BUILD A BEAR WORKSHOP INC

Form 10-Q

May 14, 2015
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549
FORM 10-Q
(Mark One)
Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the quarterly period ended April 4, 2015
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: 001-32320
BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)
Delaware 43-1883836 (State or Other Jurisdiction of (IRS Employer
Incorporation or Organization) Identification No.)
1954 Innerhelt Rusiness Center Drive 63114

St. Louis, Missouri	
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)	(Zip Code)

(314) 423-8000

### (Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant 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 No

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company (Do not check if a 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

As of May 7, 2015, there were 17,199,310 issued and outstanding shares of the registrant's common stock.

# **BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP, INC.**

# **INDEX TO FORM 10-Q**

		Page
Part I Fir	nancial Information	3
Item 1.	Financial Statements (Unaudited) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets	3
	Condensed Consolidated Income Statements and Statements of Comprehensive Income Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	4 5 6
Item 2.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	10
Item 3.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	16
Item 4.	Controls and Procedures	16
Part II O	ther Information	17
Item 2.	. Risk Factors Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds Exhibits	17 18 18
Signature	es	20

### PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**Item 1. Financial Statements.** 

# BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

	April 4, 2015 (Unaudited)	January 3, 2015	March 29, 2014 (Unaudited)
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 54,679	\$65,389	\$ 41,903
Inventories	51,170	51,939	44,059
Receivables	8,182	11,461	10,761
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	13,891	15,611	9,639
Deferred tax assets	1,817	1,378	81
Total current assets	129,739	145,778	106,443
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$187,958; \$185,044 and \$179,350, respectively	59,223	62,766	65,596
Other intangible assets, net	252	304	472
Other assets, net	2,823	3,206	3,641
Total Assets	\$ 192,037	\$212,054	\$ 176,152
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 23,504	\$38,107	\$ 20,384
Accrued expenses	18,666	24,058	11,446
Gift cards and customer deposits	31,982	34,268	29,070
Deferred revenue	2,739	2,654	4,677
Deferred tax liability	-	-	774
Total current liabilities	76,891	99,087	66,351
Deferred franchise revenue	890	945	1,124
Deferred rent	12,660	13,353	18,402
Other liabilities	1,155	1,044	318

# Stockholders' equity:

Preferred stock, par value \$0.01, Shares authorized: 15,000,000; No shares	_	_	_	
issued or outstanding at April 4, 2015, January 3, 2015 and March 29, 2014				
Common stock, par value \$0.01, Shares authorized: 50,000,000;				
Issued and outstanding: 17,310,853; 17,360,635 and 17,547,477 shares,	173	174	175	
respectively	173	1/4	173	
Additional paid-in capital	66,356	69,362	69,595	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(9,697	) (8,698 )	(7,263	)
Retained earnings	43,609	36,787	27,450	
Total stockholders' equity	100,441	97,625	89,957	
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 192,037	\$212,054	\$ 176,152	

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

# **BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS AND STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

# (Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

	Thirteen weeks ended		
	April 4, 2015	March 29, 2014	
Revenues:			
Net retail sales	\$91,664	\$96,840	
Franchise fees	551	670	
Commercial revenue	1,178	432	
Total revenues	93,393	97,942	
Costs and expenses:			
Cost of merchandise sold - retail	48,792	54,700	
Cost of merchandise sold - commercial	360	198	
Selling, general and administrative	37,240	37,800	
Interest (income) expense, net	(51)	(62)	
Total costs and expenses	86,341	92,636	
Income before income taxes	7,052	5,306	
Income tax expense	230	281	
Net income	\$6,822	\$5,025	
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(999	40	
Comprehensive income	\$5,823	\$5,065	
Income per common share:			
Basic	\$0.41	\$0.29	
Diluted	\$0.40	\$0.29	
Shares used in computing common per share amounts:			
Basic	16,399,397	16,701,723	
Diluted	16,671,340	16,910,071	

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

,

# **BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

# (Unaudited)

(dollars in thousands)

	en weeks ende 4, 2015	d	March	n 29, 2014	
Cash flows from operating activities: Net income Adjustments to reconcile net income	\$ 6,822		\$	5,025	
to net cash from operating activities: Depreciation and	4,218			4,508	
amortization Stock-based compensation Deferred taxes	450 14			604	
Store asset impairment Provision for doubtful accounts Trade credit utilization	165			120	
	14 72			440 148	
Loss on disposal of property and equipment Change in assets and	3			37	
liabilities: Inventories Receivables	405 3,116			6,275 3,374	
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,456			1,853	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses Lease related liabilities Gift cards and	(18,049	)		(18,329	)
	(675	)		(969	)
customer deposits Deferred revenue	(1,824 48	)		(4,748 202	)
Deterred reveilue	(3,765	)		(1,460	)

