

MESA LABORATORIES INC /CO

Form 10-Q

November 05, 2013

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C.20549

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**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark one)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2013

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TOSECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the transition period from      to

Commission File No: 0-11740

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## MESA LABORATORIES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Colorado**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**84-0872291**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification number)

**12100 West Sixth Avenue**

**Lakewood, Colorado**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**80228**

(Zip Code)

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (Section 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

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

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

There were 3,426,203 shares of the Issuer's common stock, no par value, outstanding as of October 29, 2013.



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Signatures

Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)

Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)

Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350

Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350

Table of Contents**Part I. Financial Information****Item 1. Financial Statements****Mesa Laboratories, Inc.****Condensed Balance Sheets**

(In thousands, except share amounts)

<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,424	\$ 4,006
Inventories, net		6,089	5,576
Total current assets		18,601	19,455
Property, plant and equipment, net		7,772	7,406
Goodwill		24,219	23,640
Total assets	\$	65,787	\$ 65,919
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>			
Accounts payable	\$	1,344	\$ 1,010
Other accrued expenses		1,604	422
Total current liabilities		4,687	4,662
Deferred income taxes		2,364	2,364
Contingent consideration		2,164	2,140
Preferred stock, no par value			
Employee loans to purchase stock		(57)	(149)
Total stockholders' equity		56,572	52,753

Total liabilities and stockholders equity	\$	65,787	\$	65,919
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See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.

Table of Contents**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.****Condensed Statements of Income**

(Unaudited)

(In thousands except per share data)

	Three months ended September 30,		Six months ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Revenues	\$ 12,676	\$ 11,706	\$ 23,894	\$ 22,266
Cost of revenues	5,076	4,458	9,497	8,562
Gross profit	7,600	7,248	14,397	13,704
Operating expenses				
Selling	1,419	1,072	2,502	2,074
General and administrative	3,136	2,169	5,222	4,023
Research and development	530	519	1,115	899
Total operating expenses	5,085	3,760	8,839	6,996
Operating income	2,515	3,488	5,558	6,708
Other Income (expense), net	423	(36)	395	(70)
Earnings before income taxes	2,938	3,452	5,953	6,638
Income taxes	1,006	1,204	2,161	2,290
Net income	\$ 1,932	\$ 2,248	\$ 3,792	\$ 4,348
Net income per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.67	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.30
Diluted	0.54	0.64	1.06	1.23
Weighted average common shares outstanding:				
Basic	3,412	3,349	3,403	3,343
Diluted	3,592	3,538	3,568	3,531

See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.

Table of Contents**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.****Condensed Statements of Cash Flows**

(Unaudited)

(In thousands)

	<b>Six months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 3,792	\$ 4,348
Depreciation and amortization	1,639	1,675
Gain on dispositions	(468)	
Deferred income taxes		
Stock-based compensation	357	438
Change in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and dispositions		
Accounts receivable, net	1,383	(452)
Inventories, net	(475)	(282)
Prepaid expenses and other	(598)	134
Accounts payable	334	103
Accrued liabilities and taxes payable	(385)	(1,038)
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	5,579	4,926
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Acquisitions	(1,721)	(16,660)
Proceeds from dispositions	661	
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(771)	(370)
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,831)	(17,030)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from the issuance of debt		11,000
Payments on debt	(4,000)	(3,000)
Dividends	(952)	(871)
Purchase and retirement of common stock	(15)	(57)
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	637	613
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(4,330)	7,685
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(582)	(4,419)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	4,006	7,191
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 3,424	\$ 2,772
<b>Cash paid for:</b>		
Income taxes	\$ 3,190	\$ 2,814
Interest		75
<b>Supplemental non-cash activity:</b>		
Employee loans issued for the exercise of stock options	\$	\$ 166
Repayment of employee loans for stock options	92	347
Contingent consideration as part of an acquisition		2,140



See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.

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**Mesa Laboratories, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Financial Statements**

**Note 1 -Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*Description of Business*

Mesa Laboratories, Inc. (we, us, our, the Company or Mesa ) was incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado on March 26, 1982. We pursue a strategy of focusing primarily on quality control products, which are sold into niche markets that are driven by regulatory requirements. We prefer markets that have limited competition where we can establish a commanding presence and achieve high gross margins. We are organized into two divisions across four physical locations. Our Instruments Division designs, manufactures and markets quality control instruments and disposable products utilized in connection with the healthcare, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, medical device, industrial hygiene, semiconductor and petrochemical industries. Our Biological Indicators Division manufactures and markets biological indicators and distributes chemical indicators used to assess the effectiveness of sterilization processes, including steam, gas, hydrogen peroxide and radiation, in the hospital, dental, medical device and pharmaceutical industries.

