WILLIAMS SONOMA INC
Form 10-Q
June 12, 2015
Table of Contents

# UNITED STATES <br> SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION <br> WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 

FORM 10-Q
(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended May 3, 2015.
or

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

For the transition period from $\qquad$ to $\qquad$
Commission File Number: 001-14077

WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)
Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)
3250 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA
(Address of principal executive offices)
94-2203880
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.) 94109
Registrant stelephone number, including area code: (415) 421-7900
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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 x

No ${ }^{*}$

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

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

Large accelerated filer x
Non-accelerated filer " (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

As of May 31, 2015, $91,553,769$ shares of the registrant s Common Stock were outstanding.

WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.

## REPORT ON FORM 10-Q

## FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MAY 3, 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

PAGE
Item 1. Financial Statements ..... 2
Item 2. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ..... 12
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk ..... 17
Item 4. Controls and Procedures ..... 18
PART II. OTHER INFORMATION
Item 1. Legal Proceedings ..... 19
Item 1A. Risk Factors ..... 19
Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities And Use of Proceeds ..... 19
Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities ..... 19
Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures ..... 19
Item 5. Other Information ..... 19
Item 6. Exhibits ..... 20

Table of Contents

## ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

(Unaudited)

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | May 3, | May 4, |
| In thousands, except per share amounts | 2015 | 2014 |
| Net revenues | \$ 1,030,676 | \$ 974,330 |
| Cost of goods sold | 651,835 | 605,922 |
| Gross profit | 378,841 | 368,408 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 306,913 | 294,082 |
| Operating income | 71,928 | 74,326 |
| Interest (income) expense, net | 8 | (69) |
| Earnings before income taxes | 71,920 | 74,395 |
| Income taxes | 27,130 | 28,233 |
| Net earnings | \$ 44,790 | \$ 46,162 |
| Basic earnings per share | \$ 0.49 | \$ 0.49 |
| Diluted earnings per share | \$ 0.48 | \$ 0.48 |
| Shares used in calculation of earnings per share: |  |  |
| Basic | 91,707 | 93,993 |
| Diluted | 93,300 | 95,618 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(Unaudited)

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | May 3, |  | May 4, |  |
| In thousands |  | 2015 |  | 2014 |
| Net earnings | \$ | 44,790 | \$ | 46,162 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments |  | 867 |  | 1,398 |
| Change in fair value of derivative financial instruments, net of tax |  | (379) |  | (298) |
| Reclassification adjustment for realized gains on derivative |  | (198) |  | (233) |

financial instruments, net of tax
Comprehensive income
\$ 45,080 \$ 47,029
See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

## WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited)

|  |  | May 3, |  | ebruary 1 , |  | May 4, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| In thousands, except per share amounts |  | 2015 |  | 2015 |  | 2014 |
| ASSETS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 78,851 | \$ | 222,927 | \$ | 112,870 |
| Restricted cash |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 14,295 |
| Accounts receivable, net |  | 64,720 |  | 67,465 |  | 54,725 |
| Merchandise inventories, net |  | 942,800 |  | 887,701 |  | 850,416 |
| Prepaid catalog expenses |  | 35,648 |  | 33,942 |  | 34,986 |
| Prepaid expenses |  | 59,684 |  | 36,265 |  | 79,491 |
| Deferred income taxes, net |  | 130,889 |  | 130,618 |  | 121,443 |
| Other assets |  | 11,627 |  | 13,005 |  | 9,261 |
| Total current assets |  | 1,324,219 |  | 1,391,923 |  | 1,277,487 |
| Property and equipment, net |  | 876,785 |  | 883,012 |  | 837,012 |
| Non-current deferred income taxes, net |  | 0 |  | 4,265 |  | 0 |
| Other assets, net |  | 50,085 |  | 51,077 |  | 53,601 |
| Total assets | \$ | 2,251,089 | \$ | 2,330,277 | \$ | 2,168,100 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts payable | \$ | 367,525 | \$ | 397,037 | \$ | 369,279 |
| Accrued salaries, benefits and other |  | 87,067 |  | 136,012 |  | 88,796 |
| Customer deposits |  | 258,854 |  | 261,679 |  | 233,563 |
| Borrowings under revolving line of credit |  | 60,000 |  | 0 |  | 0 |
| Income taxes payable |  | 8,322 |  | 32,488 |  | 2,571 |
| Current portion of long-term debt |  | 1,968 |  | 1,968 |  | 1,785 |
| Other liabilities |  | 45,092 |  | 46,764 |  | 40,232 |
| Total current liabilities |  | 828,828 |  | 875,948 |  | 736,226 |
| Deferred rent and lease incentives |  | 170,528 |  | 166,925 |  | 158,339 |
| Long-term debt |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 1,968 |
| Non-current deferred income taxes, net |  | 1,958 |  | 0 |  | 2,850 |
| Other long-term obligations |  | 63,143 |  | 62,698 |  | 60,425 |
| Total liabilities |  | 1,064,457 |  | 1,105,571 |  | 959,808 |
| Commitments and contingencies |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stockholders equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Preferred stock: $\$ .01$ par value; 7,500 shares authorized; none issued |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |
| Common stock: $\$ .01$ par value; 253,125 shares authorized; 91,644, 91,891 and 94,184 shares issued and outstanding at May 3, 2015, February 1, 2015 and May 4, 2014, respectively |  | 917 |  | 919 |  | 942 |


| Additional paid-in capital | 527,257 | 527,261 | 509,178 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Retained earnings | 662,671 | 701,214 | 693,670 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | $(2,257)$ | $(2,548)$ | 7,391 |
| Treasury stock, at cost | $(1,956)$ | $(2,140)$ | $(2,889)$ |
| Total stockholders equity | $1,186,632$ | $1,224,706$ | $1,208,292$ |
| Total liabilities and stockholders equity | $\$ 2,251,089$ | $\$ 2,330,277$ | $\$ 2,168,100$ |
| See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. |  |  |  |

