

ITRON INC /WA/  
Form 10-Q  
May 04, 2006  
Table of Contents

---

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

---

**FORM 10-Q**

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

**For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2006**

**OR**

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

**For the transition period from** \_\_\_\_\_ **to** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Commission file number 0-22418**

---

**ITRON, INC.**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Washington**  
**(State of incorporation)**

**91-1011792**  
**(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)**

**2818 North Sullivan Road**

**Spokane Valley, Washington 99216-1897**

**(509) 924-9900**

**(Address and telephone number of registrant's principal executive offices)**

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

---

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

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

As of April 28, 2006, there were outstanding 25,359,879 shares of the registrant's common stock, no par value, which is the only class of common stock of the registrant.

---

**Table of Contents**

Itron, Inc.

**Table of Contents**

|   | <b>Page</b> |
|---|-------------|
| <b>PART I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION</b>  |             |
| <b>Item 1: Financial Statements (Unaudited)</b>   |             |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations</u>  | 1           |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets</u>  | 2           |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u>  | 3           |
| <u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>   | 4           |
| <b><u>Item 2: Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u></b> | 27          |
| <b><u>Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u></b>                            | 39          |
| <b><u>Item 4: Controls and Procedures</u></b>   | 40          |
| <b>PART II: OTHER INFORMATION</b>   |             |
| <b><u>Item 1: Legal Proceedings</u></b>   | 41          |
| <b><u>Item 1A: Risk Factors</u></b>   | 41          |
| <b><u>Item 4: Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u></b>                                   | 41          |
| <b><u>Item 5: Other Information</u></b>   | 41          |
| <b><u>Item 6: Exhibits</u></b>  | 41          |
| <b><u>SIGNATURE</u></b>   | 42          |

**Table of Contents****PART I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1: Financial Statements (Unaudited)****ITRON, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS****(UNAUDITED)**

|                                   | <b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>          |             |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|
|                                   | <b>2006</b>                                  | <b>2005</b> |
|                                   | <b>(in thousands, except per share data)</b> |             |
| Revenues                          |  |             |
| Sales                             | \$ 142,934                                   | \$ 104,202  |
| Service                           | 12,619                                       | 12,268      |
| Total revenues                    | 155,553                                      | 116,470     |
| Cost of revenues                  |  |             |
| Sales                             | 81,842                                       | 59,199      |
| Service                           | 6,937  | 6,273       |
| Total cost of revenues            | 88,779                                       | 65,472      |
| Gross profit                      | 66,774                                       | 50,998      |
| Operating expenses                |  |             |
| Sales and marketing               | 15,481                                       | 13,239      |
| Product development               | 12,870                                       | 11,914      |
| General and administrative        | 12,122                                       | 9,966       |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 7,313  | 9,716       |
| Restructurings                    |  | 390         |
| Total operating expenses          | 47,786                                       | 45,225      |
| Operating income                  | 18,988                                       | 5,773       |
| Other income (expense)            |  |             |
| Interest income                   | 362  | 4           |
| Interest expense                  | (5,746)                                      | (4,567)     |
| Other income (expense), net       | (448)  | 101         |
| Total other income (expense)      | (5,832)                                      | (4,462)     |
| Income before income taxes        | 13,156                                       | 1,311       |
| Income tax provision              | (6,087)                                      | (494)       |
| Net income                        | \$ 7,069                                     | \$ 817      |
| Earnings per share                |  |             |
| Basic net income per share        | \$ 0.28                                      | \$ 0.04     |
| Diluted net income per share      | \$ 0.27                                      | \$ 0.04     |

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

|   |        |        |
|---|--------|--------|
| Weighted average number of shares outstanding |        |        |
| Basic   | 25,057 | 21,451 |
| Diluted                                       | 26,071 | 22,737 |

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

**Table of Contents****ITRON, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(UNAUDITED)**

|  | March 31,<br>2006 | December 31,<br>2005 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
|  | (in thousands)    |                      |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                  |                   |                      |
| Current assets                                 |                   |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents                      | \$ 40,661         | \$ 33,638            |
| Accounts receivable, net                       | 83,637            | 104,428              |
| Inventories                                    | 52,514            | 49,456               |
| Deferred income taxes, net                     | 20,659            | 23,194               |
| Other (Note 3)                                 | 23,260            | 10,941               |
| Total current assets                           | 220,731           | 221,657              |
| Property, plant and equipment, net             | 69,651            | 77,623               |
| Intangible assets, net                         | 115,980           | 123,293              |
| Goodwill                                       | 116,037           | 116,032              |
| Deferred income taxes, net                     | 51,262            | 48,955               |
| Other  | 7,920             | 11,324               |
| Total assets                                   | \$ 581,581        | \$ 598,884           |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>    |                   |                      |
| Current liabilities                            |                   |                      |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses          | \$ 46,990         | \$ 46,215            |
| Wages and benefits payable                     | 18,634            | 23,732               |
| Current portion of debt                        | 3,836             | 4,376                |
| Current portion of warranty                    | 7,162             | 8,497                |
| Unearned revenue                               | 24,140            | 22,758               |
| Total current liabilities                      | 100,762           | 105,578              |
| Long-term debt                                 | 126,090           | 160,186              |
| Project financing debt                         | 2,142             | 2,367                |
| Warranty                                       | 7,949             | 6,779                |
| Other obligations                              | 6,048             | 6,440                |
| Total liabilities                              | 242,991           | 281,350              |
| Commitments and contingencies (Notes 7 and 12) |                   |                      |
| Shareholders' equity                           |                   |                      |
| Preferred stock                                |                   |                      |
| Common stock                                   | 326,143           | 312,046              |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income, net    | 761               | 871                  |
| Retained earnings                              | 11,686            | 4,617                |
| Total shareholders' equity                     | 338,590           | 317,534              |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity     | \$ 581,581        | \$ 598,884           |

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



**Table of Contents****ITRON, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS****(UNAUDITED)**

|   | <b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b> |                  |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|
|   | <b>2006</b>                         | <b>2005</b>      |
|   | <b>(in thousands)</b>               |                  |
| <b>Operating activities</b>   |                                     |                  |
| Net income  | \$ 7,069                            | \$ 817           |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |                                     |                  |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 10,938                              | 12,980           |
| Employee stock plans income tax benefits  | 5,366                               | 1,129            |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation                                 | (4,280)                             |                  |
| Stock-based compensation  | 2,053                               | 149              |
| Amortization of prepaid debt fees   | 2,772                               | 710              |
| Deferred income tax provision (benefit)   | 236                                 | (1,618)          |
| Impairment of investments   | 242                                 |                  |
| Realized currency translation gains   |                                     | (195)            |
| Other, net  | 182                                 | (223)            |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:                 |                                     |                  |
| Accounts receivable   | 20,791                              | 16,196           |
| Inventories   | (3,058)                             | 2,638            |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses   | 2,644                               | (4,963)          |
| Wages and benefits payable  | (4,612)                             | 1,566            |
| Unearned revenue  | 1,452                               | (3,065)          |
| Warranty  | (165)                               | (288)            |
| Other long-term obligations   | (470)                               | (200)            |
| Other, net  | (3,768)                             | (1,895)          |
| <b>Cash provided by operating activities</b>                                      | <b>37,392</b>                       | <b>23,738</b>    |
| <b>Investing activities</b>   |                                     |                  |
| Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment                                     | (6,251)                             | (1,720)          |
| Proceeds from the sale of an investment in affiliate                              | 1,000                               |                  |
| Business acquisitions, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired                  |                                     | 33               |
| Other, net  | (705)                               | 86               |
| <b>Cash used by investing activities</b>  | <b>(5,956)</b>                      | <b>(1,601)</b>   |
| <b>Financing activities</b>   |                                     |                  |
| Payments on debt  | (34,885)                            | (20,657)         |
| Issuance of common stock  | 6,192                               | 2,609            |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation                                 | 4,280                               |                  |
| Prepaid debt fees   |                                     | (73)             |
| Other, net  |                                     | (12)             |
| <b>Cash used by financing activities</b>  | <b>(24,413)</b>                     | <b>(18,133)</b>  |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents   | 7,023                               | 4,004            |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                                  | 33,638                              | 11,624           |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>                                 | <b>\$ 40,661</b>                    | <b>\$ 15,628</b> |
| <i>Non-cash operating and financing transactions:</i>                             |                                     |                  |
| Property, plant and equipment purchased but not yet paid                          | \$ 2,531                            | \$               |

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

*Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:*

Cash paid during the period for:

|              |    |     |    |       |
|--------------|----|-----|----|-------|
| Income taxes | \$ | 108 | \$ | 436   |
| Interest     |    | 375 |    | 1,946 |

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

---

**Table of Contents**

**ITRON, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**March 31, 2006**

**(Unaudited)**

In this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, the terms we, us, our, Itron and the Company refer to Itron, Inc.

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*Basis of Consolidation*

The condensed consolidated financial statements presented in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are unaudited and reflect entries necessary for the fair presentation of the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005 and Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, of Itron and our wholly owned subsidiaries. All entries required for the fair presentation of the financial statements are of a normal recurring nature. Intercompany transactions and balances are eliminated upon consolidation.

We consolidate all entities in which we have a greater than 50% ownership interest. We also consolidate entities in which we have a 50% or less investment and over which we have control. We account for entities in which we have a 50% or less investment and exercise significant influence under the equity method of accounting. Entities in which we have less than a 20% investment and do not exercise significant influence are accounted for under the cost method. We consider for consolidation any variable interest entity of which we are the primary beneficiary. We are not the primary beneficiary of any variable interest entities.

Certain information and note disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) have been condensed or omitted pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regarding interim results. These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the 2005 audited financial statements and notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as filed with the SEC on February 24, 2006. The results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the full fiscal year or for any other fiscal period.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

We consider all highly liquid instruments with remaining maturities of three months or less at the date of acquisition to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are recorded at cost, which approximates fair value.

*Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts*

Accounts receivable are recorded for invoices issued to customers in accordance with our contractual arrangements. Unbilled receivables are recorded when revenues are recognized upon product shipment or service delivery and invoicing occurs at a later date. The allowance for doubtful accounts is based on our historical experience of bad debts. Accounts receivable are written-off against the allowance when we believe an account, or a portion thereof, is no longer collectible.

*Inventories*

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market using the first-in, first-out method. Cost includes raw materials and labor, plus applied direct and indirect costs, including those costs required under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards 151, *Inventories Costs* an amendment of *ARB 43, Chapter 4*, (SFAS 151) which was effective for inventory costs incurred on or after January 1, 2006. SFAS 151 did not have a material effect on our financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2006. Service inventories consist primarily of subassemblies and components necessary to support post-sale maintenance. A large portion of our low-volume manufacturing and all of our repair services for domestic handheld meter reading units are provided by an outside vendor, Servatron. At December 31, 2005, we had a 30% equity interest in Servatron, which we sold back to Servatron in the first quarter of 2006 (see Note 11). Consigned inventory at this outside vendor totaled \$3.6

## Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

million at March 31, 2006 and \$2.9 million at December 31, 2005.

### *Property, Plant and Equipment and Equipment used in Outsourcing*

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, generally thirty years for buildings and three to five years for equipment, computers and furniture, or over the term of the applicable lease, if shorter. Project management costs incurred in

---

## **Table of Contents**

connection with installation and equipment used in outsourcing contracts are depreciated using the straight-line method over the shorter of the useful life or the term of the contract. Costs related to internally developed software and software purchased for internal uses are capitalized in accordance with Statement of Position 98-1, *Accounting for Costs of Computer Software Developed or Obtained for Internal Use*. Repair and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred. We have no major planned maintenance activities.

We review long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. There were no significant impairments in the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. If there was an indication of impairment, management would prepare an estimate of future cash flows (undiscounted and without interest charges) expected to result from the use of the asset and its eventual disposition. If these cash flows were less than the carrying amount of the assets, an impairment loss would be recognized to write down the assets to their estimated fair value. Assets held for sale are classified within other current assets in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell, and are no longer depreciated.

### *Debt Issue Costs*

Debt issue costs represent direct costs incurred related to the issuance of long-term debt and are recorded in other noncurrent assets. These costs are amortized to interest expense over the lives of the respective borrowings using the effective interest method. When debt is repaid early, the portion of unamortized debt issue costs related to the early principal repayment is written-off and included in interest expense in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

### *Acquisitions*

In accordance with SFAS 141, *Business Combinations*, we utilize the purchase method of accounting for business combinations. Business combinations accounted for under the purchase method include the results of operations of the acquired business from the date of acquisition. Net assets of the company acquired and intangible assets that arise from contractual/legal rights, or are capable of being separated, are recorded at their fair values at the date of acquisition. The balance of the purchase price after fair value allocations represents goodwill. Amounts allocated to in-process research and development (IPR&D) are expensed in the period of acquisition.

### *Goodwill and Intangible Assets*

Goodwill is tested for impairment as of October 1 of each year, or more frequently, if a significant event occurs under the guidance of SFAS 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*. Intangible assets with a finite life are amortized based on estimated discounted cash flows over estimated useful lives and tested for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. We use estimates in determining the value of goodwill and intangible assets, including estimates of useful lives of intangible assets, discounted future cash flows and fair values of the related operations. We forecast discounted future cash flows at the reporting unit level based on estimated future revenues and operating costs, which take into consideration factors such as existing backlog, expected future orders, supplier contracts and general market conditions.

### *Warranty*

We offer industry standard warranties on our hardware products and large application software products. Standard warranty accruals represent the estimated cost of projected warranty claims and are based on historical and projected product performance trends, business volume assumptions, supplier information and other business and economic projections. Thorough testing of new products in the development stage helps identify and correct potential warranty issues prior to manufacturing. Continuing quality control efforts during manufacturing limit our exposure to warranty claims. If our quality control efforts fail to detect a fault in one of our products, we could experience an increase in warranty claims. We track warranty claims to identify potential warranty trends. If an unusual trend is noted, an additional warranty accrual may be assessed and recorded when a failure event is probable and the cost can be reasonably estimated. Management continually evaluates the sufficiency of the warranty provisions and makes adjustments when necessary. The warranty allowances may fluctuate due to changes in estimates for material, labor and other costs we may incur to replace projected product failures, and we may incur additional warranty and related expenses in the future with respect to new or established product. The long-term warranty balance includes estimated warranty claims beyond one year.

**Table of Contents**

A summary of the warranty accrual account activity is as follows:

|  | <b>Three Months Ended</b> |             |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|
|  | <b>March 31,</b>          |             |
|  | <b>2006</b>               | <b>2005</b> |
|  | <b>(in thousands)</b>     |             |
| Beginning balance, January 1                 | \$ 15,276                 | \$ 13,574   |
| Electricity Metering acquisition adjustments |                           | (1,998)     |
| New product warranties                       | 585                       | 585         |
| Other changes/adjustments to warranties      | 1,365                     | 718         |
| Claims activity                              | (2,115)                   | (1,592)     |
| Ending balance, March 31                     | 15,111                    | 11,287      |
| Less: current portion of warranty            | (7,162)                   | (6,430)     |
| Long-term warranty                           | \$ 7,949                  | \$ 4,857    |

Total warranty expense, which consists of new product warranties issued and other changes and adjustments to warranties, totaled approximately \$2.0 million and \$1.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Warranty expense is classified within cost of sales.