*Basis of Presentation*

The accompanying condensed balance sheet as of March 31, 2013, has been derived from audited financial statements. The accompanying unaudited interim condensed financial statements have been prepared on the same basis as our annual audited financial statements and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ( GAAP ) for interim financial information and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ) for interim financial statements. In the opinion of management, such unaudited information includes all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring accruals) necessary for a fair presentation of this interim information. Operating results and cash flows for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results that can be expected for the entire year. The information included in this report should be read in conjunction with our audited financial statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 31, 2013.

The summary of our significant accounting policies is incorporated by reference to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 31, 2013.

*Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements*

In October 2012, the FASB issued ASU 2012-04, *Technical Corrections and Improvements*. This standard includes: 1) source literature amendments to conform the language between current accounting literature and legacy source literature; 2) clarification of guidance and reference corrections; and 3) relocation of guidance to a more appropriate location. The adoption of this standard did not have an impact on our financial statements or disclosures.

**Note 2 Acquisitions and Dispositions**

*Acquisitions*

On July 1, 2013, we completed a business combination (the Suretorque Acquisition ) whereby we acquired essentially all of the assets of ST Acquisitions, LLC s ( ST Acquisitions ) business involving the design, manufacturing, sale and service of its SureTorque line of bottle cap torque testing instrumentation. The asset acquisition agreement (the Suretorque Agreement ) includes a provision for a holdback payment, payable to the seller one year from the effective date less any losses incurred by the buyer, as defined.

We expect to achieve savings and income growth as we integrate the Suretorque operations and marketing functions. These factors, among others, contributed to a purchase price in excess of the estimated fair value of the net identifiable acquired assets and, as a result, we recorded goodwill in connection with this transaction. The goodwill is expected to be deductible for tax purposes. All of the goodwill was assigned to our Instruments segment.

The Suretorque Acquisition constituted the acquisition of a business and was recognized at fair value. We determined the estimated fair values using discounted cash flow analyses and estimates made by management. The following reflects our allocation of the consideration in accordance with the Suretorque Agreement (in thousands):

Cash consideration	\$	1,721
Aggregate consideration	\$	1,821

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The purchase price was allocated as follows:	
Property, plant and equipment	7
Goodwill	579

Our condensed statements of income includes the results of the Suretorque Acquisition from the acquisition date of July 1, 2013. The pro forma effects of the acquisition on the results of operations as if the acquisition had been completed on April 1, 2013 and 2012 are as follows:

	Three months ended September 30,		Six months ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Total net revenues	\$ 12,676	\$ 11,993	\$ 24,311	\$ 22,840
Net income	1,932	2,370	3,969	4,591
Net Income per common share:				
Basic	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.71	\$ 1.17	\$ 1.37
Diluted	0.54	0.67	1.11	1.30

On May 15, 2012, we completed a business combination (the Bios Acquisition ) by acquiring specific assets and assuming certain liabilities of Bios International Corporation ( Bios ), a New Jersey corporation. The asset acquisition agreement (the Bios Agreement ) includes a provision for contingent consideration based on revenue growth over a three year earn-out period. The Bios Acquisition further diversified and grew our Instruments segment.

The contingent consideration arrangement requires us to pay Bios if cumulative revenues related to the acquisition for the three years subsequent to the acquisition exceed \$22,127,000. The potential undiscounted future payment that we could be required to make ranges from \$0 to \$6,710,000. The fair value of the contingent consideration arrangement included in the purchase price below was estimated based on the historic revenue growth rates of Bios. Over the remaining term of the agreement, we are accreting through interest expense the difference between the estimated fair value of the contingent consideration, \$2,140,000, and the amount we estimate we will pay, \$2,240,000.

The Bios Acquisition constituted the acquisition of a business and was recognized at fair value. We determined the estimated fair values using discounted cash flow analyses and estimates made by management. The financial statements for the three months ended June 30, 2012, reflected our preliminary purchase price allocation, which was finalized in the second quarter of the year ended March 31, 2013. The following reflects our allocation of the consideration in accordance with the Bios Agreement (in thousands):

Cash consideration	\$ 16,660
Contingent purchase price liability	2,140
Aggregate consideration	\$ 18,800
The purchase price was allocated as follows:	
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 478
Inventories, net	910
Other current assets	28
Property, plant and equipment	63

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Intangible assets		8,200
Goodwill		9,190
Current liabilities		(69)
Total purchase price allocation	\$	18,800

*Dispositions*

On August 12, 2013, we entered into an agreement whereby we sold our NuSonics product line (the Nusonics Disposal ) for \$661,000. The carrying value of this product line was \$193,000 which resulted in a pre-tax gain of \$468,000.