Table of Contents

## WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Unaudited)

|  | Thirteen We | s Ended |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| In thousands | May 3, 2015 | May 4, 2014 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: |  |  |
| Net earnings | \$ 44,790 | \$ 46,162 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | 41,478 | 38,630 |
| Loss on disposal/impairment of assets | 1,694 | 644 |
| Amortization of deferred lease incentives | $(5,999)$ | $(5,782)$ |
| Deferred income taxes | $(5,498)$ | $(4,649)$ |
| Tax benefit related to stock-based awards | 20,572 | 43,223 |
| Excess tax benefit related to stock-based awards | $(8,724)$ | $(21,371)$ |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 14,010 | 12,368 |
| Other | 51 | 173 |
| Changes in: |  |  |
| Accounts receivable | 2,864 | 5,692 |
| Merchandise inventories | $(53,746)$ | $(36,108)$ |
| Prepaid catalog expenses | $(1,706)$ | $(1,430)$ |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | $(21,439)$ | $(41,951)$ |
| Accounts payable | $(25,030)$ | $(19,276)$ |
| Accrued salaries, benefits and other current and long-term liabilities | $(51,387)$ | $(48,164)$ |
| Customer deposits | $(3,106)$ | 5,216 |
| Deferred rent and lease incentives | 8,260 | 3,092 |
| Income taxes payable | $(24,155)$ | $(46,798)$ |
| Net cash used in operating activities | $(67,071)$ | $(70,329)$ |
| Cash flows from investing activities: |  |  |
| Purchases of property and equipment | $(40,384)$ | $(38,119)$ |
| Other | 5 | 133 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | $(40,379)$ | $(37,986)$ |
| Cash flows from financing activities: |  |  |
| Borrowings under revolving line of credit | 60,000 | 0 |
| Repurchase of common stock | $(52,562)$ | $(53,309)$ |
| Payment of dividends | $(31,934)$ | $(32,891)$ |
| Tax withholdings related to stock-based awards | $(21,734)$ | $(46,730)$ |
| Excess tax benefit related to stock-based awards | 8,724 | 21,371 |
| Net proceeds related to stock-based awards | 1,836 | 2,997 |
| Other | 0 | (6) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | $(35,670)$ | $(108,568)$ |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents | (956) | (368) |


| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | $(144,076)$ | $(217,251)$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 222,927 | 330,121 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | $\$ 78,851$ | $\$ 112,870$ |
| See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. |  |  |

Table of Contents

## WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.

## NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

## NOTE A. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

These financial statements include Williams-Sonoma, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries ( we, us or our ). The Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of May 3, 2015 and May 4, 2014, the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings, the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income and the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the thirteen weeks then ended, have been prepared by us, without audit. In our opinion, the financial statements include all adjustments (which include only normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the financial position at the balance sheet dates and the results of operations for the thirteen weeks then ended. Intercompany transactions and accounts have been eliminated. The balance sheet as of February 1, 2015, presented herein, has been derived from our audited Consolidated Balance Sheet included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 1, 2015.

The results of operations for the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of the operating results of the full year.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in the annual financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ( U.S. GAAP ) have been omitted. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 1, 2015.

## New Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued Accounting Standards Update ( ASU ) 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, to clarify the principles of recognizing revenue and create common revenue recognition guidance between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. This ASU is effective for fiscal years and interim periods within those years beginning after December 15, 2016. We are currently assessing the potential impact of this ASU on our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## NOTE B. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

## Equity Award Programs

Our Amended and Restated 2001 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the Plan ) provides for grants of incentive stock options, nonqualified stock options, stock-settled stock appreciation rights (collectively, option awards ), restricted stock awards, restricted stock units (including those that are performance-based), deferred stock awards (collectively, stock awards ) and dividend equivalents up to an aggregate of $25,760,000$ shares. As of May 3, 2015, there were approximately $2,737,000$ shares available for future grant under the plan. Subsequently, on May 29, 2015, our stockholders approved an amendment and restatement of the Plan to, among other things, increase the shares issuable by $6,550,000$ shares and extend the term to 2025 . Awards may be granted under the Plan to officers, employees and non-employee members of the board of directors of the company (the Board ) or any parent or subsidiary. Shares issued as a result of award exercises or releases are primarily funded with the issuance of new shares.

## Option Awards

Annual grants of option awards are limited to $1,000,000$ shares on a per person basis and have a maximum term of seven years. The exercise price of these option awards is not less than $100 \%$ of the closing price of our stock on the day prior to the grant date. Option awards granted to employees generally vest over a period of four years for service-based awards. Certain option awards contain vesting acceleration clauses resulting from events including, but not limited to, retirement, merger or a similar corporate event.

## Table of Contents

## Stock Awards

Annual grants of stock awards are limited to 400,000 shares on a per person basis. Stock awards granted to employees generally vest evenly over a period of four years for service-based awards. Certain performance-based awards, which have variable payout conditions based on predetermined financial targets, vest three years from the date of grant. Certain stock awards and other agreements contain vesting acceleration clauses resulting from events including, but not limited to, retirement, merger or a similar corporate event. Stock awards granted to non-employee Board members generally vest in one year. Non-employee Board members automatically receive stock awards on the date of their initial election to the Board and annually thereafter on the date of the annual meeting of stockholders (so long as they continue to serve as a non-employee Board member).

## Stock-Based Compensation Expense

We measure and record stock-based compensation expense for all employee stock-based awards using a fair value method. During the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 and May 4, 2014, we recognized total stock-based compensation expense, as a component of selling, general and administrative expenses, of $\$ 14,010,000$ and $\$ 12,368,000$, respectively.

