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## UNITED STATES

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM 10-K

® Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities
Exchange Act of 1934
For the Fiscal Year Ended January 30, 2010

OR
$\square$ 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 1-11893

GUESS?, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| Delaware | $\mathbf{9 5 - 3 6 7 9 6 9 5}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| or other jurisdiction | (I.R.S. Employer |
| oration or organization) | Identification Number) |

1444 South Alameda Street
Los Angeles, California 90021
(213) 765-3100
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:


Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes $\square$ No $\boxtimes$
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section $15(\mathrm{~d})$ of the Act. Yes $\square$ No $\boxtimes$
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 $\mathbb{\text { do }}$

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 $\square$ No $\square$

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K ( $\$ 229.405$ of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether 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 $\boldsymbol{x}$ | Accelerated filer $\square$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Non-accelerated filer $\square$ (Do not check if a smaller reporting <br> company) | Smaller reporting company |

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes $\square$ No $\mathbb{}$
As of the close of business on August 1, 2009, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was $\$ 1,696,536,158$ based upon the closing price of $\$ 29.07$ on the New York Stock Exchange composite tape on such date. For this computation, the registrant has excluded the market value of all shares of its common stock reported as beneficially owned by executive officers and directors of the registrant. Such exclusion shall not be deemed to constitute an admission that any such person is an "affiliate" of the registrant.

As of the close of business on March 22, 2010, the registrant had $92,897,088$ shares of common stock outstanding.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the proxy statement for the registrant's 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III herein.

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## IMPORTANT FACTORS REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Throughout this Annual Report on Form 10-K, including documents incorporated by reference herein, we make "forward-looking" statements, which are not historical facts, but are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forwardlooking statements may also be in our other reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, in our press releases and in other documents. In addition, from time to time, we, through our management, may make oral forward-looking statements. These statements relate to analyses and other information based on forecasts of future results and estimates of amounts not yet determinable. These statements also relate to our future prospects and proposed new products, services, developments or business strategies. These forward-looking statements are identified by their use of terms and phrases such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "predict," "project," "will," "continue," and other similar terms and phrases, including references to assumptions.

Although we believe that the expectations reflected in any of our forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially from those projected or assumed. These forward-looking statements may include, among other things, statements relating to our expected results of operations, the accuracy of data relating to, and anticipated levels of, future inventory and gross margins, anticipated cash requirements and sources, cost containment efforts, estimated charges, plans regarding store openings and closings, plans regarding business growth and international expansion, ecommerce, business seasonality, results of litigation, industry trends, consumer demands and preferences, competition, currency fluctuations and general economic conditions. We do not intend, and undertake no obligation, to update our forward-looking statements to reflect future events or circumstances. Such statements involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in these statements. Important factors that could cause or contribute to such difference include those discussed under "ITEM 1A. Risk Factors" contained herein.

## PART I

## ITEM 1. Business.

## General

Unless the context indicates otherwise, the terms "we," "us," "our" or the "Company" in this Form 10-K refer to Guess?, Inc. ("GUESS?") and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

We design, market, distribute and license one of the world's leading lifestyle collections of contemporary apparel and accessories for men, women and children that reflect the American lifestyle and European fashion sensibilities. Our apparel is marketed under numerous trademarks including GUESS, GUESS?, GUESS U.S.A., GUESS Jeans, GUESS? and Triangle Design, MARCIANO, Question Mark and Triangle Design, a stylized G and a stylized M, GUESS Kids, Baby GUESS, YES, G by GUESS, GUESS by MARCIANO and Gc. The lines include full collections of denim and cotton clothing, including jeans, pants, overalls, skirts, dresses, shorts, blouses, shirts, jackets and knitwear. We also selectively grant licenses to manufacture and distribute a broad range of products that complement our apparel lines, including eyewear, watches, handbags, footwear, kids' and infants' apparel, leather apparel, swimwear, fragrance, jewelry, intimate apparel and other fashion accessories.

Our products are sold through retail, wholesale, e-commerce and licensing distribution channels. Our core customer is a style-conscious consumer primarily between the ages of 18 and 32 . These consumers are part of a highly desirable demographic group that we believe, historically, has had significant disposable income. We also appeal to customers outside this group through specialty product lines that include GUESS by MARCIANO, a more sophisticated fashion line targeted to women and men, and GUESS Kids, targeted to boys and girls ages 6 to 12 .

We were founded in 1981 and currently operate as a Delaware corporation.

## Business Strengths

We believe we have several business strengths that set us apart from our competition and enable us to continue to grow our business and enhance our profitability. These business strengths include:

Brand Equity. The GUESS? brand is an integral part of our business, a significant strategic asset and a primary source of sustainable competitive advantage. The GUESS? brand communicates a distinctive image that is fun, fashionable and sexy. We have developed and maintained this image worldwide through our consistent emphasis on innovative and distinctive product designs and through our award-winning advertising, under the creative leadership and vision of Paul Marciano, our Chief Executive Officer. Brand loyalty, name awareness, perceived quality, strong brand images, public relations, publicity, promotional events and trademarks all contribute to the reputation and integrity of the GUESS? brand.

Global Diversification. The global success of the GUESS? brand has reduced our reliance on any particular geographic region. This geographic diversification allows the Company to continue to grow, even during regional economic slowdowns. The percentage of our revenues generated from outside of the U.S. and Canada has grown from $21 \%$ for the year ended December 31, 2005 to $45 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, with stores located in 84 countries outside the U.S. and Canada. In fiscal 2010 alone, we, along with our distributors and licensees, opened 143 stores in all concepts combined outside of the U.S. and Canada, comprised of 90 stores in Europe and the Middle East, 45 stores in Asia and 8 stores in the combined area of Central and South America, bringing the total number of such stores to 778 at year end. This compares with 432 directly operated stores in the U.S. and Canada as of January 30, 2010.

We believe there are significant opportunities to continue our international growth, particularly in Europe and Asia, where the GUESS? brand is well recognized but under-penetrated. In Europe, we have focused on growing outside of our core base in Italy, targeting France, Germany, the UK and Spain as key
markets and achieving positive results. In Asia, our business has continued to grow, fueled by the strength of our brand in South Korea as well as the launch of our direct operations in China.

Multiple Distribution Channels. We use retail, wholesale, e-commerce and licensing distribution channels to sell our products. This allows us to maintain a critical balance as our operating results do not depend solely on the performance of any single channel. The use of multiple channels also allows us to adapt quickly to changes in the distribution environment in any particular region.

Retail Distribution. Our retail network, made up of both directly operated and licensee operated stores, creates an upscale and inviting shopping environment that helps to enhance our brand image.

Directly operated stores. At January 30, 2010, we directly operated a total of 432 stores in the U.S. and Canada and 125 stores outside of the U.S. and Canada, plus an additional 154 smaller-sized concessions in Europe and Asia. Distribution through our directly operated retail stores allows us to influence the merchandising and presentation of our products, build brand equity and test new product design concepts.

Licensee stores. At January 30, 2010, our international licensees and distributors operated 653 stores located outside the U.S. and Canada, plus 75 smaller-sized licensee operated jean and accessory concessions located in Asia. Using this licensed retail store approach allows us to expand our international operations with a lower level of capital investment while still closely monitoring store designs and merchandise programs in order to protect the reputation of the GUESS? brand.

Wholesale Distribution. We sell through both domestic and international wholesale distribution channels. U.S. wholesale customers consist primarily of better department stores, including Macy's and Dillard's, and select specialty retailers and upscale boutiques, which have the image and merchandising expertise that we require for the effective presentation of our products. In Europe, our products are sold in stores ranging from large, well known department stores like Galeries Lafayette, Printemps and El Corte Inglès to small upscale multi-brand boutiques. Because our European wholesale business is more fragmented, we generally rely on a large number of smaller regional distributors and agents to distribute our products. Through our foreign subsidiaries and our network of international distributors, our products are also available in major cities throughout Canada, Africa, Asia, Australia, the Middle East and Central and South America.
$\boldsymbol{e}$-Commerce. At January 30, 2010, we operated retail websites in the U.S., Canada, Europe and South Korea, with the Europe and South Korea retail websites launching during fiscal 2010. Our websites act as virtual storefronts that both sell our products and promote our brands. Designed as customer shopping centers, these sites showcase our products in an easy-to-navigate format, allowing customers to see and purchase our collections of casual apparel and accessories. Not only have these virtual stores become an additional retail distribution channel, but they have also improved customer relations and are fun and entertaining alternative-shopping environments.

Licensing Operations. The desirability of the GUESS? brand name among consumers has allowed us to selectively expand our product offerings and global markets through trademark licensing arrangements, with minimal capital investment or on-going operating expenses. Our international licenses and distribution agreements allow for the sale of GUESS? branded products in better department stores and upscale specialty retail stores. We currently have 19 domestic and international licenses that include eyewear, watches, handbags, footwear, kids' and infants' apparel, intimate apparel, leather outerwear, fragrance, jewelry and other fashion accessories; and include licenses for the manufacture of GUESS? branded products in markets which include Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East, Central America, North America and South America.

Multiple Store Concepts. We and our network of licensee partners sell our products around the world primarily through six different store concepts, namely our flagship GUESS? full-price retail stores, our

GUESS? factory outlet stores, our GUESS by MARCIANO stores, our G by GUESS stores, our GUESS? Accessories stores and our GUESS? Kids stores. We also have a small number of footwear, Gc watch and underwear concept stores. This allows us to target the various demographics in each region through dedicated store concepts that market each brand or concept specifically to the desired customer population. Having multiple store concepts also allows us to target our newer brands and concepts in different markets without negatively impacting our flagship GUESS? store concept. For instance, we can target mall locations for G by GUESS stores where we would not ordinarily operate any of our full-price GUESS? stores.

## Business Segments

The Company's businesses are grouped into four reportable segments for management and internal financial reporting purposes: retail, European, wholesale and licensing. Management evaluates segment performance based primarily on revenue and earnings from operations. We believe this segment reporting reflects how our business segments are managed and evaluated. The retail segment includes our retail operations in North America. The European segment includes both our wholesale and retail operations in Europe and the Middle East. The wholesale segment includes our wholesale operations in North America and our Asian operations. The licensing segment includes our worldwide licensing operations.

The following table presents our net revenue and earnings from operations by segment for the last three fiscal years:

|  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 30, 2010 }\end{array}$ |  |  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, 2009 }\end{array}$ |  |  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Feb. 2, 2008 }\end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (dollars in thousands) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |$)$

Additional segment information, together with certain geographical information, is included in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained herein.

## Retail Segment

In our retail segment, we sell our products through a network of directly operated retail and factory outlet stores in North America and through our on-line stores. In fiscal 2010, our retail segment accounted for approximately $46 \%$ of our revenue and $37 \%$ of our earnings from operations. Our retail stores build brand awareness and contribute to market penetration and the growth of our brand. We attribute our historical growth in this segment to the strength of our brand, the quality of our product assortment, the introduction of new product categories, the development of a motivated team of sales professionals to
service our customers and provide a favorable shopping experience, quality real estate in high-traffic shopping centers and a diversified mix of store concepts.

Below is a summary of store statistics, followed by details regarding each of our store concepts.

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 31, } \\ 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb. 2, } \\ 2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GUESS? Retail Stores: |  |  |  |
| U.S. | 142 | 145 | 140 |
| Canada | 49 | 47 | 47 |
|  | 191 | 192 | 187 |
| GUESS? Factory Outlet Stores: |  |  |  |
| U.S. | 89 | 87 | 81 |
| Canada | 18 | 17 | 16 |
|  | 107 | 104 | 97 |
| GUESS by MARCIANO Stores: |  |  |  |
| U.S. | 35 | 35 | 26 |
| Canada | 17 | 17 | 12 |
|  | 52 | 52 | 38 |
| G by GUESS Stores: |  |  |  |
| U.S. | 44 | 43 | 34 |
|  | 44 | 43 | 34 |


| U.S. | 31 | 27 | 13 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Canada | 7 | 7 | 4 |
|  | 38 | 34 | 17 |
| Total | 432 | 425 | 373 |
| Square footage at fiscal year end | 1,992,000 | 1,953,600 | 1,759,000 |

In addition to the stores listed above, at January 30, 2010, we also directly operated 13 stores in Mexico through a majority-owned joint venture.
GUESS? Retail Stores. Our full-price U.S. and Canada GUESS? retail stores carry a full assortment of men's and women's GUESS? merchandise, including most of our licensed product categories. At January 30, 2010, these stores occupied approximately 964,000 square feet and ranged in size from approximately 2,000 to 13,500 square feet, with most stores between 4,000 and 6,000 square feet. In fiscal 2010, we opened five new retail stores and we closed six stores.

GUESS? Factory Outlet Stores. Our U.S. and Canada factory outlet stores are primarily located in outlet malls generally operating outside the shopping radius of our wholesale customers and our full-price retail stores. These stores sell selected styles of men's and women's GUESS? apparel and licensed products at lower price points. At January 30, 2010, our U.S. and Canada factory outlet stores occupied approximately 584,000 square feet and ranged in size from approximately 2,000 to 11,000 square feet, with most stores between 5,000 and 7,000 square feet. In fiscal 2010, we opened four new factory stores and we closed one store.

GUESS by MARCIANO Stores. Our GUESS by MARCIANO stores in the U.S. and Canada offer a fashion-forward women's collection designed for the stylish, trend-setting woman. This newer concept, with higher price points than our traditional GUESS stores, extends the appeal of our brand
to a slightly older, more sophisticated customer. During fiscal 2010, we changed the name of this store concept from "MARCIANO" to "GUESS by MARCIANO" to further leverage the name recognition of the GUESS? brand and our reputation for sexy, contemporary styling. At January 30, 2010, our GUESS by MARCIANO stores occupied approximately 146,000 square feet and ranged in size from approximately 2,000 to 6,500 square feet, with most stores between 2,000 and 3,000 square feet. In fiscal 2010, we opened one new GUESS by MARCIANO store and we closed one store.

G by GUESS Stores. Our G by GUESS store concept, launched in fiscal 2008, targets a market demographic that shops price points below our GUESS? retail stores and carries apparel for both men and women and a full line of accessories and footwear that is aspirational, timeless and fun. G by GUESS stores have a fresh feel, directed toward a full customer experience, with fashion-forward, but not cutting edge fashion. At January 30, 2010, our G by GUESS stores occupied approximately 226,000 square feet and ranged in size from approximately 4,000 to 10,000 square feet, with most stores between 4,000 and 5,000 square feet. In fiscal 2010, we opened four new G by GUESS stores and we closed three stores.

GUESS? Accessories Stores. Our GUESS? Accessories store concept sells GUESS? and GUESS by MARCIANO labeled accessory products. This concept enables us to build a more meaningful presence and variety within our retail segment. At January 30, 2010, our GUESS? Accessories concept stores occupied approximately 72,000 square feet and ranged in size from approximately 700 to 4,000 square feet, with most stores between 1,000 and 2,500 square feet. In fiscal 2010, we opened four new GUESS? Accessories stores.
$\boldsymbol{e}$-Commerce. Our retail segment also includes our U.S. and Canada retail websites, including www.guess.com, www.gbyguess.com, www.guessbymarciano.com, www.guess.ca and www.guessbymarciano.ca. These websites operate as virtual storefronts that both sell our products and promote our brands. They also provide fashion information and a mechanism for customer feedback while promoting customer loyalty and enhancing our brand identity through interactive content. In fiscal 2010, the combined U.S. and Canada websites continued to grow, generating net sales in excess of our top retail GUESS? store.

## European Segment

In our European segment, we sell our products in 58 countries throughout Europe and the Middle East through wholesale, retail and e-commerce channels. In fiscal 2010, our European segment accounted for approximately $35 \%$ of our revenues and $48 \%$ of our earnings from operations.

European Wholesale Distribution. Our European wholesale business generally relies on a large number of smaller regional distributors and agents to distribute our products primarily to smaller independent multi-brand boutiques. Our products are also sold directly to large, well known department stores like Galeries Lafayette, Printemps and El Corte Inglès. Overall, we have thousands of customers with no single customer representing more than $0.5 \%$ of our consolidated net revenue. The type of customer varies from region to region depending on both the prominence of the GUESS? brand in each region and the dominance of a particular type of retail channel in each region. In countries where the brand is well known, we operate through showrooms where agents and distributors can view our line and place orders. We currently have showrooms in Barcelona, Madrid, Dusseldorf, Munich, London, Paris, Florence and Lugano. In countries where the brand is less prominent, we may use one large distributor for the entire region. Revenues from sales to our licensee operated stores (see European Retail Network below) are recognized as a wholesale sale within our European wholesale operations. We sell both our apparel and certain accessories products under our GUESS? and GUESS by MARCIANO brand concepts through our wholesale channel, operating primarily through two seasons, Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter. Generally our Spring/Summer sales campaign is from June to September with the related shipments occurring primarily from December
to March. The Fall/Winter sales campaign is from January to April with the related shipments occurring primarily from June to September. The remaining months of the year are relatively smaller shipping months in Europe. The Company's goal is to take advantage of early-season demand and potential reorders by offering a pre-collection assortment for apparel.

European Retail Network. Our European retail network is comprised of a mix of directly operated and licensee operated GUESS? and GUESS by MARCIANO retail and outlet stores, GUESS? Accessories stores, GUESS? Footwear stores and GUESS? Kids stores. At January 30, 2010, we had 84 directly operated stores and 304 licensee stores, excluding 29 smaller-sized jean and accessory concessions in Europe. During fiscal 2010, we opened 17 new directly operated stores, 73 licensee stores and 14 concessions. Our store locations vary country by country depending on the type of locations available. Most of our retail stores are operated as street locations with a lesser number of stores located in malls, which are less prevalent in Europe than in North America. Our typical GUESS? Accessories and GUESS by MARCIANO stores average approximately 1,000 square feet while our full-price GUESS? stores generally average 3,000 square feet. Our European stores generally require initial investments in the form of key money to secure prime store locations. These amounts are paid to landlords or existing lessees in certain circumstances.

## Wholesale Segment

In our wholesale segment, we sell our products through wholesale channels in North America and Asia, as well as through a network of licensee operated stores and concessions and Company operated stores and concessions in Asia. In fiscal 2010, our wholesale segment accounted for approximately $14 \%$ of both our revenue and earnings from operations.

North America Wholesale Operations. Our North American wholesale customers consist primarily of better department stores, select specialty retailers and upscale boutiques. As of January 30, 2010, our products were sold to consumers through 947 major doors in the U.S. These locations include 342 shop-in-shops, an exclusive selling area within a department store that offers a wide array of our products and incorporates GUESS? signage and fixture designs. These shop-in-shops allow us to reinforce the GUESS? brand image with our customers. Many department stores have more than one shop-in-shop, with each one featuring women's or men's apparel.

Our North American wholesale merchandising strategy is to focus on trend-right products supported by key fashion basics. We have sales representatives in New York, Los Angeles, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver who coordinate with customers to determine the inventory level and product mix that should be carried in each store. Additionally, we use merchandise coordinators who work with the stores to ensure that our products are displayed appropriately. During fiscal 2010, Macy's, Inc. was our largest domestic wholesale customer, accounting for approximately $3.4 \%$ of our consolidated net revenue. During the past year, we continued to see our North American wholesale operations become a smaller portion of our overall business as our international businesses expanded.

Asia Operations. Our Asian operations include sales of product through wholesale, retail and e-commerce channels throughout Asia. Our growth in Asia has been fueled by our business in South Korea, where we began operating directly in January 2007, and China, where we began operating directly in April 2007. Our Asia retail business includes both licensee and Company operated stores, including GUESS?, GUESS by MARCIANO, GUESS? Accessories, GUESS? Kids and GUESS? Underwear stores. For the year ended January 30, 2010, we and our partners opened 45 new stores in Asia, ending the year with 335 stores, 28 of which we operated directly and 307 of which were operated by licensees or distributors. This store count does not include 200 smaller-sized jean and accessory concessions. Our Asia wholesale customer base is comprised primarily of a small number of selected distributors with which we have contractual distribution arrangements.

## Licensing Segment

Our licensing segment includes the worldwide licensing operations of the Company. In fiscal 2010, our licensing segment royalties accounted for approximately $5 \%$ of our revenue and $24 \%$ of our earnings from operations.

The desirability of the GUESS? brand name among consumers has allowed us to selectively expand our product offerings and global markets through trademark licensing arrangements, with minimal capital investment or on-going operating expenses. We currently have 19 domestic and international licenses that include eyewear, watches, handbags, footwear, kids' and infants' apparel, intimate apparel, leather outerwear, fragrance, jewelry and other fashion accessories; and include licenses for the manufacture of GUESS? branded products in markets which include Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East, Central America, North America and South America.

Our trademark license agreements customarily provide for a three- to five-year initial term with a possible option to renew prior to expiration for an additional multi-year period. The typical license agreement requires that the licensee pay us the greater of a royalty based on a percentage of the licensee's net sales of licensed products or a guaranteed annual minimum royalty that typically increases over the term of the license agreement. In addition, several of our key license agreements provide for specified, fixed cash rights payments over and above our normal, ongoing royalty payments. Generally, licensees are required to spend a percentage of the net sales of licensed products for advertising and promotion of the licensed products and in many cases we place the ads on behalf of the licensee and are reimbursed. In addition, to protect and increase the value of our trademarks, our license agreements include strict quality control and manufacturing standards. Our licensing personnel in the U.S., Europe and Asia meet regularly with licensees to ensure consistency with our overall merchandising and design strategies, to monitor quality control and to protect the GUESS? trademarks and brand. As part of this process, our licensing department approves in advance all GUESS? licensed products, advertising, promotional materials and packaging materials.

We constantly examine opportunities to broaden our licensee portfolio by developing new license arrangements that can expand our brand penetration and complement the GUESS? image. We also strategically reposition our existing licensing portfolio by monitoring and evaluating the performance of our licensees worldwide. Through this process, we decided to begin direct operations of our previously licensed international jewelry business, effective January 1, 2010. Also effective January 1, 2010, we were able to successfully extend the term of our existing eyewearlicense on very favorable terms. Similarly, in prior years, we successfully renegotiated license agreements with our existing licensees for watches, handbags and eyewear on terms that were significantly improved over our prior arrangements. In addition, we signed a new footwear license to develop, manufacture and distribute athletic and fashion footwear under the GUESS? trademark in the U.S. and several countries worldwide. We believe these were important steps in expanding our presence both domestically and globally.

## Acquisitions and Alliances

We evaluate strategic acquisitions and alliances and pursue those that we believe will support and contribute to our overall growth initiatives. In January 2008, the Company finalized the acquisition of our former European licensee of children's apparel, BARN S.r.l. ("BARN"). In December 2006, we acquired $75 \%$ of the outstanding shares of Focus Europe, S.r.l. ("Focus"), as well as the leases and assets of four retail stores in Italy. Focus, based in Italy, had served as the licensee, manufacturer, distributor and retailer of GUESS by MARCIANO contemporary apparel for men and women in Europe for the 10 years before the acquisition. In January 2005, we completed the acquisition of the remaining $90 \%$ of Maco Apparel, S.p.A. ("Maco"), the Italian licensee of GUESS jeanswear for men and women in Europe, that the Company did not already own from Fingen S.p.A. and Fingen Apparel N.V., as well as the assets and
leases of ten retail stores in Europe. The stores were located in Rome, Milan, Paris, Amsterdam, London, and certain other European cities.
With the BARN, Focus and Maco acquisitions, we now directly manage our adult and children apparel businesses in Europe. We believe the combination of the manufacture and distribution of all our European apparel lines under the GUESS? umbrella allows us to take advantage of economies of scale and provides an opportunity to further expand our wholesale and retail operations in this region.

In addition to the above acquisitions, in 2006, we entered into a majority-owned joint venture with Adivina S.A. de. C.V. to oversee the revitalization and expansion of the GUESS? brand in Mexico. The joint venture currently distributes primarily through 3 major department store chains, Liverpool, El Palacio de Hierro and Chapur, with 197 shop-in-shop locations and 13 free-standing GUESS? stores.

In fiscal 2010, we also entered into majority-owned joint ventures in France and the Canary Islands with licensee partners to open new free standing retail stores in these regions. We currently operate 6 stores in France and 4 stores in the Canary Islands through these joint ventures.

## Design

GUESS?, G by GUESS and GUESS by MARCIANO apparel products are each designed by their own separate in-house design teams located in Los Angeles, California and Florence and Bologna, Italy. The U.S. and Italy teams work closely to share ideas and develop products that can sell in both markets and in other international markets. Our design teams seek to identify global fashion trends and interpret them for the style-conscious consumer while retaining the distinctive GUESS? image. They travel throughout the world in order to monitor fashion trends and discover new fabrics. These fabrics, together with the trends observed by our designers, serve as the primary source of inspiration for our lines and collections. We also maintain a fashion library consisting of antique and contemporary garments as another source of creative concepts. In addition, our design teams work closely with members of our sales, merchandising and retail operations teams to further refine our products to meet the particular needs of our markets.

## Advertising and Marketing

Our advertising, public relations and marketing strategy is designed to promote a consistent high impact image which endures regardless of changing consumer trends. While our advertising promotes products, the primary emphasis is on brand image.

Since our inception, Paul Marciano has had principal responsibility for the GUESS? brand image and creative vision. Under the direction of Mr. Marciano, our Los Angeles-based advertising department is responsible for overseeing all worldwide advertising. Throughout our history, we have maintained a high degree of consistency in our advertisements by using similar themes and images, including our signature black and white print advertisements and iconic logos. We use a variety of media with an emphasis on print and outdoor advertising, with our print advertising focused on national and international contemporary fashion/beauty, lifestyle and celebrity magazines.

We also require our licensees and distributors to invest a percentage of their net sales of licensed products and net purchases of GUESS? products in Company-approved advertising, promotion and marketing. By retaining control over our advertising programs, we are able to maintain the integrity of our brands while realizing substantial cost savings compared to outside agencies.

We further strengthen communications with customers through our websites, loyalty programs and other social media outlets, which enable us to provide timely information in an entertaining fashion to consumers about our history, products, special events, promotions and store locations, and allow us to receive and respond directly to customer feedback. We currently have loyalty programs in North America with over 2.8 million members covering three of our brands. These programs reward our members who
earn points for purchases that can be redeemed on future purchases. We also use these programs to promote new products to our customers which in turn increases traffic in the stores. We believe that the loyalty programs generate substantial repeat business that might otherwise go to competing brands. We continue to enhance our loyalty program offerings and strategically market to this large and growing customer base.

## Global Sourcing and Supply Chain

We source products through numerous suppliers, many of whom have established long-term relationships with us. We seek to achieve the most efficient means for timely delivery of our products, combining global and local sourcing. Almost all of our products are acquired as package purchases where we select the design and fabric and the vendor delivers the finished product. Although we maintain long-term relationships with many of our vendors, we do not have long-term written agreements with them.

In fiscal 2010, we continued to execute on our strategy to deploy a global sourcing and product development plan to support our worldwide retail and wholesale channels. Our actions have helped to support our global revenue growth. Key activities in global sourcing included a reduction in our vendor base, while maintaining a global balance, expansion of our denim supply chain into China and the roll-out of a web-based quality assurance platform for improved transparency in the field. We believe that our balanced global supply chain, with deep vendor partnerships, provides us with a powerful competitive advantage where we have the flexibility to respond to increased demand throughout the world. Our sourcing strategy provides us with the flexibility of sourcing either from Asia with lower costs, or from the Western Hemisphere with shorter lead times.

Additionally, the implementation of our master calendar has been a key development for our global operations, enabling us to continue integrating our North American and European supply chains. Our vision of offering a global core product assortment continues to be a primary focus. Although Los Angeles will remain our sourcing hub, we have also maintained skilled sourcing teams in Florence and Crevalcore, Italy, while expanding our Asia operation in Hong Kong.

We are committed to sourcing our products in a responsible manner, respecting both the countries in which we have a business presence and the business partners that manufacture our products. As a part of this commitment, we have implemented a global social compliance program that applies to our business partners and manufacturers. Although local customs and laws vary from one region of the world to another, we believe that the issues of business ethics, human rights, health, safety and environmental stewardship transcend geographical boundaries.

To support our social compliance program and to help ensure compliance, we communicate our expectations to our partners throughout our global supply chain and conduct compliance audits. If deficiencies are discovered, personnel in each region are empowered to work with the respective business partner to correct those deficiencies. The goal of this process is to not only correct any deficiencies, but to also educate individuals, build strategic relationships and improve business practices over the long-term.

## Quality Control

Our quality control program is designed to ensure that products meet our high quality standards. We test the quality of our raw materials prior to the production and inspect prototypes of each product before production runs commence. We also perform random in-line quality control checks during and after production before the garments leave the contractor. Final random inspections occur when the garments are received in our distribution centers. We believe that our policy of inspecting our products at our distribution centers and at the vendors' facilities is important to maintain the quality, consistency and reputation of our products.

## Logistics

We utilize distribution centers at strategically located sites. The Company's primary U.S. distribution center is based in Louisville, Kentucky. At our 506,000 square-foot facility in Kentucky, we use fully integrated and automated distribution systems. The bar code scanning of merchandise, picking tickets and distribution cartons, together with radio frequency communications, provide timely, controlled, accurate and instantaneous updates to the distribution information systems. As of January 30, 2010, this facility was approximately $65 \%$ utilized. Distribution of our products in Canada is handled primarily from a Company operated distribution center in Montreal, Quebec. Our European business primarily utilizes two independent third party distributors with three locations in Italy, as well as one Company operated distribution center in Italy. In November 2009, one of our independent distributors opened a new distribution center in Piacenza, Italy, which we now utilize as our primary distribution center in Europe. Additionally, we utilize six contract warehouses in Hong Kong, South Korea and China that service the Pacific Rim.

## Competition

The apparel industry is highly competitive and fragmented and is subject to rapidly changing consumer demands and preferences. We believe that our success depends in large part upon our ability to anticipate, gauge and respond to changing consumer demands and fashion trends in a timely manner and upon the continued appeal to consumers of the GUESS? brand. We compete with numerous apparel manufacturers and distributors, both domestically and internationally, as well as several well-known designers. Our retail and factory outlet stores face competition from other retailers. Our licensed apparel and accessories also compete with a substantial number of well-known brands. Many of our competitors may have greater financial resources than we do. Although the level and nature of competition differ among our product categories and geographic regions, we believe that we compete on the basis of our brand image, quality of design, workmanship and product assortment. We also believe that our geographic diversification, multiple distribution channels and multiple store concepts help to set us apart from our competition.

## Information Systems

We believe that high levels of automation and technology are essential to maintain our competitive position and support our strategic objectives and we continue to invest in computer hardware, system applications and networks. Our computer information systems consist of a full range of financial, distribution, merchandising, in-store, supply chain and other systems. During fiscal 2010, we continued to enhance our financial and operational systems globally to align with our global IT standards, accommodate future growth and provide operating efficiencies. Key initiatives included the establishment of a retail data warehouse in Asia to provide ready access to actionable information for our buyers and stores, installation of an enterprise resource planning (ERP), warehouse management and financial system in China, as well as a major upgrade to our product lifecycle management (PLM) system to increase the efficiency of the supply chain.

## Trademarks

We own numerous trademarks, including GUESS, GUESS?, GUESS U.S.A., GUESS Jeans, GUESS? and Triangle Design, MARCIANO, Question Mark and Triangle Design, a stylized G and a stylized M, GUESS Kids, Baby GUESS, YES, G by GUESS, GUESS by MARCIANO and Gc. As of January 30, 2010, we had approximately 2,500 U.S. and internationally registered trademarks or trademark applications pending with the trademark offices in approximately 170 countries around the world, including the U.S. From time to time, we adopt new trademarks in connection with the marketing of new product lines. We consider our trademarks to have significant value in the marketing of our products and act aggressively to register and protect our trademarks worldwide.

Like many well-known brands, our trademarks are subject to infringement. We have staff devoted to the monitoring and aggressive protection of our trademarks worldwide.

## Wholesale Backlog

The backlog of wholesale orders at any given time is affected by various factors, including seasonality, cancellations, the scheduling of market weeks, the timing of the receipt of orders and the timing of the shipment of orders. Accordingly, a comparison of backlogs of wholesale orders from period to period is not necessarily meaningful and may not be indicative of eventual actual shipments.
U.S. Backlog. Our U.S. wholesale business maintains a model stock program in basic denim products which generally allows replenishment of a customer's inventory within 72 hours. We generally receive orders for fashion apparel 90 to 120 days prior to the time the products are delivered to our customers' stores. Our U.S. wholesale backlog as of March 25, 2010, consisting primarily of orders for fashion apparel, was $\$ 52.3$ million, compared to $\$ 44.4$ million at March 28, 2009, an increase of $17.7 \%$. Since the backlogs at a point in time are impacted by the timing of orders and shipping trends which may differ from the prior year, the comparison from period to period may not be indicative of the eventual actual shipments.

Europe Backlog. Our European wholesale business operates with two primary selling seasons: the Spring/Summer season, which ships mostly from December to March, and the Fall/Winter season, which ships mostly from June to September. Generally, the other months are relatively small shipping months. However, customers retain the ability to request early shipment of backlog orders or delay shipment of orders depending on their needs. Accordingly, a certain amount of orders in the backlog may be shipped outside of the traditional shipping months. The Company's goal is to take advantage of early-season demand and potential reorders by offering a pre-collection assortment for apparel. As of March 23, 2010, the European wholesale backlog was $€ 250.7$ million, compared to $€ 215.4$ million at March 24, 2009, an increase of $16.4 \%$. The backlog as of March 23, 201Gs comprised of sales orders for the Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter 2010 seasons and includes the impact of the earlier receipt of pre-collection orders this year and our international jewelry business, which we began operating directly on January 1, 2010.

## Employees

We strongly believe that our employees ("associates") are our most valuable resources. As of February 2010, we had approximately 12,700 associates, both full and part-time, consisting of approximately 8,300 in the U.S. and 4,400 in foreign countries. We consider our relationship with our associates to be good.

## Environmental Matters

We and our licensing partners and suppliers are subject to federal, state, local and foreign laws, regulations and ordinances that govern activities or operations that may have adverse environmental effects (such as emissions to air, discharges to water, and the generation, handling, storage and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes). We are also subject to laws, regulations and ordinances that impose liability for the costs of clean up or other remediation of contaminated property, including damages from spills, disposals or other releases of hazardous substances or wastes, in certain circumstances without regard to fault. Certain of our operations and those of our licensing partners and suppliers, routinely involve the handling of chemicals and wastes, some of which are or may become regulated as hazardous substances. We have not incurred, and do not expect to incur, any significant expenditures or liabilities for environmental matters. As a result, we believe that our environmental obligations will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

## Website Access to Our Periodic SEC Reports

We make available free of charge at www.guessinc.com our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished to
the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file them with, or furnish them to, the SEC. In addition, the charters of our Board of Directors' Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees, as well as the Board of Directors' Governance Guidelines and our Code of Conduct are posted on our website. We may from time to time provide important disclosures to our investors, including amendments or waivers to our Code of Conduct, by posting them in the "Investor's Info" section of the www.guessinc.com website, as allowed by SEC rules. Printed copies of these documents may be obtained by writing or telephoning us at Guess?, Inc., 1444 South Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California 90021, Attention: Investor Relations, (213) 765-5578.

## ITEM 1A. Risk Factors.

You should carefully consider the following factors and other information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Additional risks which we do not presently consider material, or of which we are not currently aware, may also have an adverse impact on us. Please also see "Important Factors Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" on page (ii).

Demand for our merchandise may decrease and the appeal of our brand image may diminish if we fail to identify and rapidly respond to consumers' fashion tastes.

The apparel industry is subject to rapidly evolving fashion trends and shifting consumer demands. Accordingly, our brand image and our profitability are heavily dependent upon both the priority our target customers place on fashion and on our ability to anticipate, identify and capitalize upon emerging fashion trends. Current fashion tastes place significant emphasis on a fashionable look. In the past, this emphasis has increased and decreased through fashion cycles. If we fail to anticipate, identify or react appropriately, or in a timely manner, to fashion trends, we could experience reduced consumer acceptance of our products, a diminished brand image and higher markdowns. These factors could result in lower selling prices and sales volumes for our products and could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

## The apparel industry is highly competitive, and we may face difficulties competing successfully in the future.

We operate in a highly competitive and fragmented industry with low barriers to entry. We compete with many apparel manufacturers and distributors, both domestically and internationally, as well as many well-known designers, some of whom have substantially greater resources than we do and some of whose products are priced lower than ours. Our retail and factory outlet stores compete with many other retailers, including department stores, some of whom are our major wholesale customers. Our licensed apparel and accessories compete with many well-known brands. Within each of our geographic markets, we also face significant competition from global and regional branded apparel companies, as well as retailers that market apparel under their own labels. These and other competitors pose significant challenges to our market share in our existing major domestic and foreign markets and to our ability to successfully develop new markets. In addition, our larger competitors may be better equipped than us to adapt to changing conditions that affect the competitive market. Also, the industry's low barriers to entry allow the introduction of new products or new competitors at a fast pace. Any of these factors could result in reductions in sales or prices of our products and could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Negative changes in the economy, such as the severe deterioration in the global economic environment that began in 2008, and resulting declines in consumer confidence and spending, have had and could continue to have an adverse effect on the apparel industry and on our operating results.

The apparel industry is cyclical in nature and is particularly affected by adverse trends in the general economy. Purchases of apparel and related merchandise are generally discretionary and therefore tend to
decline during recessionary periods and also may decline at other times. The global economic environment deteriorated significantly in 2008 and 2009 with declining values in real estate, reduced credit lending by banks, solvency concerns of major financial institutions, increases in unemployment levels and significant declines and volatility in the global financial markets all negatively impacting the level of consumer spending for discretionary items. These conditions affected our business as it is dependent on consumer demand for our products. In North America, we experienced a significant slowdown in customer traffic and a highly promotional environment. These same conditions also spread to many international markets. While we have seen some signs of stabilization in both North America and internationally, there are no assurances that the global economy will continue to recover. If the global economy continues to be weak or deteriorates further, there will likely be a negative effect on our revenues, operating margins and earnings across all of our segments.

In addition to the factors contributing to the current economic environment, there are a number of other factors that could contribute to reduced levels of consumer spending, such as increases in interest rates, taxation rates or energy prices. Similarly, actual or potential terrorist acts and other conflicts can also create significant instability and uncertainty in the world, causing consumers to defer purchases or preventing our suppliers and service providers from providing required services or materials to us. These or other factors could materially and adversely affect our operating results.

## The continuing difficulties in the credit markets could have a negative impact on our customers, suppliers and business partners, which, in turn could materially and adversely affect our results of operations and liquidity.

The credit crisis that began in 2008 has had a significant negative impact on businesses around the world. Although we believe that our cash provided by operations and available borrowing capacity under our credit facility and bank facilities in Europe will provide us with sufficient liquidity for the foreseeable future, the impact of this crisis on our customers, business partners, suppliers, insurance providers and financial institutions with which we do business cannot be predicted and may be quite severe. The inability of our manufacturers to ship our products could impair our ability to meet delivery date requirements. A disruption in the ability of our significant customers, distributors or licensees to access liquidity could cause serious disruptions or an overall deterioration of their businesses which could lead to a significant reduction in their future orders of our products and the inability or failure on their part to meet their payment obligations to us, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and liquidity.

Similarly a failure on the part of our insurance providers to meet their obligations for claims made by us could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and liquidity. Continued market difficulties or additional deterioration could jeopardize our ability to rely on those financial institutions that are parties to our various bank facilities and foreign exchange contracts. We could be exposed to a loss if the counterparty fails to meet its obligations upon our exercise of foreign exchange contracts. In addition, continued distress in the financial markets could impair the ability of one or more of the banks participating in our credit agreements from honoring its commitments. This could have an adverse effect on our business if we were not able to replace those commitments or to locate other sources of liquidity on acceptable terms.

## Domestic and foreign currency fluctuations could adversely impact our financial condition and results of operations.

Our international sales and some of our licensing revenue are generally derived from sales in foreign currencies, including the Canadian dollar, the euro and the Korean won. These revenues, when translated into U.S. dollars for consolidated reporting purposes, could be materially affected by the strengthening of the U.S. dollar, negatively impacting our results of operations and our ability to generate revenue growth. Furthermore, we also source products in U.S. dollars outside of the U.S. As a result, the cost of these products may be affected by changes in the value of the applicable currencies. Changes in currency
exchange rates may also affect the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency denominated prices at which our international businesses sell products.
Although we hedge certain exposures to changes in foreign currency exchange rates, we cannot assure that foreign currency fluctuations will not have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations. Furthermore, since some of our hedging activities are designed to reduce volatility of fluctuating exchange rates, they not only reduce the negative impact of a stronger U.S. dollar, but they also reduce the positive impact of a weaker U.S. dollar. Our future financial results could be significantly affected by the value of the U.S. dollar in relation to the foreign currencies in which we conduct business. In addition, while the hedges are designed to reduce volatility over the forward contract period, these contracts can create volatility during the period. The degree to which our financial results are affected for any given time period will depend in part upon our hedging activities.

## We could find that we are carrying excess inventories if we fail to anticipate consumer demand, if our international vendors do not supply quality products on a timely basis, if our merchandising strategies fail or if we do not open new and remodel existing stores on schedule.

Because we must place orders with our vendors for most of our products a season or more in advance, we could end up carrying excess inventories if we fail to correctly anticipate fashion trends or consumer demand. Even if we correctly anticipate consumer fashion trends and demand, our vendors could fail to supply the quality products and materials we require at the time we need them. Moreover, we could fail to effectively market or merchandise these products once we receive them. In addition, we could fail to open new or remodeled stores on schedule, and inventory purchases made in anticipation of such store openings could remain unsold. Any of the above factors could cause us to experience excess inventories, which may result in inventory write-downs and higher markdowns, which in turn could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

## Our success depends on the quality of our relationships with our suppliers and manufacturers.

We do not own or operate any production facilities, and we depend on independent factories to supply our fabrics and to manufacture our products to our specifications. We do not have long-term contracts with any suppliers or manufacturers, and our business is dependent on our partnerships with our vendors. If manufacturing costs were to rise significantly, our product margins and results of operations could be negatively affected. In addition, very few of our vendors manufacture our products exclusively. As a result, we compete with other companies for the production capacity of independent contractors. If our vendors fail to ship our fabrics or products on time or to meet our quality standards or are unable to fill our orders, we might not be able to deliver products to our retail stores and wholesale customers on time or at all.

Moreover, our suppliers have at times been unable to deliver finished products in a timely fashion. This has led, from time to time, to an increase in our inventory, creating potential markdowns and a resulting decrease in our profitability. As there are a finite number of skilled manufacturers that meet our requirements, it could take significant time to identify and qualify suitable alternatives, which could result in our missing retailing seasons or our wholesale customers canceling orders, refusing to accept deliveries or requiring that we lower selling prices. Since we prefer not to return merchandise to our manufacturers, we could also have a considerable amount of unsold merchandise. Any of these problems could harm our financial condition and results of operations.

## Our North American wholesale business is highly concentrated. If any of our large customers decrease their purchases of our products or experience financial difficulties, our results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected.

In fiscal 2010, 3.4\% of our consolidated net revenue came from Macy's, Inc. No other single customer or group of related customers in any of our segments accounted for more than $1.0 \%$ of our consolidated net revenue in fiscal 2010. Continued consolidation in the retail industry could further decrease the
number of, or concentrate the ownership of, stores that carry our and our licensees' products. Also, as we expand the number of our retail stores, we run the risk that our wholesale customers will perceive that we are increasingly competing directly with them, which may lead them to reduce or terminate purchases of our products. In addition, in recent years there has been a significant increase in the number of designer brands seeking placement in department stores, which makes any one brand potentially less attractive to department stores. If any one of our major wholesale customers decides to decrease purchases from us, to stop carrying GUESS? products or to carry our products only on terms less favorable to us, our sales and profitability could significantly decrease. Similarly, some retailers have recently experienced significant financial difficulties, which in some cases have resulted in bankruptcy, liquidation and store closures. Financial difficulties of one of our major customers could result in reduced business and higher credit risk with respect to that customer. Any of these circumstances could ultimately have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

## Since we do not control our licensees' actions and we depend on our licensees for a substantial portion of our earnings from operations, their conduct could harm our business.

We license to others the rights to produce and market certain products that are sold with our trademarks. While we retain significant control over our licensees' products and advertising, we rely on our licensees for, among other things, operational and financial control over their businesses. If the quality, focus, image or distribution of our licensed products diminish, consumer acceptance of and demand for the GUESS? brand and products could decline. This could materially and adversely affect our business and results of operations. In fiscal 2010, approximately $81 \%$ of our net royalties were derived from our top five licensed product lines. A decrease in customer demand for any of these product lines could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. Although we believe that in most circumstances we could replace existing licensees if necessary, our inability to do so for any period of time could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations.

## We depend on our intellectual property, and our methods of protecting it may not be adequate.

Our success and competitive position depend significantly upon our trademarks and other proprietary rights. We take steps to establish and protect our trademarks worldwide. Despite any precautions we may take to protect our intellectual property, policing unauthorized use of our intellectual property is difficult, expensive and time consuming, and we may be unable to adequately protect our intellectual property or to determine the extent of any unauthorized use, particularly in those foreign countries where the laws do not protect proprietary rights as fully as in the United States. We also place significant value on our trade dress and the overall appearance and image of our products. However, we cannot assure you that we can prevent imitation of our products by others or prevent others from seeking to block sales of GUESS? products for violating their trademarks and proprietary rights. We also cannot assure you that others will not assert rights in, or ownership of, trademarks and other proprietary rights of GUESS?, that our proprietary rights would be upheld if challenged or that we would, in that event, not be prevented from using our trademarks, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. Further, we could incur substantial costs in legal actions relating to our use of intellectual property or the use of our intellectual property by others. Even if we are successful in such actions, the costs we incur could have a material adverse effect on us.

## We are subject to periodic litigation and other regulatory proceedings, which could result in unexpected expense of time and resources.

We are a defendant from time to time in lawsuits and regulatory actions relating to our business. Due to the inherent uncertainties of litigation and regulatory proceedings, we cannot accurately predict the ultimate outcome of any such proceedings. An unfavorable outcome could have an adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, any significant litigation, regardless of
its merits, could divert management's attention from our operations and result in substantial legal fees. See also " ITEM 3. Legal Proceedings" for further discussion of our legal matters.

## If we fail to successfully execute our growth initiatives, including through acquisitions, our business and results of operations could be harmed.

As part of our business growth initiatives, we regularly open new stores, in both existing and new store concepts, in North America. We have also continued our international expansion by opening new stores outside the U.S., both in the form of stores owned by our international licensees and distributors and through our owned stores and concessions. