income taxes and foreign withholding taxes payable on royalty income generated in Korea. At December 31, 2004 the amount of unused net operating loss carryforwards available to offset future federal taxable income totaled approximately \$178 million.

Periodically, we are required to adjust reserves established in prior years for discontinued operations or for restructured activities due to subsequent favorable or unfavorable developments. In the nine months ended September 30, 2005 there were no adjustments recorded. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, we recognized a restructuring credit of \$1.4 million when we decided to sell our Colorado Springs manufacturing facility and reutilize, in part, the Redwood City leased facilities that had been charged to restructuring in prior periods.

In addition to foreign currency translation adjustments, which are typically minor in amount, at the end of each year we include in the determination of Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax , a minimum pension adjustment reflecting an actuarially computed increase or decrease in accumulated benefit obligations over pension plan assets of the Ampex and Media pension plans. Historically, such annual pension adjustments have fluctuated widely.

At September 30, 2005, we had cash and short-term investments totaling \$11.7 million, down from \$18.0 million at December 31, 2004. We believe that our cash balances, together with the projected results of our subsidiary, Ampex Data Systems Corporation ( *Data Systems* ), royalties from license agreements presently in effect and our ability to borrow pension contributions from Hillside Capital Incorporated ( *Hillside* ), a former affiliate, should be sufficient to satisfy all projected cash obligations through at least the next twelve months. The results of our operations and the liquidity of our business are more fully discussed below.

Effective June 24, 2005, our Common Shares became listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol AMPX.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

### *General*

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 United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The most significant estimates and assumptions relate

## **Table of Contents**

to the recoverability of receivables and inventories and the adequacy of allowances for returns and doubtful accounts and accruals for liabilities and contingencies. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to revenue recognition, bad debts, warranty obligations, inventories, pension costs, litigation expense and environmental obligations. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ significantly from these estimates.

We believe the following critical accounting policies affect our more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

### *Revenue Recognition*

We recognize revenue in accordance with applicable accounting standards including Staff Accounting Bulletin ( SAB ) No. 104, Revenue Recognition and Emerging Issues Task Force ( EITF ) Issue No. 00-21, Accounting for Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables, and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (the AICPA ) Statement of Position ( SOP ) 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition, as amended. Revenue is recognized when (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (2) delivery and acceptance has occurred or services have been rendered, (3) the fee is fixed or determinable, and (4) collection is reasonably assured. We derive our revenues from two principal sources: license fees (including royalties) through our Licensing segment, and product and parts sales and service contracts through our Recorders segment.

Determination of criteria (3) and (4) are based on Management's judgments regarding the fixed nature of the fee charged for services rendered and products delivered and the collectibility of those fees. 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 affected.

Our revenue recognition policy with respect to royalty income is as follows: when we enter into an agreement with a new licensee for use of our patents, we may receive settlement of past due royalties. This is a negotiated amount and is typically paid by the licensee within 30 days of signing the license agreement. Past due royalties cover the licensee's product shipments from the period when they were first notified of infringement up through the effective date of the license. We may also negotiate a prepayment of royalties that would otherwise be due up to a specific future date. The amounts due under our negotiated agreements for both past due royalties and prepayment of royalties are non-refundable and non-forfeitable. We recognize both past due and prepayment amounts as revenue in the period when the agreement has been executed by both parties, which is when there is persuasive evidence of an arrangement, fees become fixed or determinable and collection becomes probable, as we have no future obligations with respect to these agreements and delivery has occurred. In addition, our licensing agreement may include a running royalty which covers products shipped by the licensee after the date that the license agreement has been entered into and until the patent has expired or when the patent is no longer contractually available to the licensee, if shorter. Our royalties are computed as a percentage of the selling price of the licensee's products and are paid quarterly in arrears and recognized as revenue in the period when the amount payable is known and collection is reasonably assured.

Revenue on product sales and services is recorded when all of the following have occurred: an agreement of sale exists, product delivery (principally FOB Ampex Factory) and acceptance has occurred or services have been rendered, pricing is fixed or determinable, and collection is reasonably assured. Service revenue is recognized ratably over the life of the service contract.

### *Accounts Receivable*



We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers and adjust credit limits based upon payment history and the customer's current credit worthiness, as determined by our review of their current credit information. We continuously monitor collections and payments from our customers and maintain a provision for estimated credit losses based upon our historical experience and any specific customer

## Table of Contents

collection issues that we have identified. While such credit losses have historically been within our expectations and the provisions established, we cannot guarantee that we will continue to experience the same credit loss rates that we have in the past. Since our accounts receivable are concentrated in a relatively few number of customers, a significant change in the liquidity or financial position of any one of these customers could have a material adverse impact on the collectibility of our accounts receivables and our future operating results.

### *Inventories*

We value our inventory at the lower of the actual cost to purchase and/or manufacture the inventory or the current estimated market value of the inventory. Abnormal amounts of facility expense, freight, handling costs and scrap material are excluded from inventory cost and expensed during the period in which they are incurred. We regularly review inventory quantities on hand and record a provision for excess and obsolete inventory based primarily on our estimated forecast of product demand and production requirements for the next eighteen months. A significant increase in the demand for our products could result in a short-term increase in the cost of inventory purchases while a significant decrease in demand could result in an increase in the amount of excess inventory quantities on hand. We also maintain an inventory of spare parts to service our customers' products after the date of sale. We amortize spare parts inventories over the expected number of years we expect to support such products but not in excess of 30 months. If actual market conditions are less favorable than those projected by Management, additional inventory write-downs may be required. Additionally, our estimates of future product demand may prove to be inaccurate, in which case we may have understated or overstated the provision required for excess and obsolete inventory. If our inventory were determined to be overvalued, we would be required to recognize such costs in our cost of goods sold at the time of such determination. We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our forecasts of future product demand, however, any significant unanticipated changes in demand or technological development could have a significant impact on the value of our inventory and our reported operating results.

### *Deferred Taxes*

We must make certain estimates and judgments in determining income tax expense for financial statement purposes. These estimates and judgments occur in the calculation of certain tax assets and liabilities, which arise from differences in the timing of recognition of revenue and expense for tax and financial statement purposes.

We must assess the likelihood that we will be able to recover our deferred tax assets and net operating loss carryforwards. If recovery is not likely, we must increase our provision for taxes by recording a valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets and net operating loss carryforwards that we estimate will more likely than not ultimately not be recoverable. Although we reported net income in 2004 and the first nine months of 2005, we have reported losses in recent years. Accordingly, we cannot determine that it is probable that we will recover our deferred tax assets and net operating loss carryforwards, and therefore have established a valuation allowance equal to such assets. If we recognize and/or realize deferred tax assets or net operating loss carryforwards in subsequent years, through absorption of taxable income or reversal of deferred tax asset reserves, our tax provision in that period will be less than the statutory tax rate.

In addition, the calculation of our tax liabilities involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex tax regulations. We recognize liabilities for anticipated tax audit issues in the U.S. and other tax jurisdictions based on our estimate of whether, and the extent to which, additional taxes will be due. If we ultimately determine that payment of these amounts is unnecessary, we reverse the liability and recognize a tax benefit during the period in which we determine that the liability is no longer necessary. We record an additional charge in our provision for taxes in the period in which we determine that the recorded tax liability is less than we expect the ultimate assessment to be.

## **Table of Contents**

### *Warranty*

Products sold are generally covered by a warranty for periods ranging from 90 days to one year. We accrue a warranty reserve for estimated costs to provide warranty services. Our estimate of costs to service our warranty obligations is based on historical experience and expectation of future conditions. To the extent we experience increased warranty claim activity or increased costs associated with servicing those claims, our warranty accrual will increase, resulting in decreased gross profit.

### *Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits/ Obligations*

The determination of our obligation and expense for pension and other postretirement benefits payable to Ampex's and Media's employees and retirees is dependent on our selection of certain assumptions used by actuaries in calculating such amounts. Those assumptions include, among others, the discount rate, expected long-term rate of return on plan assets and mortality assumptions for the plan participants. In accordance with SFAS No. 87, *Employers Accounting for Pensions*, actual results that differ from our assumptions are accumulated and amortized over future periods and, therefore, generally affect our recognized expense and recorded obligation in such future periods.

While we believe that our assumptions are appropriate, significant differences in our actual experience or significant changes in our assumptions that may be required under new legislation or otherwise may materially affect our pension and other postretirement obligations and our future expense as well as amounts that may ultimately be required to be paid to fund the Media pension plan. On January 10, 2005, Media filed for Chapter 11 Reorganization. Accordingly, we do not expect to receive additional reimbursement from Media of amounts that we have paid to date or that we will be required to pay in the future.

### *Valuation of Long-Lived Assets and Investments*

We periodically review the carrying value of our long-lived assets and investments for continued appropriateness. This review is based upon our projections of anticipated future cash flows or other methods used to determine fair value. While we believe that our estimates of fair value are reasonable, different assumptions could materially affect our evaluations. We record an impairment provision to reduce the carrying value of minority equity investments carried on the cost method if our estimate of their fair value is below their original cost and the impairment is other than temporary.

### *Contingencies*

We account for contingencies in accordance with SFAS No. 5, *Accounting for Contingencies*. SFAS No. 5 requires that we record an estimated loss from a loss contingency when information available prior to issuance of our financial statements indicates that it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability has been incurred at the date of the financial statements and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Accounting for contingencies such as our obligations to fund Media's environmental remediation costs, as well as obligations involving legal, income tax and other matters, requires us to use our judgment. While we believe that our accruals for these matters are adequate, if the actual loss from a loss contingency is significantly different than the estimated loss, our results of operations may be over- or understated.

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Our facilities and business practices are subject to numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations designed to protect the environment from waste emissions and hazardous substances. Also, we may have continuing liability with respect to environmental contamination related to the facilities and disposal activities of our former Media subsidiary. We are engaged in a number of environmental investigations, remediation and/or monitoring activities, some of which involve the participation of state and local government agencies. We recognize a liability for any contingency that is probable of occurrence and reasonably estimable. We continually assess these contingencies based on a careful analysis of each matter with the assistance of outside legal counsel and, if applicable, other experts. Such analysis includes making judgments concerning matters such as the extent of environmental damage and our pro rata

## **Table of Contents**

participation, if applicable, the most desirable remediation techniques and the time period during which the cleanup costs may be incurred. Because most contingencies are resolved over long periods of time, liabilities may change in the future due to new developments or other changes.