Net cash used in operating activities Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchases of property and equipment, net Purchases of other	(2,846	)	(1,094	)
assets and other intangible assets	(32	)	(12	)
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,878	)	(1,106	)
Cash flows from financing activities: Purchases of				
Company's common stock	(2,998	)	(723	)
Proceeds from the exercise of employee				
stock options, net of withholding tax	(458	)	622	
payments Net cash used in financing activities	(3,456	)	(101	)
Effect of exchange rates on cash	(611	)	(95	)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(10,710	)	(2,762	)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	65,389		44,665	
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 54,679		\$ 41,903	

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

#### **Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**

#### 1. Basis of Presentation

The condensed consolidated financial statements included herein are unaudited and have been prepared by Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, the Company) pursuant to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The condensed consolidated balance sheet of the Company as of January 3, 2015 was derived from the Company's audited consolidated balance sheet as of that date. All other condensed consolidated financial statements contained herein are unaudited and reflect all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to summarize fairly the financial position of the Company and the results of the Company's operations and cash flows for the periods presented. All of these adjustments are of a normal recurring nature. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Because of the seasonal nature of the Company's operations, results of operations of any single reporting period should not be considered as indicative of results for a full year. These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2015, which were included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 19, 2015.

Prior year amounts related to cost of merchandise sold have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation, with no impact to net income in any period.

### 2. Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets

Prepaid expenses and other current assets consist of the following (in thousands):

	April 4, January 3,		March 29,
	2015	2015	2014
Prepaid rent	\$8,283	\$7,848	\$4,059
Short-term investment	984	1,121	-
Other	4,624	6,642	5,580
	\$13,891	\$15,611	\$9,639

# 3. Accrued Expenses

Accrued expenses consist of the following (in thousands):

	April 4, 2015	January 3, 2015	March 29, 2014
Accrued wages, bonuses and related expenses Sales tax payable Accrued rent and related expenses Current income taxes payable	2,571 2,603 1,216	\$11,858 7,694 3,365 1,141 \$24,058	\$7,994 246 3,098 108 \$11,446
Accrued rent and related expenses	2,603 1,216	3,365 1,141	3,09 108

#### 4. Stock-based Compensation

The following table is a summary of the balances and activity for the plans related to restricted stock and stock options for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015:

	Restricted	
	Stock	<b>Options</b>
Outstanding, January 3, 2015	419,674	714,451
Granted	68,751	60,537
Vested	145,079	
Exercised	_	115,574
Forfeited	23,517	12,394
Canceled or expired		39,200
Outstanding, April 4, 2015	319,829	607,820

For the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 and March 29, 2014, selling, general and administrative expenses include \$0.5 million and \$0.6 million of stock-based compensation expense, respectively. As of April 4, 2015, there was \$4.3 million of total unrecognized compensation expense related to nonvested restricted stock and option awards which is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.9 years.

The total fair value of shares vested during the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 and March 29, 2014 was \$3.0 million and \$2.1 million, respectively.

#### 5. Income Taxes

In prior years, the Company recorded a valuation allowance on substantially all of its deferred tax assets. The effective tax rate was 3.3% for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 compared to 5.3% for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014. While the components of income tax expense were consistent between periods, the change in the effective rate was driven by the increase in pre-tax income. The effective rate was substantially below the statutory rate in both periods primarily due to the reversal of valuation allowances.

#### 6. Income per Share

The Company uses the two-class method to compute basic and diluted income per common share. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted income per share (in thousands, except share and per share data):

	Thirteen wee April 4, 2015	eks ended March 29, 2014
NUMERATOR:		
Net income before allocation of earnings to participating securities	\$6,822	\$5,025
Less: Earnings allocated to participating securities	161	205
Net income after allocation of earnings to participating securities	\$6,661	\$4,820
DENOMINATOR:		
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - basic	16,399,397	16,701,723
Dilutive effect of share-based awards	271,943	208,348
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - dilutive	16,671,340	16,910,071
Basic income per common share attributable to Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. stockholders:	\$0.41	\$0.29
Diluted income per common share attributable to Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. stockholders	\$0.40	\$0.29

In calculating diluted earnings per share for the thirteen week periods ended April 4, 2015 and March 29, 2014, options to purchase 60,825 shares and 372,584 shares, respectively, of common stock that were outstanding at the end of the period were not included in the computation of diluted income per share due to their anti-dilutive effect.

#### 7. Comprehensive Income

The difference between comprehensive income and net income results from foreign currency translation adjustments on the balance sheets of subsidiaries whose functional currency is not the US Dollar. The accumulated other comprehensive loss balance at April 4, 2015, January 3, 2015 and March 29, 2014 is comprised entirely of foreign currency translation. For the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 and March 29, 2014, there were no reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive loss.