## Stock Options

The following table summarizes our stock option activity during the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015:

|  | Shares |
| :--- | ---: |
| Balance at February 1, 2015 | 107,000 |
| Granted | 0 |
| Exercised | $(47,737)$ |
| Cancelled | 0 |
| Balance at May 3, 2015 (100\% vested) | 59,263 |
| Stock-Settled Stock Appreciation Rights |  |

The following table summarizes our stock-settled stock appreciation right activity during the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015:
Balance at February 1, 2015 ..... 1,159,948
Granted ..... 0
Converted into common stock ..... $(160,350)$
Cancelled ..... $(1,186)$
Balance at May 3, 2015 ..... 998,412
Vested at May 3, 2015 ..... 976,987
Vested plus expected to vest at May 3, 2015 ..... 991,233Restricted Stock Units

The following table summarizes our restricted stock unit activity during the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015:

| Balance at February 1, 2015 | $2,313,477$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Granted | 729,536 |
| Released | $(545,484)$ |
| Cancelled | $(16,245)$ |
| Balance at May 3, 2015 | $2,481,284$ |
| Vested plus expected to vest at May 3, 2015 | $1,720,829$ |

## Table of Contents

## NOTE C. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic earnings per share is computed as net earnings divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share is computed as net earnings divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding and common stock equivalents for the period. Common stock equivalents consist of shares subject to stock-based awards with exercise prices less than or equal to the average market price of our common stock for the period, to the extent their inclusion would be dilutive.

The following is a reconciliation of net earnings and the number of shares used in the basic and diluted earnings per share computations:

| In thousands, except per share amounts | Net Earnings |  | Weighted Average Shares | Earnings Per Share |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 44,790 | 91,707 | \$ | 0.49 |
| Effect of dilutive stock-based awards |  |  | 1,593 |  |  |
| Diluted | \$ | 44,790 | 93,300 | \$ | 0.48 |
| Thirteen weeks ended May 4, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 46,162 | 93,993 | \$ | 0.49 |
| Effect of dilutive stock-based awards |  |  | 1,625 |  |  |
| Diluted | \$ | 46,162 | 95,618 | \$ | 0.48 |

There were no stock-based awards excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share for the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015. Anti-dilutive stock-based awards outstanding were 160,000 as of May 4, 2014, and were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share.

## NOTE D. SEGMENT REPORTING

We have two reportable segments, e-commerce and retail. The e-commerce segment has the following merchandising strategies: Williams-Sonoma, Pottery Barn, Pottery Barn Kids, West Elm, PBteen, Williams-Sonoma Home, Rejuvenation and Mark and Graham, which sell our products through our e-commerce websites and direct-mail catalogs. Our e-commerce merchandising strategies are operating segments, which have been aggregated into one reportable segment, e-commerce. The retail segment has the following merchandising strategies: Williams-Sonoma, Pottery Barn, Pottery Barn Kids, West Elm and Rejuvenation, which sell our products through our retail stores. Our retail merchandising strategies are operating segments, which have been aggregated into one reportable segment, retail. Our operating segments have had similar historical economic characteristics and it is management s expectation that the operating segments will have similar long-term financial performance in the future.

These reportable segments are strategic business units that offer similar home-centered products. They are managed separately because the business units utilize two distinct distribution and marketing strategies. Based on management s best estimate, our operating segments include allocations of certain expenses, including advertising and employment costs, to the extent they have been determined to benefit both channels. These operating segments are aggregated at the channel level for reporting purposes due to the fact that our brands are interdependent for economies of scale and we do not maintain fully allocated income statements at the brand level. As a result, material financial decisions related to the brands are made at the channel level. Furthermore, it is not practicable for us to report revenue by product group.

We use operating income to evaluate segment profitability. Operating income is defined as earnings (loss) before net interest income or expense and income taxes. Unallocated costs before interest and income taxes include employee-related costs, occupancy expenses (including depreciation expense), administrative costs and third party service costs, primarily in our corporate departments. Unallocated assets include corporate cash and cash equivalents, deferred income taxes, the net book value of corporate facilities and related information systems, and other corporate long-lived assets.

## Table of Contents

Income tax information by reportable segment has not been included as income taxes are calculated at a company-wide level and are not allocated to each reportable segment.

## Segment Information

| In thousands | E-commerce |  | Retail |  | Unallocated |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net revenues ${ }^{1}$ | \$ | 532,573 | \$ | 498,103 | \$ | 0 | \$ | 1,030,676 |
| Depreciation and amortization expense |  | 8,102 |  | 20,150 |  | 13,226 |  | 41,478 |
| Operating income (loss) |  | 127,574 |  | 28,126 |  | $(83,772)$ |  | 71,928 |
| Assets ${ }^{2}$ |  | 610,976 |  | 1,053,039 |  | 587,074 |  | 2,251,089 |
| Capital expenditures |  | 3,936 |  | 19,928 |  | 16,520 |  | 40,384 |
| Thirteen weeks ended May 4, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net revenues ${ }^{1}$ | \$ | 491,289 | \$ | 483,041 | \$ | 0 | \$ | 974,330 |
| Depreciation and amortization expense |  | 7,407 |  | 19,360 |  | 11,863 |  | 38,630 |
| Operating income (loss) |  | 121,136 |  | 30,196 |  | $(77,006)$ |  | 74,326 |
| Assets ${ }^{2}$ |  | 547,077 |  | 988,659 |  | 632,364 |  | 2,168,100 |
| Capital expenditures |  | 9,477 |  | 14,700 |  | 13,942 |  | 38,119 |

${ }^{1}$ Includes net revenues of approximately $\$ 54.8$ million and $\$ 51.1$ million for the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 and May 4, 2014, respectively, related to our foreign operations.
${ }^{2}$ Includes long-term assets of approximately $\$ 59.0$ million and $\$ 59.8$ million as of May 3, 2015 and May 4, 2014, respectively, related to our foreign operations.