*Health Benefits*

We are self insured for a substantial portion of the cost of employee group health insurance. We purchase insurance from a third party, which provides individual and aggregate stop loss protection for these costs. Each reporting period, we record the costs of our health insurance plan including paid claims, the change in the estimate of incurred but not reported (IBNR) claims, taxes and administrative fees (collectively the plan costs). Plan costs were approximately \$3.0 million and \$1.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The IBNR accrual, which is included in wages and benefits payable, was \$2.0 million and \$2.1 million at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. Fluctuations in the IBNR accrual are the result of claims activity.

*Contingencies*

An estimated loss for a contingency is charged to income if it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. We evaluate, among other factors, the degree of probability of an unfavorable outcome and the ability to make a reasonable estimate of the amount of loss. Changes in these factors could materially affect our financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

*Income Taxes*

We account for income taxes using the asset and liability method. Under this method, deferred income taxes are recorded for the temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and tax basis of our assets and liabilities. These deferred taxes are measured using the tax rates expected to be in effect when the temporary differences reverse. We establish a valuation allowance for the portion of the deferred tax asset when we believe it is more likely than not the deferred tax asset will not be utilized. Deferred tax liabilities have been recorded on undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries.

*Foreign Exchange*

Our condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in U.S. dollars. Assets and liabilities of foreign subsidiaries are denominated in foreign currencies and are translated to U.S. dollars at the exchange rates in effect on the balance sheet date. Revenues, costs of revenues and expenses for these subsidiaries are translated using a weighted average rate for the relevant reporting period. Translation adjustments resulting from this process are included, net of tax, in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in shareholders' equity. Gains and losses that arise from exchange rate fluctuations for balances that are not denominated in the local currency are included in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations unless those balances arose from intercompany transactions deemed to be long-term in nature. Currency gains and losses for this exception are included, net of tax, in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in shareholders' equity.

*Revenue Recognition*

Sales consist of hardware, software license fees, custom software development, field and project management service and engineering, consulting, implementation, installation and professional service revenues. Service revenues include post-sale maintenance support and outsourcing services. Outsourcing services encompass installation, operation and maintenance of

---

## **Table of Contents**

meter reading systems to provide meter information to a customer for billing and management purposes. Outsourcing services can be provided for systems we own as well as those owned by our customers.

Revenue arrangements with multiple deliverables are divided into separate units of accounting if the delivered item(s) have value to the customer on a standalone basis, there is objective and reliable evidence of fair value of the undelivered item(s) and delivery/performance of the undelivered item(s) is probable. The total arrangement consideration is allocated among the separate units of accounting based on their relative fair values and the applicable revenue recognition criteria considered for each unit of accounting. For our standard contract arrangements that combine deliverables such as hardware, meter reading system software, installation and project management services, each deliverable is generally considered a single unit of accounting. The amount allocable to a delivered item is limited to the amount that we are entitled to bill and collect and is not contingent upon the delivery/performance of additional items.

Revenues are recognized when (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (2) delivery has occurred or services have been rendered, (3) the sales price is fixed or determinable and (4) collectibility is reasonably assured. Hardware revenues are generally recognized at the time of shipment, receipt by customer, or, if applicable, upon completion of customer acceptance provisions. For software arrangements with multiple elements, the timing of revenue recognition is dependent upon vendor-specific objective evidence (VSOE) of fair value for each of the elements. The availability of VSOE may affect the timing of revenue recognition. If the implementation services are essential to a software arrangement, revenue is recognized using the percentage of completion methodology if project costs can be estimated. Hardware and software post-sale maintenance support fees are recognized ratably over the life of the related service contract. Under outsourcing arrangements, revenue is recognized as services are provided. Certain consulting services are recognized as services are performed.

Unearned revenue is recorded for products or services that have not been provided but have been invoiced under contractual agreements or paid for by a customer, or when products or services have been provided but the criteria for revenue recognition have not been met.

### *Product and Software Development Expenses*

Product and software development expenses primarily include payroll and third party contracting fees. For software we develop to be marketed or sold, financial accounting standards require the capitalization of development costs after technological feasibility is established. Due to the relatively short period of time between technological feasibility and the completion of product development, and the immaterial nature of these costs, we do not capitalize software development. Product and software development costs are generally expensed when incurred.

### *Earnings Per Share*

Basic earnings per share (EPS) is calculated using net income (loss) divided by the weighted average common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS is similar to basic EPS except that the weighted average common shares outstanding are increased to include the number of additional common shares that would have been outstanding if dilutive stock-based awards had been exercised. Diluted EPS assumes that common shares were issued upon the exercise of stock-based awards for which the market price exceeded the exercise price, less shares that could have been repurchased with the related proceeds (treasury stock method). Related proceeds include the amount the employee must pay upon exercise, future compensation cost associated with the stock award and the amount of excess tax benefits. Shares that are contingently issuable are included in the dilutive EPS calculation as of the beginning of the period when all necessary conditions have been satisfied. In periods when we report a net loss, diluted net loss per share is the same as basic net loss per share.

### *Stock-Based Compensation*

On January 1, 2006, we adopted SFAS 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*, which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all stock-based awards made to employees and directors based on estimated fair values. SFAS 123(R) supersedes our previous accounting under Accounting Principles Board Opinion 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*. In March 2005, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued Staff Accounting Bulletin 107 (SAB 107) relating to SFAS 123(R). We have applied the provisions of SAB 107 in our adoption of SFAS 123(R).

We adopted SFAS 123(R) using the modified prospective transition method, which requires the application of the accounting standard as of January 1, 2006, the first day of our fiscal year 2006. Our condensed consolidated financial statements, as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2006, reflect the impact of SFAS 123(R). In accordance with the modified prospective transition method, our condensed consolidated financial statements for prior periods have not been restated to reflect, and do not include the impact of, SFAS 123(R).

Stock-based compensation expense recognized under SFAS 123(R) for the three months ended March 31, 2006 was \$2.1 million, before income taxes, which includes awards of stock options, Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP)



**Table of Contents**

and restricted stock. The related total tax benefit was \$272,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2006. There was no stock-based compensation capitalized at March 31, 2006. Stock-based compensation expense of \$149,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2005 was related to stock grants and employee stock purchases that we had been recognizing under previous accounting standards. There was no stock-based compensation expense related to employee stock options recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2005. We expense stock-based compensation using the straight-line method.

In the first quarter of 2006, the adoption of SFAS 123(R) resulted in incremental stock-based compensation expense of \$1.9 million. The incremental stock-based compensation expense caused income before income taxes to decrease by \$1.9 million, net income to decrease by \$1.0 million and basic and diluted earnings per share to decrease by \$0.04 per share, respectively. Cash provided by operating activities decreased and cash provided by financing activities increased by \$4.3 million, respectively, related to excess tax benefits from stock awards exercised during the period.

Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), we presented all tax benefits resulting from the exercise of stock options as operating cash inflows. Under SFAS 123(R), the benefits of tax deductions in excess of the compensation cost recognized is classified as financing cash inflows rather than operating cash inflows, on a prospective basis.

The following table shows the effect on net earnings and earnings per share, for the three months ended March 31, 2005, had compensation cost been recognized based upon the estimated fair value on the grant date of stock options and ESPP in accordance with SFAS 123, *Accounting for Stock-based Compensation*, as amended by SFAS 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure*. Disclosures for the period ended March 31, 2006 are not presented because the amounts are recognized in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

|  | Three Months Ended                |         |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------|
|  | March 31, 2005                    |         |
|  | (in 000 s, except per share data) |         |
| Net income (loss)                            |                                   |         |
| As reported                                  | \$                                | 817     |
| Deduct: Stock-based compensation, net of tax |                                   | (1,131) |
| Pro forma net loss                           | \$                                | (314)   |
| Basic net income (loss) per share            |                                   |         |
| As reported                                  | \$                                | 0.04    |
| Pro forma                                    | \$                                | (0.01)  |
| Diluted net income (loss) per share          |                                   |         |
| As reported                                  | \$                                | 0.04    |
| Pro forma                                    | \$                                | (0.01)  |

The fair value of stock options and ESPP were estimated at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005:

|                         | Employee Stock Options       |       | ESPP                         |       |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|
|                         | Three Months Ended March 31, |       | Three Months Ended March 31, |       |
|                         | 2006 <sup>(1)</sup>          | 2005  | 2006                         | 2005  |
| Dividend yield          |                              |       |                              |       |
| Expected volatility     |                              | 64.0% | 42.3%                        | 50.9% |
| Risk-free interest rate |                              | 4.2%  | 4.2%                         | 2.5%  |
| Expected life (years)   |                              | 4.10  | 0.25                         | 0.25  |

<sup>(1)</sup> No stock option grants were made to employees during the three months ended March 31, 2006.

Volatility measures the amount that a stock price has fluctuated or is expected to fluctuate during a period. The risk-free interest rate is the rate available as of the option date on zero-coupon U.S. government issues with a remaining term equal to the expected life of the option. The expected life is the weighted average expected life for the entire award based on the fixed period of time between the date the option is granted and the date the award is fully exercised. Factors to be considered in estimating the expected life are the vesting period of time similar awards have remained outstanding in the past. We have not paid dividends in the past and do not plan to pay any dividends in the foreseeable future.

For restricted and unrestricted sock, the fair value is the market close price of the stock on the issue date.

**Table of Contents***Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Because of various factors affecting future costs and operations, actual results could differ from estimates.

**Note 2: Earnings Per Share and Capital Structure**

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted EPS:

|  | Three Months Ended March 31,<br>2006<br>2005<br>(in thousands, except per share data) |         |
|--|---|---------|
| <b>Basic earnings per share:</b>                       |   |         |
| Net income available to common shareholders            | \$ 7,069  | \$ 817  |
| Weighted average number of shares outstanding          | 25,057  | 21,451  |
| Basic net income per share                             | \$ 0.28   | \$ 0.04 |
| <b>Diluted earnings per share:</b>                     |   |         |
| Net income available to common shareholders            | \$ 7,069  | \$ 817  |
| Weighted average number of shares outstanding          | 25,057  | 21,451  |
| Effect of dilutive securities: Stock-based awards      | 1,014   | 1,286   |
| Adjusted weighted average number of shares outstanding | 26,071  | 22,737  |
| Diluted net income per share                           | \$ 0.27   | \$ 0.04 |

The dilutive effect of stock-based awards is calculated using the treasury stock method. Under this method, EPS is computed as if the awards were exercised at the beginning of the period (or at time of issuance, if later) and assumes the related proceeds were used to repurchase common stock at the average market price during the period. Related proceeds include the amount the employee must pay upon exercise, future compensation cost associated with the stock award and the amount of excess tax benefits. Weighted average common shares outstanding, assuming dilution, include the incremental shares that would be issued upon the assumed exercise of stock-based awards. At March 31, 2006 and 2005, we had stock-based awards outstanding of approximately 2.1 million and 3.5 million at average option exercise prices of \$22.41 and \$15.28, respectively. Approximately 55,000 and 43,000 stock-based awards were excluded from the calculation of diluted EPS for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, because they were anti-dilutive. These stock-based awards could be dilutive in future periods.

We have authorized 10.0 million shares of preferred stock with no par value. In the event of a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, the holders of any preferred stock at the time outstanding will be entitled to be paid a preferential amount per share to be determined by the Board of Directors prior to any payment to holders of common stock. Shares of preferred stock may be convertible into common stock based on terms, conditions, rates and subject to such adjustments set by the Board of Directors. There was no preferred stock issued or outstanding at March 31, 2006 and 2005.

**Table of Contents****Note 3: Certain Balance Sheet Components**

|   | At March 31,   | At December 31, |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
|   | 2006           | 2005            |
|   | (in thousands) |                 |
| <b>Accounts receivable, net</b>                                   |                |                 |
| Trade (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$379 and \$598) | \$ 76,118      | \$ 96,106       |
| Unbilled revenue  | 7,519          | 8,322           |
| <br>Total accounts receivable, net                                | <br>\$ 83,637  | <br>\$ 104,428  |
| <b>Inventories</b>  |                |                 |
| Materials   | \$ 24,557      | \$ 25,744       |
| Work in process   | 4,922          | 5,832           |
| Finished goods  | 20,641         | 16,241          |
| <br>Total manufacturing inventories                               | <br>50,120     | <br>47,817      |
| Service inventories   | 2,394          | 1,639           |
| <br>Total inventories   | <br>\$ 52,514  | <br>\$ 49,456   |
| <b>Property, plant and equipment, net</b>                         |                |                 |
| Machinery and equipment   | \$ 50,654      | \$ 47,709       |
| Equipment used in outsourcing                                     | 16,086         | 16,086          |
| Computers and purchased software                                  | 34,303         | 34,736          |
| Buildings, furniture and improvements                             | 34,286         | 45,611          |
| Land  | 2,482          | 4,217           |
| <br>Total cost  | <br>137,811    | <br>148,359     |
| Accumulated depreciation  | (68,160)       | (70,736)        |
| <br>Property, plant and equipment, net                            | <br>\$ 69,651  | <br>\$ 77,623   |

A summary of the allowance for doubtful accounts activity is as follows:

|   | Three Months Ended March 31, |              |
|---|------------------------------|--------------|
|   | 2006                         | 2005         |
|   | (in thousands)               |              |
| Beginning balance, January 1              | \$ 598                       | \$ 1,312     |
| Provision (benefit) for doubtful accounts | (197)                        | (95)         |
| Recoveries                                |                              |              |
| Accounts charged off                      | (22)                         | (126)        |
| <br>Ending balance, March 31              | <br>\$ 379                   | <br>\$ 1,091 |

The decrease in the allowance for doubtful accounts from March 31, 2005 to March 31, 2006 resulted primarily from activity associated with a specific customer, with payment on a substantial portion of the outstanding balance received throughout 2005.

Depreciation expense was \$3.6 million and \$3.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

## Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

On December 30, 2005, we completed the purchase of a building in Liberty Lake, Washington, which will become our corporate headquarters in the third quarter of 2006. As of March 31, 2006, our headquarters building in Spokane Valley was listed for sale. We have classified the building and related assets as held for sale, and will no longer depreciate the assets in accordance with SFAS 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*. The net carrying value of the Spokane Valley facility is approximately \$8.5 million and is included within other current assets at March 31, 2006.

**Table of Contents****Note 4: Business Combinations**

In March 2006, we signed an agreement to acquire an energy consulting firm, Quantum Consulting Inc., for an initial cash payment of \$4.0 million, less a working capital adjustment, with additional payments of up to \$2.0 million if certain future performance and employee retention targets are met over the next three years. The acquisition closed on April 1, 2006, expanding our consulting services related to energy efficiency, planning design and market research in our Software Solutions segment.

During April 2006, we signed an agreement to acquire ELO Sistemas e Tecnologia Ltda. ( ELO ) for an initial cash payment of approximately \$2.1 million, less a working capital adjustment, and approximately \$6.0 million in additional payments, if certain performance targets are achieved over the next five years. The acquisition is expected to close in May 2006. Operations will reside in Campinas, Brazil, a suburb of São Paulo, with approximately 80 employees performing sales, manufacturing, assembly, field investigations and administrative functions related to meters and automatic meter reading (AMR) equipment and related systems in South America. In addition, shortly after closing, we expect to invest approximately \$2.0 million in capital improvements to expand meter manufacturing and assembly capabilities in Brazil.