#### 8. Segment Information

The Company's operations are conducted through three operating segments consisting of retail, international franchising and commercial. The retail segment includes the operating activities of company-owned stores in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark and other retail delivery operations, including the Company's web stores. The international franchising segment includes the licensing activities of the Company's franchise agreements with store locations in Europe, (outside of the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark), Asia, Australia, the Middle East, Africa and Mexico. The commercial segment includes the Company's transactions with other businesses, mainly comprised of licensing the Company's intellectual properties for third party use and wholesale activities. The operating segments have discrete sources of revenue, different capital structures and different cost structures. These operating segments represent the basis on which the Company's chief operating decision maker regularly evaluates the business in assessing performance, determining the allocation of resources and the pursuit of future growth opportunities. Accordingly, the Company has determined that each of its operating segments represent a reportable segment. The three reportable segments follow the same accounting policies used for the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Following is a summary of the financial information for the Company's reportable segments (in thousands):

		Ir	nternational	l		
	Retail	F	ranchising	(	Commercial	Total
Thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015						
Net sales to external customers	\$91,664	\$	551	9	5 1,178	\$93,393
Income before income taxes	6,104		130		818	7,052
Capital expenditures, net	2,858		20		-	2,878
Depreciation and amortization	4,181		37		-	4,218
Thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014						
Net sales to external customers	\$96,840	\$	670	9	5 432	\$97,942
Income (loss) before income taxes	5,215		(137	)	228	5,306
Capital expenditures, net	1,097		9		-	1,106
Depreciation and amortization	4,470		38		-	4,508
Total Assets as of:						
April 4, 2015	\$184,615	\$	2,510	9	8 4,912	\$192,037
March 29, 2014	\$166,337	\$	3,949	9	5 5,866	\$176,152

The Company's reportable segments are primarily determined by the types of products and services that they offer. Each reportable segment may operate in many geographic areas. The Company allocates revenues to geographic areas based on the location of the customer or franchisee. The following schedule is a summary of the Company's sales to external customers and long-lived assets by geographic area (in thousands):

	North			
	America (1)	Europe (2)	Other (3)	Total
Thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015				
Net sales to external customers	\$76,646	\$16,416	\$331	\$93,393
Property and equipment, net	53,346	5,877	-	59,223
Thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014				
Net sales to external customers	\$79,830	\$17,751	\$ 361	\$97,942
Property and equipment, net	58,011	7,585	-	65,596

# For purposes of this table only:

- (1) North America includes the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and franchise business in Mexico
- (2) Europe includes the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and franchise businesses in Europe
- (3) Other includes franchise businesses outside of North America and Europe

#### 9. Contingencies

In the normal course of business, the Company is subject to regular examination by various taxing authorities for years not closed by the statute of limitations, including an ongoing customs audit in the United Kingdom in which the Company is contesting audit findings. The Company accrues a liability for this type of contingency when it believes that it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and that it can reasonably estimate the amount of the loss. In 2012, the Company received notification from the customs authority that it intended to make an assessment for unpaid duty, penalties and interest. The assessment was made in 2013. The Company has appealed this determination and continues to believe that the ultimate outcome of these matters will not have a material adverse impact on the results of operations, liquidity or financial position of the Company. However, if one or more of these examinations has an unfavorable resolution, it is possible that the results of operation, liquidity or financial position of the Company could be materially affected in any particular period. Since the date of the notification in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company has been required to pay the disputed duty, pending resolution of the appeal. As of April 4, 2015, \$3.3 million had been paid in respect of the disputed duty and is included in receivables in the Retail segment.

#### 10. Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, which will replace most existing revenue recognition guidance in U.S. GAAP. The core principle of the ASU is that an entity should recognize revenue for the transfer of goods or services equal to the amount that it expects to be entitled to receive for those goods or services. The ASU requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments. The ASU will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2017, and allows for both retrospective and modified retrospective methods of adoption. The Company is in the process of determining the method of adoption and assessing the impact of this ASU on its consolidated financial statements. In April 2015, the FASB proposed a one-year deferral of the effective date of the new revenue standard. As a result of this proposal, ASU 2014-09 would be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2018.

In August 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-15, *Disclosure of Uncertainties about an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern.* ASU 2014-15 requires management to evaluate for each annual and interim reporting period whether conditions or events give rise to substantial doubt that an entity has the ability to continue as a going concern within one year following issuance of the financial statements and requires specific disclosures regarding the conditions or events leading to substantial doubt. The ASU will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2017, with early adoption permitted. The adoption of ASU 2014-15 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

#### 11. Subsequent Event

In the period from April 5, 2015 through May 7, 2015, the Company repurchased approximately 114,000 shares of its common stock for an aggregate amount of \$2.0 million, leaving \$5.0 million of availability under the Board approved share repurchase program.