## NOTE E. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

We are involved in lawsuits, claims and proceedings incident to the ordinary course of our business. These disputes, which are not currently material, are increasing in number as our business expands and our company grows larger. We review the need for any loss contingency reserves and establish reserves when, in the opinion of management, it is probable that a matter would result in liability, and the amount of loss, if any, can be reasonably estimated. In view of the inherent difficulty of predicting the outcome of these matters, it may not be possible to determine whether any loss is probable or to reasonably estimate the amount of the loss until the case is close to resolution, in which case no reserve is established until that time. Any claims against us, whether meritorious or not, could be time consuming, result in costly litigation, require significant amounts of management time and result in the diversion of significant operational resources. The results of these lawsuits, claims and proceedings cannot be predicted with certainty. However, we believe that the ultimate resolution of these current matters will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial statements taken as a whole.

## NOTE F. STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM AND DIVIDEND

## Stock Repurchase Program

During the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015, we repurchased 664,402 shares of our common stock at an average cost of $\$ 79.11$ per share for a total cost of approximately $\$ 52,562,000$. As of May 3, 2015, we held treasury stock of $\$ 1,956,000$ which represents the cost of shares available for re-issuance to satisfy future stock-based award settlements in certain foreign jurisdictions.

During the thirteen weeks ended May 4, 2014, we repurchased 840,761 shares of our common stock at an average cost of $\$ 63.41$ per share for a total cost of approximately $\$ 53,309,000$.

## Table of Contents

Stock repurchases under this program may be made through open market and privately negotiated transactions at times and in such amounts as management deems appropriate. The timing and actual number of shares repurchased will depend on a variety of factors including price, corporate and regulatory requirements, capital availability and other market conditions. This stock repurchase program does not have an expiration date and may be limited or terminated at any time without prior notice.

## Dividend

We declared cash dividends of $\$ 0.35$ and $\$ 0.33$ per common share during the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 and May 4, 2014, respectively.

## NOTE G. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

We have retail and e-commerce businesses in Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom, and operations throughout Asia and Europe, which expose us to market risk associated with foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. Substantially all of our purchases and sales are denominated in U.S. dollars, which limits our exposure to this risk. While the impact of foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations was not significant to us in the first quarter of fiscal 2015, we continue to see volatility in the exchange rates in the countries in which we do business. As we continue to expand globally, the foreign currency exchange risk related to the transactions of our foreign subsidiaries may increase. To mitigate this risk, we hedge a portion of our foreign currency exposure with foreign currency forward contracts in accordance with our risk management policies. We do not enter into such contracts for speculative purposes.

The assets or liabilities associated with the derivative instruments are measured at fair value and recorded in either other current assets or other current liabilities. As discussed below, the accounting for gains and losses resulting from changes in fair value depends on whether the derivative instrument is designated as a hedge and qualifies for hedge accounting in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) 815, Derivatives and Hedging.

## Cash Flow Hedges

We enter into foreign currency forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges for forecasted inventory purchases in U.S. dollars by our foreign subsidiaries. These hedges generally have terms of up to 12 months. All hedging relationships are formally documented, and the forward contracts are designed to mitigate foreign currency exchange risk on hedged transactions. We record the effective portion of changes in the fair value of our cash flow hedges in other comprehensive income ( OCI ) until the earlier of when the hedged forecasted inventory purchase occurs or the respective contract reaches maturity. Subsequently, as the inventory is sold to the customer, we reclassify amounts previously recorded in OCI to cost of goods sold. Changes in the fair value of the forward contract related to interest charges or forward points are excluded from the assessment and measurement of hedge effectiveness and are recorded immediately in other income (expense), net. Based on the rates in effect as of May 3, 2015, we expect to reclassify a net gain of approximately $\$ 540,000$ from OCI to cost of goods sold over the next 12 months.

We also enter into non-designated foreign currency forward contracts to reduce the exchange risk associated with our assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency. Any foreign exchange gains (losses) related to these contracts are recognized in other income (expense), net.

## Table of Contents

As of May 3, 2015, and May 4, 2014, we had foreign currency forward contracts outstanding (in U.S. dollars) as follows:

| In thousands | May 3, 2015 | May 4, 2014 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Contracts to sell Canadian dollars and buy U.S. dollars | $\$$ | 20,400 | $\$$ |
| Contracts designated as cash flow hedges | $\$ 2,000$ |  |  |
| Contracts not designated as cash flow hedges 1 | $\$$ | 0 | $\$$ |
| Contracts to sell Australian dollars and buy U.S. dollars | 1,500 |  |  |
| Contracts not designated as cash flow hedges | $\$$ | 26,000 | $\$$ |

1 These contracts are no longer designated as cash flow hedges as the related inventory purchases have occurred. Hedge effectiveness is evaluated prospectively at inception, on an ongoing basis, as well as retrospectively using regression analysis. Any measureable ineffectiveness of the hedge is recorded in other income (expense), net. No gain or loss was recognized for cash flow hedges due to hedge ineffectiveness and all hedges were deemed effective for assessment purposes for the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 and May 4, 2014.

The effect of derivative instruments in our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, pre-tax, was as follows:

Thirteen

${ }^{1}$ Changes in fair value of the forward contract related to interest charges or forward points.
${ }^{2}$ Changes in fair value subsequent to de-designation for instruments no longer designated as cash flow hedges, and changes in fair value related to instruments not designated as cash flow hedges.
The fair values of our derivative financial instruments are presented below. All fair values for these derivatives were measured using Level 2 inputs as defined by the fair value hierarchy described in Note H .