We will include the operations of these acquisitions in our Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations and Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets commencing on the closing date of each acquisition.

**Note 5: Identified Intangible Assets**

The gross carrying amount and accumulated amortization of our intangible assets, other than goodwill, are as follows:

|                                    | At March 31, 2006 |                          |            | At December 31, 2005 |                          |            |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------|
|                                    | Gross Assets      | Accumulated Amortization | Net        | Gross Assets         | Accumulated Amortization | Net        |
|                                    | (in thousands)    |                          |            |                      |                          |            |
| Core-developed technology          | \$ 154,330        | \$ (59,928)              | \$ 94,402  | \$ 154,330           | \$ (54,064)              | \$ 100,266 |
| Patents                            | 7,088             | (4,783)                  | 2,305      | 7,088                | (4,690)                  | 2,398      |
| Capitalized software               | 5,065             | (5,065)                  |            | 5,065                | (5,065)                  |            |
| Distribution and production rights | 3,935             | (3,261)                  | 674        | 3,935                | (3,220)                  | 715        |
| Customer contracts                 | 8,750             | (7,233)                  | 1,517      | 8,750                | (7,028)                  | 1,722      |
| Trademarks and tradenames          | 25,710            | (8,730)                  | 16,980     | 25,710               | (7,634)                  | 18,076     |
| Other                              | 6,450             | (6,348)                  | 102        | 6,450                | (6,334)                  | 116        |
| Total identified intangible assets | \$ 211,328        | \$ (95,348)              | \$ 115,980 | \$ 211,328           | \$ (88,035)              | \$ 123,293 |

Intangible asset amortization expense was approximately \$7.3 million and \$9.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Estimated annual amortization expense is as follows:

|   | Estimated Annual Amortization (in thousands) |
|---|--|
| 2006                                    | \$ 29,251                                    |
| 2007                                    | 24,363                                       |
| 2008                                    | 20,904                                       |
| 2009                                    | 17,323                                       |
| 2010                                    | 11,648                                       |
| Beyond 2010                             | 19,804                                       |
| Total identified intangible assets, net | \$ 123,293                                   |



**Table of Contents****Note 6: Goodwill**

We test goodwill for impairment as of October 1 of each year. On July 1, 2004, we completed the acquisition of our Electricity Metering business and recorded a preliminary allocation of the purchase price based on estimated fair values of assets and liabilities. We continued to make adjustments to the purchase price through June 2005 as the valuation of assets and liabilities were finalized. Goodwill decreased \$1.7 million in the first quarter of 2005 primarily due to a \$2.0 million adjustment related to the warranty accrual associated with this acquisition. Goodwill balances can also increase or decrease, with a corresponding change in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

The change in goodwill for the three month period ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 is as follows:

|                                    | <b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b> |                |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|                                    | <b>2006</b>                         | <b>2005</b>    |
|                                    | <b>(in thousands)</b>               |                |
| Goodwill balance, January 1        | \$ 116,032                          | \$ 117,471     |
| Goodwill adjustments               |                                     | (1,687)        |
| Effect of change in exchange rates | 5                                   | (113)          |
| <br>Goodwill balance, March 31     | <br>\$ 116,037                      | <br>\$ 115,671 |

The following table reflects goodwill allocated to each reporting segment during the first three months of 2006 and 2005, respectively.

|                                       | <b>Hardware Solutions</b>        |                                 |                               | <b>Total Company</b> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                       | <b>Meter Data<br/>Collection</b> | <b>Electricity<br/>Metering</b> | <b>Software<br/>Solutions</b> |                      |
|                                       | <b>(in thousands)</b>            |                                 |                               |                      |
| Goodwill balance, January 1, 2005     | \$ 73,337                        | \$ 26,236                       | \$ 17,898                     | \$ 117,471           |
| Goodwill adjustments                  |                                  | (1,687)                         |                               | (1,687)              |
| Effect of change in exchange rates    | (72)                             | (23)                            | (18)                          | (113)                |
| <br>Goodwill balance, March 31, 2005  | <br>\$ 73,265                    | <br>\$ 24,526                   | <br>\$ 17,880                 | <br>\$ 115,671       |
| <br>Goodwill balance, January 1, 2006 | <br>\$ 73,532                    | <br>\$ 24,555                   | <br>\$ 17,945                 | <br>\$ 116,032       |
| Effect of change in exchange rates    | (7)                              | 13                              | (1)                           | 5                    |
| <br>Goodwill balance, March 31, 2006  | <br>\$ 73,525                    | <br>\$ 24,568                   | <br>\$ 17,944                 | <br>\$ 116,037       |

**Note 7: Debt**

The components of our borrowings are as follows:

|                                | <b>At March 31,<br/>2006</b> | <b>At December 31,<br/>2005</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                | <b>(in thousands)</b>        |                                 |
| Senior Secured Credit Facility |                              |                                 |
| Term Loan                      | \$                           | \$ 24,676                       |
| Revolving Credit Line          |                              |                                 |
| Real Estate Term Note          | 4,800                        | 14,800                          |
| Senior Subordinated Notes      | 124,250                      | 124,226                         |

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

|                         |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| Project Financing Debt  | 3,018      | 3,227      |
|                         | 132,068    | 166,929    |
| Current Portion of Debt | (3,836)    | (4,376)    |
| Total Long-term Debt    | \$ 128,232 | \$ 162,553 |

**Table of Contents***Senior Secured Credit Facility*

We completed the repayment of the remaining balance of \$24.7 million on our original \$185 million seven-year senior secured term loan (term loan) during the first quarter of 2006. The term loan was part of our senior secured credit facility (credit facility), which originated on July 1, 2004 to finance the acquisition of our Electricity Metering business. The credit facility also includes a \$55 million five-year senior secured revolving credit line (revolver). We have the ability to increase the revolver to \$75 million at a future date, as defined in the 2005 amendment. Our letter of credit limit under the credit facility is \$55 million and can be increased to \$65 million at a future date. The credit facility is guaranteed by all of our operating subsidiaries (except for our foreign subsidiaries and an outsourcing project finance subsidiary), all of which are wholly owned. The debt issue costs for this facility, as well as the unamortized debt issue costs from a prior facility, are being amortized over the life of the credit facility using the effective interest method.

At March 31, 2006, there were no borrowings outstanding under the revolver and \$22.6 million was utilized by outstanding standby letters of credit resulting in \$32.4 million available for additional borrowings. Unamortized debt issuance costs were approximately \$6.1 million and \$8.9 million at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. Revolver borrowings can be made at any time through June 2009, at which time any borrowings outstanding must be repaid. We were in compliance with all of our debt covenants at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005. Our debt covenants require us to maintain certain consolidated leverage and coverage ratios on a quarterly basis, as well as customary covenants that place restrictions on the incurrence of debt, the payment of dividends, certain investments and mergers.

Interest rates on the revolver vary depending on our consolidated leverage ratio and are based on the London InterBank Offering Rate (LIBOR) plus 2.0% to 3.0%, or Prime plus 1.0% to 2.0%, payable at various intervals depending on the term of the borrowing. The annual commitment fee on the unused portion of the revolver varies from 0.375% to 0.50%. We incur annual letter of credit fees based on (a) a fronting fee of 0.125% and (b) a letter of credit fee that varies from 2.0% to 3.0%.

*Real Estate Term Note*

On December 30, 2005, we signed a real estate term note (real estate note) for \$14.8 million, secured by real property, with principal payments of \$740,000, plus interest, payable quarterly, commencing April 1, 2006 and continuing through January 1, 2011. During the first quarter of 2006, we made an optional prepayment of \$10.0 million on the real estate note. During April 2006, we completed the repayment of the real estate note.

*Senior Subordinated Notes*

Our senior subordinated notes consist of \$125 million aggregate principal amount of 7.75% notes, issued in May 2004 and due in 2012. The notes were discounted to a price of 99.265 to yield 7.875%, with a balance of \$124.3 million at March 31, 2006. The notes are registered with the SEC and are generally transferable. The discount on the notes is accreted and the debt issuance costs are amortized over the life of the notes. Fixed interest payments of approximately \$4.8 million are required every six months, in May and November. The notes are subordinated to our credit facility and are guaranteed by all of our operating subsidiaries (except for our foreign subsidiaries and an outsourcing project finance subsidiary), all of which are wholly owned. The notes contain covenants, which place restrictions on the incurrence of debt, the payment of dividends, certain investments and mergers. Some or all of the notes may be redeemed at our option at any time on or after May 15, 2008, at their principal amount plus a specified premium. At any time prior to May 15, 2007, we may, at our option, redeem up to 35% of the notes, at 107.75%, with the proceeds of certain sales of our common stock.

*Project Financing*

In May 1998, in conjunction with project financing for one of our outsourcing contracts, we issued a note secured by the assets of the project with monthly interest payments at an annual interest rate of 7.6%, maturing May 31, 2009. The project financing loan had an outstanding balance of \$3.0 million at March 31, 2006. During April 2006, we repaid the balance of the project financing loan, which included \$107,000 in prepayment fees.

**Note 8: Restructurings**

At December 31, 2004, we incurred restructuring costs associated with the implementation of a new internal organizational structure, which resulted in staffing reductions and other restructuring expenses. These accrued costs were fully paid to employees by December 31, 2005.



**Table of Contents**

Accrued liabilities and expenses associated with these restructuring efforts for the three months ended March 31, 2005 consisted of the following:

|                                      | <b>Severance and<br/>Related Costs</b> | <b>Lease Termination<br/>and Related<br/>Costs</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
|                                      | <b>(in thousands)</b>                  |  |
| Accrual balance at December 31, 2004 | \$ 2,317                               | \$ 175   |
| Addition/adjustments to accruals     | 390                                    | (58)   |
| Cash payments                        | (2,078)                                |  |
| Accrual balance at March 31, 2005    | \$ 629                                 | \$ 117   |

The liability for lease terminations is recorded within accrued expenses and the liability for employee severance is recorded within wages and benefits payable. Lease termination and related costs are dependent on our ability to sublease vacant space and are reported as general and administrative expenses. There was no remaining severance and related costs accrual at December 31, 2005 and there was no restructuring activity during the three months ended March 31, 2006. The accrued liability for lease termination and related costs was \$66,000 at March 31, 2006.

**Note 9: Income Taxes**

We estimate our 2006 annual effective income tax rate will be approximately 44% while our effective income tax rate was 46% for the three months ended March 31, 2006. Our effective income tax rates differ from the federal statutory rate of 35% and can vary from period to period due to fluctuations in operating results, new or revised tax legislation and accounting pronouncements, research credits and state income taxes. Both the first quarter and estimated annual 2006 effective rates are higher than the statutory rate due to the implementation of SFAS 123(R) and the expiration of a federal research credit on December 31, 2005. An extension of the credit through December 31, 2006 is expected to be approved by Congress, which would reduce our annual effective tax rate.

Our effective income tax rate of 38% for the three months ended March 31, 2005 was higher than the full year 2005 effective income tax rate of 34% as a result of changes in estimated taxes due in future periods, partially offset by tax credit adjustments.

**Note 10: Stock-Based Compensation***Stock Option Plans*

At March 31, 2006, we had three stock-based compensation plans in effect, only one of which we are currently granting options under. Stock options to purchase the Company's common stock are granted at the fair market value of the stock on the date of grant. Options generally become exercisable in three or four equal installments beginning a year from the date of grant and generally expire 10 years from the date of grant.

The fair value of each stock option granted is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The assumptions used to calculate the fair value of options granted are evaluated regularly to reflect market conditions and actual trends. Compensation expense is recognized only for those options expected to vest, with forfeitures estimated at the date of grant based on our historical experience and future expectations. Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), the effect of forfeitures on the pro forma expense amounts was recognized as the forfeitures occurred.

**Table of Contents**

The expense related to stock options recognized under SFAS 123(R) for the three months ended March 31, 2006 was \$1.8 million. A summary of our stock option activity during the three months ending March 31, 2006 is as follows:

|  | Shares Subject to<br>Options<br>(in thousands) | Weighted Average               |  | Weighted Average                                  |  |
|--|--|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
|  |  | Exercise<br>Price per<br>Share | Remaining<br>Contractual Life<br>(years) | Aggregate Intrinsic<br>Value<br>(in<br>thousands) |  |
| Outstanding, January 1, 2006                     | 2,443  | \$ 21.24                       |  |   |  |
| Granted  |  |                                |  |   |  |
| Exercised  | 381  | 14.92                          |  |   |  |
| Forfeited  |  |                                |  |   |  |
| Expired  |  |                                |  |   |  |
| Outstanding, March 31, 2006                      | 2,062  | \$ 22.41                       | 7.42                                     | \$ 77,195   |  |
| Exercisable and expected to vest, March 31, 2006 | 1,946  | \$ 21.93                       | 7.34                                     | \$ 73,799   |  |
| Exercisable, March 31, 2006                      | 867  | \$ 13.56                       | 5.81                                     | \$ 40,145   |  |

The aggregate intrinsic value in the table above is before applicable income taxes, based on our closing stock price of \$59.85 as of the last business day of the period ending March 31, 2006, which represents amounts that would have been received by the optionees had all options been exercised on that date. As of March 31, 2006, total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to nonvested stock options was approximately \$11.6 million, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately 21 months. During the three months ended March 31, 2006, the total intrinsic value of stock options exercised was \$15.5 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2006, the total fair value of options vested was \$5.5 million.

We issue new shares of common stock upon the exercise of stock options.

As of March 31, 2006, there were 409,051 shares of common stock available for issuance pursuant to stock-based awards. Additional information regarding options outstanding as of March 31, 2006, is as follows:

| Range of Exercise Prices | Outstanding Options  |                 |                              | Exercisable Options  |                              |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
|                          | Shares<br>(in 000 s) | Life<br>(years) | Weighted<br>Average<br>Price | Shares<br>(in 000 s) | Weighted<br>Average<br>Price |
| \$ 4.87 - \$ 6.75        | 137                  | 3.58            | \$ 6.29                      | 137                  | \$ 6.29                      |
| \$ 7.00 - \$ 8.34        | 270                  | 4.63            | 7.25                         | 270                  | 7.25                         |
| \$13.60 - \$20.00        | 238                  | 6.78            | 15.94                        | 203                  | 15.38                        |
| \$20.03 - \$26.65        | 839                  | 8.01            | 21.18                        | 232                  | 20.73                        |
| \$30.32 - \$37.40        | 550                  | 9.08            | 37.38                        | 21                   | 37.19                        |
| \$42.62 - \$58.75        | 28                   | 8.19            | 45.34                        | 4                    | 58.75                        |
|                          | 2,062                | 7.42            | \$ 22.41                     | 867                  | \$ 13.56                     |

*Employee Stock Purchase Plan*

## Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

We are authorized to issue shares of common stock to our eligible employees who have completed three months of service, work more than 20 hours each week and are employed more than five months in any calendar year. Employees who own 5% or more of our common stock are not eligible to participate in the ESPP. Under the terms of the ESPP, eligible employees can choose payroll deductions each year of up to 10% of their regular cash compensation. Such deductions are applied toward the discounted purchase price of our common stock. The purchase price of the common stock is 85% of the fair market value of the stock at the end of each fiscal quarter. We had no unrecognized compensation cost associated with the first quarter 2006 offering of stock under this plan. Under the ESPP, we sold 12,426 and 15,589 shares to employees in the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The expense related to ESPP recognized under SFAS 123(R) for the three months ended March 31, 2006 was \$80,000.