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

Cautionary Notice Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, and we undertake no obligation to update these statements except as required by federal securities laws. Our actual results may differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, those detailed under the caption "Risk Factors" in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 3, 2015, as filed with the SEC, and the following:

general global economic conditions may deteriorate, which could lead to disproportionately reduced consumer demand for our products, which represent relatively discretionary spending;

customer traffic may decrease in the shopping malls where we are located, on which we depend to attract guests to our stores;

we may be unable to generate interest in and demand for our interactive retail experience, or to identify and respond to consumer preferences in a timely fashion;

our marketing and on-line initiatives may not be effective in generating sufficient levels of brand awareness and guest traffic;

we may improperly obtain or be unable to adequately protect customer information in violation of privacy or security laws or customer expectations;

we may be unable to generate comparable store sales growth;

we may be unable to effectively operate or manage the overall portfolio of our company-owned stores;

we may be unable to renew or replace our store leases, or enter into leases for new stores on favorable terms or in favorable locations, or may violate the terms of our current leases;

we may not be able to operate our international company-owned stores profitably;

the availability and costs of our products could be adversely affected by risks associated with international manufacturing and trade, including foreign currency fluctuation;

our products could become subject to recalls or product liability claims that could adversely impact our financial performance and harm our reputation among consumers;

we may lose key personnel, be unable to hire qualified additional personnel, or experience turnover of our management team;

we are susceptible to disruption in our inventory flow due to our reliance on a few vendors;

we may be unable to effectively manage our international franchises or laws relating to those franchises may change; we may fail to renew, register or otherwise protect our trademarks or other intellectual property;

we are subject to risks associated with technology and digital operations;

we may suffer negative publicity or be sued due to violations of labor laws or unethical practices by manufacturers of our merchandise;

we may be unable to operate our company-owned distribution center efficiently or our third-party distribution center providers may perform poorly;

high petroleum products prices could increase our inventory transportation costs and adversely affect our profitability;

our plans to leverage the Build-A-Bear brand to drive strategic expansion may not be successful; our market share could be adversely affected by a significant, or increased, number of competitors; we may suffer negative publicity or negative sales if the non-proprietary toy products we sell in our stores do not meet our quality or sales expectations;

poor global economic conditions could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity and capital resources; fluctuations in our quarterly results of operations could cause the price of our common stock to substantially decline; and

we may be unable to repurchase shares of our common stock at the times or in the amounts we currently anticipate or the results of the share repurchase program may not be as beneficial as we currently anticipate.

#### Overview

We are the only global company that offers an interactive "make your own stuffed animal" retail entertainment experience under the Build-A-Bear Workshop brand, in which our guests stuff, fluff, dress, accessorize and name their own teddy bears and other stuffed animals. As of April 4, 2015, we operated 257 stores in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico (collectively, North America), 60 stores in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark (collectively, Europe) and had 69 franchised stores operating internationally under the Build-A-Bear Workshop brand.

We operate in three segments that share the same infrastructure, including management, systems, merchandising and marketing, and generate revenues as follows:

Retail - Company-owned retail stores located in North America and Europe and two web stores;

International Franchising - Other international stores operated under franchise agreements; and

Commercial - Transactions with other business partners, mainly comprised of wholesale product sales and licensing our intellectual property, including entertainment properties, for third-party use.

Our financial results in fiscal 2014 demonstrated the impact of the successful and consistent implementation of our key strategies of optimizing real estate, resetting the consumer value equation and rationalizing our expense structure. Our 2015 plan builds on the progress we made in 2014 and 2013 in implementing these key strategies, with a combination of continuous improvement of these initiatives and strategic expansion into additive opportunities. Specifically, we plan to expand into more places as we continue to improve our real estate model through selective new high-potential openings, a systematic refresh of our store base and strategic international expansion. We plan to reach more people as we continue to drive core consumer business and strategically expand our business with the over 12 year-old consumer segment. Additionally, we intend to sell more products by developing proprietary product stories along with re-launching an out-bound licensing program. We expect to do this more profitably as we continue to improve the value engineering of products and implement new systems that facilitate sales growth and increase efficiency.

Selected financial data attributable to each segment for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 and March 29, 2014 are set forth in the notes to our condensed consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

We use comparable store sales as one of the performance measures for our business. Comparable store sales percentage changes are based on net retail sales, excluding our webstores, and the impact of foreign exchange. Stores are considered comparable beginning in their thirteenth consecutive full month of operation. Comparable store sales percentage changes for the first quarter of 2015 are based on net retail sales as compared to the thirteen weeks ended April 5, 2015. The percentage change in comparable store sales for the periods presented below is as follows:

Thirteen
Weeks Ended
April March
4, 29,
2015 2014

North America (0.2)% (1.9)% Europe 13.3% (3.2)% Consolidated 2.0% (2.2)%

We believe our positive consolidated comparable store sales were led by the performance in areas that were less affected by weather, particularly Europe, as well as our continuing improvement in the overall disciplined management of our business and the elevation of our product and marketing campaigns. In North America, the positive performance prior to Valentine's Day was more than offset with the impact of adverse weather during the post Valentine's period and lead-in to Easter. We rebounded in the key Easter week resulting in flat comparable store sales in North America for the quarter.

We expect to improve comparable store sales through the following key initiatives:

**Expanding into more places:** We intend to continuously improve our real estate model by strategically evolving our store portfolio to align with market trends while selectively opening new locations and systematically refreshing our store base. To this end, we plan to open additional stores in high potential destinations such as tourist locations, outlet malls and shop-in-shops, which have proven more productive than traditional mall stores. We expect to strategically expand our international presence by leveraging the improving strength in our company-owned stores to restructure and extend our international footprint. We expect to develop new market expansion through both franchise and company-owned store models.