In thousands
Balance sheet location May 3, 2015 May 4, 2014
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:

| Cash flow hedge foreign currency forward contracts | Other current assets | $\$$ | 283 | $\$$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Cash flow hedge foreign currency forward contracts | Other current liabilities | $(426)$ | $(147)$ |  |

Total, net \$ (143) \$
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:
Foreign currency forward contracts
Other current assets $\quad \$ \quad 262 \quad \$ \quad 72$
Total, net
\$ 262 \$ 72

## Table of Contents

We record all derivative assets and liabilities on a gross basis. They do not meet the balance sheet netting criteria as discussed in ASC 210, Balance Sheet, because we do not have master netting agreements established with our derivative counterparties that would allow for net settlement.

Amounts recorded within accumulated other comprehensive income ( AOCI ) associated with our derivative instruments, pre-tax, were as follows:

|  | Thirteen | Thirteen |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Weeks Ended | Weeks Ended |  |
| May 4, |  |  |  |
| In thousands | May 3, | 2014 |  |
| AOCI beginning balance amount of gain (loss) | 2015 | 741 |  |
| Amounts recognized in OCI before reclassifications | 1,321 | $\$$ | $(224)$ |
| Amounts reclassified from OCI to cost of goods sold | $(513)$ | $(233)$ |  |
| AOCI ending balance amount of gain (loss) | $\$$ | 540 | $\$$ |

## NOTE H. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Fair value is the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

We determine the fair value of financial and non-financial assets and liabilities using the fair value hierarchy established by ASC 820, Fair Value Measurement, which defines three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value, as follows:

Level 1: inputs which include quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2: inputs which include observable inputs other than Level 1 inputs, such as quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the asset or liability; and

Level 3: inputs which include unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the underlying asset or liability.
The fair values of our cash and cash equivalents are based on Level 1 inputs, which include quoted prices in active markets for identical assets.

## Foreign Currency Derivatives and Hedging Instruments

We use the income approach to value our derivatives using observable Level 2 market data at the measurement date and standard valuation techniques to convert future amounts to a single present value amount, assuming that participants are motivated but not compelled to transact. Level 2 inputs are limited to quoted prices that are observable for the assets and liabilities, which include interest rates and credit risk ratings. We use mid-market pricing as a practical expedient for fair value measurements. Key inputs for currency derivatives are the spot rates, forward rates, interest rates and credit derivative market rates.

The counterparties associated with our foreign currency forward contracts are large credit-worthy financial institutions, and the derivatives transacted with these entities are relatively short in duration, therefore, we do not consider counterparty concentration and non-performance to be material risks at this time. Both we and our counterparties are expected to perform under the contractual terms of the instruments. None of the derivative contracts entered into are subject to credit risk-related contingent features or collateral requirements.

There were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 categories during the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015.

Table of Contents

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

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, as well as assumptions that, if they do not fully materialize or are proven incorrect, could cause our business and results of operations to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements include statements related to: our beliefs regarding the resolution of current lawsuits, claims and proceedings; our three year stock repurchase program; our expectations regarding our cash flow hedges and foreign currency risks; our planned use of cash; our compliance with our financial covenants; our belief that our cash on-hand, in addition to our available credit facilities, will provide adequate liquidity for our business operations over the next 12 months; and our beliefs regarding seasonal patterns associated with our business, as well as statements of belief and statements of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing. You can identify these and other forward-looking statements by the use of words such as may, should, expects, plans, anticipates, believes, predicts, intends, potential, continue, or the negative of such terms, or other comparable terminology. The risks, uncertainties and assumptions referred to above that could cause our results to differ materially from the results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those discussed under the heading Risk Factors in this document and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 1, 2015, and the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed from time to time in our other public filings and public announcements. All forward-looking statements included in this document are based on information available to us as of the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

## OVERVIEW

Williams-Sonoma, Inc. is a specialty retailer of high-quality products for the home. These products, representing distinct merchandise strategies Williams-Sonoma, Pottery Barn, Pottery Barn Kids, West Elm, PBteen, Williams-Sonoma Home, Rejuvenation, and Mark and Graham are marketed through e-commerce websites, direct mail catalogs and 603 stores. We have retail and/or e-commerce businesses in the U.S., Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom, and ship our products to customers worldwide. Our catalogs reach customers throughout the U.S. and Australia. In addition, we have unaffiliated franchisees that operate stores in the Middle East and the Philippines.

The following discussion and analysis of financial condition, results of operations, and liquidity and capital resources for the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2015 ( first quarter of fiscal 2015 ), as compared to the thirteen weeks ended May 4, 2014 ( first quarter of fiscal 2014 ), should be read in conjunction with our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto.

All explanations of changes in operational results are discussed in order of their magnitude.

## First Quarter of Fiscal 2015 Financial Results

In the first quarter of fiscal 2015, our net revenues increased $5.8 \%$ to $\$ 1,030,676,000$, compared to $\$ 974,330,000$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014, with comparable brand revenue growth of $4.6 \%$. Diluted earnings per share in the first quarter of both fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014 was $\$ 0.48$. We returned $\$ 84,496,000$ to our stockholders through stock repurchases and dividends during the first quarter of fiscal 2015.

E-commerce net revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 increased $\$ 41,284,000$, or $8.4 \%$, compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014, with increases across all brands. E-commerce net revenues generated $52 \%$ of our total company
net revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to $50 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014.

## Table of Contents

Retail net revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 increased $\$ 15,062,000$, or $3.1 \%$ compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014, primarily driven by West Elm and our international franchise operations.

In Pottery Barn, our largest brand, comparable brand revenues increased 2.4\% in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 on top of an increase of $9.7 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014. These results were driven by our outdoor furniture and textile collections but were negatively impacted by lower inventory levels associated with the prolonged west coast port disruption. In the Williams-Sonoma brand, comparable brand revenues increased $2.7 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014. We saw growth across many of our core categories, including cookware, cutlery, tabletop, glassware and dinnerware, as well as our Williams-Sonoma Home business. In West Elm, comparable brand revenues increased $15.3 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 on top of $18.8 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014. Growth continued to be broad-based across categories. In Pottery Barn Kids, comparable brand revenues grew by $0.8 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014. Our net revenues were impacted by out-of-stock positions in key categories resulting from the west coast port disruption. In PBteen, comparable brand revenues increased $3.0 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 on top of $12.0 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014. High backorders impacted the brand early in the quarter from lower levels of inventory associated with the west coast port disruption, but we saw an improved flow of inventory in the latter half of the quarter.

## Results of Operations

## NET REVENUES

Net revenues consist of e-commerce net revenues and retail net revenues. E-commerce net revenues include sales of merchandise to customers through our e-commerce websites and our catalogs, as well as shipping fees. Retail net revenues include sales of merchandise to customers at our retail stores, as well as shipping fees on any products shipped to our customers homes. Shipping fees consist of revenue received from customers for delivery of merchandise to their homes. Revenues are presented net of sales returns and other discounts.

The following table summarizes our net revenues for the first quarter of fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014:

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | May 3, |  | May 4, |  |  |
| In thousands | 2015 | $\%$ Total | 2014 | $\%$ Total |  |
| E-commerce net revenues | $\$ 532,573$ | $51.7 \%$ | $\$ 491,289$ | $50.4 \%$ |  |
| Retail net revenues | 498,103 | $48.3 \%$ | 483,041 | $49.6 \%$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net revenues | $\$ 1,030,676$ | $100.0 \%$ | $\$ 974,330$ | $100.0 \%$ |  |

Net revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 increased by $\$ 56,346,000$, or $5.8 \%$, compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014, with comparable brand revenue growth of $4.6 \%$. This increase was driven by growth across all brands led by West Elm and Pottery Barn.

## Comparable Brand Revenue Growth

Comparable brand revenues include retail comparable store sales and e-commerce sales, as well as shipping fees, sales returns and other discounts associated with current period sales. Outlet comparable store net revenues are included in their respective brands. Comparable brand revenues exclude sales from certain operations until such time that we
believe those sales are meaningful to evaluating the performance of the brand. Sales related to our international franchised stores have also been excluded as they are not operated by us.

Comparable stores are defined as permanent stores where gross square footage did not change by more than $20 \%$ in the previous 12 months and which have been open for at least 12 consecutive months without closure for seven or more consecutive days.

Table of Contents

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | May 3, | May 4, |
| Comparable brand revenue growth | 2015 | 2014 |
| Pottery Barn | $2.4 \%$ | $9.7 \%$ |
| Williams-Sonoma | $2.7 \%$ | $6.0 \%$ |
| West Elm | $15.3 \%$ | $18.8 \%$ |
| Pottery Barn Kids | $0.8 \%$ | $8.1 \%$ |
| PBteen | $3.0 \%$ | $12.0 \%$ |
| Total | $4.6 \%$ | $10.0 \%$ |

## E-COMMERCE NET REVENUES

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
|  | May 3, | May 4, |
| In thousands | 2015 | 2014 |
| E-commerce net revenues | $\$ 532,573$ | $\$ 491,289$ |
| E-commerce net revenue growth | $8.4 \%$ | $17.2 \%$ |

E-commerce net revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 increased $\$ 41,284,000$, or $8.4 \%$, compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014, with increases across all brands. E-commerce net revenues generated $52 \%$ of our total company net revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to $50 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014.

## RETAIL NET REVENUES AND OTHER DATA

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| In thousands | May 3, | May 4, |
| Retail net revenues | 2015 | 2014 |
| Retail net revenue growth | 498,103 | $\$ 483,041$ |
| Store count beginning of year | $3.1 \%$ | $3.1 \%$ |
| Store openings | 601 | 585 |
| Store closings | 5 | 7 |
| Store count end of period | 603 | $(3)$ |
| Store selling square footage at period-end | $3,709,000$ | $3,600,000$ |
| Store leased square footage ( LSF ) at period-end | $5,998,000$ | $5,850,000$ |


|  | Store Count |  |  |  |  | Avg. LSF Per Store |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | February 1, |  |  | May 3, | May 4, | May 3, | May 4, |
|  | 2015 | Openings | Closings | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Williams-Sonoma | 243 |  | (2) | 241 | 248 | 6,600 | 6,600 |

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| Pottery Barn | 199 |  | $(1)$ | 198 | 195 | 13,700 | 13,800 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Pottery Barn Kids | 85 | 2 |  | 87 | 84 | 7,500 | 7,700 |
| West Elm | 69 | 3 |  | 72 | 58 | 13,600 | 14,100 |
| Rejuvenation | 5 |  |  | 5 | 4 | 10,000 | 13,200 |
| Total | 601 | 5 | $(3)$ | 603 | 589 | 9,900 | 9,900 |

Retail net revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 increased $\$ 15,062,000$, or $3.1 \%$, compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014, primarily driven by West Elm and our international franchise operations.

Table of Contents

## COST OF GOODS SOLD

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| In thousands | May 3, | $\%$ Net | May 4, | \% Net |
| Cost of goods sold ${ }^{I}$ | 2015 | Revenues | 2014 | Revenues |

${ }^{1}$ Includes total occupancy expenses of \$151,451,000 and \$146,439,000 for the first quarter of fiscal 2015 and the first quarter of fiscal 2014, respectively.
Cost of goods sold includes cost of goods, occupancy expenses and shipping costs. Cost of goods consists of cost of merchandise, inbound freight to our stores and distribution centers and other inventory related costs such as shrinkage, damages and replacements. Occupancy expenses consist of rent, depreciation and other occupancy costs, including common area maintenance, property taxes and utilities. Shipping costs consist of third party delivery services and shipping materials.

Our classification of expenses in cost of goods sold may not be comparable to other public companies, as we do not include non-occupancy related costs associated with our distribution network in cost of goods sold. These costs, which include distribution network employment, third party warehouse management and other distribution related administrative expenses, are recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses.