The following discussion and analysis of the financial condition and results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the Notes thereto, included elsewhere in this Report.

## **Business Segments**

We have two business segments, which we refer to as our Recorders segment and our Licensing segment. Our Recorders segment involves the sale and service of mass data storage systems and instrumentation recorders (which record data, rather than visual information), all of which are made by our manufacturing subsidiary, Ampex Data Systems Corporation ( Data Systems ). Our Licensing segment involves the licensing of our intellectual property to manufacturers of consumer digital imaging products through our corporate licensing division. For information regarding revenues, income or loss, assets and other financial data for each business segment, see Note 19 Segment Reporting of the Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Our Recorders segment includes Data Systems three principal product groups and its service revenue, which are described more fully below. Data Systems also conducts an aftermarket operation consisting primarily of the supply of spare parts for certain products.

Instrumentation recorders, including Data Systems data acquisition and instrumentation products (including tape-based DCRsi instrumentation recorders, disk-based DDRs instrumentation recorders and solid-state memory-based DSRs instrumentation recorders) and related tape and aftermarket parts;

Mass data storage systems, including Data Systems 19-millimeter scanning recorders and library systems (DST and DIS products) and related tape and aftermarket parts;

Professional video products, consisting principally of television aftermarket products that Data Systems continues to support but no longer manufactures; and

Service revenue, consisting principally of maintenance contracts on Data Systems products.

DST, DIS, DCRsi, DDRs and DSRs are trademarks of Ampex Corporation.

Our Licensing segment generates revenue from licenses granted to companies that manufacture consumer-imaging products (digital video camcorders, digital still cameras, camera-equipped cellular phones, and DVD recorders). We also license our patents to certain manufacturers of professional videotape recorders and image processing devices such as digital special effects processors.

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

The following table shows (i) licensing revenue generated by our Licensing segment, (ii) revenue generated by our Recorders segment through sales of Data Systems products by product group and (iii) service revenue generated by our Recorders segment for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004.

**Table of Contents**

	For the Three Months		For the Nine Months	
	Ended September 30,		Ended September 30,	
	(in millions)			
	2005	2004	2005	2004
<b>Licensing Segment</b>				
Licensing revenue	\$ 5.2	\$ 1.8	\$ 26.5	\$ 4.9
<b>Recorders Segment</b>				
Mass data storage tape drives and library systems	\$ 0.7	\$ 1.7	\$ 3.0	\$ 5.2
Data acquisition and instrumentation recorders	2.2	2.1	6.4	8.5
Service revenue	2.2	2.2	6.6	6.5
Other (including professional video products)	0.5	0.6	2.0	2.1
<b>Total net product and service revenue</b>	<b>\$ 5.6</b>	<b>\$ 6.6</b>	<b>\$ 18.0</b>	<b>\$ 22.3</b>

**Results of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005 and 2004**

*Licensing Revenue.* Licensing revenue was \$5.2 million and \$26.5 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to \$1.8 million and \$4.9 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. Licensing revenue is derived from royalties that we receive from licensing our patents. As discussed more fully below, licensing revenue recognized in the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2005 included one-time royalty settlements totaling \$2.8 million and \$18.7 million, respectively, that pertained to settlement of royalties due on products sold in periods prior to the execution of the license, and in some cases prepayment of licensees' obligations covering future periods. The balance of licensing revenue recognized in the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2005 of \$2.4 million and \$7.8 million represented running royalties based on the sales price of products sold by the licensees in the respective periods. Due to one-time royalty settlements covering prior and future periods, licensing revenues are not comparable between the periods presented and are not indicative of licensing revenues to be received in future periods. We do not forecast a material increase in running royalties until Sony Corporation ( Sony ) becomes obligated to pay recurring royalties on digital video camcorders sold after April 11, 2006, on which date the prepayment received in 2004 shall expire. Also, after April 11, 2006, Sony and other manufacturers of digital still cameras will be required to pay royalties if their products incorporate any of our digital imaging patents, including our feed forward quantization patent.

In the first nine months of 2004 our licensing revenue principally came from running royalties paid by manufacturers of digital video camcorders. In the fourth quarter of 2004 and in the first six months of 2005, we entered into new licensing agreements with several manufacturers of digital still cameras. At September 30, 2005, we have successfully concluded licensing agreements with thirteen manufacturers of digital still cameras that, with one exception, represent substantially all significant manufacturers of digital still cameras. We have also completed license agreements with substantially all significant manufacturers of digital video camcorders with the signing of the most recent license with Samsung Electronics ( Samsung ) in July 2005.

The Samsung license permits the use of several of our U.S. and foreign patents in the manufacture and sale of digital video tape recorders, including MiniDV camcorders. It also permits Samsung to use certain of our patents in other camcorders utilizing hard disk drive, optical or solid-state memories. We received \$2.8 million, less foreign withholding taxes of \$0.5 million, from Samsung. This payment covers Samsung's liability for past use of our patents prior to conclusion of the license agreement and includes a non-refundable, non-forfeitable prepayment in

respect of royalties due in the period through 2008.

April 11, 2006 coincides with the U.S. expiration of our rapid image retrieval patent ( 121 ), a patent used in digital still cameras and in certain camera-equipped cellular phones. While our digital still camera license agreements permit licensees to use several of our digital imaging patents, by agreement, we are only currently receiving royalties on the 121 patent, which to date is the only patent we have elected to litigate. In exchange for a favorable royalty on future product sales, certain digital still camera licensees have agreed to provide us with access to technical information in order for the parties to confirm whether any of our other digital imaging patents, including our feed forward quantization patent, are being utilized in digital still cameras and camera-equipped cellular phones manufactured by or for such licensees. These patents are registered in many of the major worldwide markets and have expiration dates from 2012 through 2014.



---

**Table of Contents**

Recent technical meetings have identified image compression processes that are incorporated into the design of several digital still cameras that we believe may utilize our patents. In September 2005, we presented a claim chart to one of our existing licensees that indicates that we believe they use our feed forward quantization patent. Additional technical meetings have been scheduled later this year to review these claims. Also, our research indicates that several other digital still camera manufacturers appear to use feed forward quantization in several of their digital still cameras, and claim charts are in process of being prepared for each of these manufacturers. Feed forward quantization is a complex process and patent claims can be subject to varying interpretation. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that digital still camera manufacturers will agree with our conclusions regarding patent infringement or pay royalties on product sales after April 11, 2006, even if their products incorporate these patented processes. We may be required to bring additional litigation in order to enforce these patents. Due to the size of the digital still camera market and because our patents are registered in the U.S. and key international markets, if licensees acknowledge their use of our patents, we could realize a material increase in licensing revenues in future periods compared with the amount of royalties received from our rapid image retrieval patent, but we cannot assure you that this will occur.

In October 2004, we initiated litigation against Eastman Kodak Company ( Kodak ) for their infringement of the rapid image retrieval patent, the 121 patent, in the International Trade Commission ( ITC ) and also, at the same time, in U.S. District Court in Delaware ( District Court ). In the ITC proceeding, the remedies available were to bar Kodak from the importation or sale of digital still cameras or in certain circumstances to require Kodak to post a forfeitable bond on digital still cameras imported into the United States, in each case for the life of the 121 patent which expires in April 2006. In the separate District Court case we are seeking monetary damages for infringement of the patent. As discussed below, until recently, the District Court suit, although filed, had not proceeded as it was automatically stayed for the duration of the ITC proceeding.

We have had several settlement discussions with Kodak but, although we have negotiated licenses with thirteen other manufacturers of digital still cameras, we believe that it is unlikely that a settlement with Kodak can be reached. Even if we were to have prevailed in the ITC proceeding, the period during which any market exclusion would apply would have been relatively short, and while an ITC proceeding continued it is not possible to pursue a damages claim in District Court. Accordingly, we concluded that our interests were best served by withdrawing our litigation in the ITC in order to accelerate the proceedings in the District Court. The District Court suit seeks damages for unauthorized use of our patent from August 2001 (the date on which we gave notice of infringement) through April 11, 2006, and we intend to pursue the litigation vigorously. A trial date has been scheduled for December 2006. We understand that work to date on document discovery and the taking of depositions in the ITC proceeding may be useable, in substantial part, in the District Court case, and withdrawal of the ITC case should substantially reduce costs for the next several quarters until commencement of supplemental discovery and preparations for the District Court trial, however litigation costs will continue to be significant. There can be no assurance that this litigation will be successful or that we will be awarded damages, and we will be required to devote significant management resources and to incur significant legal expenses as long as the lawsuit continues. Our strategy is to negotiate commercially reasonable licenses of our patents where possible, but we are prepared to initiate additional litigation when negotiations are not successful. Our belief is that withdrawal of the ITC proceeding with Kodak will liberate resources that may be used in enforcing our other digital imaging patents, including feed forward quantization, that have longer lives than 121.

In May 2004, we entered into our first license with a major manufacturer of DVD recorders. Presently, royalties from this licensee are not material to total license revenues, but we expect that license fees from this licensee will increase as their sales of DVD recorders increase. We are in discussions with additional manufacturers who may license our patents for use in DVD and hard disk recorders, which would lead to further increases in royalties from these products, although we cannot assure you that any such increases will occur.

We have also formally notified major manufacturers of camera equipped cellular phones, DVD recorders and cable set top box recorders that are equipped to record still and/or motion video and other

---

**Table of Contents**

consumer products that they may be infringing our patents. We have offered to license our intellectual property at, what we believe are, commercially reasonable rates which provide for lump sum royalty payments on shipments made in periods prior to the execution of the license and running royalty payments computed as a percentage of the selling price of products shipped in future periods. If we are able to successfully complete license agreements covering these products, due to the size of these markets, we would realize a material increase in royalty income. Licensing negotiations have historically taken several years to conclude and in some instances have required us to initiate litigation. Since technical discussions regarding our patents and their potential use in such products have only recently been initiated there can be no assurance that we will successfully conclude licensing agreements in the near term, if at all.