Table of Contents**Note 3 - Inventories**

Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2013	March 31, 2013
Raw materials	\$ 4,298	\$ 4,052
Work-in-process	349	271
Finished goods	1,813	1,514
Less: reserve	(371)	(261)
	\$ 6,089	\$ 5,576

**Note 4 - Long-term Debt**

Long-term debt consists of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2013	March 31, 2013
Line of credit (1.5% at September 30, 2013)	\$	4,000
Less: current portion		
Long-term portion	\$	4,000

In February 2012, we entered into a three year agreement (the Credit Facility) for a \$20,000,000 revolving line of credit (Line of Credit) and up to \$1,000,000 of letters of credit, maturing in February 2015. Funds from the Credit Facility may be used for general working capital and corporate needs, retiring existing debt, or to support acquisitions and capital expenditures.

Under the Credit Facility, indebtedness bears interest at either: (1) LIBOR, as defined, plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.25% to 2.00%; or (2) the bank's commercial bank floating rate (CBFR), which is the greater of the bank's prime rate or one month LIBOR + 2.50%, adjusted down, from 1.25% to 0.50%. We elect the interest rate with each borrowing under the line of credit. In addition, there is an unused capacity fee of 0.15% to 0.30%. The adjustments and unused capacity fee depend on the ratio of funded debt to our trailing four quarters of EBITDA, as defined, with four tiers ranging from a ratio of less than one to greater than two. Letter of credit fees are based on the applicable LIBOR rate.

The Credit Facility is secured by all of our assets and requires us to maintain a ratio of funded debt to our trailing four quarters of EBIDTA, as defined, of 2.5 to 1.0, and a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.5 to 1.0. We were in compliance with these covenants at September 30, 2013.

In order to facilitate the Bios Acquisition, in May 2012 we borrowed \$11,000,000 under the terms of the Line of Credit. During the three months ended September 30, 2013 we made principal repayments of \$1,500,000. As a result, there are no amounts outstanding as of September 30, 2013.

**Note 5 - Stock-based Compensation**

Amounts recognized in the condensed financial statements related to stock-based compensation are as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	Three months ended September 30,		Six months ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Total cost of stock-based compensation charged against income before income taxes	\$ 208	\$ 289	\$ 357	\$ 438
Amount of income tax benefit recognized in earnings	71	101	130	151
Amount charged against net income	\$ 137	\$ 188	227	287
Impact on net income per common share:				
Basic	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.09
Diluted	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.08

Stock-based compensation expense is included in cost of revenues, selling, and general and administrative expense in the accompanying condensed statements of income.

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The fair value of each stock option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model ( Black-Scholes ). We use historical data to estimate the expected price volatility, the expected stock option life and expected forfeiture rate. The risk-free interest rate is based on the United States Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant for the estimated life of the stock option. The dividend yield is calculated based upon the dividend payments made during the prior four quarters as a percent of the average stock price for that period.

The following is a summary of stock option activity for the six months ended September 30, 2013:

	Number of Shares	Weighted- average Exercise Price per Share	Weighted- average Remaining Contractual Term	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (000s)
Outstanding at March 31, 2013	416,125	\$ 29.87	3.7	\$ 9,529
Stock options granted	103,124	52.09	6.0	
Stock options forfeited	(12,670)	45.19		
Stock options expired				
Stock options exercised	(42,155)	19.98		
Outstanding at September 30, 2013	464,424	35.29	4.3	15,009
Exercisable at September 30, 2013	210,730	25.16	3.3	8,946

The total intrinsic value of stock options exercised was \$1,710,000 and \$1,300,000 for the six months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

A summary of the status of our unvested stock option shares as of September 30, 2013 is as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted- average Grant-Date Fair Value
Unvested at March 31, 2013	257,805	\$ 9.55
Stock options granted	103,124	12.27
Stock options forfeited	(12,260)	10.84
Stock options vested	(94,975)	8.45
Unvested at September 30, 2013	253,694	11.11

As of September 30, 2013, there was \$1,908,000 of total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested stock options. As of September 30, 2013, we have 220,366 shares available for future stock option grants.

**Note 6 - Net Income Per Share**



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Basic net income per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Diluted net income per share is computed similarly to basic net income per share, except that it includes the potential dilution that could occur if dilutive securities were exercised.

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The following table presents a reconciliation of the denominators used in the computation of net income per share - basic and diluted (in thousands, except per share data):

	Three months ended September 30,				Six months ended September 30,			
	2013		2012		2013		2012	
Net income available for stockholders	\$	1,932	\$	2,248	\$	3,792	\$	4,348
Weighted average outstanding shares of common stock		3,412		3,349		3,403		3,343
Dilutive effect of stock options		180		189		165		188
Common stock and equivalents		3,592		3,538		3,568		3,531
Net income per share:								
Basic	\$	0.57	\$	0.67	\$	1.11	\$	1.30
Diluted		0.54		0.64		1.06		1.23

For both the three and six months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, zero and 84,000 outstanding stock options, respectively, were excluded from the calculation of diluted net income per share because the exercise prices of the stock options were greater than or equal to the average price of the common shares and, therefore, their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive.