Within our reportable segments, the e-commerce channel does not incur freight-to-store or store occupancy expenses, and typically operates with lower markdowns and inventory shrinkage than the retail channel. However, the e-commerce channel incurs higher customer shipping, damage and replacement costs than the retail channel.

## First Quarter of Fiscal 2015 vs. First Quarter of Fiscal 2014

Cost of goods sold increased by $\$ 45,913,000$, or $7.6 \%$, in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014. Cost of goods sold as a percentage of net revenues increased to $63.2 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 from $62.2 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014. This increase was driven by lower selling margins primarily from increased shipping and fulfillment-related costs associated with the west coast port disruption, partially offset by the leverage of occupancy expenses.

In the e-commerce channel, cost of goods sold as a percentage of net revenues increased in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014 driven by lower selling margins from increased shipping costs, partially offset by the leverage of occupancy expenses.

In the retail channel, cost of goods sold as a percentage of net revenues increased in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014 primarily driven by lower selling margins, partially offset by the leverage of occupancy expenses.

## SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

|  | Thirteen Weeks Ended |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| In thousands | May 3, | $\%$ Net | May 4, | $\%$ Net |
|  | 2015 | Revenues | 2014 | Revenues |

Selling, general and administrative expenses $\quad \$ 306,913 \quad 29.8 \% \quad \$ 294,082 \quad 30.2 \%$ Selling, general and administrative expenses consist of non-occupancy related costs associated with our retail stores, distribution warehouses, customer care centers, supply chain operations (buying, receiving and inspection) and corporate administrative functions. These costs include employment, advertising, third party credit card processing and other general expenses.

## Table of Contents

We experience differing employment and advertising costs as a percentage of net revenues within the retail and e-commerce channels due to their distinct distribution and marketing strategies. Store employment costs represent a greater percentage of retail net revenues than e-commerce employment costs as a percentage of e-commerce net revenues. However, advertising expenses are higher within the e-commerce channel than in the retail channel.

## First Quarter of Fiscal 2015 vs. First Quarter of Fiscal 2014

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by $\$ 12,831,000$, or $4.4 \%$, in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net revenues decreased to $29.8 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 from $30.2 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2014. This decrease as a percentage of net revenues was primarily driven by advertising efficiencies and the leverage of employment costs.

In the e-commerce channel, selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net revenues decreased in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014 primarily driven by advertising efficiencies and the leverage of employment costs.

In the retail channel, selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net revenues remained flat in the first quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014.

## INCOME TAXES

The effective tax rate was $37.7 \%$ for the first quarter of fiscal 2015 and $37.9 \%$ for the first quarter of fiscal 2014.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

As of May 3, 2015, we held $\$ 78,851,000$ in cash and cash equivalents, the majority of which is held in demand deposit accounts, of which $\$ 68,311,000$ was held by our foreign subsidiaries. As is consistent within our industry, our cash balances are seasonal in nature, with the fourth quarter historically representing a significantly higher level of cash than other periods.

In fiscal 2015, we plan to use our cash resources to fund our inventory and inventory related purchases, advertising and marketing initiatives, stock repurchases, dividend payments and purchases of property and equipment. In addition to our cash balances on hand, we have a $\$ 500,000,000$ unsecured revolving line of credit ( credit facility ) that may be used to borrow revolving loans or to request the issuance of letters of credit. We may, upon notice to the administrative agent, request existing or new lenders to increase the credit facility by up to $\$ 250,000,000$, at such lenders option, to provide for a total of $\$ 750,000,000$ of unsecured revolving credit. During the first quarter of fiscal 2015, we borrowed $\$ 60,000,000$ under the credit facility, all of which was outstanding as of May 3, 2015. During the first quarter of fiscal 2014, we had no borrowings under the credit facility.

As of May 3, 2015, issued but undrawn standby letters of credit totaling $\$ 15,294,000$ were outstanding under the credit facility. Additionally, as of May 3, 2015, we had three unsecured letter of credit reimbursement facilities for a total of $\$ 70,000,000$, of which an aggregate of $\$ 7,578,000$ was outstanding. These letter of credit facilities represent only a future commitment to fund inventory purchases to which we had not taken legal title. We are currently in compliance with all of our financial covenants under the credit facility and, based on our current projections, we expect to remain in compliance throughout fiscal 2015. We believe our cash on hand, in addition to our available credit facilities, will provide adequate liquidity for our business operations over the next 12 months.

## Table of Contents

## Cash Flows from Operating Activities

For the first quarter of fiscal 2015 , net cash used in operating activities was $\$ 67,071,000$ compared to $\$ 70,329,000$ for the first quarter of fiscal 2014. For the first quarter of fiscal 2015, net cash used in operating activities was primarily attributable to a decrease in accrued liabilities and accounts payable, as well as an increase in merchandise inventories, partially offset by net earnings adjusted for non-cash items. Net cash used compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014 decreased primarily due to a decrease in income taxes paid, as well as a decrease in prepaid expenses, partially offset by an increase in merchandise inventories.

## Cash Flows from Investing Activities

For the first quarter of fiscal 2015, net cash used in investing activities was $\$ 40,379,000$ compared to $\$ 37,986,000$ for the first quarter of fiscal 2014, and was primarily attributable to purchases of property and equipment. Net cash used compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014 increased primarily due to an increase in purchases of property and equipment.

## Cash Flows from Financing Activities

For the first quarter of fiscal 2015, net cash used in financing activities was $\$ 35,670,000$ compared to $\$ 108,568,000$ for the first quarter of fiscal 2014. For the first quarter of fiscal 2015, net cash used in financing activities was primarily attributable to repurchases of common stock and the payment of dividends, partially offset by borrowings under our revolving line of credit. Net cash used compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2014 decreased primarily due to an increase in borrowings under our revolving line of credit in 2015 and a decrease in tax withholdings related to stock-based awards.

## Stock Repurchase Program and Dividend

See Note F to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Stock Repurchase Program and Dividend, within Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for further information.

## Critical Accounting Policies

Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations is based on our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and related disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. The estimates and assumptions are evaluated on an ongoing basis and are based on historical experience and various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ significantly from these estimates. During the first quarter of fiscal 2015, there have been no significant changes to the critical accounting policies discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 1, 2015.

## Seasonality

Our business is subject to substantial seasonal variations in demand. Historically, a significant portion of our revenues and net earnings have been realized during the period from October through January, and levels of net revenues and net earnings have typically been lower during the period from February through September. We believe this is the general pattern associated with the retail industry. In anticipation of our holiday selling season, we hire a substantial number of additional temporary employees in our retail stores, customer care centers and distribution centers, and
incur significant fixed catalog production and mailing costs.

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

We are exposed to market risks, which include significant deterioration of the U.S. and foreign markets, changes in U.S. interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, including the devaluation of the U.S. dollar, and the effects of economic uncertainty which may affect the prices we pay our vendors in the foreign countries in which we do business. We do not engage in financial transactions for trading or speculative purposes.

## Table of Contents

Interest Rate Risk

Our line of credit facility has a variable interest rate which, when drawn upon, subjects us to risks associated with changes in that interest rate. As of May 3, 2015, we had borrowings of $\$ 60,000,000$ outstanding under our credit facility. A hypothetical increase or decrease of one percentage point on our existing variable rate debt instrument would not materially affect our results from operations or cash flows.

In addition, we have fixed and variable income investments consisting of short-term investments classified as cash and cash equivalents, which are also affected by changes in market interest rates. As of May 3, 2015, our investments, made primarily in demand deposit accounts, are stated at cost and approximate their fair values.

## Foreign Currency Risks

We purchase a significant amount of inventory from vendors outside of the U.S. in transactions that are denominated in U.S. dollars. Approximately $2 \%$ of our international purchase transactions are in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, primarily the euro. Any foreign currency impact related to these international purchase transactions was not significant to us during the first quarter of fiscal 2015 or the first quarter of fiscal 2014. Since we pay for the majority of our international purchases in U.S. dollars, however, a decline in the U.S. dollar relative to other foreign currencies would subject us to risks associated with increased purchasing costs from our vendors in their effort to offset any lost profits associated with any currency devaluation. We cannot predict with certainty the effect these increased costs may have on our financial statements or results of operations.

In addition, our retail and/or e-commerce businesses in Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom, and our operations throughout Asia and Europe, expose us to market risk associated with foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. Substantially all of our purchases and sales are denominated in U.S. dollars, which limits our exposure to this risk. While the impact of foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations was not material to us in the first quarter of fiscal 2015, we have continued to see volatility in the exchange rates in the countries in which we do business. As we continue to expand globally, the foreign currency exchange risk related to the transactions of our foreign subsidiaries may increase. To mitigate this risk, we hedge a portion of our foreign currency exposure with foreign currency forward contracts in accordance with our risk management policies (see Note G to our Consolidated Financial Statements).

## ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

## Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of May 3, 2015, an evaluation was performed by management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer ( CEO ) and our Chief Financial Officer ( CFO ), of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, our management, including our CEO and CFO, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our CEO and CFO, as appropriate, to allow for timely discussions regarding required disclosures, and that such information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during our most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

## PART II OTHER INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Information required by this Item is contained in Note E to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements within Part I of this Form 10-Q.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

See Part I, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 1, 2015 for a description of the risks and uncertainties associated with our business. There were no material changes to such risk factors in the current quarterly reporting period.

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

The following table provides information as of May 3, 2015 with respect to shares of common stock we repurchased during the first quarter of fiscal 2015. For additional information, please see Note F to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements within Part I of this Form 10-Q.

|  | Total Number of Shares |  | Total Numberdifaximum Dollar Value |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Part of a |  | May |
|  |  |  | Price | Publicly |  | Be Purchased |
| Fiscal period | PurchasedPa |  | Sharmo | Program |  | $r$ the Program |
| February 2, 2015 to March 1, 2015 | 104,100 | \$ | 80.21 | 104,100 | \$ | 278,495,000 |
| March 2, 2015 to March 29, 2015 | 214,499 | \$ | 79.84 | 214,499 | \$ | 261,369,000 |
| March 30, 2015 to May 3, 2015 | 345,803 | \$ | 78.33 | 345,803 | \$ | 234,283,000 |
| Total | 664,402 | \$ | 79.11 | 664,402 | \$ | 234,283,000 |

[^0]
## ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

Not applicable.

## ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

## ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

## Table of Contents

## ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

(a) Exhibits

Exhibit

| Number | Exhibit Description |
| :--- | :--- |
| 31.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the <br> Securities Exchange Act, as amended |
| 31.2 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities <br> Exchange Act, as amended |
| 32.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to <br> 32.2 |
| Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 <br> Certification of Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to <br>  <br> Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |  |
| 101.INS* | XBRL Instance Document |
| 101.SCH* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document |
| 101.CAL* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document |
| 101.DEF* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document |
| 101.LAB* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document |
| 101.PRE* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document |

* Filed herewith.

Table of Contents

## SIGNATURE

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

WILLIAMS-SONOMA, INC.
By: /s/ Julie P. Whalen
Julie P. Whalen
Chief Financial Officer
Date: June 12, 2015


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ In March 2013, our Board of Directors announced a $\$ 750,000,000$ stock repurchase program. Stock repurchases under this program may be made through open market and privately negotiated transactions at times and in such amounts as management deems appropriate. The timing and actual number of shares repurchased will depend on a variety of factors including price, corporate and regulatory requirements, capital availability and other market conditions. This stock repurchase program does not have an expiration date and may be limited or terminated at any time without prior notice.