**Targeting more people:** We intend to continuously grow our business with our core three to twelve year-old consumer segment which represents a majority of current revenue. We will focus on initiatives that drive trial and increase repeat visits with an evolved segmentation, product development and marketing strategy. We expect to strategically grow sales to the over twelve year-old consumers with a focus on key categories including gift-giving, affinity and collectibles. The over-twelve consumer segment currently represents approximately 20% of sales and has a tendency to over-index on less price-sensitive gift-able purchases.

**Developing more products:** We intend to continuously improve and extend our efforts to successfully develop high impact product stories coupled with integrated marketing programs that tend to garner higher price points, drive add-on purchases and create play beyond the plush.

**Driving more profitability:** We intend to continuously improve our value engineering initiatives to further optimize product margins while implementing new systems that facilitate sales growth, increase efficiency and improve long term profitability. We expect to strategically expand our profitability by prioritizing incremental growth initiatives, like those discussed above, that leverage existing infrastructure, are primarily royalty-based, and/or allow for discrete pricing and are therefore comparatively margin-accretive.

#### **Stores**

#### Company-owned Stores

The table below sets forth the number of Build-A-Bear Workshop company-owned stores in North America and Europe for the periods presented:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended						
	April 4	April 4, 2015			March 29, 2014		
	North Americ	Europe	Total	North Americ	Europe	Total	
Beginning of period	265	59	324	263	60	323	
Opened	-	1	1	-	-	-	
Closed	(8)	-	(8)	(7)	-	(7)	
End of period	257	60	317	256	60	316	

During 2015, we expect to open stores in high potential destinations such as tourist locations, outlet malls and shop-in-shops. In the second half of 2015, we also expect to begin to systematically refresh our store base with a new design developed to improve productivity and update our brand look. We plan to update stores primarily in conjunction with natural lease events including new store openings, relocations and lease required remodels. We also expect to close select stores in accordance with natural lease events as an ongoing part of our real estate management and day-to-day operational plans.

#### International Franchise Revenue

Our first franchisee location was opened in November 2003. All franchised stores have similar signage, store layout and merchandise characteristics as our company-owned stores. As of April 4, 2015, we had 11 master franchise agreements, which typically grant franchise rights for a particular country or group of countries, covering an aggregate

of 17 countries. The number of traditional international franchised stores opened and closed for the periods presented below are summarized as follows:

		ss d Marc 29,	:h
Destruction of most of	2015		
Beginning of period	71	86	
Opened	-	-	
Closed	(2)	(3	)
End of period	69	83	

In the ordinary course of business, we anticipate signing additional master franchise agreements in the future and terminating other such agreements. We believe there is a market potential for approximately 300 international stores outside of North America and Europe. In 2015, we expect to begin to leverage the strength in our company-owned stores to expand our international presence with new and existing franchisees as well as company-owned stores.

#### **Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, selected statement of operations data expressed as a percentage of total revenues, except where otherwise indicated. Percentages will not total due to cost of merchandise sold being expressed as a percentage of net retail sales and commercial revenue and immaterial rounding:

	Thirteen ended	n weeks
	April 4,	March 29,
	2015	2014
Revenues:		
Net retail sales	98.1 %	98.9 %
Franchise fees	0.6	0.7
Commercial revenue	1.3	0.4
Total revenues	100.0	100.0
Costs and expenses: Cost of merchandise sold - retail (1) Cost of merchandise sold - commercial (1) Selling, general and administrative Interest expense (income), net Total costs and expenses	53.2 30.6 39.9 (0.1 ) 92.4	
Income before income taxes Income tax expense Net income	7.6 0.2 7.3	5.4 0.3 5.1
Retail gross margin %	46.8 %	43.5 %

<sup>(1)</sup> Cost of merchandise sold – retail is expressed as a percentage of net retail sales. Cost of merchandise sold – commercial is expressed as a percentage of commercial revenue.

### Thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 compared to thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014

*Total revenues.* Total revenues were \$93.4 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to \$97.9 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, a decrease of \$4.5 million, or 4.6%. Net retail sales were \$91.7 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to \$96.8 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, a decrease of \$5.2 million, or 5.3%. The components of this decrease are as follows (dollars in millions):

Change from other retail, including impact of calendar shift and web sales	\$(2.9)
Impact of foreign currency translation	(1.9)
Increase in comparable store sales	1.7
Decrease in non-comparable stores, primarily remodels and relocations	(1.3)
Impact from new stores	(0.6)
Impact of store closures	(0.1)
Change in deferred revenue estimate	(0.1)
	\$(5.2)

We believe our positive consolidated comparable store sales were led by the performance in areas that were less affected by weather, particularly Europe, as well as our continuing improvement in the overall disciplined management of our business and the elevation of our product and marketing campaigns. In North America, the positive performance prior to Valentine's Day was more than offset with the impact of adverse weather during the post Valentine's period and lead-in to Easter. We rebounded in the key Easter week resulting in flat comparable store sales in North America for the quarter.