As previously disclosed, we have licensed substantially all of the major manufacturers of digital video camcorders and digital still cameras, the majority of whom have made prepayments covering their liability for the use of any of our patents through April 11, 2006. We do not forecast a material increase in running royalties until Sony becomes obligated to pay recurring royalties on digital video camcorder shipments sold after April 11, 2006 at which time the coverage from their \$40 million prepayment will expire. Based on published market share information, we believe that Sony represents approximately twice the combined market shares of those digital video camcorder manufacturers that are currently paying us a total of approximately \$5.0 million annually in running royalties. Accordingly, we expect to receive a proportionate increase in annualized running royalties after April 11, 2006. Such amounts are based on current unit shipments and sales prices, which may change in the future, and we cannot assure you that such increases will actually occur. Also, after April 11, 2006 Sony and other manufacturers of digital still cameras will be required to pay royalties if their products incorporate any of our other digital imaging patents, including feed forward quantization. While the market for digital still cameras is estimated at over three times the present market for digital video camcorders, we presently cannot forecast the annualized amount of potential royalties that we might receive from digital still camera manufacturers after April 11, 2006. Even if we prove infringement, we may be required to litigate, which may delay the receipt of royalties into future periods. If we are unable to prove infringement of our other digital imaging patents, we will cease earning royalties from digital still cameras after April 11, 2006. The estimate of royalties in 2006 does not include the proceeds, if any, from the resolution of litigation with Kodak, nor does it assume any additional licenses of DVD recorders or other products, such as camera-equipped cellular phones, where negotiations may take several years to complete. Licensing revenues are subject to significant fluctuations as a result of a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control as discussed elsewhere in this report. See *Risks Related to our Business*. Accordingly, actual royalty revenues realized in 2006 may vary materially from our current estimates.

Our relevant digital imaging patents were developed when we manufactured still stores, video special effects products and digital videotape recorders, which we marketed to the professional broadcast and postproduction industry in prior years. As discussed above, these patents have expiration dates from 2006 through 2014. After they expire, our future licensing revenues are expected to decline materially.

*Product Revenue.* Product revenue generated by our Recorders segment decreased to \$3.4 million and \$11.5 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 from \$4.4 million and \$15.8 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. In the quarter ended September 30, 2005, we were unable to obtain the desired quantity of memory chips due to the long delivery lead times imposed by our suppliers, which caused us to postpone some shipments of our new products from the third quarter into the fourth quarter of 2005. Government agencies and defense contractors are currently our principal market for the Recorders segment. Sales declines have resulted from our decision not to seek new government program involvement with our mass data storage products and to focus our product development and marketing efforts on data acquisition products. Government agencies and defense contractors have historically experienced significant pressure to reduce spending and we expect them to experience such pressure in the future, which may lead to further sales declines. In 2004, we introduced our DDRs and DSRs instrumentation recorders, which are disk-based and solid-state memory-based data acquisition recorders used in intelligence gathering activities. These products are intended to replace, over several years, a large installed base of our DCRsi tape-based data acquisition recorders. If successful, these new products could lead to increased product revenues over current levels. There can be no assurance that these new products will attain the same level of market penetration that our earlier products achieved. To date, we have produced a limited number of such products for evaluation by select government agencies and other defense related customers. Revenues in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004 from such products totaled \$4.5 million and \$0.7 million, respectively.

---

**Table of Contents**

Our backlog of firm orders was \$9.7 million at September 30, 2005 compared to \$5.1 million at September 30, 2004. We were awarded a contract of approximately \$6.3 million in the second quarter of 2005 from The Boeing Company for our new disk and solid state-based data instrumentation recorders to be used in the development of the 787 airplane. We have made initial deliveries of our recorders in the amount of \$0.5 million against this contract but the vast majority is scheduled to be delivered over the next two years. This undelivered value of the contract has been included in reported backlog as of September 30, 2005. We typically operate with low levels of backlog, requiring us to obtain the majority of each period's orders in the same period that they must be shipped to the customer. Historically, a small number of large orders has significantly impacted sales levels and often orders are received late in the quarter making it difficult to predict revenue levels in future periods.

We were also recently approved by the Air Force to provide up to \$5.0 million of these newly introduced products, but actual sales under this approval will be subject to purchase orders for specific quantities to be determined by the Air Force from time-to-time.

*Service Revenue.* Total service revenue generated by our Recorders segment in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 was relatively unchanged at \$2.2 million and \$6.6 million compared to \$2.2 million and \$6.5 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. Service contracts received after September 2005 totaled \$5.0 million, and will be recognized as revenue over the contract period, which is generally a twelve-month period.

*Intellectual Property Costs.* There is no direct cost of goods sold associated with licensing revenue. We have an internal staff of lawyers and engineers that are principally involved in negotiating and monitoring our licensing agreements. Their compensation, travel expenditures and other direct costs are included as Intellectual Property Costs. We do not allocate any general corporate overhead to our Licensing segment. Compensation includes incentive payments under long-term incentive plans earned by our employees based on amounts collected from our licensees. Intellectual Property Costs also consist of external legal and accounting costs in investigating the validity and enforceability of our patents, auditing royalty reports and litigating to enforce our intellectual property rights. Such costs fluctuate widely between periods based primarily on whether or not we are pursuing patent litigation. During the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004, we incurred significant external legal costs in preparing for patent enforcement suits in the ITC and in the District Court that totaled \$8.2 million and \$3.5 million, respectively. By withdrawing our suit against Kodak in the ITC in order to accelerate our suit in District Court, our external litigation costs are expected to decrease for several quarters until commencement of preparation for the trial that commences in December 2006, although such costs will still be significant. While our strategy is to negotiate reasonable royalty agreements, we may seek to enforce our patents by instituting additional litigation against other manufacturers of digital still cameras and other products where our technology is being used, if licensing agreements are not completed on satisfactory terms. We also expect to incur additional costs in future years investigating and analyzing whether manufacturers of consumer digital imaging products are utilizing our digital imaging and data compression technologies. We may also seek to acquire patent portfolios that we believe offer commercial value to our licensing program.

*Cost of Product Revenue.* Cost of product sales includes the cost of materials, labor and overheads incurred in the manufacture of our products. Cost of product sales as a percentage of product revenue was 67.1% and 63.4% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to 69.9% and 65.4% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. Our cost of product sales percentage fluctuates based on a number of factors, including the volume and mix of product shipped in the period. In the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and September 30, 2004, our cost of product revenue included additional inventory reserve provisions of \$0.1 million and \$0.4 million, respectively, resulting from disposal of scrap material.

*Cost of Service Revenue.* Cost of service revenue includes materials and labor used in maintaining and repairing our customers' systems that we provide under service contracts. Cost of service revenue as a percentage of service revenue was 30.5% and 32.2% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to 31.7% and 30.7% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. The cost of service revenue fluctuates based largely on the level of services we provide to repair or replace equipment in a particular period and the cost of material used to repair or replace such equipment.



**Table of Contents**

*Research, Development and Engineering Expenses.* All of our research, development and engineering expenses relate to our Recorders segment. The increase in research, development and engineering expenditures during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 is due primarily to costs incurred to produce prototypes of the DDRs new ruggedized disk and DSRs solid-state memory-based data acquisition recorders. Such costs are expected to continue at the current quarterly run rate as we develop new and enhanced products. We do not currently plan to invest additional resources to develop new formats for our 19-millimeter mass storage products beyond the quad density format. However, we will incur sustaining engineering to support our customers' requirements.

*Selling and Administrative Expenses.* Selling and administrative expenses decreased to \$3.2 million in the three months ended September 30, 2005 from \$3.3 million in the three months ended September 30, 2004 and increased to \$11.1 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 from \$9.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005. Selling and administrative expenses for the Recorders segment and the unallocated corporate administrative expenses (no administrative expenses are allocated to the Licensing segment) are shown in the following table:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2005	2004	2005	2004
	(in millions)			
Recorders segment	\$ 1.1	\$ 2.1	\$ 4.4	\$ 4.6
Corporate	2.1	1.2	6.7	4.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3.2</b>	<b>\$ 3.3</b>	<b>\$ 11.1</b>	<b>\$ 9.2</b>

In the third quarter of 2004 we relocated our Colorado Springs manufacturing operations to two smaller, more cost-efficient facilities in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Redwood City, California. On April 15, 2005, Data Systems sold its former manufacturing facility and received net proceeds on the sale of approximately \$3.0 million. We recognized a small gain on the sale in the second quarter of 2005, which is included in other (income) expense, net. Costs to maintain the facility pending its sale totaled \$0.2 million in the first half of 2005. Costs related to the move and relocation totaled \$0.2 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. These costs have been charged to the Recorders segment's selling and administrative expenses. Selling and administrative expenses for the Recorders segment for the three months ended September 30, 2004 also included a management performance award accrual of \$0.5 million.

Corporate selling and administrative expenses included actuarially determined periodic pension cost for the Ampex pension plan of \$0.6 million and \$1.8 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to \$0.5 million and \$1.4 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. Such amounts differ from amounts contributed by the Company to the Ampex pension plan. Corporate selling and administrative expenses also included business development expenses to identify new investment opportunities. Business development expenses totaled \$0.3 million and \$0.8 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 and \$0.2 million and \$0.5 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, such costs were offset by incentive fees of \$0.4 million and \$0.6 million that were assigned to us by the general partner of the investment limited partnership in which we invested. No incentive fees were received in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005. In 2005, we incurred additional auditing and accounting costs of \$0.4 million in connection with the restatement of our prior year financial statements and internal control documentation and evaluation as required by the Sarbanes Oxley Act, additional fees related to our Nasdaq National Market listing of \$0.1 million and other legal settlement costs of \$0.2 million. We expect to incur additional costs in the next three months of 2005 in documenting, testing and auditing our internal controls as required by the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 and related SEC rules.