**Note 7- Commitments and Contingencies**

As part of the Bios Acquisition, the Bios Agreement includes a provision for contingent consideration based on revenue growth over a three year earn-out period. The contingent consideration arrangement requires us to pay Bios if the cumulative revenues from the acquisition for the three years subsequent to the acquisition exceed \$22,127,000. The potential undiscounted future payment that we could be required to make ranges from \$0 to \$6,710,000. The fair value of the contingent consideration arrangement included in the purchase price was estimated based on the historic revenue growth of Bios. We recorded a contingent consideration liability of \$2,140,000 on the accompanying condensed balance sheets. Any changes to the contingent consideration ultimately paid would result in additional income or expense on the condensed statements of income. There has been no material change to the contingent consideration liability as of September 30, 2013. The contingent consideration is payable in the first quarter of our year ending March 31, 2016.

A company is required to collect and remit state sales tax from certain of its customers if that company is determined to have nexus in a particular state. The determination of nexus varies state by state and often requires knowledge of each jurisdiction's tax case law. During the year ended March 31, 2013, we determined that there are states in which we most likely had established nexus during prior periods without properly collecting and remitting sales tax. We recorded an estimate of \$100,000 associated with one specific state but we were unable to estimate our remaining exposure at that time. The ultimate amount due in remaining states will depend upon a number of factors, including the amount of sales that were made to customers who are either exempt or have already paid the tax, the number of years of exposure, and any penalties or interest that might be due. During the three months ended September 30, 2013 we completed our analysis associated with the remaining states and we recorded an estimate of \$1,106,000, which is included in other accrued expenses on the accompanying condensed balance sheets and in general and administrative expense on the accompanying condensed statements of income for the three and six months ended September 30, 2013. This estimate was based upon facts and circumstances known at such time and our ultimate liability may change as further analysis is completed and state sales tax returns are filed.



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We have two reporting segments: Biological Indicators and Instruments. The following tables set forth our segment information (in thousands):

	Three months ended September 30, 2013			Three months ended September 30, 2012		
	Biological Indicators	Instruments	Total	Biological Indicators	Instruments	Total
Revenues	\$ 6,010	\$ 6,666	\$ 12,676	\$ 5,320	\$ 6,386	\$ 11,706
Gross profit	\$ 3,482	\$ 4,118	\$ 7,600	\$ 3,063	\$ 4,185	\$ 7,248
Selling expenses	556	863	1,419	414	658	1,072
	\$ 2,926	\$ 3,255	6,181	\$ 2,649	\$ 3,527	6,176
Reconciling items (1)			(3,243)			(2,724)
Earnings before income taxes			\$ 2,938			\$ 3,452

	Six months ended September 30, 2013			Six months ended September 30, 2012		
	Biological Indicators	Instruments	Total	Biological Indicators	Instruments	Total
Revenues	\$ 10,864	\$ 13,030	\$ 23,894	\$ 10,438	\$ 11,828	\$ 22,266
Gross profit	\$ 6,043	\$ 8,354	\$ 14,397	\$ 5,956	\$ 7,748	\$ 13,704
Selling expenses	946	1,556	2,502	780	1,294	2,074
	\$ 5,097	\$ 6,798	11,895	\$ 5,176	\$ 6,454	11,630
Reconciling items (1)			(5,942)			(4,992)
Earnings before income taxes			\$ 5,953			\$ 6,638

(1) Reconciling items include general and administrative, research and development, and other expenses.

	September 30, 2013	March 31, 2013
Total assets		
Biological Indicators	\$ 24,479	\$ 27,558
Instruments	35,887	31,782
Corporate and administrative	5,421	6,579
	\$ 65,787	\$ 65,919

All long-lived assets are located in the United States.

Revenues from external customers are attributed to individual countries based upon locations to which the product is shipped or exported, as follows (in thousands):

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	Three months ended September 30,		Six months ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Net revenues from unaffiliated customers:				
United States	\$ 7,794	\$ 7,121	\$ 13,824	\$ 13,491
Foreign	4,882	4,585	10,070	8,775
	\$ 12,676	\$ 11,706	\$ 23,894	\$ 22,266

No foreign country exceeds 10% of total revenues.

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**Note 9 - Subsequent Event**

In October 2013, our Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.15 per share of common stock, payable on December 16, 2013, to stockholders of record at the close of business on November 29, 2013.