Revenue from international franchise fees was \$0.6 million and \$0.7 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 and March 29, 2014, respectively, the decrease resulting from fewer franchised stores in operation in 2015. Commercial revenue was \$1.2 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 compared to \$0.4 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, an increase of \$0.7 million, resulting from the timing of wholesale sales and reduced licensing activity in 2015.

Retail gross margin. Retail gross margin was \$42.9 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to \$42.1 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, an increase of \$0.7 million, or 1.7%. As a percentage of net retail sales, retail gross margin was 46.8% for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to 43.5% for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, an increase of 330 basis points as a percentage of net retail sales. Our retail gross margin improvement was primarily driven by improved merchandise margin, supply chain and reduced discounts, partially offset by deleverage of fixed occupancy expenses during the quarter.

Selling, general and administrative. Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$37.2 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to \$37.8 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, a decrease of \$0.6 million, or 1.5%. As a percentage of total revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses were 39.9% for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to 38.6% for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, an increase of 130 bps. This increase as a percent of total revenue was driven by the impact of currency on the re-measurement of certain balance sheet items, partially offset by the timing of marketing spend between quarters.

*Interest expense (income), net.* Interest income, net of interest expense, was \$51,000 for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to \$62,000 for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014.

*Income tax expense*. Income tax expense was \$0.2 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to \$0.3 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014. The effective tax rate was 3.3% for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 compared to 5.3% for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014. While the components of income tax expense remain consistent between periods, the change in the effective rate was driven by the increase in pre-tax income. The effective rate was substantially below the statutory rate in both periods primarily due to the reversal of valuation allowances.

#### **Seasonality and Quarterly Results**

Our operating results for one period may not be indicative of results for other periods, and may fluctuate significantly because of a variety of factors, including: (1) changes in general economic conditions and consumer spending patterns; (2) increases or decreases in our comparable store sales; (3) fluctuations in the profitability of our stores; (4) changes in foreign currency exchange rates; (5) the timing and frequency of our marketing initiatives, including national media and other public relations events; (6) the timing of our store closings and openings and related expenses; (7) changes in consumer preferences; (8) the effectiveness of our inventory management; (9) the actions of our competitors or mall anchors and co-tenants; (10) seasonal shopping patterns and holiday and vacation schedules; and (11) weather conditions.

The timing of store closures, remodels and openings may result in fluctuations in quarterly results based on the revenues and expenses associated with each store location. Expenses related to store closings are typically incurred in stages: when the decision is made to close the store, when the closure is communicated to store associates and at the time of closure. We typically incur most preopening costs for a new store in the three months immediately preceding the store's opening.

As a retailer whose primary business is in the toy category, our sales are highest in our fourth quarter, followed by the first quarter. The timing of holidays and school vacations can impact our quarterly results. Our European-based stores

have historically been more heavily weighted in the fourth quarter as compared to our North American stores. We cannot assure you that this will continue to be the case. In addition, for accounting purposes, the quarters of each fiscal year consist of 13 weeks, although we will have a 14-week quarter approximately once every six years. The 2014 fiscal fourth quarter had 14 weeks.

#### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our cash requirements are primarily for the relocation and remodeling of existing stores, opening of new stores, information systems and working capital. Over the past several years, we have met these requirements through capital generated from cash flow provided by operations. We have access to additional cash through our revolving line of credit that has been in place since 2000.

Operating Activities. Cash used in operating activities was \$3.8 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 compared with \$1.5 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, an increase of \$2.3 million. This increase in cash used in operating activities over the year ago period was primarily due to the increase in inventory partially offset by a decrease in gift card redemptions due to the calendar shift and increased store contribution.

*Investing Activities*. Cash used in investing activities was \$2.9 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 as compared to \$1.1 million for the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014. Cash used in investing activities during the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 and March 29, 2014 primarily relates to upgrades and purchases of central office information technology systems and equipment and store construction and maintenance.

Financing Activities. Cash used in financing activities in the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 was \$3.5 million as purchases of our stock used cash of \$3.0 million and exercises of employee stock options, net of shares used for withholding tax payments used \$0.5 million. In the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2014, financing activities used cash of \$0.1 million, as purchases of our stock used cash of \$0.7 million, partially offset by \$0.6 million provided by exercises of employee stock options, net of shares used for withholding tax payments. No borrowings were made under our line of credit in either the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 or March 29, 2014.