**Table of Contents**

*Operating Income (Loss).* We reported operating income of \$1.0 million and \$11.1 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to operating losses of \$0.0 million and \$0.4 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. The operating income (loss) for the Licensing segment, Recorders segment and corporate administrative expenses is shown in the following table:

	<u>For the Three Months</u> <u>Ended September 30,</u>		<u>For the Nine Months</u> <u>Ended September 30,</u>	
	(in millions)			
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Licensing segment	\$ 2.7	\$ 0.1	\$ 16.8	\$ 0.3
Recorders segment	0.4	(0.3)	1.1	2.5
Unallocated corporate	(2.1)	0.2	(6.8)	(3.2)
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 1.0</b>	<b>\$ 0.0</b>	<b>\$ 11.1</b>	<b>\$ (0.4)</b>

The increase in operating income in 2005 was primarily a result of the factors discussed above under Licensing Revenue and Intellectual Property Costs.

*Media Pension Costs.* We remain the plan sponsor of the pension plan of Media, a former subsidiary that was sold to Quantegy Corporation ( Quantegy ) in 1995, and remain obligated to make pension contributions to that plan. Pension costs (credits) are recognized under SFAS No. 87, Employers Accounting for Pensions. Payments made by Quantegy either as direct pension contributions or as reimbursement of amounts paid by Ampex on behalf of Media are recognized as an offset to actuarially computed pension costs. Contributions and reimbursements paid by Quantegy totaled \$0.2 million and \$0.7 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. There were no contributions or reimbursements paid by Quantegy in the three and nine months ended June 30, 2005 and no additional reimbursements are expected as Quantegy has filed for bankruptcy protection.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense decreased in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 due to the significant repayment of senior debt of \$62.4 million in the fourth quarter of 2004 and \$10.4 million in the second quarter of 2005. We made cash payments of interest totaling \$2.4 million and \$0.5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004, respectively. Interest not paid in cash in 2004 was capitalized and added to the principal amount of the related debt obligation.

*Amortization of Debt Financing Costs.* Financing costs associated with the original issuance of the 12% Senior Notes are being charged to expense through the maturity date in 2008. We included an additional amortization charge of \$0.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 based on the significant redemption payments made against the 12% Senior Notes.

*Interest Income.* Interest income is earned on cash balances and short and long-term investments.

*Other (Income) Expense, Net.* On April 15, 2005, Data Systems sold its former manufacturing facility and received net proceeds on the sale of approximately \$3.0 million. We recognized a gain in other (income) expense of \$0.5 million on the sale in the second quarter of 2005. Other (income) expense, net for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 included a net gain of \$0.4 million on the sale of assets, which were substantially fully amortized and disposed of in connection with the relocation of our Colorado Springs manufacturing operations to more cost-efficient facilities in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Redwood City, California. Other (income) expense, net for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004 also included foreign currency translation gains and losses resulting from our foreign operations, which were not significant.



## **Table of Contents**

*Provision for (Benefit of) Income Taxes.* Our effective tax rate for 2005 was lower than the statutory rate due to the anticipated utilization of net operating loss carry forwards and timing differences. The provision for income taxes in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004 consisted primarily of federal and state alternative minimum taxes in 2005 and withholding taxes on royalty revenue in both periods. At December 31, 2004, we had net operating loss carry forwards for income tax purposes of approximately \$178 million, expiring in the years 2005 through 2023. Accordingly, we have the ability to shelter a substantial amount of future federal taxable income, including future licensing revenue, if any is ultimately realized. Effective July 1, 2004, a new U.S./Japanese tax treaty eliminated withholding taxes on royalty payments. Prior to July 1, 2004, our Japanese licensing revenue was subject to foreign tax withholding of up to 10% of licensing revenue.

*Equity in Income of Limited Partnership, Including Sale of Investment.* We made an investment in a limited partnership in 2003, which we accounted for under the equity method of accounting. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, the partnership sold or distributed to its partners all of its remaining investments in a publicly held British promotional products company and we recognized our pro rata share of the gain on the sale of \$1.7 million. We received total distributions of \$3.3 million on our \$1 million investment, which included incentive fees earned of \$0.6 million from the carried interest assigned from the general partner. No further investment activities are envisioned by this partnership, which has wound up its affairs.

*Income from Discontinued Operations.* In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, we recognized income of \$0.4 million on previously discontinued operations, largely due to favorably concluding our obligations with respect to leased facilities previously occupied by these discontinued operations.

*Net Income (Loss).* We reported a net loss of \$0.2 million in the three months ended September 30, 2005 and net income of \$8.3 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to a net loss of \$1.5 million and \$6.0 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, respectively, primarily as a result of the factors discussed above.

*Other Comprehensive Income (Loss).* Other comprehensive income (loss) also includes foreign currency transaction adjustments resulting from our foreign operations.

*Inflation and Changing Prices.* We do not believe that inflation or changing prices have had any material impact on our product and service revenue, licensing revenue or income from continuing operations for the periods ended September 30, 2005 and 2004.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

*General.* Cash and marketable securities totaled \$11.7 million at September 30, 2005. These funds are available for general corporate purposes. Substantially all cash generated by our Licensing segment in excess of related operating expenses and certain other expenses, including patent litigation costs, is first required to be applied to reduce debt, which at September 30, 2005 totaled \$25.5 million.

In 2004, after several years of negotiations, we instituted litigation in the ITC and in the District Court against certain manufacturers of digital still cameras and camera equipped cellular phones for unauthorized use of our intellectual property. We believe that the possible threat of an unfavorable ruling by these courts was instrumental in causing certain companies to enter into new agreements with us. We spent \$4.9 million during the twelve months ended December 31, 2004 and \$8.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 in connection with these suits. Although two of these suits were settled by entering into license agreements with Sanyo Electric Ltd. and Sony in 2004, the suit against

Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Kodak continues. In August 2005, we withdrew our ITC suit with Kodak in order to accelerate related litigation in the District Court. Management believes this will liberate resources that may be used to enforce other

**Table of Contents**

patents that have longer lives. However, we may decide to enforce our patents by instituting additional litigation against other manufacturers of digital still cameras and/or other products where our technology is being used if licensing agreements are not completed on acceptable terms. Any such additional litigation could cause our litigation costs to increase, and any such increases could be material.

*Cash Flow.* We used cash from continuing operating activities totaling \$4.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to using cash from continuing operations of \$7.0 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2004. The change in cash flow resulted primarily from the increase in licensing revenue offset in part by the excess of pension contributions over pension costs and the amortization of deferred revenue on service contracts, the majority of which have renewal dates in the fourth quarter. Cash used by discontinued operations totaled \$0.4 million and \$0.6 million in each of the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

Management believes that our liquidity, together with Data Systems' projected results, licensing agreements presently in effect and our ability to borrow pension contributions from a former affiliate, should be sufficient to satisfy all projected cash obligations through at least September 2006.

*Senior Debt.* As of September 30, 2005 we had outstanding approximately \$25.5 million of total borrowings, which includes approximately \$5.6 million under our 12% Senior Notes due 2008 and \$19.9 million of notes from Hillside (Hillside Notes). Our debt levels have been significantly reduced from levels in prior years and one of our objectives is to repay all of the Senior Notes before the end of 2006, although we cannot assure you that we will be able to do so.

The indenture under which the Senior Notes were issued contains customary affirmative and negative restrictive covenants that limit the payment of dividends, the incurrence of additional indebtedness or liens, certain sales of assets and other actions by our restricted subsidiaries and us. In the event of default, the holders of the Senior Notes would be entitled to enforce the liens granted by us on our future patent royalty stream and to apply amounts collected to repayment of the Senior Notes.

*Pension Contributions and Pension Related Funding Obligations.* We are the Plan Sponsor of the Ampex pension plan and of the pension plan of Media. We amended these plans in early 1994 to terminate benefit service and compensation accruals as of February 1, 1994 in order to reduce payments that would otherwise be required. These pension plans remain underfunded and actuaries have forecasted that substantial pension contributions will be required through 2010. The following amounts are substantially less than the unfunded accumulated benefit obligation recognized by us as liabilities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets due to differing actuarial assumptions prescribed by ERISA in each instance.

	<b>Estimated Pension Contributions</b>	
	<b>Ampex Pension Plan</b>	<b>Media Pension Plan</b>
	(in thousands)	
Remainder of 2005	\$	\$ 240
2006	1,641	7,827
2007	11,224	1,725
2008	6,478	2,326
2009	2,730	764
2010	1,170	

	<u>\$ 23,243</u>	<u>\$ 12,882</u>
--	------------------	------------------

**Table of Contents**

Pension contributions are payable quarterly in April, July and October of the current year, and January and September following the plan year. Pension contributions payable for the remainder of 2005 and the first nine months of 2006 are estimated as follows:

	Estimated Contributions	
	Ampex Pension Plan	Media Pension Plan
	(in thousands)	
October 2005	\$	240
January 2006		240
April 2006		1,225
July 2006	231	1,225
September 2006		3,912
	\$ 231	\$ 6,842

We have made the October 2005 pension contribution.

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ( PBGC ), Hillside and Ampex entered into a Joint Settlement Agreement in 1994, whereby Hillside agreed to retain plan termination liability to the PBGC under the Ampex pension plan and Media pension plan after the reorganization of NH Holdings Incorporated, our former parent. Pursuant to this agreement, Hillside was also required to advance pension contributions for the Ampex pension plan and Media pension plan in the event that we were unable to make the pension contributions. Failure by Hillside to advance funds in subsequent periods would enable the PBGC to terminate the plans and seek recovery of termination benefits from Hillside.

At our request, Hillside made pension contributions totaling \$20.7 million pertaining to the Ampex pension plan and the Media pension plan. We issued Hillside Notes in the amount of these pension contributions and amounts advanced in prior years. Hillside made a pension contribution totaling \$5.9 million in September 2005 and we issued an additional Hillside Note in the same amount, as discussed below.