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

**Forward Looking Statements**

*This report contains information that may constitute forward-looking statements. Generally, the words believe, expect, intend, estimate, anticipate, project, will and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements, which generally are not historical in nature. However, the absence of these words or similar expressions does not mean that a statement is not forward-looking. All statements that address operating performance, events or developments that we expect or anticipate will occur in the future including statements relating to revenue growth and statements expressing general views about future operating results are forward-looking statements. Management believes that these forward-looking statements are reasonable as and when made. However, caution should be taken not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements because such statements speak only as of the date when made. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. In addition, forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to those described in Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors and elsewhere in this report and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 31, 2013, and those described from time to time in our subsequent reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.*

**General Discussion**

We pursue a strategy of focusing primarily on quality control products, which are sold into niche markets that are driven by regulatory requirements. We prefer markets that have limited competition where we can establish a commanding presence and achieve high gross margins. We are organized into two divisions across four physical locations. Our Instruments Division designs, manufactures and markets quality control instruments and disposable products utilized in connection with the healthcare, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, medical device, industrial hygiene, semiconductor and petrochemical industries. Our Biological Indicators Division manufactures and markets biological indicators and distributes chemical indicators used to assess the effectiveness of sterilization processes, including steam, gas, hydrogen peroxide and radiation, in the hospital, dental, medical device and pharmaceutical industries. We follow a philosophy of manufacturing a high quality product and providing a high level of on-going service for those products.

Our revenues come from two main sources products sales, and parts and services. Product sales are dependent on several factors, including general economic conditions, both domestic and international, customer capital spending trends, competition, introduction of new products, and acquisitions. Biological indicator products are disposable and are used on a routine basis for quality control, thus product sales are less sensitive to general economic conditions. Instrument products have a longer life, and their purchase by our customers is somewhat discretionary, so sales are more sensitive to general economic conditions. Parts and service demand is driven by our customers quality control and regulatory environments, which require periodic repair and recalibration or certification of our instrument products. We typically evaluate costs and pricing annually. Our policy is to price our products competitively and, where possible, we try to pass along cost increases in order to maintain our margins.

Gross profit is affected by our product mix, manufacturing efficiencies and price competition. Historically, as we have integrated our acquisitions and taken advantage of manufacturing efficiencies, our gross margins for some of the products have improved. There are, however, differences in gross margins between different product lines, and ultimately the mix of sales may continue to impact our overall gross margin.

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Selling expense is driven primarily by labor costs, including salaries and commissions. Accordingly, it may vary with sales levels. Labor costs and amortization of intangible assets drive 70-80% of general and administrative expense. Research and development expense is predominantly comprised of labor costs and third party consultants.

In May 2012, we completed the Bios Acquisition by acquiring specific assets and assuming certain liabilities of Bios, a New Jersey corporation, for \$16,660,000 and potential contingent consideration based on revenue growth over a three year earn-out period.

In July 2013, we completed a business combination by entering into an asset purchase agreement with ST Acquisitions pursuant to which we acquired essentially all of the assets of ST Acquisitions' business involving the design, manufacturing, sale and service of its SureTorque line of bottle cap torque testing instrumentation. The purchase price for the acquired assets was \$1,821,000, consisting of a cash payment of \$1,721,000 at closing and a \$100,000 holdback amount that is expected to be settled on July 1, 2014.

In August 2013, we entered into an agreement whereby we sold our NuSonics product line for \$661,000, which resulted in a pre-tax gain of \$468,000.



Table of Contents**General Trends and Outlook**

Our strategic objectives include growth both organically and through further acquisitions. During the year ended March 31, 2013, we continued to build our infrastructure to prepare for future growth, including the addition of key personnel to our operations, research and development, and finance teams. As needed, we intend to continue to strengthen our infrastructure during the year ending March 31, 2014, including our information systems. We expect Sarbanes-Oxley ( SOX ) compliance costs to remain relatively flat during the year ending March 31, 2014, as we maintain our internal control structure while simultaneously making efficient and effective improvements.

The markets for our biological indicators remain strong, as the disposable nature of these products makes them less sensitive to general economic conditions. The worldwide market for biological indicators is growing, as more countries focus on verifying the effectiveness of sterilization processes. Recent general economic conditions however have slowed the organic growth of our instruments business, due to the discretionary nature of these products. Additionally, uncertainty about global economic conditions may cause businesses to postpone spending in response to tighter credit, unemployment, negative financial news and/or declines in income or asset values. Worldwide and regional economic conditions could also reduce the demand for our products and services, as our customers reduce or delay capital equipment and other types of purchases. Demand for our instruments products, however, is still strong and we strive to maintain or grow revenue going forward.

We are working on several research and development projects that, if completed, may result in new products for both existing customers and in new markets. We are hopeful that both our Biological Indicators and Instruments Divisions will have new products available for sale in the coming year.

**Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, condensed statements of income data. The table and the discussion below should be read in conjunction with the accompanying condensed financial statements and the notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this report (in thousands, except percent data):

	Three months ended September 30,				Percent
	2013	2012	Change		Change
Revenues	\$ 12,676	\$ 11,706	\$ 970		8%
Cost of revenues	5,076	4,458	618		14%
Gross profit	\$ 7,600	\$ 7,248	\$ 352		5%
Gross margin	60%	62%	(2)%		
Operating expenses					
Selling	\$ 1,419	\$ 1,072	\$ 347		32%
General and administrative	3,136	2,169	967		45%
Research and development	530	519	11		2%
	\$ 5,085	\$ 3,760	\$ 1,325		35%
Net income	\$ 1,932	\$ 2,248	\$ (316)		(14)%
Net profit margin	15%	19%	(4)%		

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	Six months ended September 30,				Percent
	2013	2012	Change		Change
Revenues	\$ 23,894	\$ 22,266	\$ 1,628		7%
Cost of revenues	9,497	8,562	935		11%
Gross profit	\$ 14,397	\$ 13,704	\$ 693		5%
Gross margin	60%	62%	(2)%		
Operating expenses					
Selling	\$ 2,502	\$ 2,074	\$ 428		21%
General and administrative	5,222	4,023	1,199		30%
Research and development	1,115	899	216		24%
	\$ 8,839	\$ 6,996	\$ 1,843		26%
Net income	\$ 3,792	\$ 4,348	\$ (556)		(13)%
Net profit margin	16%	20%	(4)%		

Table of Contents**Revenues**

The following table summarizes our revenues by source (in thousands, except percent data):

	Three months ended September 30,				Change	Percent Change	
	2013	2012	2013	2012			
Biological Indicators	\$	6,010	\$	5,320	\$	690	13%
Instruments		6,666		6,386		280	4%
Total	\$	12,676	\$	11,706	\$	970	8%

	Six months ended September 30,				Change	Percent Change	
	2013	2012	2013	2012			
Biological Indicators	\$	10,864	\$	10,438	\$	426	4%
Instruments		13,030		11,828		1,202	10%
Total	\$	23,894	\$	22,266	\$	1,628	7%

*Three and six months ended September 30, 2013 versus September 30, 2012*

Biological Indicators revenues for the three and six months ended September 30, 2013 increased as compared to the prior year as a result of continued organic growth, achieved through existing customers and expansion into new markets. In addition, Biological Indicators revenues for the three months ended September 30, 2013 also increased as compared to the prior year due to the fulfillment of backlog from the previous quarter end which resulted from the requirement to replace three product batches that had longer than expected incubation times. Our efforts to quickly manufacture and replace these product batches during the three months ended June 30, 2013 decreased product available to fulfill new orders, which resulted in an increase from our typical backlog at the end of the prior quarter. We were successful in our efforts to fulfill substantially all of this backlog during the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Instruments revenues for the three and six months ended September 30, 2013 increased as compared to the prior year primarily from organic growth in our Bios product line and the acquisition of the SureTorque product line, while other Instruments product lines remained relatively unchanged. The increase in Instruments revenues for the six months ended September 30, 2013 as compared to the prior year was also impacted by the timing of the Bios Acquisition in the prior year.

**Gross Profit**

The following summarizes our gross profit by segment (in thousands, except percent data):

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	Three months ended				Change	Percent Change
	September 30,					
	2013	2012	2013	2012		
Biological Indicators	\$ 3,482	\$ 3,063	\$ 3,482	\$ 3,063	\$ 419	14%
Gross profit margin	58%	58%	58%	58%	0%	
Instruments	4,118	4,185	4,118	4,185	(67)	(2)%
Gross profit margin	62%	66%	62%	66%	(4)%	
Total	\$ 7,600	\$ 7,248	\$ 7,600	\$ 7,248	\$ 352	5%
Gross profit margin	60%	62%	60%	62%	(2)%	

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	Six months ended September 30,					Percent Change
	2013	2012	Change			
Biological Indicators	\$ 6,043	\$ 5,956	\$ 87			1%
Gross profit margin	56%	57%	(1)%			
Instruments	8,354	7,748	606			8%
Gross profit margin	64%	66%	(2)%			
Total	\$ 14,397	\$ 13,704	\$ 693			5%
Gross profit margin	60%	62%	(2)%			

*Three and six months ended September 30, 2013 versus September 30, 2012*

Biological Indicators gross profit margin percentage for the three months ended September 30, 2013 remained flat as compared to the prior year. Biological Indicators gross profit margin percentage for the six months ended September 30, 2013 decreased as compared to the prior year as a result of the cost of replacement product associated with the three product batches that had longer than expected incubation times (as discussed above in *Revenues*).

Instruments gross profit margin percentage for the three months ended September 30, 2013 decreased as compared to the prior year primarily as a result of the application of purchase accounting associated with the Suretorque Acquisition. Instruments gross profit margin percentage for the six months ended September 30, 2013 decreased as compared to the prior year primarily as a result of the application of purchase accounting associated with the Suretorque Acquisition partially offset by the timing of the Bios Acquisition in the prior year.