Capital Resources. As of April 4, 2015, we had a consolidated cash balance of \$54.7 million, more than half of which was domiciled outside of the United States. We also have a line of credit, which we can use to finance capital expenditures and working capital needs throughout the year. The bank line provides availability of \$35 million. Borrowings under the credit agreement are secured by our assets and a pledge of 65% of our ownership interest in our foreign subsidiaries. The credit agreement expires on December 31, 2016 and contains various restrictions on indebtedness, liens, guarantees, redemptions, mergers, acquisitions or sale of assets, loans, transactions with affiliates and investments. It also prohibits us from declaring dividends without the bank's prior consent, unless such payment of dividends would not violate any terms of the credit agreement. We are also prohibited from repurchasing shares of our common stock unless such repurchase of shares would not violate any terms of the credit agreement; we may not use the proceeds of the line of credit to repurchase shares. Borrowings bear interest at LIBOR plus 1.8%. Financial covenants include maintaining a minimum tangible net worth, maintaining a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio (as defined in the credit agreement) and not exceeding a maximum funded debt to earnings before interest, depreciation and amortization ratio. As of April 4, 2015: (i) we were in compliance with these covenants; (ii) there were no borrowings under our line of credit; (iii) there was a standby letter of credit of approximately \$1.1 million outstanding under the credit agreement; and (iv) there was approximately \$33.9 million available for borrowing under the line of credit.

Most of our retail stores are located within shopping malls and all are operated under leases classified as operating leases. Our leases in North America typically have a ten-year term and contain provisions for base rent plus percentage rent based on defined sales levels. Many of the leases contain a provision whereby either we or the landlord may terminate the lease after a certain time, typically in the third to fourth year of the lease, if a certain minimum sales volume is not achieved. In addition, some of these leases contain various restrictions relating to change of control of our company. Our leases also subject us to risks relating to compliance with changing mall rules and the exercise of discretion by our landlords on various matters, including rights of termination in some cases.

Our leases in the U.K. and Ireland typically have terms of 10 to 15 years and generally contain a provision whereby every fifth year the rental rate can be adjusted upwards to reflect the current market rates. The leases typically provide the lessee with the first right for renewal at the end of the lease. We may also be required to make deposits and rent guarantees to secure new leases as we expand. Real estate taxes also change according to government time schedules to reflect current market rental rates for the locations we lease. Rents are charged quarterly and paid in advance.

In fiscal 2015, we expect to spend a total of \$20 million to \$25 million on capital expenditures. Capital spending through the thirteen weeks ended April 4, 2015 totaled \$2.9 million, on track with our full year plans. Capital spending in fiscal 2015 is primarily to support the refresh and repositioning of stores and investment in infrastructure.

We believe that cash generated from operations and borrowings under our credit agreement will be sufficient to fund our working capital and other cash flow requirements for the near future. Our credit agreement expires on December 31, 2016.

On February 20, 2007, we announced that our board of directors had authorized a \$25 million share repurchase program of our outstanding common stock. On March 10, 2008, we announced an expansion of our share repurchase program to \$50 million (the "2008 Share Repurchase Program"). Following a series of annual extensions, on February 25, 2015, we announced the termination of the 2008 Share Repurchase Program and adopted a new repurchase program (the "2015 Share Repurchase Program") which authorizes us to repurchase up to \$10 million of our common stock until March 31, 2016, subject to further extension by the Board. As of February 25, 2015, under the 2008 Share Repurchase Program, we had repurchased approximately 6,245,000 shares at an average price of \$7.40 per share for an aggregate amount of \$46.2 million, leaving \$3.8 million of availability under the program unused. Under the 2015 Share Repurchase Program, we currently intend to purchase up to \$10 million of our common stock in the open market (including through 10b5-1 trading plans), through privately negotiated transactions, or through an accelerated repurchase transaction. The primary source of funding has been, and is expected to be, cash on hand. The timing and amount of share repurchases, if any, will depend on price, market conditions, applicable regulatory requirements, and other factors. The 2015 Share Repurchase Program does not require us to repurchase any specific number of shares, and may be modified, suspended or terminated at any time without prior notice. Shares repurchased under the 2015 Share Repurchase Program will be subsequently retired. As of May 7, 2015, we had repurchased approximately 269,000 shares at an average price of \$18.59 per share for an aggregate amount of \$5.0 million, leaving \$5.0 million of availability under the 2015 Share Repurchase program.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements
None
Inflation
We do not believe that inflation has had a material adverse impact on our business or operating results during the periods presented. We cannot provide assurance, however, that our business will not be affected by inflation in the future.
15

#### **Critical Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires the appropriate application of certain accounting policies, which require us to make estimates and assumptions about future events and their impact on amounts reported in our financial statements and related notes. Since future events and their impact cannot be determined with certainty, the actual results will inevitably differ from our estimates. Such differences could be material to the financial statements.

We believe application of accounting policies, and the estimates inherently required therein, are reasonable. These accounting policies and estimates, including those related to long-lived assets, revenue recognition and income taxes, are reevaluated on an ongoing basis, and adjustments are made when facts and circumstances dictate a change. Historically, we have found our application of accounting policies to be appropriate, and actual results have not differed materially from those determined using necessary estimates.