When Hillside makes all or any portion of a pension contribution under the Ampex and/or Media pension contributions, we issue additional Hillside Notes. Under the terms of the Hillside Notes, \$150,000 is due on the first anniversary of each of the notes with the remainder due on the fourth anniversary of the notes. Pursuant to amendments to the senior debt agreements, all principal payments on the Hillside Notes will be deferred until after December 31, 2006 with earlier repayment in the event that the Senior Notes have been repaid in full. The Hillside Notes provide for interest paid quarterly at 1 percent plus 175% of the applicable mid-term Federal rate (effective rate of 8.20% at September 30, 2005). We granted to Hillside a security interest in Data Systems inventory as collateral for advances, which it is required to make pursuant to the agreement. This agreement contains certain restrictive covenants which, among other things, restrict our ability to declare dividends, sell all or substantially all of our assets or commence liquidation, or engage in specified transactions with certain related parties, breach of which could result in acceleration of our potential termination liabilities.

Hillside is legally obligated to comply with the terms of the Joint Settlement Agreement, and has represented that it has sufficient assets to fund pension contributions that are scheduled in future years. We have no direct or indirect financial ownership interest in Hillside and, accordingly, have no ability to control Hillside or to mandate its compliance with the terms of the Joint Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, our ability to borrow pension contributions from Hillside is beyond our control.

*Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.* During the three months ended September 30, 2005, we did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that our Management believes is material to investors.

---

## **Table of Contents**

*Disclosure of Contractual Obligations.* During the three months ended September 30, 2005, there were no material changes outside the ordinary course of our business in the contractual obligations and commercial commitments set forth in the 2004 Form 10-K.

*Transactions in Our Common Stock.* In May 2005, our Board of Directors approved amendments to our insider trading policy in order to permit our officers, directors and other insiders to enter into trading plans or arrangements for systematic trading in our Class A Common Stock, provided that such plans satisfy the requirements set forth in Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act. Accordingly, some of our officers, directors and other insiders have established such trading plans and entered into transactions in our Class A Common Stock, as permitted by Rule 10b5-1 and our amended insider trading policy. Our officers, directors and other insiders and stockholders may also enter into transactions in our common stock pursuant to registration statements already filed or to be filed with the SEC in the future, pursuant to Rule 144, or otherwise.

## **Recent Pronouncements**

In June 2005, the FASB issued FSP issued FSP FAS 143-1, *Accounting for Electronic Equipment Waste Obligations* ( FSP 143-1 ), which provides guidance on the accounting for obligations associated with the Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (the Directive ), which was adopted by the European Union ( EU ). Under the Directive, the waste management obligation for historical equipment (products put on the market on or prior to August 13, 2005) remains with the commercial user until the equipment is replaced. FSP 143-1 is required to be applied to the later of the first reporting period ending after June 8, 2005 or the date of the Directive 's adoption into law by the applicable EU member countries in which we have significant operations. We are currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of FSP 143-1 will have on our consolidated results of operations and financial condition, but we do not expect it to have a material impact.

In May 2005, the FASB issued SFAS No. 154, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections* ( SFAS 154 ) which replaces APB Opinion No. 20 *Accounting Changes* and SFAS No. 3, *Reporting Accounting Changes in Interim Financial Statements - An Amendment of APB Opinion No. 28*. SFAS 154 provides guidance on the accounting for and reporting of accounting changes and error corrections. It establishes retrospective application, or the latest practicable date, as the required method for reporting a change in accounting principle and the reporting of a correction of an error. SFAS 154 is effective for accounting changes and corrections of errors made in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2005. We are currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of SFAS 154 will have on our consolidated results of operations and financial condition, but do not expect it to have a material impact.

In March 2005, the FASB issued FIN 47, *Accounting for Conditional Asset Retirement Obligations*, an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 143 ( FIN 47 ), which requires an entity to recognize a liability for the fair value of a conditional asset retirement obligation when incurred if the liability 's fair value can be reasonably estimated. FIN 47 is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2005. We are currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of FIN 47 will have on our consolidated results of operations and financial condition, but do not expect it to have a material impact.

In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment* ( SFAS 123R ), which replaces SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, ( SFAS 123 ) and supercedes APB Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*. SFAS 123R requires all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, to be recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values beginning with the first interim or annual period after December 15, 2005, with early adoption encouraged. The pro forma disclosures previously permitted under SFAS 123 no longer will be an alternative to financial statement recognition. We are required to adopt SFAS 123R in the first quarter of fiscal 2006, beginning January 1, 2006. We expect to use the Black-Scholes valuation model in determining the fair value of share-based payments to employees and directors, and to amortize such amounts to compensation cost on a straight-line basis. We expect to apply the modified prospective method which requires that compensation expense be recorded for all unvested stock options and restricted stock at the beginning of the first quarter of adoption of SFAS 123R.





---

## **Table of Contents**

We are evaluating the requirements of SFAS 123R and the effect the adoption of SFAS 123R, including Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 ( SAB 107 ) regarding the SEC's interpretation of SFAS 123R, will have on our consolidated results of operations and financial position but has not yet determined whether the effect of adopting SFAS 123R will be material, or whether the adoption will result in amounts that are similar to the current pro forma disclosures under SFAS 123.

In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 153, Exchanges of Nonmonetary Assets - An Amendment of APB Opinion No. 29, Accounting for Nonmonetary Transactions ( SFAS 153 ). SFAS 153 eliminates the exception from fair value measurement for nonmonetary exchanges of similar productive assets in paragraph 21(b) of APB Opinion No. 29, Accounting for Nonmonetary Transactions, and replaces it with an exception for exchanges that do not have commercial substance. SFAS 153 specifies that a nonmonetary exchange has commercial substance if the future cash flows of the entity are expected to change significantly as a result of the exchange. SFAS 153 is effective for fiscal periods beginning after June 15, 2005. We are currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of SFAS 153 will have on our financial position, cash flows or results of operation, but we do not expect it to have a material impact.

In November 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 151, Inventory Costs - An Amendment of ARB No. 43, Chapter 4 ( SFAS 151 ). SFAS 151 amends the guidance in ARB No. 43, Chapter 4, Inventory Pricing, to clarify the accounting for abnormal amounts of idle facility expense, freight, handling costs, and wasted material (spoilage). Among other provisions, the new rule requires that items such as idle facility expense be recognized as current-period charges regardless of whether they meet the criterion of so abnormal as stated in ARB No. 43. Additionally, SFAS 151 requires that the allocation of fixed production overheads to the costs of conversion be based on the normal capacity of the production facilities. SFAS 151 is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2005. We are currently evaluating the effect that the adoption of SFAS 151 will have on our financial position, cash flows or results of operations, but we do not expect it to have a material impact.

## **Risk Related to our Business**

**Our operating results and income have fluctuated significantly in the past and will continue to fluctuate, and we may not be profitable in the future.**

Our revenues and results of operations are generally subject to quarterly and annual fluctuations. Various factors affect our operating results, some of which are not within our control, including:

receipt of lump sum, prepaid and ongoing licensing royalties;

product sales by licensees;

new licenses with licensees

litigation expenses;

debt repayments and interest expense;

the amount and timing of pension contributions and related funding obligations;

customer ordering and government spending patterns;

availability and market acceptance of new products and services;

timing of significant orders and new product announcements; and

order cancellations.

For example, our licensing revenue has historically fluctuated widely due to a number of factors that we cannot predict, such as the timing and negotiated terms of patent settlement agreements in any particular period, the extent to which third parties acknowledge use of our patented technology, the extent to which we must pursue litigation in order to enforce our patents to protect our business, and the ultimate

---

**Table of Contents**

success of our licensing and litigation activities. Licensing revenue also depends in part on fluctuating sales volumes and prices of licensee products that incorporate our technology. For the nine months ended September 30, 2005, we had licensing revenue of \$26.5 million and net income of \$8.3 million, as a result of the recognition of significant royalty receipts for past and, in some cases, future use of our patents. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, however, we only had licensing revenues of \$4.9 million and reported a net loss of \$6.0 million. Similarly, our Recorders segment revenues may fluctuate significantly in future periods. While this segment reported operating income for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004, its business is dependent on the funding of government defense programs, which may come under increased pressure in the future, leading to a decline in sales. In addition, a substantial portion of our Recorders segment backlog at a given time is normally shipped within one or two quarters thereafter, and revenues in any quarter are heavily dependent on orders received in that quarter and the immediately preceding quarter. However, at September 30, 2005 our backlog included the undelivered portion of an order from The Boeing Company for our new instrumentation recorders, totaling approximately \$5.8 million, to be delivered over the next two years.

Accordingly, results of a given quarter or year are not likely to be indicative of results to be expected for future periods, given the highly volatile nature of licensing revenue and other factors discussed above. In addition, fluctuations in operating results may negatively affect our debt service coverage, or our ability to issue debt or equity securities should we wish to do so, in any given fiscal period. In addition, material fluctuations in our operating results in future periods could have a material adverse effect on the price of our common stock.

***Our licensing revenue may be adversely affected due to the expiration of one of our patents that expires in April 2006. Furthermore, if we are unable to protect our intellectual property adequately, our revenues will be reduced and we may not be able to compete effectively.***

Our licensing revenues may be adversely affected due to the expiration of our rapid image retrieval patent on April 11, 2006. As of September 30, 2005, we have licensed substantially all of the major manufacturers of digital still cameras, the majority of whom have made prepayments covering their liability for the use of any of our patents through April 11, 2006. After April 11, 2006, manufacturers of digital still cameras will be required to pay royalties if their products incorporate any of our digital imaging patents, including our feed forward quantization patent, use of which is currently being studied. Although the potential royalties from digital still camera manufacturers could be substantial, if we are unable to prove infringement of our digital imaging patents, or if our patents are deemed invalid, our royalties from digital still cameras after April 11, 2006 could be materially and adversely affected.

The success of our Licensing and Recorders segments depends, in part, upon our ability to establish and maintain the proprietary nature of our technology through the patent process. There can be no assurance that one or more of our patents will not be successfully challenged, invalidated or circumvented or that we will otherwise be able to rely on such patents for any reason. In addition, our competitors, many of whom have substantial resources and have made substantial investments in competing technologies, may seek to apply for and obtain patents that restrict our ability to make, use and sell our products either in the United States or in foreign markets. Monitoring unauthorized use of our technology is difficult, and we cannot be certain that the steps we have taken will prevent unauthorized use of our technology, particularly in foreign countries where the laws may not protect our proprietary rights as fully as the laws of the United States. If any of our patents are successfully challenged, invalidated or circumvented or our right or ability to manufacture our products becomes restricted, our ability to continue to manufacture and market our products could be adversely affected, which would likely have a material adverse effect upon our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Unless we are able to develop or acquire new patents in the digital imaging field or other fields, our licensing revenues will expire in 2014. Moreover, if other companies develop patented proprietary technology similar to ours or competing technologies, our competitive position will be weakened and we may experience reduced license revenues.

## **Table of Contents**

*Our revenues and operations may be adversely affected if we are not successful in our current and future legal actions or proceedings.*

The success of our Licensing segment depends upon the validity of our digital imaging patents, which are used by manufacturers of consumer digital imaging products. In 2004, we initiated litigation to enforce one of our digital still camera patents and we may decide to initiate additional litigation against other manufacturers of digital still cameras and other products to enforce our patents, to protect trade secrets or know-how owned by us or to determine the enforceability, scope and validity of the proprietary rights of others. Any litigation or interference proceedings brought against, initiated by, or otherwise involving us, may require us to incur substantial legal and other fees and expenses and may require some of our employees to devote all or a substantial portion of their time to the prosecution or defense of such litigation or proceedings. We also face the risk that a court could rule that our patents are invalid or not infringed, causing existing licensees to discontinue payments to us, and the risk of possible assertions of counterclaims.

As a result, we have incurred significant litigation expenses and may incur additional costs in future periods if we bring new lawsuits or if existing litigation is not resolved through negotiations. Additionally, if we do not prevail in our patent litigation, our patent royalties could be negatively impacted, which would have an adverse impact on our business, revenues and operations.

*Our business depends materially on U.S. government spending, and a decrease in that spending may adversely affect our revenues and earnings.*

Our Recorders segment depends materially on continued expenditures by the U.S. government on intelligence and defense programs. Significant portions of data acquisition and instrumentation recorder sales reflect purchases by prime contractors to the federal government, which are subject to significant fluctuations. The large U.S. budget deficit is expected to result in the cancellation of various defense programs. We do not know whether programs in which we participate will be affected by such cuts, program delays or deferred funding. The loss or significant decline in spending on various imaging and intelligence gathering programs, in which we are subcontractors to prime government contractors, or the lack of acceptance of our new products could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and earnings.

In addition, other factors relating to the markets for our instrumentation products and to competition in these markets may affect future sales of these products. We have recently introduced our new DDRs disk-based data acquisition recorder and our new DSRs solid-state memory-based data acquisition recorder for use in intelligence gathering activities. These products have been designed to replace a large installed base of DCRsi tape-based data acquisition recorders over several years. However, there can be no assurance that these new products will be successful or achieve the same level of market acceptance. If sales of new systems decline in the future, we may be increasingly dependent upon revenues from the sale of spare parts, service and tape.

*We have substantial unfunded pension liabilities, which may adversely affect our liquidity and our ability to maintain or grow our operations.*

Our and Media's defined benefit pension plans were frozen in 1994, but remain substantially underfunded. At September 30, 2005, unfunded accumulated plan benefit obligations under the pension plans totaled \$43.4 million and \$19.0 million, respectively, and have been recognized as liabilities on our consolidated balance sheet.

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

During 2004 and prior years, Media reimbursed us for some of the pension contributions we made on behalf of the Media pension plan based on a contractual obligation entered into at the time Media was sold. On January 10, 2005, Media filed for Chapter 11 reorganization. Based on our assessment of Media's financial condition, we do not anticipate any additional reimbursement of amounts paid to date or payable in the future on behalf of the Media pension plan. Future pension contributions payable under these pension plans will fluctuate based on actual investment performance, life expectancy of the participants and other factors versus such assumptions used to project future pension contributions.

## **Table of Contents**

Under a Joint Settlement Agreement between us, Hillside and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Hillside is required to advance pension contributions for our and Media's pension plan in the event that we cannot make them. At our request, to date Hillside has made pension contributions totaling \$20.7 million pertaining to the Ampex and the Media pension plans, which includes a pension contribution of \$5.9 million in September 2005. When Hillside advances pension contributions, we become indebted to Hillside, and we issue an equivalent amount of Hillside Notes. In future years, we may request Hillside to fund additional pension contributions under the Ampex and/or Media pension plans if we are unable to make the payments ourselves. We believe that Hillside has sufficient assets to fund future pension contributions under the Joint Settlement Agreement, but we do not own or control Hillside and, except for the provisions of the Joint Settlement Agreement, our ability to borrow pension contributions from Hillside is beyond our control.

*Our substantial indebtedness could materially adversely affect our operations and financial results and prevent us from obtaining additional financing, if necessary.*

As of September 30, 2005, we had outstanding approximately \$25.5 million of total borrowings, which includes approximately \$5.6 million under our 12% Senior Notes due 2008 and \$19.9 million of Hillside Notes that at September 30, 2005 bear interest at 8.20% per annum. The Hillside Notes were incurred in connection with pension contributions advanced by Hillside in 2005 and prior years. The 12% Senior Notes are secured by liens on our future royalty receipts. We may incur additional indebtedness from time to time in the future, subject to certain restrictions imposed by our debt agreements, which could increase our interest expense in future periods. If we default in our obligations under the relevant loan agreements, the Noteholders would have the right to accelerate the indebtedness and foreclose on their liens, which would materially and adversely affect our financial condition.

The degree to which we are leveraged could have other important consequences to investors, including the following:

a substantial portion of our cash flow from licensing operations must be dedicated to the payment of principal of and interest on our outstanding indebtedness until it is repaid in full, and until then will not be available for other purposes;

our ability to obtain additional financing in the future for working capital needs, capital expenditures, acquisitions and general corporate purposes may be materially limited or impaired by the terms of our existing debt agreements, and even if existing lenders consent to the issuance of new debt, such financing may not be available on terms favorable to us;

we may be more highly leveraged than our competitors, which may place us at a competitive disadvantage;

our leverage may make us more vulnerable to a downturn in our business or the economy in general; and

the financial covenants and other restrictions contained in our indentures and other agreements relating to our indebtedness also restrict our ability to make new investments, dispose of assets or to pay dividends on or repurchase common stock.

If we cannot service our indebtedness, we will be forced to adopt alternative strategies. These strategies may include reducing or delaying capital expenditures, selling assets, restructuring or refinancing our indebtedness, or seeking additional equity capital. We cannot give any assurance that any of these strategies will be successful or that they will be permitted under our debt indentures.

*Our substantial debt service and pension obligations may reduce our cash flow and our ability to operate our business.*

We have limited liquidity with which to conduct our operations. While we had cash and marketable securities of \$11.7 million at September 30, 2005, substantially all cash generated by our Licensing segment in excess of related operating expenses and certain other expenses, including patent

## **Table of Contents**

litigation costs, is first required to be applied to reduce debt, which totaled \$25.5 million at September 30, 2005. In addition to our debt service obligations, we are obligated to make future pension contributions to our and Media's pension plans, which we estimate will total \$36.1 million over the next six years. While our management believes that our liquidity, coupled with anticipated patent licensing revenue and our ability to borrow pension contributions from Hillside, should be sufficient to satisfy our projected cash obligations through at least September 2006, there can be no assurance that we will be able to satisfy these obligations in future years. Furthermore, our limited liquidity may harm our ability to operate or grow our business.

*If we acquire companies in the future, we may experience integration costs and the acquired businesses may not perform as we expect.*

We have made, and may under certain circumstances in the future make, acquisitions of, and/or investments in, other businesses. These entities may be involved in new businesses in which we have not historically been involved. We may not be able to identify or acquire suitable acquisition candidates in the future, or complete any acquisitions or investments on satisfactory terms. While we are not currently seeking to make any acquisitions of a controlling interest in new businesses and our principal debt instruments substantially restrict our ability to make acquisitions or investments in new businesses, future acquisitions and investments involve numerous additional risks. These risks include difficulties in the management of operations, services and personnel of the acquired companies, and of integrating acquired companies with us and/or each other's operations. We may also encounter problems in entering markets and businesses in which we have limited or no experience. Acquisitions can also divert our attention from other business concerns. We have made and may make additional investments in companies in which we own less than a 100% interest. Such investments involve additional risks, including the risk that we may not be in a position to control the management or policies of such entities, and the risk of potential conflicts with other investors. For example, we have written off all of our acquisitions of Internet companies during 2000 and 2001. It is possible that we could lose all or a substantial portion of any future investments.

*If we are unable to respond to rapid technological change or to develop new products, our revenues and results of operations will be adversely affected.*

All the industries and markets from which we derive or expect to derive revenues, directly or through our licensing program, are characterized by continual technological change and the need to introduce new products, product upgrades and patentable technology. This has required, and will continue to require, that we spend substantial amounts of capital on the research, development and engineering of new products and advances to existing products, as well as for assessing infringement of our patents by manufacturers of consumer digital video products. We cannot assure you that our existing products, technologies and services will not become obsolete or that any new products, technologies or services will win commercial acceptance. Obsolescence of existing product lines, or inability to develop and introduce new products and services, could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations in the future. The development and introduction of new technologies, products and services are subject to inherent technical and market risks, and there can be no assurance that we will be successful in this regard. In addition, reductions in our research and development programs could adversely affect our ability to remain competitive.

Because our Recorders segment is primarily focused on our data acquisition and instrumentation products, we have devoted the majority of our research and development to producing our new solid state and disk based instrumentation recorders. We do not currently intend to invest additional development resources to extend the life of our 19-millimeter mass storage products beyond the quad density format other than as required to support the needs of our customers. If our Recorders segment were to experience further declines in product revenues, we may be required to reduce future research, development and engineering costs.



## **Table of Contents**

*We have numerous significant competitors in our Recorders segment, some of which have greater financial resources than we do.*

Our Recorders segment encounters significant competition in all the markets for its products and services. Many of our competitors in this industry have greater resources and access to capital than us. In the instrumentation market, which currently is our Recorders segment's major area of focus, we compete primarily with companies that depend on government contracts for a major portion of their revenues, including L-3 Communications Corporation, Calcuex and Sypris Solutions, Inc. While the number of our competitors in this industry has decreased in recent years as the government spending in many areas has declined, many of these competitors have greater financial resources than we do.