***Operating Expenses***

Operating expenses for the three and six months ended September 30, 2013 increased (decreased) as compared to the prior year as follows (in thousands):

	Increase (Decrease)	
	Three months ended September 30, 2013	Six months ended September 30, 2013
<b>Selling</b>	\$ 347	\$ 428
<b>General and administrative</b>		
Amortization	(54)	(23)
Personnel costs	(64)	78
Taxes and Fees	1,071	1,053
Other, net	14	91
	967	1,199
<b>Research and development</b>	11	216

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<b>Operating expenses</b>	\$	1,325	\$	1,843
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*Three and six months ended September 30, 2013 versus September 30, 2012*

*Selling* Selling expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2103 increased as compared to the prior year primarily due to the Suretorque Acquisition, along with negligible increases from other product lines. Selling expenses for the six months ended September 30, 2013 increased primarily due to the Suretorque and Bios acquisitions.

*General and administrative* General and administrative expenses for the three and six months ended September 30, 2103 increased as compared to the prior year primarily as a result of the recording of a \$1,106,000 accrual associated with not properly collecting and remitting sales tax in states in which we most likely had established nexus during prior periods. The increase in general and administrative expenses for the six months ended September 30, 2103 as compared to prior year was also impacted by the timing of the Bios acquisition in the prior year.

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*Research and development* Research and development expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2013 was relatively flat as compared to the prior year. Research and development expenses for the six months ended September 30, 2013 increased as compared to the prior year as a result of the Bios Acquisition and timing of external research and development consulting costs, as we continue our commitment to research and development.

***Net Income***

Other income (expense) for the three and six months ended September 30, 2013 increased as compared to the prior year as a result of the Nusonics Disposal. Our estimated effective income tax rate increased to 36.3% for the three and six months ended September 30, 2013, from 34.9% and 34.5% for the three and six months ended September 30, 2012, respectively. We anticipate that on a go forward basis, our effective tax rate will approximate our current rate of 36.3%. Otherwise, net income varied with the changes in revenue, gross profit and operating expenses.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our sources of liquidity may include cash generated from operations, working capital, capacity under our Credit Facility and potential equity and debt offerings. We believe that cash generated from these sources will be sufficient to meet our short-term and long-term needs. Our more significant uses of resources include quarterly dividends to stockholders, payment of debt obligations, long-term capital equipment expenditures and potential acquisitions.

Working capital is the amount by which current assets exceed current liabilities. We had working capital of \$13,914,000 and \$14,793,000 at September 30, 2013 and March 31, 2013, respectively. The decrease in working capital is primarily due to the use of cash for the repayment of long-term debt, the timing of the collection of accounts receivable and the recording of a \$1,106,000 accrual associated with not properly collecting and remitting sales tax in states in which we most likely had established nexus during prior periods.

In February 2012, we entered into the Credit Facility, which is comprised of a three year agreement for a \$20,000,000 revolving line of credit and up to \$1,000,000 of letters of credit. Funds from the Credit Facility may be used for general working capital and corporate needs, retiring existing debt, or to support acquisitions and capital expenditures. In May 2012, we borrowed \$11,000,000 against the Line of Credit to partially finance the Bios Acquisition. There were no amounts outstanding under the Line of Credit at September 30, 2013 and we had unused capacity of \$20,000,000.

We routinely evaluate opportunities for strategic acquisitions. Future material acquisitions may require that we obtain additional capital, assume third party debt or incur other long-term obligations. We believe that we have the option to utilize both equity and debt instruments as vehicles for the long-term financing of our investment activities and acquisitions.

On November 7, 2005, our Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. Under the plan, the shares may be purchased from time to time in the open market at prevailing prices or in negotiated transactions off the

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market. Shares purchased will be canceled and repurchases will be made with existing cash reserves. We do not maintain a set policy or schedule for our buyback program. We have purchased 161,631 shares of common stock under this program from inception through September 30, 2013.

We have been paying regular quarterly dividends since 2003. Dividends per share paid by quarter were as follows:

	Year ending March 31,			
	2014		2013	
First quarter	\$	0.14	\$	0.13
Second quarter		0.14		0.13
Third quarter				0.14
Fourth quarter				0.14

In October 2013, our Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.15 per share of common stock, payable on December 16, 2013, to stockholders of record at the close of business on November 29, 2013.



Table of Contents**Cash Flows**

Our cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities were as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Six months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 5,579	\$ 4,926
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,831)	(17,030)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(4,330)	7,685

Net cash provided by operating activities for the six months ended September 30, 2013 increased primarily due to increases in revenues and positive results from efforts to collect long-outstanding receivables partially offset by higher expenses associated with the timing of the Bios Acquisition and the timing of other working capital expenditures.