Our critical accounting policies and estimates are discussed in and should be read in conjunction with our annual report on Form 10-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on March 19, 2015, which includes audited consolidated financial statements for our 2014, 2013 and 2012 fiscal years. There have been no material changes to the critical accounting estimates disclosed in the 2014 Form 10-K.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, which will replace most existing revenue recognition guidance in U.S. GAAP. See Note 10 – Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

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

There have been no material changes to our Qualitative and Quantitative Disclosures About Market Risk as disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 3, 2015 as filed with the SEC on March 19, 2015.

#### Item 4. Controls and Procedures.

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief President Bear and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our 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 (the "Exchange Act"), as of the end of the period covered by this report. Our disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms and is accumulated and communicated to management, including our certifying officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Based on the foregoing evaluation, our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief President Bear and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of April 4, 2015, the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report.

It should be noted that our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief President Bear and the Chief Financial Officer, does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures or internal controls will prevent all error and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived or operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by management override of the controls. The design of any system of controls is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions; over time, controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. Because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. The Company's management, with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief President Bear and Chief Financial Officer, also conducted an evaluation of the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) to determine whether any changes occurred during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Based on that evaluation, there has been no such change during the period covered by this report.

#### **PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors.

There have been no material changes to our Risk Factors as disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 3, 2015 as filed with the SEC on March 19, 2015.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.

#### ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period	Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased (1)	Average Price Paid Per Share (or Unit)	(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plan or Program (2)	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plan or Program (2)
Jan. 4, 2015 – Jan. 31, 2015	622	\$ 22.14	_	\$3,728,779
Feb. 1, 2015 – Feb. 28, 2015	720	\$ 21.66	_	\$10,000,000
Mar. 1, 2015 – Apr. 4, 2015	209,248	\$ 19.71	154,292	\$7,002,128
Total	210,590	\$ 19.73	154,292	

Includes shares of our common stock delivered to us in satisfaction of the tax withholding obligation of holders of restricted shares which vested during the quarter. Our equity incentive plans provide that the value of shares delivered to us to pay the withholding tax obligations is calculated at the closing trading price of our common stock on the date the relevant transaction occurs.

On February 25, 2015, we announced the termination of the share repurchase program that was adopted in 2008 and adopted a new repurchase program (the "2015 Share Repurchase Program") which authorizes us to repurchase up to \$10 million of our common stock until March 31, 2016, subject to further extension by the Board. Under the 2015 Share Repurchase Program, we currently intend to purchase up to \$10 million of our common stock in the open market (including through 10b5-1 trading plans), through privately negotiated transactions, or through an

(2) accelerated repurchase transaction. The primary source of funding is expected to be cash on hand. The timing and amount of share repurchases, if any, will depend on price, market conditions, applicable regulatory requirements, and other factors. The program does not require the Company to repurchase any specific number of shares, and may be modified, suspended or terminated at any time without prior notice. Shares repurchased under the program will be subsequently retired. As of May 7, 2015, we had approximately \$5.0 million of availability under the program.

#### Item 6. Exhibits.

The following is a list of exhibits filed as a part of the quarterly report on Form 10-Q:

# Exhibit No. Description

2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger dated April 3, 2000 between Build-A-Bear Workshop, L.L.C. and the Registrant (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 2.1 to our Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed on August 12, 2004, Registration No. 333-118142)
3.1	Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 3.1 of our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 11, 2004)
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 3.4 to our Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed on August 12, 2004, Registration No. 333-118142)
4.1	Specimen Stock Certificate (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.1 to Amendment No. 3 to our Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed on October 1, 2004, Registration No. 333-118142)
10.1*	Form of Restricted Stock and Non-Qualified Stock Option Agreement under the Registrant's Third Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 on our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on March 20, 2015)
10.2*	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement under the Registrant's Third Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 on our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on March 20, 2015)
10.3*	Amended and Restated Employment, Confidentiality and Noncompete Agreement dated as of April 14, 2015 between Eric Fencl and the Registrant

10.4*	Employment, Confidentiality and Noncompete Agreement dated as of April 15, 2015 between J. Christopher Hurt and the Registrant
31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification (pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, executed by the Chief Executive Officer and Chief President Bear)
31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification (pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, executed by the Chief Financial Officer)
32.1	Section 1350 Certification (pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, executed by the Chief Executive Officer and Chief President Bear)
32.2	Section 1350 Certification (pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, executed by the Chief Financial Officer)
101.INS	XBRL Instance
101.SCH	XBRL Extension Schema
101.CAL	XBRL Extension Calculation
101.DEF	XBRL Extension Definition
101.LAB	XBRL Extension Label
101.PRE	XBRL Extension Presentation

\* Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement

### **SIGNATURES**

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

Date: May 14, 2015

BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP, INC.

(Registrant)

By: /s/ Sharon John Sharon John

Chief Executive Officer and Chief President Bear

(on behalf of the registrant and as principal executive officer)

By: /s/ Voin Todorovic

Voin Todorovic

Chief Financial Officer (on behalf of the registrant and as principal financial officer)