*We rely on a limited number of key suppliers and vendors to operate our business. If these suppliers or vendors experience problems or favor our competitors, we could fail to obtain sufficient quantities of products and services we require to operate our business successfully.*

Our Recorders segment purchases certain components and magnetic media products from a single or a small number of domestic or foreign manufacturers. Significant delays in deliveries or defects in such components may, from time-to-time, adversely affect our manufacturing operations, pending qualification of an alternative supplier. In addition, we produce highly engineered products in relatively small quantities. As a result, our ability to cause suppliers to continue production of certain products on which we depend or to deliver those products to us on a timely basis, may be limited. These suppliers may require us to purchase lifetime quantities of their products or components, which may cause our inventories to increase beyond levels required to support current revenues. We do not generally enter into long-term raw materials or components supply contracts. Accordingly, if we experience problems with these manufacturers, we could fail to obtain sufficient resources to operate our business successfully.

*Our international operations subject us to social, political and economic risks of doing business in foreign countries.*

Although we significantly curtailed our Recorders segment's international operations in prior years, sales to foreign customers (including U.S. export sales) continue to be significant to our results of operations. However, international operations are subject to a number of special risks, including limitations on repatriation of earnings, restrictive actions by local governments, and nationalization. Additionally, export sales are subject to export regulation and restrictions imposed by U.S. government agencies. Although fluctuations in the value of foreign currencies can affect our results of operations, we do not normally seek to mitigate our exposure to exchange rate fluctuations by hedging our foreign currency positions. Accordingly, our revenues from international operations are subject to numerous risks, any of which may have an adverse impact on our results of operations.

*We are dependent on certain key personnel and the loss of one or more these individuals could disrupt our operations and adversely affect our financial results.*

We are highly dependent upon the availability and performance of our executive officers and directors, including Edward J. Bramson, who has been our chief executive officer since 1991, and the other senior executives of our corporate licensing division and Data Systems subsidiary. Mr. Bramson is also engaged in the management of certain other companies, but devotes most of his time to the management of our operations. We have not entered into employment agreements with Mr. Bramson or any of our key employees, and we do not maintain key man life insurance on any of these individuals. Accordingly, if we lose the services of Mr. Bramson or our other executive officers, our business, financial condition and operating results could be materially adversely affected.



---

## **Table of Contents**

*We are subject to environmental regulation and could incur substantial costs as a result of violations of or liabilities under environmental laws.*

Our facilities are subject to numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations designed to protect the environment from waste emissions and hazardous substances. Owners and occupiers of sites containing hazardous substances, as well as generators and transporters of hazardous substances, are subject to broad liability under various federal and state environmental laws and regulations, including liability for investigative and cleanup costs and damages arising out of past disposal activities. We are currently engaged in various environmental investigations, remediation and/or monitoring activities at several sites located off our facilities. There can be no assurance we will not ultimately incur liability in excess of amounts currently reserved for pending environmental matters, or that additional liabilities with respect to environmental matters will not be asserted. In addition, changes in environmental regulations could impose the need for additional capital equipment or other requirements. Such liabilities or regulations could have a material adverse effect on us in the future.

Although we sold Media in November 1995, we have continuing liability with respect to environmental contamination at manufacturing sites and disposal sites used by Media when it was our subsidiary. On January 10, 2005, Media filed for Chapter 11 reorganization. At September 30, 2005, we have included an estimate of future clean up costs of Media sites of \$2.4 million, which is included in net liabilities of discontinued operations.

*Complying with changing corporate governance regulations, including an evaluation of our internal controls, may adversely affect our business and operations.*

Changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, new SEC regulations and NASDAQ market rules, are creating uncertainty for companies such as ours. These new or changed laws, regulations and standards are subject to varying interpretations in many cases due to their lack of specificity. As a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies, which could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices. We are committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance, internal control and public disclosure. As a result, we intend to invest internal resources and engage outside consultants to comply with evolving laws, regulations and standards, and this investment may result in significantly increased administrative expenses, reduced profitability and a diversion of management time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities. If our efforts to comply with new or changed laws, regulations and standards differ from the activities intended by regulatory or governing bodies, our reputation may be harmed.

*We are exposed to potential risks from recent legislation requiring companies to evaluate their internal control over financial reporting under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.*

We expect to become an accelerated filer on December 31, 2005 based on the market value of our common stock on June 30, 2005. As a result, we will be documenting and evaluating our internal control systems in order to allow management to report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting and our registered independent public accounting firm to attest to this report in our Form 10-K annual report for the fiscal year end December 31, 2005, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. We will perform the system and process evaluation and testing (and implementing any necessary remediation) required in an effort to comply with these report and attestation requirements and expect to incur additional expenses and devote significant management time towards completing actions required for management's evaluation. The evaluation and attestation processes required by Section 404 are new to us and we have limited experience in testing and complying with these requirements. While we will develop and implement plans to fully implement the requirements relating to internal controls and all other aspects of Section 404 in a timely fashion, we cannot be certain as to the timing of completion of our evaluation, testing and remediation actions or the impact of the same on our operations because we will be undergoing the process for the first time in a

regulatory environment where the standards to assess adequacy of compliance are evolving. We cannot assure you that there may not be significant deficiencies or material

## **Table of Contents**

weaknesses that would be required to be reported as a result of the process. In addition, we cannot assure you that we will timely complete actions required for management's evaluation according to a timetable that will permit our registered independent public accounting firm to timely complete its assessment of our internal control over financial reporting and attest to management's report, which development may subject us to regulatory investigations and sanctions and lead to a loss of confidence in our internal control over financial reporting. Any such action could adversely affect our financial results and the market price of our common stock.

### **Risks Related to the Ownership of our Common Stock**

*The future price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly.*

The trading price of our common stock has been and can be expected to be subject to significant volatility, reflecting a variety of factors, including:

fluctuations in patent licensing revenues, developments in our patent licensing program and the success or failure of litigation that we initiate to defend our patents;

announcements relating to developments in our Recorders segment;

quarterly fluctuations in operating results;

modifications to our senior debt agreements and other events that affect our liquidity;

announcements of the introduction of new products, technologies or services by us or our competitors;

announcements of acquisitions of, or investments in, new businesses or other events;

sales of shares of our common stock by insiders pursuant to registration statements, Rule 144, Rule 10b5-1 plans or otherwise;

reports and predictions concerning us by analysts and other members of the media; and

general economic or market conditions.

In addition, the stock market in general, and technology companies in particular, have experienced a high degree of price volatility, which has had a substantial effect on the market prices of many such companies for reasons that often are unrelated or disproportionate to operating performance. Thus, these broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance.

*Future sales or the possibility of future sales of substantial amounts of our common stock by our officers and directors may cause the price of our common stock to decline.*

The resale of shares of our common stock by insiders pursuant to a registration statement or prospectus could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. Even the prospect of such resales could depress the market price for our common stock. In addition, our officers, directors and employees and certain other stockholders hold significant numbers of shares of our common stock that are not covered by a registration statement. Some of those shares are freely tradable without restriction under the federal securities laws, and those that are not may be sold in the future pursuant to newly filed effective registration statements, in compliance with the requirements of Rule 144 under the Securities Act or, in some cases, pursuant to a reoffer prospectus filed under an existing effective registration statement. Sales in the public market of substantial amounts of our common stock, whether by our officers, directors, employees or others, or the perception that such sales could occur, could materially adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock and our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of equity securities.

## **Table of Contents**

*Anti-takeover provisions in our certificate of incorporation and by-laws may reduce the likelihood of any potential change of control or unsolicited acquisition proposal that you might consider favorable.*

Our certificate of incorporation provides for a classified board of directors, with members of each class elected for a three-year term. It also provides for nullification of voting rights of certain foreign stockholders in certain circumstances involving possible violations of security regulations of the United States Department of Defense. Similarly, the indenture governing our outstanding Senior Notes requires us to offer to repurchase the Senior Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the outstanding principal amount thereof together with accrued and unpaid interest in the event of a change of control, which includes the purchase by a person or group of 50% or more of our outstanding voting stock or the transfer of substantially all of our assets to any such person or group, other than to certain of our subsidiaries and affiliates. These provisions could deter, delay or prevent a third-party from acquiring us, even if doing so would benefit our stockholders.

*Our board of directors may issue preferred stock without stockholder approval.*

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to authorize the issuance of up to 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock. Preferred stock may be issued in one or more series, the terms of which may be determined without further action by shareholders. These terms may include preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications or terms or conditions of redemption. The issuance of any preferred stock, however, could materially adversely affect the rights of holders of our class A common stock, and therefore could reduce its value. In addition, specific rights granted to future holders of preferred stock could be used to restrict our ability to merge with, or sell assets to, a third party. The power of the board of directors to issue preferred stock could make it more difficult, delay, discourage, prevent or make it more costly to acquire or effect a change in control, thereby preserving the current shareholders control.

*Our executive officers and directors will continue to have substantial control over our company, which may prevent you or other stockholders from influencing significant corporate decisions.*

As of the record date for our 2005 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, our executive officers and directors beneficially owned or controlled, in the aggregate, approximately 17.8% of our outstanding common stock. As a result, they may be able to influence matters requiring stockholder approval. These matters include the election of directors and approval of significant corporate transactions, such as a merger, consolidation, takeover or other business combination involving us. Our existing principal stockholders, executive officers and directors may have interests that differ from yours and may vote in a way with which you disagree and which may be adverse to your interests. This concentration of ownership could also adversely affect the market price of our common stock or reduce any premium over market price that an acquirer might otherwise pay.

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

There has been no material change to the disclosure made in the 2004 Form 10-K.

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

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Based on an evaluation conducted under the supervision and with the participation of our management, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ( Exchange Act )) were effective as of September 30, 2005 to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us 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.



## **Table of Contents**

There were significant changes in our internal control over financial reporting identified in management's evaluation during the first nine months of fiscal 2005 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting. These changes are described below.