### *Long-Term Performance Plan*

We have a Long-Term Performance Plan (LTPP) for senior management and key executive officers with restricted stock awards contingent on the attainment of yearly goals payable in the Company's common stock with a three-year cliff vesting

**Table of Contents**

period. Restricted stock awards are granted in the year following attainment, as approved by our Board of Directors. The value of an award is based on a percentage of the participant's base salary and is dependent on performance objectives for the period. We currently have two active plans, one for 2005 and another for 2006. As of January 1, 2006, there were no restricted stock awards outstanding.

The award for 2005 was \$1.8 million, which included a reduction of \$100,000 prior to the stock award issuance, with 30,908 shares issued on February 15, 2006, at a weighted average grant-date fair value of \$59.16. Forfeited shares during the first quarter of 2006 were 6,937, due to retirements. No awards were vested at March 31, 2006, and \$96,000 was recognized as expense for the three months ended March 31, 2006. As of March 31, 2006, total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to the 2005 LTTP was approximately \$937,000, to be recognized through December 31, 2008.

For the 2006 yearly goals and associated award, approximately \$42,000 was recognized as expense for the three months ended March 31, 2006.

*Board of Directors Compensation*

We issue unrestricted stock awards to our Board of Directors as part of the Board of Directors' compensation. During the three months ended March 31, 2006, we issued 2,976 unrestricted stock awards to our Board of Directors, with a weighted average grant-date fair value of \$40.29. All awards were fully vested and expensed when granted.

**Note 11: Other Related Party Transactions**

At December 31, 2005, we had a 30% equity interest in Servatron, a company that serves both as a contract manufacturer for our low volume products and as our handheld service repair depot. During February 2006, we received a dividend of \$193,000, which was recorded as a return of capital. During March 2006, we sold our shares back to Servatron for \$1.0 million, recognizing a loss of \$242,000 as of March 31, 2006. Therefore, as of March 31, 2006, we have no ownership in Servatron; however, our Chief Executive Officer remains a board member of Servatron. We sublease a portion of our Spokane Valley facility, which is currently held for sale, to Servatron (Note 3). The lease agreement commenced in May 2000, was renewed in 2004, and currently runs through 2006. The base monthly lease payments under the lease are approximately \$16,000 and are based on current market rates. Servatron pays us for its share of operating costs of the subleased premises. At March 31, 2006, the lease agreement remains unchanged but is expected to be amended to provide for additional space.

During the first quarter of 2006, our Chief Financial Officer became a board member of a financial institution, which is also a 3.6% participant in our \$55 million five-year senior secured revolving credit line (revolver). As disclosed in Note 7, there were no borrowings outstanding under the revolver and \$22.6 million was utilized by outstanding standby letters of credit resulting in \$32.4 million available for additional borrowings.

**Note 12: Commitments and Contingencies***Guarantees and Indemnifications*

Under Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation 45, *Guarantors Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others*, we record a liability for certain types of guarantees and indemnifications for agreements entered into or amended subsequent to December 31, 2002. No liabilities were required to be recorded for agreements entered into as of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005.

We maintain bid and performance bonds for certain customers. Bonds in force were \$2.6 million and \$3.0 million at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. Bid bonds guarantee that we will enter into a contract consistent with the terms of the bid. Performance bonds provide a guarantee to the customer for future performance, which usually covers the installation phase of a contract and may on occasion cover the operations and maintenance phase of outsourcing contracts.

We also have standby letters of credit to guarantee our performance under certain contracts. The outstanding amounts of standby letters of credit were \$22.6 million at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005.

We guarantee lease payments for certain equipment leased by Servatron. The maximum future lease obligation of the guarantee at March 31, 2006 was approximately \$34,000. The lease and our guarantee terminate in the second quarter of 2006. In the event Servatron is unable to pay a monthly lease obligation, we would be required to make the payment. If we do not make the payment, the equipment would be returned to the

## Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

lessor. In the event that the equipment is not in working condition, we would be obligated to pay for the equipment to be returned to working condition.

We generally provide an indemnification related to the infringement of any patent, copyright, trademark or other intellectual property right on software or equipment within our sales contracts, which indemnifies the customer from and pays the

**Table of Contents**

resulting costs, damages and attorney's fees awarded against a customer with respect to such a claim provided that (a) the customer promptly notifies us in writing of the claim and (b) we have the sole control of the defense and all related settlement negotiations. The terms of the indemnification normally do not limit the maximum potential future payments. We also provide an indemnification for third party claims resulting from damages caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of our employees/agents in connection with the performance of certain contracts. The terms of the indemnification generally do not limit the maximum potential payments.

*Legal Matters*

We are subject to various legal proceedings and claims of which the outcomes are subject to significant uncertainty. Our policy is to assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to legal matters, as well as ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of the liability required, if any, for these contingencies is made after an analysis of each known issue in accordance with SFAS 5, *Accounting for Contingencies*, and related pronouncements. In accordance with SFAS 5, a liability is recorded when we determine that a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Additionally, we disclose contingencies for which a material loss is reasonably possible, but not probable. At March 31, 2006, there were no material contingencies requiring accrual or disclosure.

**Note 13: Segment Information**

We have two operating groups (Hardware Solutions and Software Solutions) and three operating segments. Software Solutions is a single segment and Hardware Solutions is comprised of two segments, Meter Data Collection and Electricity Metering. For these three operating segments, management has three primary measures of segment performance: revenue, gross profit (margin) and operating income. Revenues for each operating segment are reported according to product lines. There are no inter-operating segment revenues. Within Hardware Solutions, cost of sales are based on standard costs, which include materials, direct labor, warranty expense and an overhead allocation, as well as variances from standard costs. Software cost of sales include distribution and documentation costs for applications sold, along with other labor and operating costs for custom software development, project management, consulting and systems support. Hardware and software cost of services include materials, labor and overhead. Operating expenses directly associated with each operating segment may include sales, marketing, product development or administrative expenses.

Corporate operating expenses, interest income, interest expense, other income (expense), amortization expense and income tax expense (benefit) are not allocated to the operating segments, nor included in the measure of segment profit or loss. We do not allocate assets and liabilities to our operating segments. Prior to January 1, 2006, Itron Electricity Metering, Inc., or Electricity Metering, was a wholly owned subsidiary with separately identifiable assets and liabilities. Effective January 1, 2006, Electricity Metering merged with Itron, Inc. Approximately 50% and 60% of depreciation expense was allocated to the operating segments at March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, with the remaining portion unallocated. The depreciation allocated to the operating segments decreased compared with prior year due to the purchase of our new corporate headquarters facility at the end of 2005, which is not allocated to the operating segments.

We classify sales in the United States and Canada as domestic revenues. International revenues were \$5.2 million and \$8.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. International revenues can fluctuate from period to period due to the timing of sales.

**Operating Segment Products****Operating Segment****Major Products**

*Hardware Solutions Meter Data Collection:*

Residential and commercial AMR standalone and OEM (original equipment manufacturer) modules, contract manufacturing and royalties for our AMR technology in other vendors' electricity meters, mobile and network AMR data collection technologies, handheld computers for meter data collection or mobile workforce applications and related installation and implementation and maintenance support services.

*Hardware Solutions Electricity Metering:*

Residential, commercial and industrial (C&I) and generation, transmission and distribution (GT&D) electricity meters and related installation and implementation services.

*Software Solutions:*

Software applications for commercial, industrial and residential meter data collection and management, distribution system design and optimization, energy and water management, asset optimization, mobile workforce solutions, forecasting and related implementation consulting and maintenance support services.



**Table of Contents****Operating Segment Information**

|                                   | <b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b> |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                   | <b>2006</b>                         | <b>2005</b>       |
|                                   | <b>(in thousands)</b>               |                   |
| <b>Revenues</b>                   |                                     |                   |
| Hardware Solutions                |                                     |                   |
| Meter Data Collection             | \$ 61,751                           | \$ 49,676         |
| Electricity Metering              | 80,378                              | 54,106            |
| <b>Total Hardware Solutions</b>   | <b>142,129</b>                      | <b>103,782</b>    |
| Software Solutions                | 13,424                              | 12,688            |
| <b>Total Company</b>              | <b>\$ 155,553</b>                   | <b>\$ 116,470</b> |
| <b>Gross margin</b>               |                                     |                   |
| Hardware Solutions                |                                     |                   |
| Meter Data Collection             | \$ 28,703                           | \$ 21,044         |
| Electricity Metering              | 31,909                              | 24,277            |
| <b>Total Hardware Solutions</b>   | <b>60,612</b>                       | <b>45,321</b>     |
| Software Solutions                | 6,162                               | 5,677             |
| <b>Total Company</b>              | <b>\$ 66,774</b>                    | <b>\$ 50,998</b>  |
| <b>Operating income (loss)</b>    |                                     |                   |
| Hardware Solutions                |                                     |                   |
| Meter Data Collection             | \$ 23,133                           | \$ 16,028         |
| Electricity Metering              | 28,575                              | 19,889            |
| Other unallocated costs           | (8,727)                             | (6,021)           |
| <b>Total Hardware Solutions</b>   | <b>42,981</b>                       | <b>29,896</b>     |
| Software Solutions                | (2,489)                             | (2,652)           |
| Corporate unallocated             | (21,504)                            | (21,471)          |
| <b>Total Company</b>              | <b>18,988</b>                       | <b>5,773</b>      |
| Total other income (expense)      | (5,832)                             | (4,462)           |
| <b>Income before income taxes</b> | <b>\$ 13,156</b>                    | <b>\$ 1,311</b>   |

AMR revenue related to electricity meters can be reflected in either our Meter Data Collection or Electricity Metering segments. Included in Meter Data Collection are standalone electric AMR modules we manufacture that are attached to electromechanical electricity meters manufactured by others, AMR circuit boards we manufacture that are embedded in other vendors' electronic electricity meters and royalties for licensing our electric AMR technology. Included in Electricity Metering revenue are sales of our electronic meters with our embedded AMR technology as well as some contract manufacturing for incorporating other vendors' AMR technology into our electronic meters.

One customer accounted for 22% of total Company revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2006.

One customer accounted for 12% of Meter Data Collection revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2006.

One customer accounted for 42% of Electricity Metering revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2006.

No customers represented more than 10% of Software Solutions revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2006.

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

No customer represented more than 10% of total Company revenues or individual segment revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2005.

**Table of Contents****Note 14: Comprehensive Income**

Comprehensive income adjustments are reflected as an increase (decrease) to shareholders' equity and are not reflected in the results of operations. Operating results adjusted to reflect comprehensive income items during the period, net of tax, were as follows:

|  | <b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b> |               |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------|
|  | <b>2006</b>                         | <b>2005</b>   |
|  | <b>(in thousands)</b>               |               |
| Net income   | \$ 7,069                            | \$ 817        |
| Change in foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax | (110)                               | (265)         |
| <b>Total comprehensive income</b>                              | <b>\$ 6,959</b>                     | <b>\$ 552</b> |

Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax, was approximately \$761,000 and \$871,000 at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively, and consisted of the adjustments for foreign currency translation as indicated above.

**Note 15: Consolidating Financial Information**

The credit facility and the senior subordinated notes are guaranteed by all of our operating subsidiaries (except for our foreign subsidiaries and an outsourcing project finance subsidiary), all of which are wholly owned. The guarantees are joint and several, full, complete and unconditional. There are currently no restrictions on the ability of the subsidiary guarantors to transfer funds to the parent company. The following consolidating financial information has been prepared and presented pursuant to SEC Regulation S-X Rule 3-10, Financial Statements of Guarantors and Issuers of Guaranteed Securities Registered or Being Registered.

Effective January 1, 2006, the legal entity holding the U.S. operations of our Electricity Metering business (a guarantor subsidiary) was merged into the parent company. As a result of this merger, the assets, liabilities and operations of this guarantor subsidiary have been combined with the parent company as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2006. In addition, as a result of our legal entity merger on January 1, 2006, we have restated the parent and guarantor subsidiary information for the 2005 periods presented to reflect the new legal entity structure.

In addition, we have three wholly owned domestic guarantor subsidiaries, which were established for various business purposes. Two of these subsidiaries have no assets or operations. The third subsidiary holds an investment of \$7.3 million in a non-guarantor subsidiary at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. Due to the small nature of this third guarantor subsidiary, we have combined it with the parent company as of January 1, 2006. Prior to the merger of the Electricity Metering business into the parent company, this subsidiary was reported in the guarantor column in the consolidating financial information. The net income (loss) from this third guarantor subsidiary was (\$3,000) and \$15,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

**Table of Contents****Condensed Consolidating Statement of Operations****Three Months Ended March 31, 2006**

|   | Combined<br>Parent<br>and<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Combined<br>Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations<br>(in thousands) | Consolidated    |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>   |  |   |                                |                 |
| Sales   | \$ 135,970   | \$ 12,518                                 | \$ (5,554)                     | \$ 142,934      |
| Service   | 14,989   | 2,409                                     | (4,779)                        | 12,619          |
| <b>Total revenues</b>                                   | <b>150,959</b>   | <b>14,927</b>                             | <b>(10,333)</b>                | <b>155,553</b>  |
| <b>Cost of revenues</b>                                 |  |   |                                |                 |
| Sales   | 80,459   | 7,087                                     | (5,704)                        | 81,842          |
| Service   | 6,318  | 5,200                                     | (4,581)                        | 6,937           |
| <b>Total cost of revenues</b>                           | <b>86,777</b>  | <b>12,287</b>                             | <b>(10,285)</b>                | <b>88,779</b>   |
| <b>Gross profit</b>                                     | <b>64,182</b>  | <b>2,640</b>                              | <b>(48)</b>                    | <b>66,774</b>   |
| <b>Operating expenses</b>                               |  |   |                                |                 |
| Sales and marketing                                     | 14,145   | 1,339                                     | (3)                            | 15,481          |
| Product development                                     | 12,844   | 142                                       | (116)                          | 12,870          |
| General and administrative                              | 11,577   | 509                                       | 36                             | 12,122          |
| Amortization of intangible assets                       | 7,313  |   |                                | 7,313           |
| <b>Total operating expenses</b>                         | <b>45,879</b>  | <b>1,990</b>                              | <b>(83)</b>                    | <b>47,786</b>   |
| <b>Operating income</b>                                 | <b>18,303</b>  | <b>650</b>                                | <b>35</b>                      | <b>18,988</b>   |
| <b>Other income (expense)</b>                           |  |   |                                |                 |
| Interest income   | 337  | 50  | (25)                           | 362             |
| Interest expense  | (5,682)  | (90)                                      | 26                             | (5,746)         |
| Other income (expense), net                             | (370)  | (42)                                      | (36)                           | (448)           |
| <b>Total other income (expense)</b>                     | <b>(5,715)</b>   | <b>(82)</b>                               | <b>(35)</b>                    | <b>(5,832)</b>  |
| <b>Income before income taxes</b>                       | <b>12,588</b>  | <b>568</b>                                |                                | <b>13,156</b>   |
| <b>Income tax provision</b>                             | <b>(5,914)</b>   | <b>(173)</b>                              |                                | <b>(6,087)</b>  |
| <b>Equity in earnings of non-guarantor subsidiaries</b> | <b>395</b>   |   | <b>(395)</b>                   |                 |
| <b>Net income</b>                                       | <b>\$ 7,069</b>  | <b>\$ 395</b>                             | <b>\$ (395)</b>                | <b>\$ 7,069</b> |

**Table of Contents****Condensed Consolidating Statement of Operations****Three Months Ended March 31, 2005**

|  | <b>Combined<br/>Parent<br/>and<br/>Guarantor<br/>Subsidiaries</b> | <b>Combined<br/>Non-guarantor<br/>Subsidiaries</b> | <b>Eliminations<br/><br/>(in thousands)</b> | <b>Consolidated</b> |
|--|---|--|---|---------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                                  |   |  |   |                     |
| Sales  | \$ 101,724  | \$ 9,113   | \$ (6,635)                                  | \$ 104,202          |
| Service  | 10,862  | 1,967  | (561)                                       | 12,268              |
| <b>Total revenues</b>                            | <b>112,586</b>  | <b>11,080</b>                                      | <b>(7,196)</b>                              | <b>116,470</b>      |
| <b>Cost of revenues</b>                          |   |  |   |                     |
| Sales  | 58,647  | 7,197  | (6,645)                                     | 59,199              |
| Service  | 5,547   | 778  | (52)  | 6,273               |
| <b>Total cost of revenues</b>                    | <b>64,194</b>   | <b>7,975</b>                                       | <b>(6,697)</b>                              | <b>65,472</b>       |
| <b>Gross profit</b>                              | <b>48,392</b>   | <b>3,105</b>                                       | <b>(499)</b>                                | <b>50,998</b>       |
| <b>Operating expenses</b>                        |   |  |   |                     |
| Sales and marketing                              | 11,985  | 1,254  |   | 13,239              |
| Product development                              | 11,829  | 583  | (498)                                       | 11,914              |
| General and administrative                       | 9,660   | 306  |   | 9,966               |
| Amortization of intangible assets                | 9,716   |  |   | 9,716               |
| Restructurings                                   | 203   | 187  |   | 390                 |
| <b>Total operating expenses</b>                  | <b>43,393</b>   | <b>2,330</b>                                       | <b>(498)</b>                                | <b>45,225</b>       |
| <b>Operating income</b>                          | <b>4,999</b>  | <b>775</b>   | <b>(1)</b>                                  | <b>5,773</b>        |
| <b>Other income (expense)</b>                    |   |  |   |                     |
| Interest income                                  | 246   | 3  | (245)                                       | 4                   |
| Interest expense                                 | (4,482)   | (330)  | 245   | (4,567)             |
| Other income (expense), net                      | 121   | (21)   | 1   | 101                 |
| <b>Total other income (expense)</b>              | <b>(4,115)</b>  | <b>(348)</b>                                       | <b>1</b>                                    | <b>(4,462)</b>      |
| <b>Income before income taxes</b>                | <b>884</b>  | <b>427</b>   |   | <b>1,311</b>        |
| Income tax provision                             | (272)   | (222)  |   | (494)               |
| Equity in earnings of non-guarantor subsidiaries | 205   |  | (205)                                       |                     |
| <b>Net income</b>                                | <b>\$ 817</b>   | <b>\$ 205</b>                                      | <b>\$ (205)</b>                             | <b>\$ 817</b>       |

**Table of Contents****Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheet**

March 31, 2006

|   | Combined<br>Parent<br>and<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Combined<br>Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations<br>(in thousands) | Consolidated      |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                 |  |   |                                |                   |
| Current assets                                |  |   |                                |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents                     | \$ 32,129  | \$ 8,532                                  | \$                             | \$ 40,661         |
| Accounts receivable, net                      | 73,269   | 10,368                                    |                                | 83,637            |
| Intercompany accounts receivable              | 7,623  | 10,732                                    | (18,355)                       |                   |
| Inventories                                   | 50,602   | 1,912                                     |                                | 52,514            |
| Deferred income taxes, net                    | 20,312   | 347                                       |                                | 20,659            |
| Other   | 20,894   | 2,366                                     |                                | 23,260            |
| Intercompany other                            | 5,268  | 3,500                                     | (8,768)                        |                   |
| <b>Total current assets</b>                   | <b>210,097</b>   | <b>37,757</b>                             | <b>(27,123)</b>                | <b>220,731</b>    |
| Property, plant and equipment, net            | 65,859   | 3,792                                     |                                | 69,651            |
| Intangible assets, net                        | 115,920  | 60  |                                | 115,980           |
| Goodwill                                      | 103,306  | 12,731                                    |                                | 116,037           |
| Deferred income taxes, net                    | 50,348   | 1,774                                     | (860)                          | 51,262            |
| Intercompany notes receivable                 | 2,014  |   | (2,014)                        |                   |
| Other   | 35,253   | 45  | (27,378)                       | 7,920             |
| <b>Total assets</b>                           | <b>\$ 582,797</b>                                      | <b>\$ 56,159</b>                          | <b>\$ (57,375)</b>             | <b>\$ 581,581</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>    |  |   |                                |                   |
| Current liabilities                           |  |   |                                |                   |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses         | \$ 44,427  | \$ 2,563                                  | \$                             | \$ 46,990         |
| Intercompany accounts payable                 | 10,714   | 7,641                                     | (18,355)                       |                   |
| Wages and benefits payable                    | 17,689   | 945                                       |                                | 18,634            |
| Current portion of debt                       | 2,960  | 876                                       |                                | 3,836             |
| Current portion of warranty                   | 6,592  | 570                                       |                                | 7,162             |
| Short-term intercompany advances              | 3,500  | 5,268                                     | (8,768)                        |                   |
| Unearned revenue                              | 23,168   | 972                                       |                                | 24,140            |
| <b>Total current liabilities</b>              | <b>109,050</b>   | <b>18,835</b>                             | <b>(27,123)</b>                | <b>100,762</b>    |
| Long-term debt                                | 126,090  |   |                                | 126,090           |
| Project financing debt                        |  | 2,142                                     |                                | 2,142             |
| Intercompany notes payable                    |  | 2,014                                     | (2,014)                        |                   |
| Warranty                                      | 7,918  | 31  |                                | 7,949             |
| Deferred income taxes, net                    |  | 860                                       | (860)                          |                   |
| Other obligations                             | 5,975  | 73  |                                | 6,048             |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>                      | <b>249,033</b>   | <b>23,955</b>                             | <b>(29,997)</b>                | <b>242,991</b>    |
| Shareholders' equity                          |  |   |                                |                   |
| Preferred stock                               |  |   |                                |                   |
| Common stock                                  | 326,143  | 28,132                                    | (28,132)                       | 326,143           |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | (4,065)  | 4,858                                     | (32)                           | 761               |
| Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)       | 11,686   | (786)                                     | 786                            | 11,686            |

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

|  |            |           |             |            |
|--|------------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| Total shareholders' equity                 | 333,764    | 32,204    | (27,378)    | 338,590    |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ 582,797 | \$ 56,159 | \$ (57,375) | \$ 581,581 |

**Table of Contents****Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheet****December 31, 2005**

|  | Combined Parent<br>and<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Combined<br>Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations | Consolidated |
|--|---|---|--------------|--------------|
|  | (in thousands)                                      |   |              |              |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                      |   |   |              |              |
| Current assets                                     |   |   |              |              |
| Cash and cash equivalents                          | \$ 28,064   | \$ 5,574                                  | \$           | \$ 33,638    |
| Accounts receivable, net                           | 96,707  | 7,721                                     |              | 104,428      |
| Intercompany accounts receivable                   | 3,460   | 8,977                                     | (12,437)     |              |
| Inventories  | 46,792  | 2,664                                     |              | 49,456       |
| Deferred income taxes, net                         | 22,895  | 299                                       |              | 23,194       |
| Other  | 8,575   | 2,366                                     |              | 10,941       |
| Intercompany other                                 | 227   | 3,500                                     | (3,727)      |              |
| Total current assets                               | 206,720   | 31,101                                    | (16,164)     | 221,657      |
| Property, plant and equipment, net                 | 74,097  | 3,526                                     |              | 77,623       |
| Intangible assets, net                             | 123,233   | 60  |              | 123,293      |
| Goodwill   | 103,305   | 12,727                                    |              | 116,032      |
| Deferred income taxes, net                         | 47,987  | 1,806                                     | (838)        | 48,955       |
| Intercompany notes receivable                      | 1,966   |   | (1,966)      |              |
| Other  | 38,200  | 48  | (26,924)     | 11,324       |
| Total assets                                       | \$ 595,508  | \$ 49,268                                 | \$ (45,892)  | \$ 598,884   |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>        |   |   |              |              |
| Current liabilities                                |   |   |              |              |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses              | \$ 44,720   | \$ 1,495                                  | \$           | \$ 46,215    |
| Intercompany accounts payable                      | 8,966   | 3,471                                     | (12,437)     |              |
| Wages and benefits payable                         | 22,761  | 971                                       |              | 23,732       |
| Current portion of debt                            | 3,516   | 860                                       |              | 4,376        |
| Current portion of warranty                        | 7,972   | 525                                       |              | 8,497        |
| Short-term intercompany advances                   |   | 3,727                                     | (3,727)      |              |
| Unearned revenue                                   | 21,801  | 957                                       |              | 22,758       |
| Total current liabilities                          | 109,736   | 12,006                                    | (16,164)     | 105,578      |
| Long-term debt                                     | 160,186   |   |              | 160,186      |
| Project financing debt                             |   | 2,367                                     |              | 2,367        |
| Intercompany notes payable                         |   | 1,966                                     | (1,966)      |              |
| Warranty   | 6,708   | 71  |              | 6,779        |
| Deferred income taxes, net                         |   | 838                                       | (838)        |              |
| Other obligations                                  | 6,333   | 107                                       |              | 6,440        |
| Total liabilities                                  | 282,963   | 17,355                                    | (18,968)     | 281,350      |
| Shareholders' equity                               |   |   |              |              |
| Preferred stock                                    |   |   |              |              |
| Common stock                                       | 312,047   | 28,132                                    | (28,133)     | 312,046      |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net | (4,119)   | 4,962                                     | 28           | 871          |
| Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)            | 4,617   | (1,181)                                   | 1,181        | 4,617        |
| Total shareholders' equity                         | 312,545   | 31,913                                    | (26,924)     | 317,534      |

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

|  |            |           |             |            |
|--|------------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ 595,508 | \$ 49,268 | \$ (45,892) | \$ 598,884 |
|--|------------|-----------|-------------|------------|

**Table of Contents****Condensed Consolidating Statement of Cash Flows****Three Months Ended March 31, 2006**

|   | Combined<br>Parent<br>and<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Combined<br>Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations<br>(in thousands) | Consolidated     |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Operating activities</b>   |  |   |                                |                  |
| Net income  | \$ 7,069   | \$ 395                                    | \$ (395)                       | \$ 7,069         |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |  |   |                                |                  |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 10,759   | 179                                       |                                | 10,938           |
| Employee stock plans income tax benefits  | 5,366  |   |                                | 5,366            |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation                                 | (4,280)  |   |                                | (4,280)          |
| Stock-based compensation  | 2,053  |   |                                | 2,053            |
| Amortization of prepaid debt fees   | 2,772  |   |                                | 2,772            |
| Deferred income tax provision   | 222  | 14  |                                | 236              |
| Equity in earnings (losses) of non-guarantor subsidiaries                         | (395)  |   | 395                            |                  |
| Impairment of investments   | 242  |   |                                | 242              |
| Other, net  | 182  |   |                                | 182              |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:                 |  |   |                                |                  |
| Accounts receivable   | 23,438   | (2,647)                                   |                                | 20,791           |
| Inventories   | (3,810)  | 752                                       |                                | (3,058)          |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses   | 1,726  | 918                                       |                                | 2,644            |
| Wages and benefits payable  | (4,586)  | (26)                                      |                                | (4,612)          |
| Unearned revenue  | 1,478  | (26)                                      |                                | 1,452            |
| Warranty  | (170)  | 5   |                                | (165)            |
| Other long-term obligations   | (470)  |   |                                | (470)            |
| Intercompany transactions, net  | (2,415)  | 2,415                                     |                                |                  |
| Other, net  | (3,770)  | 2   |                                | (3,768)          |
| <b>Cash provided by operating activities</b>                                      | <b>35,411</b>  | <b>1,981</b>                              |                                | <b>37,392</b>    |
| <b>Investing activities</b>   |  |   |                                |                  |
| Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment                                     | (5,956)  | (295)                                     |                                | (6,251)          |
| Proceeds from the sale of an investment in affiliate                              | 1,000  |   |                                | 1,000            |
| Intercompany notes, net   | (1,586)  |   | 1,586                          |                  |
| Other, net  | (2,014)  | (105)                                     | 1,414                          | (705)            |
| <b>Cash used by investing activities</b>  | <b>(8,556)</b>   | <b>(400)</b>                              | <b>3,000</b>                   | <b>(5,956)</b>   |
| <b>Financing activities</b>   |  |   |                                |                  |
| Payments on debt  | (34,676)   | (209)                                     |                                | (34,885)         |
| Issuance of common stock  | 7,606  |   | (1,414)                        | 6,192            |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation                                 | 4,280  |   |                                | 4,280            |
| Intercompany notes payable  |  | 48  | (48)                           |                  |
| Cash received from parent   |  | 1,538                                     | (1,538)                        |                  |
| <b>Cash provided (used) by financing activities</b>                               | <b>(22,790)</b>  | <b>1,377</b>                              | <b>(3,000)</b>                 | <b>(24,413)</b>  |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents   | 4,065  | 2,958                                     |                                | 7,023            |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                                  | 28,064   | 5,574                                     |                                | 33,638           |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>                                 | <b>\$ 32,129</b>                                       | <b>\$ 8,532</b>                           | <b>\$</b>                      | <b>\$ 40,661</b> |

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

*Non-cash operating and financing transactions:*

|  |          |        |          |
|--|----------|--------|----------|
| Property, plant and equipment purchased but not yet paid | \$ 2,381 | \$ 150 | \$ 2,531 |
|--|----------|--------|----------|

*Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:*

Cash paid during the period for:

|              |       |       |        |
|--------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Income taxes | \$ 68 | \$ 40 | \$ 108 |
| Interest     | 315   | 60    | 375    |