Net cash used in investing activities for the six months ended September 30, 2013 resulted from the \$1,721,000 Suretorque Acquisition and the purchase of \$771,000 of property, plant and equipment partially offset by the proceeds from the NuSonics Disposal. Net cash used in investing activities for the six months ended September 30, 2012 resulted from the \$16,660,000 Bios Acquisition and the purchase of \$370,000 of property, plant and equipment

Net cash used in financing activities for the six months ended September 30, 2013 resulted from the repayment of debt of \$4,000,000 and the payment of dividends of \$952,000, partially offset by proceeds from the exercise of stock options of \$637,000. Net cash provided by financing activities for the six months ended September 30, 2012 resulted from borrowings under our Line of Credit of \$11,000,000 and proceeds from the exercise of stock options of \$613,000, partially offset by the repayment of debt of \$3,000,000 and the payment of dividends of \$871,000.

At September 30, 2013, we had contractual obligations for open purchase orders of approximately \$1,300,000 for routine purchases of supplies and inventory, which would be payable in less than one year. As part of our Bios Acquisition, the Bios Agreement includes a provision for contingent consideration based on revenue growth over a three year earn-out period. The contingent consideration arrangement requires us to pay Bios if cumulative revenues from the acquisition for the three years subsequent to the acquisition exceed \$22,127,000. The potential undiscounted future payment that we could be required to make ranges from \$0 to \$6,710,000.

In July 2013, we completed the SureTorque Acquisition for a purchase price of \$1,821,000, consisting of a cash payment of \$1,721,000 at closing and a \$100,000 holdback amount that is expected to be settled on July 1, 2014.

**Critical Accounting Estimates**

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Our condensed financial statements and accompanying notes have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. We continually evaluate the accounting policies and estimates used to prepare the condensed financial statements. The estimates are based on historical experience and assumptions believed to be reasonable under current facts and circumstances. Actual amounts and results could differ from these estimates made by management. Certain accounting policies that require significant management estimates and are deemed critical to our results of operations or financial position are discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 31, 2013 in the Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates section of Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

### **Item 3. *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk***

We have no derivative instruments and minimal exposure to foreign currency and commodity market risks.

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**Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

**Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) that are designed to reasonably ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2013. Based on that evaluation, our management concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at September 30, 2013.

Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving their control objectives. Management evaluated the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in Internal Control Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2013. Based on that evaluation, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective at September 30, 2013.

**Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

There were no significant changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the six months ended September 30, 2013, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

**Part II. Other Information**

**Item 1A. Risk factors**

We are affected by risks specific to us as well as factors that affect all businesses operating in a global market. The significant factors known to us that could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results are described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 31, 2013, under the heading Part I Item 1A. Risk Factors. There have been no material changes to those risk factors other than the following:

*Catastrophic events or environmental conditions may disrupt our business.*

A disruption or failure of our systems or operations because of a major weather event, cyber-attack, terrorist attack, or other catastrophic event could cause delays in completing sales, providing services or performing other mission-critical functions. A catastrophic event that results in the destruction or disruption of any of our critical business or IT systems could harm our ability to conduct normal business operations. Abrupt political change, terrorist activity, and armed conflict pose a risk of general economic disruption in affected countries, which may increase our operating costs or adversely affect our revenues. These conditions also may add uncertainty to the timing and budget for purchase/investment decisions by our customers, and may result in supply chain disruptions for hardware manufacturers, either of which may adversely affect our revenue. The long-term effects of climate change on the global economy in general or the Industrial Instruments industry in particular are unclear. Environmental regulations or changes in the supply, demand or available sources of energy may affect the availability or cost of goods and services, including natural resources, necessary to run our business. Changes in weather where we operate may increase the costs of powering and maintaining the equipment we need to produce our product lines.

Table of Contents**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

On November 7, 2005, our Board of Directors adopted a share repurchase plan which allows for the repurchase of up to 300,000 of our common shares. This plan will continue until the maximum is reached or the plan is terminated by further action of the Board of Directors. We made the following repurchases of our common stock, including settlement of loans to employees for the exercise of stock options:

	Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid	Total Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plan	Remaining Shares to Purchase Under Plan
July 2013		\$	161,631	138,369
Aug 2013			161,631	138,369
Sep 2013			161,631	138,369
Total				

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**Item 6. Exhibits**

- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 101 The following financial information from the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Mesa Laboratories, Inc. for the quarter ended September 30, 2013, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Statements of Income, (ii) Condensed Balance Sheets, (iii) Condensed Statements of Cash Flows, and (iv) Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements.

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**SIGNATURES**

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

**MESA LABORATORIES, INC.**

(Registrant)

DATED: November 5, 2013

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

DATED: November 5, 2013

BY: /s/ John V. Sakys  
John V. Sakys  
Chief Financial Officer