### **Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

Our management has begun to implement significant changes in internal control over the application of generally accepted accounting principles related to complex, non-routine accounting transactions that previously had been identified as a material weakness at December 31, 2004, as more fully described in our 2004 Form 10-K, as follows:

Engaging outside contractors with technical accounting expertise, as needed, and reorganizing the accounting and finance department to ensure that accounting personnel with adequate experience, skills and knowledge relating to complex, non-routine transactions are directly involved in the review and accounting evaluation of our complex, non-routine transactions;

Involving both internal accounting personnel and outside contractors with technical accounting expertise, as needed, early in the evaluation of a complex, non-routine transaction to obtain additional guidance as to the application of generally accepted accounting principles to a transaction;

Documenting to standards established by senior accounting personnel and the principal accounting officer the review, analysis and related conclusions with respect to complex, non-routine transactions; and

Requiring senior accounting personnel and the principal accounting officer to review complex, non-routine transactions to evaluate and approve the accounting treatment for such transactions.

We began to execute the remediation plans identified above in the first quarter of 2005.

We believe that these corrective actions, taken as a whole, have mitigated the control deficiencies with respect to our preparation of our 2004 Annual Report on Form 10-K and that these measures have been effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in this September 2005 Form 10-Q has been recorded, processed, summarized and reported correctly. We are in the process of developing procedures for the testing of these controls to determine if the material weakness has been remediated and expect that testing of these controls will be substantially completed by the end of our fourth fiscal quarter of 2005. We will continue the implementation of policies, processes and procedures regarding the review of complex, non-routine transactions. Management believes that our controls and procedures will continue to improve as a result of the further implementation of these measures.

## **PART II OTHER INFORMATION**

### **ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

We are a party to routine litigation incidental to our business. In the opinion of Management, no such current or pending lawsuits, either individually or in the aggregate, is likely to have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

In October 2004, we initiated litigation against Eastman Kodak Company ( Kodak ) for their infringement of one of our patents, the 121 patent, in the International Trade Commission ( ITC ) and also, at the same time, in U.S. District Court in Delaware ( District Court ). In the ITC proceeding the remedies available are to bar Kodak from the importation or sale of digital still cameras or in certain circumstances to

---

**Table of Contents**

require Kodak to post a forfeitable bond on digital still cameras imported into the United States, in each case for the life of the 121 patent which expires in April 2006. In the separate District Court case, we are seeking monetary damages for infringement of the patent. As discussed below, until recently the District Court suit, although filed, had not proceeded as it was automatically stayed for the duration of the ITC proceeding.

We have had several settlement discussions with Kodak but, although we have negotiated licenses with thirteen other manufacturers of digital still cameras, we now believe that it is unlikely that a settlement with Kodak can be reached. If we were to prevail in the ITC proceeding, the period during which the relief could apply is relatively short, and while the proceeding continues we are unable to pursue our damages claim in District Court. Accordingly, we have concluded that our interests are best served by withdrawing our litigation in the ITC, and made a motion to withdraw on July 29, 2005, which was granted on August 5, 2005. The effect of withdrawal will be to recommence the proceedings in the District Court at an earlier date instead of several months later, after a final decision would have been reached in the ITC. The District Court suit seeks damages for unauthorized use of our patent from August 2001 (the date on which we gave notice of infringement) through April 11, 2006, and we intend to pursue the litigation vigorously. A trial date has been scheduled for December 2006. We have been advised that the work to date on document discovery and the taking of depositions in the ITC proceeding may be useable, in substantial part, in the District Court case, and withdrawal of the ITC case should reduce costs over the next several quarters until the District Court trial begins, although such costs will still be significant. There can be no assurance that this litigation will be successful or that we will be awarded damages, and we will be required to devote significant management resources and to incur significant legal expenses as long as the lawsuit continues. Our strategy is to negotiate commercially reasonable licenses of our patents where possible, but we are prepared to initiate additional litigation when negotiations are not successful. We are evaluating the use of our patents other than 121 in digital cameras and other digital consumer products and may decide to initiate litigation to enforce these patents in future periods. Our belief is that withdrawal of the ITC proceeding will liberate resources that may be used in enforcing patents that have longer lives than 121.

Our facilities are subject to numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations designed to protect the environment from waste emissions and hazardous substances. We are also subject to the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and other laws and regulations affecting the safety and health of employees in its facilities. Management believes that we are generally in compliance in all material respects with all applicable environmental and occupational safety laws and regulations or have plans to bring operations into compliance. Management does not anticipate that capital expenditures for pollution control equipment for fiscal 2005 or 2006 will be material.

Owners and occupiers of sites containing hazardous substances, as well as generators and transporters of hazardous substances, are subject to broad liability under various federal and state environmental laws and regulations, including liability for investigative and cleanup costs and damages arising out of past disposal activities. We have three environmental investigations, remediation and/or monitoring activities outstanding at September 30, 2005. Some of these activities involve the participation of state and local government agencies. Two sites are associated with the operations of Media while the third relates directly to a disposal activity of the Company. Although we sold Media in November 1995, we may have continuing liability with respect to environmental contamination at these sites if Media fails to discharge its responsibilities with respect to such sites. On January 10, 2005, Media filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. We had been named as a potentially responsible party by the United States Environmental Protection Agency with respect to four contaminated sites that have been designated as Superfund sites on the National Priorities List under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980. In the second quarter of 2005, we determined that there is no further liability with respect to the Superfund sites. In the one Superfund site associated with our operations, we entered into a settlement agreement with the EPA as a de minimus participant and paid the required settlement of approximately \$24,000. The remaining three Superfund sites were associated with the operations of Media. The Company has determined, with the advice of outside legal counsel, that the EPA terminated its proceedings in these matters by acknowledging completion of removal activities or by the entry of consent decrees. During 2004 and the nine months ended September 30, 2005, we spent a total of approximately \$127,000 and \$141,000, respectively, in connection with environmental investigation, remediation and monitoring activities. We expect to spend \$0.5 million in the next twelve months for such activities, largely pertaining to Media's prior activities.

## **Table of Contents**

Because of the inherent uncertainty as to various aspects of environmental matters, including the extent of environmental damage, the most desirable remediation techniques and the time period during which cleanup costs may be incurred, it is not possible for us to estimate with any degree of certainty the ultimate costs that we may incur with respect to the currently pending environmental matters referred to above. Nevertheless, at September 30, 2005, we had an accrued liability of \$0.1 million for pending environmental liabilities associated with activities by us and \$2.4 million of net liabilities for discontinued operations for the estimated liabilities we may incur with respect to former Media sites discussed above. These liabilities have not been discounted. Based on facts currently known to Management, we believe we have no contingent liability in connection with such pending matters, either individually, or in the aggregate, that are material to our financial condition, cash flow or results of operations or material to investors.

While we believe that we are generally in compliance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations or have plans to bring operations into compliance, it is possible that we will be named as a potentially responsible party in the future with respect to additional Superfund or other sites. Furthermore, because we conduct our business in foreign countries as well as in the U.S., it is not possible to predict the effect that future domestic or foreign regulation could have on our business, operating results or cash flow. There can be no assurance that we will not ultimately incur liability in excess of amounts currently reserved for pending environmental matters, or that additional liabilities with respect to environmental matters will not be asserted. In addition, changes in environmental regulations could impose the need for additional capital equipment or other requirements. Such liabilities or regulations could have a material adverse effect on us in the future.

## **ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

We did not sell any equity securities during the third quarter of 2005 that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

There were no purchases of any shares of our common stock made by or on behalf of Ampex or any of our affiliated purchasers (as defined in Rule 10b-18(a)(3) of the Exchange Act) during the third quarter of 2005.

## **ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

Not applicable.

## **ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS**

Not applicable.

## **ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION**

## Edgar Filing: AMPEX CORP /DE/ - Form 10-Q

There were no matters required to be disclosed in a current report on Form 8-K during the fiscal quarter covered by this report that were not so disclosed.

Since the filing of our 2005 proxy statement, dated April 29, 2005, we have implemented certain changes to the procedures by which our stockholders may recommend nominees to our Board of Directors. Specifically, the Board recently appointed a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee which, among other things, will be responsible for reviewing the composition of the Board and recommending nominees for election to the Board. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will identify and evaluate potential nominees from a variety of sources, including nominees recommended by our stockholders.

**Table of Contents**

The members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are Douglas T. McClure Jr., Peter Slusser and William A. Stoltzfus, Jr., each of whom is an independent director within the meaning of the Nasdaq listing standards. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee operates under a charter, which is not currently posted on our website, but a copy of which will be included as an appendix to our proxy statement for our 2006 Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement. Qualifications and responsibilities of directors are described in our Corporate Governance Guidelines, a copy of which is available on our website at [www.ampex.com](http://www.ampex.com).

Stockholders may recommend director candidates by submitting the name and pertinent information about each candidate to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee care of our Secretary, Joel D. Talcott, Esq. at 1228 Douglas Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94063, within the time frame specified in our 2005 proxy statement under the caption Stockholder Proposals for 2006 Annual Meeting. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider such candidates, and will evaluate them on the same basis as candidates recommended by management or the Board. Stockholders of record may also nominate directors for election to the Board by following the procedures described in our By-Laws.

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

The Exhibits filed with this Report are listed in the Exhibit Index included elsewhere herein and which is hereby incorporated by reference in this Item 6.

**Table of Contents**

**SIGNATURES**

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

Date: November 14, 2005

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

/s/ EDWARD J. BRAMSON

---

Edward J. Bramson  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 14, 2005

/s/ CRAIG L. McKIBBEN

---

Craig L. McKibben  
Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

**Table of Contents**

**AMPEX CORPORATION**

**FORM 10-Q FOR THE QUARTER ENDED**

**September 30, 2005**

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b><u>Exhibit No.</u></b>	<b><u>Exhibit Description</u></b>
31.1	Chief Executive Officer certification pursuant to Rules 13a 14(a) and 15d 14(a) of the Exchange Act.
31.2	Chief Financial Officer certification pursuant to Rules 13a 14(a) and 15d 14(a) of the Exchange Act.
32.1	Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.