**Table of Contents****Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows****Three Months Ended March 31, 2005**

|   | Combined<br>Parent<br>and<br>Guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Combined<br>Non-guarantor<br>Subsidiaries | Eliminations<br>(in thousands) | Consolidated |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Operating activities</b>   |  |   |                                |              |
| Net income  | \$ 817   | \$ 205                                    | \$ (205)                       | \$ 817       |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |  |   |                                |              |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 12,775   | 205                                       |                                | 12,980       |
| Employee stock plans income tax benefits  | 1,129  |   |                                | 1,129        |
| Stock-based compensation  | 149  |   |                                | 149          |
| Amortization of prepaid debt fees   | 710  |   |                                | 710          |
| Deferred income tax provision (benefit)   | (1,778)  | 160                                       |                                | (1,618)      |
| Realized currency translation gains   | (195)  |   |                                | (195)        |
| Equity in earnings (losses) of guarantor and non-guarantor subsidiaries           | (205)  |   | 205                            |              |
| Other, net  | (160)  | (63)                                      |                                | (223)        |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:                 |  |   |                                |              |
| Accounts receivable   | 13,938   | 2,258                                     |                                | 16,196       |
| Inventories   | 3,176  | (538)                                     |                                | 2,638        |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses   | (4,275)  | (688)                                     |                                | (4,963)      |
| Wages and benefits payable  | 1,911  | (345)                                     |                                | 1,566        |
| Unearned revenue  | (2,717)  | (348)                                     |                                | (3,065)      |
| Warranty  | (117)  | (171)                                     |                                | (288)        |
| Other long-term obligations   | (200)  |   |                                | (200)        |
| Intercompany transactions, net  | 315  | (315)                                     |                                |              |
| Other, net  | (1,835)  | (60)                                      |                                | (1,895)      |
| Cash provided by operating activities   | 23,438   | 300                                       |                                | 23,738       |
| <b>Investing activities</b>   |  |   |                                |              |
| Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment                                     | (1,698)  | (22)                                      |                                | (1,720)      |
| Business acquisitions, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired                  | 33   |   |                                | 33           |
| Cash transferred to parent  |  | 1,000                                     | (1,000)                        |              |
| Cash transferred to non-guarantor subsidiaries                                    | 849  |   | (849)                          |              |
| Intercompany notes, net   | 1,638  |   | (1,638)                        |              |
| Other, net  | (58)   | 144                                       |                                | 86           |
| Cash provided (used) by investing activities                                      | 764  | 1,122                                     | (3,487)                        | (1,601)      |
| <b>Financing activities</b>   |  |   |                                |              |
| Payments on debt  | (20,463)   | (194)                                     |                                | (20,657)     |
| Issuance of common stock  | 2,609  |   |                                | 2,609        |
| Prepaid debt fees   | (73)   |   |                                | (73)         |
| Intercompany notes, net   |  | (1,638)                                   | 1,638                          |              |
| Cash received from non-guarantor subsidiaries                                     | (1,000)  |   | 1,000                          |              |
| Cash received from parent   |  | (849)                                     | 849                            |              |
| Other, net  | (40)   | 28  |                                | (12)         |
| Cash used by financing activities   | (18,967)   | (2,653)                                   | 3,487                          | (18,133)     |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                                  | 5,235  | (1,231)                                   |                                | 4,004        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                                  | 5,854  | 5,770                                     |                                | 11,624       |

Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

|  |           |          |    |           |
|--|-----------|----------|----|-----------|
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 11,089 | \$ 4,539 | \$ | \$ 15,628 |
|--|-----------|----------|----|-----------|

*Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:*

Cash paid during the period for:

|              |        |        |    |        |
|--------------|--------|--------|----|--------|
| Income taxes | \$ 321 | \$ 115 | \$ | \$ 436 |
| Interest     | 1,871  | 75     |    | 1,946  |

**Table of Contents**

**Note 16: Subsequent Events**

In March 2006, we signed an agreement to acquire an energy consulting firm, Quantum Consulting Inc., for an initial cash payment of \$4.0 million, less a working capital adjustment, with additional payments of up to \$2.0 million if certain future performance and employee retention targets are met over the next three years. The acquisition closed on April 1, 2006, expanding our consulting services related to energy efficiency, planning design and market research in our Software Solutions segment.

During April 2006, we signed an agreement to acquire ELO Sistemas e Tecnologia Ltda. ( ELO ) for an initial cash payment of approximately \$2.1 million, less a working capital adjustment, and approximately \$6.0 million in additional payments if certain performance targets are achieved over the next five years. The acquisition is expected to close in May 2006. Operations will reside in Campinas, Brazil, a suburb of São Paulo, with approximately 80 employees performing sales, manufacturing, assembly, field investigations and administrative functions related to meters and AMR equipment and related systems in South America. In addition, shortly after closing, we expect to invest approximately \$2.0 million in capital improvements to expand meter manufacturing and assembly capabilities in Brazil.

We will include the operations of these acquisitions in our Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations and Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets commencing on the closing date of each acquisition.

During April of 2006, we repaid our project financing loan, which included \$3.0 million in principal and \$107,000 in prepayment fees, and our real estate term note, which included a scheduled payment of \$740,000 and a remaining balance of \$4.1 million.

---

## **Table of Contents**

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

In this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, the terms we, us, our, Itron and the Company refer to Itron, Inc.

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes included in this report, and with our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on February 24, 2006.

Our SEC filings are available free of charge under the Investor Relations section of our website at [www.itron.com](http://www.itron.com) as soon as practicable after they are filed with or furnished to the SEC. In addition, our filings are available at the SEC's website ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)) and at the SEC's Headquarters at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, or by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

### **Certain Forward-Looking Statements**

*This document contains forward-looking statements concerning our operations, financial performance, revenues, earnings growth, estimated stock-based compensation expense, cost reduction programs and other items. These statements reflect our current plans and expectations and are based on information currently available as of the date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. When included in this discussion, the words expects, intends, anticipates, believes, plans, projects, estimates, future, objective, may, will, will continue and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. However, these words are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. In addition, any statements that refer to expectations, projections or other characterizations of future events or circumstances are forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements rely on a number of assumptions and estimates, which could be inaccurate, and which are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to vary materially from those anticipated. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, 1) the rate and timing of customer demand for our products, 2) delays, rescheduling or cancellations of current customer orders, 3) changes in estimated liabilities for product warranties, 4) changes in laws and regulations (including Federal Communications Commission (FCC) licensing actions), 5) our dependence on new product development and intellectual property, 6) future acquisitions, including potential disruptions in operations associated with integration activities and performance expectations and 7) other factors. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. We do not have any obligation or undertaking to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statement contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based. For a more complete description of these and other risks, see Risk Factors within Item 1A included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, which was filed with the SEC on February 24, 2006.*

### **Results of Operations**

We derive the majority of our revenues from sales of products and services to utilities. Sales revenues may include hardware, software licenses, custom software development, field and project management services and engineering, consulting and installation services. Service revenues include post-sale maintenance support and outsourcing services. Outsourcing services encompass installation, operation and maintenance of meter reading systems to provide meter information to a customer for billing and management purposes for systems we own as well as those owned by our customers. Hardware cost of sales are based on standard costs, which include materials, direct labor, warranty expense and an overhead allocation, as well as variances from standard costs. Software cost of sales include distribution and documentation costs for applications sold, along with other labor and operating costs for custom software development, project management, consulting and systems support. Hardware and software cost of services include materials, labor and overhead.

### **Highlights**

New orders increased to \$206 million in the first quarter of 2006, compared with \$117 million in the first quarter of 2005, driven primarily by new orders for automatic meter reading (AMR), in particular two large orders for gas AMR and one large order for electricity meters with AMR. Total backlog was \$387 million at March 31, 2006, compared with \$190 million at March 31, 2005. Backlog shippable over the next twelve months was \$241 million, up from \$116 million a year ago. Approximately \$64 million of shippable and total backlog at March 31, 2006 is related to a contract with one customer, Progress Energy. The majority of revenue under this contract is expected to be recognized in the second and third quarters of 2006.

Operating margins improved during the quarter compared with the first quarter of last year as revenue growth was much higher than growth in operating expenses. Due to strong operating cash flows, we repaid \$34.7 million of variable rate debt during the first quarter of 2006. At March 31, 2006, total debt remaining was \$132.1 million, compared with \$257.6 million at March 31, 2005.



**Table of Contents**

On January 1, 2006, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*, (SFAS 123(R)), which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all stock-based payment awards. We recognized \$2.1 million in stock-based compensation expense during the first quarter of 2006, compared with \$149,000 for the same period in 2005. The primary increase in stock-based compensation expense under SFAS 123(R) is due to the expensing of stock options.

**Revenues and Gross Margins**

*Total Revenues and Gross Margins*

The following tables summarize our revenues, gross profit and gross margin for the three months ended March 31, 2005 and 2006.

*Revenues*

Sales revenues increased \$39 million in the first quarter of 2006, compared with the first quarter of 2005, as a result of increased hardware sales, including electricity meters, AMR gas modules and installation. Service revenues, consisting primarily of maintenance contracts, remained constant quarter to quarter.

**Table of Contents**

One customer, Progress Energy, represented 22% of total revenues in the first quarter of 2006. No customer represented more than 10% of total revenues in the first quarter of 2005. The 10 largest customers accounted for approximately 44% of total revenues during the first quarter of 2006, compared with approximately 24% during the same period in 2005.

*Gross Margins*

As a percentage of revenue, sales gross margin for the first quarter in 2006 remained constant, compared with the same period in 2005, although we experienced a shift in product mix. Service gross margin decreased four percentage points in the first quarter of 2006, compared with the same period in 2005, primarily due to higher product support costs.

**Segment Revenues, Gross Profit and Margin and Operating Income (Loss)**

We have two operating groups (Hardware Solutions and Software Solutions) and three operating segments. Software Solutions is a single segment and Hardware Solutions is comprised of two segments, Meter Data Collection and Electricity Metering. For these three operating segments, management has three primary measures of segment performance: revenue, gross profit (margin) and operating income. Revenues for each operating segment are reported according to product lines. There are no inter-operating segment revenues. Within Hardware Solutions, cost of sales are based on standard costs, which include materials, direct labor, warranty expense and an overhead allocation, as well as variances from standard costs. Software Solutions cost of sales include distribution and documentation costs for applications sold, along with other labor and operating costs for custom software development, project management, consulting and systems support. Hardware and software cost of services include materials, labor and overhead. Operating expenses directly associated with each operating segment may include sales, marketing, product development or administrative expenses.

Corporate operating expenses, interest income, interest expense, other income (expense), amortization expense and income tax expense (benefit) are not allocated to the operating segments, nor included in the measure of segment profit or loss. We do not allocate assets and liabilities to our operating segments. Prior to January 1, 2006, Itron Electricity Metering, Inc., or Electricity Metering, was a wholly owned subsidiary with separately identifiable assets and liabilities. Effective January 1, 2006, Electricity Metering merged with Itron, Inc. Approximately 50% and 60% of depreciation expense was allocated to the operating segments at March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, with the remaining portion unallocated. The depreciation allocated to the operating segments decreased compared with prior year due to the purchase of our new corporate headquarters facility at the end of 2005, which is not allocated to the operating segments.

We classify sales in the United States and Canada as domestic revenues. International revenues were \$5.2 million and \$8.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. International revenues can fluctuate from period to period due to the timing of sales.

**Operating Segment Products****Operating Segment**

*Hardware Solutions* *Meter Data Collection:*

*Hardware Solutions* *Electricity Metering:*

*Software Solutions:*

**Major Products**

Residential and commercial AMR standalone and OEM (original equipment manufacturer) modules, contract manufacturing and royalties for our AMR technology in other vendors' electricity meters, mobile and network AMR data collection technologies, handheld computers for meter data collection or mobile workforce applications and related installation and implementation and maintenance support services.

Residential, commercial and industrial (C&I) and generation, transmission and distribution (GT&D) electricity meters and related installation and implementation services.

Software applications for commercial, industrial and residential meter data collection and management, distribution system design and optimization, energy and water management, asset optimization, mobile workforce solutions, forecasting and related implementation consulting and maintenance support services.

AMR related to electricity meters can be reflected in either our Meter Data Collection or Electricity Metering segments. Included in Meter Data Collection are standalone electric AMR modules we manufacture that are attached to electromechanical electricity meters manufactured by others, AMR circuit boards we manufacture that are embedded in other vendors' electronic electricity meters and royalties for licensing our electric AMR technology. Included in Electricity Metering are our electronic meters with our embedded AMR technology as well as some contract manufacturing for incorporating other vendors' AMR technology into our electronic meters.



**Table of Contents**

The following tables and discussion highlight significant changes in trends or components of each segment.

|                          | Three Months Ended March 31, |          |          |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------|
|                          | 2006                         | 2005     | % Change |
| (in millions)            |                              |          |          |
| <b>Segment Revenues</b>  |                              |          |          |
| Hardware Solutions       |                              |          |          |
| Meter Data Collection    | \$ 61.8                      | \$ 49.7  | 24%      |
| Electricity Metering     | 80.4                         | 54.1     | 49%      |
| Total Hardware Solutions | 142.2                        | 103.8    | 37%      |
| Software Solutions       | 13.4                         | 12.7     | 6%       |
| Total Company            | \$ 155.6                     | \$ 116.5 | 34%      |

|  | Three Months Ended March 31, |              |              |              |
|--|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | 2006                         |              | 2005         |              |
|  | Gross Profit                 | Gross Margin | Gross Profit | Gross Margin |
| (in millions)                          |                              |              |              |              |
| <b>Segment Gross Profit and Margin</b> |                              |              |              |              |
| Hardware Solutions                     |                              |              |              |              |
| Meter Data Collection                  | \$ 28.7                      | 46%          | \$ 21.0      | 42%          |
| Electricity Metering                   | 31.9                         | 40%          | 24.3         | 45%          |
| Total Hardware Solutions               | 60.6                         | 43%          | 45.3         | 44%          |
| Software Solutions                     | 6.2                          | 46%          | 5.7          | 45%          |
| Total Company                          | \$ 66.8                      | 43%          | \$ 51.0      | 44%          |

|   | Three Months Ended March 31, |                  |                         |                  |
|---|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
|   | 2006                         |                  | 2005                    |                  |
|   | Operating Income (Loss)      | Operating Margin | Operating Income (Loss) | Operating Margin |
| (in millions)   |                              |                  |                         |                  |
| <b>Segment Operating Income (Loss) and Operating Margin</b> |                              |                  |                         |                  |
| Hardware Solutions  |                              |                  |                         |                  |
| Meter Data Collection                                       | \$ 23.1                      | 37%              | \$ 16.0                 | 32%              |
| Electricity Metering  | 28.6                         | 36%              | 19.9                    | 37%              |
| Other unallocated costs                                     | (8.7)                        |                  | (6.0)                   |                  |
| Total Hardware Solutions                                    | 43.0                         | 30%              | 29.9                    | 29%              |
| Software Solutions  | (2.5)                        | -19%             | (2.6)                   | -20%             |
| Corporate unallocated                                       | (21.5)                       |                  | (21.5)                  |                  |
| Total Company   | \$ 19.0                      | 12%              | \$ 5.8                  | 5%               |

**Table of Contents**

|   | Three Months Ended March 31, |       |
|---|------------------------------|-------|
|   | 2006                         | 2005  |
|   | (in thousands)               |       |
| <b>Unit Shipments by Segment</b>          |                              |       |
| Meter Data Collection                     |                              |       |
| AMR standalone modules                    | 1,075                        | 775   |
| Licensed AMR (other vendors' meters)      | 125                          | 175   |
| Electricity Metering                      |                              |       |
| Total meters                              | 1,725                        | 1,050 |
| With Itron AMR                            | 1,200                        | 375   |
| With other AMR                            | 150                          | 200   |
| Total units with Itron AMR <sup>(1)</sup> | 2,400                        | 1,325 |

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes Itron AMR standalone modules, Itron meters with Itron AMR and other vendors' electronic electricity meters with Itron AMR. *Hardware Solutions Meter Data Collection:* Meter Data Collection revenues increased \$12.1 million, or 24%, in the first quarter of 2006, compared with the same period in 2005, due to increased shipments of standalone gas AMR modules. This increase in shipments of gas modules also accounted for the four percentage point increase in gross margin for the first quarter of 2006. Standalone AMR module shipments (electricity, gas and water) were approximately 1.1 million in the first quarter of 2006, compared with 775,000 in the first quarter of 2005, an increase of 39%.

Piedmont Natural Gas represented 12% of Meter Data Collection revenues in the first quarter of 2006. There were no customers that represented more than 10% of Meter Data Collection revenues in the first quarter of 2005.

*Hardware Solutions Electricity Metering:* Electricity Metering revenues increased \$26.3 million in the first quarter of 2006, compared with the same period in 2005, due to a 64% increase in the number of meters shipped. The growth in meter shipments in the first quarter of 2006 was primarily related to shipments under a contract with Progress Energy for 2.7 million residential meters with AMR, which was signed in the third quarter of 2005.

We shipped approximately 1.7 million electricity meters in the first quarter of 2006, of which 70% were equipped with our AMR technology. In the first quarter of 2005, we shipped 1.1 million electricity meters, of which 36% were equipped with our AMR technology.

Electricity Metering gross margin was 40% for the first quarter of 2006, compared with 45% for the first quarter of 2005. Most of the decrease in gross margin was the result of lower margin meter installation revenues associated with the Progress Energy contract and a \$1.2 million warranty charge associated with a different customer. Although we also saw declines in average selling prices, these were offset by lower costs primarily due to higher volumes.

Progress Energy represented 42% of Electricity Metering revenues in the first quarter of 2006. There were no customers that represented more than 10% of Electricity Metering revenues in the first quarter of 2005.

*Hardware Solutions Total operating expenses:* Total Hardware Solutions operating expenses were \$17.6 million in the first quarter of 2006, compared with \$15.4 million for the same period in 2005, and were 12% and 15% of total Hardware Solutions revenues in the respective periods.

*Software Solutions:* Revenues increased \$700,000, or 6%, in the first quarter of 2006, compared with the same period in 2005, due to increases in software license sales for a broad mix of products. Gross margin for the three months ended March 31, 2006 increased one percentage point, compared with the same period in 2005, due to a proportionately higher content of revenues from software licenses. Software licenses were 25% of segment revenues in the first quarter of 2006, compared with 21% for the same period in 2005.

There were no customers that represented more than 10% of Software Solutions revenues in the first quarter of 2006 and 2005.

Gross profit for Software Solutions is not yet sufficient to cover current operating expenses due primarily to significant investments in product development. Software Solutions operating expenses increased \$400,000, or 5%, for the three months ended March 31, 2006, compared with the same period in 2005. As a percentage of revenue, these costs were 65% in both periods.



**Table of Contents**

*Corporate unallocated:* Operating expenses not directly associated with an operating segment are classified as Corporate unallocated. The largest single component of these is amortization of intangible assets, which was \$7.3 million in the first quarter of 2006 compared with \$9.7 million in the first quarter of 2005.

**New Order Bookings and Backlog**

Some of our sales are made pursuant to annual or multi-year contracts, which are subject to rescheduling and cancellation by customers due to the long-term nature of the contracts, as well as follow-on or add-on orders with existing customers. Bookings for a reported period represent contracts and purchase orders received during a specified period. Total backlog represents committed but undelivered contracts and purchase orders. Twelve-month backlog represents the portion of total backlog that we estimate will be earned over the next twelve months. Bookings and backlog exclude maintenance-related activity. Backlog is not a complete measure of our future business as we have a significant portion of our business that is book-and-ship. Bookings and backlog can fluctuate significantly due to the timing of large project awards. Beginning total backlog, plus bookings, less sales revenues will not always equal ending total backlog due to miscellaneous contract adjustments and other factors.

Information on new orders during the quarter and backlog at quarter-end is summarized as follows:

| Quarter Ended      | Total Bookings | Total Backlog<br>(in millions) | 12-Month |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------|
|                    |                |                                | Backlog  |
| March 31, 2006     | \$ 206         | \$ 387                         | \$ 241   |
| December 31, 2005  | 149            | 324                            | 188      |
| September 30, 2005 | 212            | 325                            | 198      |
| June 30, 2005      | 177            | 243                            | 151      |
| March 31, 2005     | 117            | 190                            | 116      |
| December 31, 2004  | 128            | 179                            | 97       |
| September 30, 2004 | 98             | 177                            | 104      |
| June 30, 2004      | 66             | 153                            | 76       |

**Operating Expenses**

The following table details our total operating expenses in dollars and as a percentage of revenues.

|                                    | 2006<br>(in millions) | Three Months Ended March 31, |                       | % of<br>Revenue |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
|                                    |                       | % of<br>Revenue              | 2005<br>(in millions) |                 |
| <i>Operating Expenses</i>          |                       |                              |                       |                 |
| Sales and marketing                | \$ 15.5               | 10%                          | \$ 13.2               | 11%             |
| Product development                | 12.9                  | 8%                           | 11.9                  | 10%             |
| General and administrative         | 12.1                  | 8%                           | 10.0                  | 9%              |
| Amortization of intangibles assets | 7.3                   | 5%                           | 9.7                   | 9%              |
| Restructurings                     |                       |                              | 0.4                   |                 |
| Total operating expenses           | \$ 47.8               | 31%                          | \$ 45.2               | 39%             |

Operating expenses in 2006 included approximately \$1.8 million associated with our January 1, 2006 adoption of SFAS 123(R), which requires expensing of stock-based compensation. Operating expenses decreased as a percentage of revenue due to higher sales volumes.

**Table of Contents****Other Income (Expense)**

The following table shows the components of other income (expense).

|                                     | Three Months Ended March 31, |                   |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                     | 2006                         | 2005              |
|                                     | (in thousands)               |                   |
| Interest income                     | \$ 362                       | \$ 4              |
| Interest expense                    | (2,970)                      | (3,853)           |
| Amortization of debt issuance costs | (2,776)                      | (714)             |
| Other income (expense), net         | (448)                        | 101               |
| <b>Total other income (expense)</b> | <b>\$ (5,832)</b>            | <b>\$ (4,462)</b> |

Interest income consists primarily of interest earned from operating cash balances. Our average operating cash balances were \$45.0 million and \$14.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

The reduction in interest expense is the result of lower outstanding borrowings. Our weighted average of outstanding borrowings was \$154.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006, compared with \$269.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2005. Amortization of debt issuance costs increased in the first quarter of 2006, compared with the first quarter of 2005, as a result of voluntary prepayments of our senior secured term loan.

Other income (expense) consists primarily of foreign currency gains and losses, which can vary from period to period, as well as other non-operating events or transactions. For the three months ended March 31 2006, other income (expense) consisted primarily of foreign currency fluctuation losses and a \$242,000 loss on the sale of our investment in Servatron. For the three months ended March 31, 2005, other income (expense) consisted primarily of foreign currency fluctuations.

**Income Taxes**

We estimate our 2006 annual effective income tax rate will be approximately 44% while our effective income tax rate was 46% for the three months ended March 31, 2006. Our effective income tax rates differ from the federal statutory rate of 35% and can vary from period to period due to fluctuations in operating results, new or revised tax legislation and accounting pronouncements, research credits and state income taxes. Both the first quarter and estimated annual 2006 effective rates are higher than the statutory rate due to the implementation of SFAS 123(R) and the expiration of a federal research credit on December 31, 2005. An extension of the credit through December 31, 2006 is expected to be approved by Congress, which would reduce our annual effective tax rate.

Our effective income tax rate of 38% for the three months ended March 31, 2005 was higher than the full year 2005 effective income tax rate of 34% as a result of changes in estimated taxes due in future periods, partially offset by tax credit adjustments.

As a matter of course, we are subject to audit by various taxing authorities. From time to time, these audits may result in proposed assessments where the ultimate resolution may result in additional taxes. We regularly assess our position with regard to individual tax exposures and we believe that our tax positions comply with applicable tax law and that we have adequately provided for these matters.

**Table of Contents****Financial Condition***Cash Flow Information:*

|                                       | Three Months Ended March 31, |         |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
|                                       | 2006                         | 2005    |
|                                       | (in millions)                |         |
| Operating activities                  | \$ 37.4                      | \$ 23.7 |
| Investing activities                  | (6.0)                        | (1.6)   |
| Financing activities                  | (24.4)                       | (18.1)  |
| <br>                                  |                              |         |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents | \$ 7.0                       | \$ 4.0  |

*Operating activities:* Cash provided by operating activities increased \$13.7 million in the first quarter of 2006, compared with the same period in 2005. Increased revenues generated an additional \$48.2 million in cash, which was offset by an increase of \$36.8 million in cash paid to suppliers and employees. In addition, we paid \$2.3 million less in net interest and taxes. Operating activities in the first quarter of 2006 were reduced by \$4.3 million for excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation associated with our January 1, 2006 adoption of SFAS 123(R). These excess tax benefits are reflected in financing activities.

*Investing activities:* Property, plant and equipment purchases of \$6.3 million in the first quarter of 2006 were higher than the \$1.7 million for the first quarter of 2005 due primarily to the ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) system upgrade.

*Financing activities:* We made \$24.7 million in optional prepayments on our term loan in the first quarter of 2006, completing the repayment of that loan. We also made an optional prepayment of \$10.0 million on our real estate term note. In the first quarter of 2005, we made \$20.0 million of optional repayments and \$463,000 in minimum mandatory repayments on our term loan. Cash generated from the exercise of stock-based awards was \$6.2 million during the first quarter of 2006, compared with \$2.6 million for the same period in 2005. Financing activities in the first quarter of 2006 included \$4.3 million in excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation associated with our January 1, 2006 adoption of SFAS 123(R).

We had no off-balance sheet financing agreements at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, except for operating lease commitments.

*Liquidity, Sources and Uses of Capital:*

We have historically funded our operations and growth with cash flow from operations, borrowings and issuances of our stock. At March 31, 2006, we had \$40.7 million in cash and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents historically have been invested in investments rated A or better by Standard & Poor's or Moody's. We are exposed to changes in interest rates on cash equivalents.

We completed the repayment of the remaining balance of \$24.7 million on our original \$185 million seven-year senior secured term loan (term loan) during the first quarter of 2006. The term loan was part of our senior secured credit facility (credit facility), which originated on July 1, 2004 to finance the acquisition of our Electricity Metering business. The credit facility also includes a \$55 million five-year senior secured revolving credit line (revolver). We have the ability to increase the revolver to \$75 million at a future date, as defined in the 2005 amendment. Our letter of credit limit under the credit facility is \$55 million and can be increased to \$65 million at a future date. The credit facility is guaranteed by all of our operating subsidiaries (except for our foreign subsidiaries and an outsourcing project finance subsidiary), all of which are wholly owned. The debt issue costs for this facility, as well as the unamortized debt issue costs from a prior facility, are being amortized over the life of the credit facility using the effective interest method.

At March 31, 2006, there were no borrowings outstanding under the revolver and \$22.6 million was utilized by outstanding standby letters of credit resulting in \$32.4 million available for additional borrowings. Unamortized debt issuance costs were approximately \$6.1 million and \$8.9 million at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. Revolver borrowings can be made at any time through June 2009, at which time any borrowings outstanding must be repaid. We were in compliance with all of our debt covenants at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005. Our debt covenants require us to maintain certain consolidated leverage and coverage ratios on a quarterly basis, as well as customary covenants that place restrictions on the incurrence of debt, the payment of dividends, certain investments and mergers.

## Edgar Filing: ITRON INC /WA/ - Form 10-Q

Interest rates on the revolver vary depending on our consolidated leverage ratio and are based on the London InterBank Offering Rate (LIBOR) plus 2.0% to 3.0%, or Prime plus 1.0% to 2.0%, payable at various intervals depending on the term

**Table of Contents**

of the borrowing. The annual commitment fee on the unused portion of the revolver varies from 0.375% to 0.50%. We incur annual letter of credit fees based on (a) a fronting fee of 0.125% and (b) a letter of credit fee that varies from 2.0% to 3.0%.

On December 30, 2005, we signed a real estate term note (real estate note) for \$14.8 million, secured by real property, with principal payments of \$740,000, plus interest, payable quarterly, commencing April 1, 2006 and continuing through January 1, 2011. During the first quarter of 2006, we made an optional prepayment of \$10.0 million on the real estate note. During April 2006, we completed the repayment of the real estate note.

Our senior subordinated notes consist of \$125 million aggregate principal amount of 7.75% notes, issued in May 2004 and due in 2012. The notes were discounted to a price of 99.265 to yield 7.875%, with a balance of \$124.3 million at March 31, 2006. The notes are registered with the SEC and are generally transferable. The discount on the notes will be accreted and the debt issuance costs are being amortized over the life of the notes. Fixed interest payments of approximately \$4.8 million are required every six months, in May and November. The notes are subordinated to our credit facility and are guaranteed by all of our operating subsidiaries (except for our foreign subsidiaries and an outsourcing project finance subsidiary), all of which are wholly owned. The notes contain covenants, which place restrictions on the incurrence of debt, the payment of dividends, certain investments and mergers. Some or all of the notes may be redeemed at our option at any time on or after May 15, 2008, at their principal amount plus a specified premium. At any time prior to May 15, 2007, we may, at our option, redeem up to 35% of the notes, at 107.75%, with the proceeds of certain sales of our common stock.

In May 1998, in conjunction with project financing for one of our outsourcing contracts, we issued a note secured by the assets of the project with monthly interest payments at an annual interest rate of 7.6%, maturing May 31, 2009. The project financing loan had an outstanding balance of \$3.0 million at March 31, 2006. During April 2006, we repaid the balance of the project financing loan, which included \$107,000 in prepayment fees.

We maintain bid and performance bonds for certain customers. Bonds in force were \$2.6 million and \$3.0 million at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. Bid bonds guarantee that we will enter into a contract consistent with the terms of the bid. Performance bonds provide a guarantee to the customer for future performance, which usually covers the installation phase of a contract and may on occasion cover the operations and maintenance phase of outsourcing contracts.

We have employee bonus and profit sharing plans, based on performance and financial targets. Actual award amounts are determined at the end of the year if the targets are met. As the bonuses are being earned during the year, we estimate a compensation accrual each quarter based on the progress towards achieving the goals, the estimated financial forecast for the year and the probability of achieving various results. An accrual is recorded if management deems it probable that a target will be achieved and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Although we monitor our annual forecast and the progress towards achievement of goals, the actual results at the end of the year may warrant a bonus award that is significantly greater or less than the assessments made in earlier quarters. We accrued approximately \$2.5 million and \$1.3 million under these plans for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Our net deferred tax assets consist of accumulated net operating losses and tax credits, some of which are limited by Internal Revenue Code Sections 382 and 383 (Section 382 and Section 383). The limited deferred tax assets resulted primarily from acquisitions. We expect to utilize tax loss carryforwards and available tax credits to offset taxes otherwise due on regular taxable income in upcoming years. During 2006, we expect to pay approximately \$3.7 million in cash for federal alternative minimum tax, international taxes and various state tax obligations.

Working capital at March 31, 2006 was \$120.0 million compared with \$116.1 million at December 31, 2005. The increase of \$3.9 million in working capital resulted from an \$8.5 million reclassification of our Spokane Valley headquarters facility to assets held for sale within other current assets in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at March 31, 2006, partially offset by the change in operating accounts.

We expect to continue to expand our operations and grow our business through a combination of internal new product development, licensing technology from or to others, distribution agreements, partnership arrangements and acquisitions of technology or other companies. We expect these activities to be funded with existing cash, cash flow from operations, borrowings and the issuance of common stock or other securities. We believe existing sources of liquidity will be sufficient to fund our existing operations and obligations for at least the next year and foreseeable future, but offer no assurances. Our liquidity could be affected by the stability of the energy and water industries, competitive pressures, international risks, intellectual property claims and other factors described under Risk Factors within Item 1A to Part 1 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission February 24, 2006, as well as in our Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk within Item 3 of Part 1 included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.



---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Contingencies**

We are subject to various legal proceedings and claims of which the outcomes are subject to significant uncertainty. Our policy is to assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to legal matters, as well as ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of the liability required, if any, for these contingencies is made after an analysis of each known issue in accordance with SFAS 5, *Accounting for Contingencies*, and related pronouncements. In accordance with SFAS 5, a liability is recorded when we determine that a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Additionally, we disclose contingencies for which a material loss is reasonably possible, but not probable. At March 31, 2006, there were no material contingencies requiring accrual or disclosure.

We generally provide an indemnification related to the infringement of any patent, copyright, trademark or other intellectual property right on software or equipment within our sales contracts, which indemnifies the customer from and pays the resulting costs, damages and attorney's fees awarded against a customer with respect to such a claim provided that (a) the customer promptly notifies us in writing of the claim and (b) we have the sole control of the defense and all related settlement negotiations. The terms of the indemnification normally do not limit the maximum potential future payments. We also provide an indemnification for third party claims resulting from damages caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of our employees/agents in connection with the performance of certain contracts. The terms of the indemnification generally do not limit the maximum potential payments.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

*Revenue Recognition:* The majority of our revenues are recognized when products are shipped to or received by a customer or when services are provided. We have certain customer arrangements with multiple elements. For such arrangements, we determine the estimated fair value of each element and then allocate the total arrangement consideration among the separate elements based on the relative fair value percentages. Revenues for each element are then recognized based on the type of element, such as 1) when the products are shipped, 2) services are delivered, 3) percentage of completion when implementation services are essential to the software performance, 4) upon customer acceptance provisions or 5) transfer of title. Fair values represent the estimated price charged when an item is sold separately. We review our fair values on an annual basis or more frequently if a significant trend is noted. Under outsourcing arrangements, revenue is recognized as services are provided. Hardware and software post-sale maintenance support fees are recognized ratably over the performance period. Certain consulting services are recognized as services are performed. Revenue can vary significantly from period to period based on the timing of orders and the application of revenue recognition criteria. Use of the percentage of completion method for revenue recognition requires estimating the cost to complete a project. The estimation of costs through completion of a project is subject to many variables such as the length of time to complete, changes in wages, subcontractor performance, supplier information and business volume assumptions. Changes in underlying assumptions/estimates may adversely or positively affect financial performance.

Unearned revenue is recorded for products or services when the criteria for revenue recognition have not been met. The majority of unearned revenue relates to annual billing terms for post-sale maintenance and support agreements.

*Warranty:* We offer industry standard warranties on our hardware products and large application software products. Standard warranty accruals represent the estimated cost of projected warranty claims and are based on historical and projected product performance trends, business volume assumptions, supplier information and other business and economic projections. Thorough testing of new products in the development stage helps identify and correct potential warranty issues prior to manufacturing. Continuing quality control efforts during manufacturing limit our exposure to warranty claims. If our quality control efforts fail to detect a fault in one of our products, we could experience an increase in warranty claims. We track warranty claims to identify potential warranty trends. If an unusual trend is noted, an additional warranty accrual may be assessed and recorded when a failure event is probable and the cost can be reasonably estimated. Management continually evaluates the sufficiency of the warranty provisions and makes adjustments when necessary. The warranty allowances may fluctuate due to changes in estimates for material, labor and other costs we may incur to replace projected product failures, and we may incur additional warranty and related expenses in the future with respect to new or established products.

*Inventories:* Items are removed from inventory using the first-in, first-out method. Inventories include raw materials, sub-assemblies and finished goods. Inventory amounts include the cost to manufacture the item, such as the cost of raw materials, labor and other applied direct and indirect costs. We also review idle facility expense, freight, handling costs and wasted materials to determine if abnormal amounts should be recognized as current-period charges. We review our inventory for obsolescence and marketability. If the estimated market value, which is based upon assumptions about future demand and market conditions, falls below the original cost, the inventory value is reduced to the market value. If technology rapidly changes or actual market conditions are less favorable than those projected by management, inventory write-downs may be required.



**Table of Contents**

*Goodwill and Intangible Assets:* Goodwill and intangible assets result from our acquisitions. We use estimates in determining the value of goodwill and intangible assets, including estimates of useful lives of intangible assets, discounted future cash flows and fair values of the related operations. We test goodwill for impairment each year as of October 1, under the guidance of SFAS 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*. We forecast discounted future cash flows at the reporting unit level, which consists of our operating segments, based on estimated future revenues and operating costs, which take into consideration factors such as existing backlog, expected future orders, supplier contracts and general market conditions. Changes in our forecasts or cost of capital may result in asset value adjustments, which could have a significant affect on our current and future results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. Intangible assets with a finite life are amortized based on estimated discounted cash flows over estimated useful lives and are tested for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

*Stock-based Compensation:* As of January 1, 2006, we adopted SFAS 123(R), which requires us to measure compensation cost for stock-based awards at fair value and recognize compensation over the service period for awards expected to vest. The estimation of stock awards that will ultimately vest requires judgment, and to the extent actual results or updated estimates differ from our current estimates, such amounts will be recorded as a cumulative adjustment in the period estimates are revised. We use the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, which requires the input of assumptions, including the estimated length of time employees will retain their vested stock options before exercising them (expected term), the estimated volatility of the Company's common stock price over the expected term and the number of options that will ultimately not complete their vesting requirements (forfeitures). We consider many factors when estimating expected forfeitures, including types of awards, employee class and historical experience. Actual results, and future changes in estimates, may differ substantially from our current estimates.

*Deferred Income Taxes:* We estimate the expected realizable value of deferred tax assets. As of March 31, 2006, we have a valuation allowance of \$1.1 million to reduce our deferred tax assets relating to certain net operating losses and federal tax credits as we believe it is more likely than not that these assets will not be realized. We do not have a valuation allowance on any other deferred tax asset because we believe that the assets are more likely than not to be realized. While we have considered future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the appropriateness of a valuation allowance, in the event we were to determine that we would have a change in the realization of the net deferred tax asset in the future, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset or valuation allowance would be made.

*Compensation Plans:* We have compensation plans that offer a range of award amounts for the achievement of a various annual performance and financial targets. Actual award amounts will be determined at the end of the year if the performance and financial targets are met. As the bonuses are being earned during the year, we must estimate a compensation accrual each quarter based on the progress towards achieving the goals, the estimated financial forecast for the year and the probability of achieving various results. An accrual is recorded if management deems it probable that a target will be achieved and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Although we monitor our annual forecast and the progress towards achievement of goals, the actual results at the end of the year may warrant a bonus award that is significantly greater or less than the assessments made in earlier quarters.

*Legal Contingencies:* We are subject to various legal proceedings and claims of which the outcomes are subject to significant uncertainty. Our policy is to assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to legal matters, as well as ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of the liability required, if any, for these contingencies is made after an analysis of each known issue in accordance with SFAS 5, *Accounting for Contingencies*, and related pronouncements. In accordance with SFAS 5, a liability is recorded when we determine that a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Additionally, we disclose contingencies for which a material loss is reasonably possible, but less than probable.

**Subsequent Events**

In March 2006, we signed an agreement to acquire an energy consulting firm, Quantum Consulting Inc., for an initial cash payment of \$4.0 million, less a working capital adjustment, with additional payments of up to \$2.0 million if certain future performance and employee retention targets are met over the next three years. The acquisition closed on April 1, 2006, expanding our consulting services related to energy efficiency, planning design and market research in our Software Solutions segment.

During April 2006, we signed an agreement to acquire ELO Sistemas e Tecnologia Ltda. ( ELO ) for an initial cash payment of approximately \$2.1 million, less a working capital adjustment, and approximately \$6.0 million in additional payments based on expected performance targets achieved over the next five years. The acquisition is expected to close in May 2006. Operations will reside in Campinas, Brazil, a suburb of São Paulo, with approximately 80 employees performing sales, manufacturing, assembly, field investigations and administrative functions related to meters and AMR equipment and related systems in South America. In

**Table of Contents**

addition, shortly after closing, we expect to invest approximately \$2.0 million in capital improvements to expand meter manufacturing and assembly capabilities in Brazil.

We will include the operations of these acquisitions in our Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations and Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets commencing on the closing date of each acquisition.

During April of 2006, we repaid our project financing loan, which included \$3.0 million in principal and \$107,000 in prepayment fees, and our real estate term note, which included a scheduled payment of \$740,000 and a remaining balance of \$4.1 million.

**Table of Contents****Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

*Interest Rate Risk:* The table below provides information about our financial instruments that are sensitive to changes in interest rates. Weighted average variable rates in the table are based on implied forward rates in the LIBOR yield curve as of April 7, 2006 and our estimated ratio of funded debt to EBITDA, which determines our rate margin. The table below illustrates the scheduled minimum repayment of principal over the remaining lives of our debt at March 31, 2006.

|  | 2006          | 2007   | 2008   | 2009   | 2010 | Beyond 2010 |
|--|---------------|--------|--------|--------|------|-------------|
|  | (in millions) |        |        |        |      |             |
| <i>Fixed Rate Debt</i>                   |               |        |        |        |      |             |
| Project financing debt <sup>(1)</sup>    | \$ 0.7        | \$ 0.9 | \$ 1.0 | \$ 0.4 | \$   | \$          |
| Interest rate                            | 7.60%         | 7.60%  | 7.60%  | 7.60%  |      |             |
| Senior subordinated notes <sup>(2)</sup> | \$            | \$     | \$     | \$     | \$   | \$ 125.0    |
| Interest rate                            |               |        |        |        |      | 7.75%       |
| <i>Variable Rate Debt</i>                |               |        |        |        |      |             |
| Revolving credit line <sup>(3)</sup>     | \$            | \$     | \$     | \$     | \$   | \$          |
| Average interest rate                    |               |        |        |        |      |             |
| Real estate term note <sup>(4)</sup>     | \$ 3.0        | \$ 1.8 | \$     | \$     | \$   | \$          |
| Average interest rate                    | 6.58%         | 6.49%  |        |        |      |             |

<sup>(1)</sup> The project financing debt was paid in full on April 4, 2006.

<sup>(2)</sup> The \$125.0 million aggregate principal amount of 7.75% senior subordinated notes, due in 2012, was discounted to 99.265 per \$100 of principal to yield 7.875%.

<sup>(3)</sup> There was no balance on the revolving credit line at March 31, 2006.

<sup>(4)</sup> The \$14.8 million real estate term note was used to partially finance the purchase of our new corporate headquarters. Repayment is based on the minimum contractual terms. The real estate term note was paid in full on April 5, 2006.

Based on a sensitivity analysis as of March 31, 2006, we estimate that if market interest rates average one percentage point higher in 2006, than in the table above, our earnings before income taxes in 2006 would decrease by approximately \$31,000.

At March 31, 2006, we held no derivative instruments.

*Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk:* We conduct business in a number of foreign countries and, therefore, face exposure to adverse movements in foreign currency exchange rates. International revenues were 3% of total revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2006. Since we have not used derivative instruments to manage foreign currency exchange rate risks, the consolidated results of operations in U.S. dollars are subject to fluctuation as foreign exchange rates change. In addition, our foreign currency exchange rate exposures may change over time as business practices evolve and could have a material effect on our financial results.

Our primary exposure is related to non-U.S. dollar denominated sales, cost of sales and operating expenses in our foreign subsidiary operations. This means we are subject to changes in the consolidated results of operations expressed in U.S. dollars. Other international business, consisting primarily of shipments from the United States to international distributors and customers in the Pacific Rim and Latin America, is predominantly denominated in U.S. dollars, which reduces our exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. In some cases where sales from the United States are not denominated in U.S. dollars, we may hedge our foreign exchange risk by selling the expected foreign currency receipts forward. There have been, and there may continue to be, large period-to-period fluctuations in the relative portions of international revenues that are denominated in foreign currencies.

Risk-sensitive financial instruments in the form of intercompany trade receivables are mostly denominated in U.S. dollars, while intercompany notes may be denominated in local foreign currencies. As foreign currency exchange rates change, intercompany trade receivables may affect current earnings, while intercompany notes may be revalued and result in unrealized translation gains or losses that are reported in accumulated

other comprehensive income (loss).

Because our earnings are affected by fluctuations in the value of the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies, we have performed a sensitivity analysis assuming a hypothetical 10% increase or decrease in the value of the dollar relative to the

**Table of Contents**

currencies in which our transactions are denominated. At March 31, 2006, the analysis indicated that such market movements would not have had a material effect on our consolidated results of operations or on the fair value of any risk-sensitive financial instruments. The model assumes foreign currency exchange rates will shift in the same direction and relative amount. However, exchange rates rarely move in the same direction. This assumption may result in the overstatement or understatement of the effect of changing exchange rates on assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency. Consequently, the actual effects on operations in the future may differ materially from results of the analysis for the three months ended March 31, 2006. We may, in the future, experience greater fluctuations in U.S. dollar earnings from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. We will continue to monitor and assess the effect of currency fluctuations and may institute hedging alternatives.

**Item 4: Controls and Procedures**

- (a) *Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* An evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of our Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e), under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as amended. Based on that evaluation, the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2006, the end of the period covered by this report.
  
- (b) *Changes in internal control.* There have been no changes in internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended March 31, 2006 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

**Table of Contents**

**PART II: OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 1: Legal Proceedings**

We are subject to various legal proceedings and claims of which the outcomes are subject to significant uncertainty. Our policy is to assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to legal matters, as well as ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of the liability required, if any, for these contingencies is made after an analysis of each known issue in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) 5, *Accounting for Contingencies*. In accordance with SFAS 5, a liability is recorded when we determine that a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Additionally, we disclose contingencies for which a material loss is reasonably possible, but less than probable. At March 31, 2006, there were no material contingencies requiring accrual or disclosure.

**Item 1A: Risk Factors**

There were no material changes during the first quarter of 2006 from risk factors as previously disclosed in Item 1A included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, which was filed with the SEC on February 24, 2006.

**Item 4: Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders**

No matters were submitted to a vote of shareholders of Itron during the first quarter of 2006.

**Item 5: Other Information**

(a) No information was required to be disclosed in a report on Form 8-K during the first quarter of 2006 that was not reported.

(b) Not applicable.

**Item 6: Exhibits**

**Exhibit**

| <b>Number</b> | <b>Description of Exhibits</b>   |
|---------------|--|
| 12.1          | Statement re Computation of Ratios.                                      |
| 31.1          | Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2          | Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.1          | Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |

**Table of Contents**

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15 (d) 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, in the City of Spokane Valley, State of Washington, on the 4th day of May, 2006.

ITRON, INC.

By: */s/ STEVEN M. HELMBRECHT*  
**Steven M. Helmbrecht**  
**Sr. Vice President and Chief Financial Officer**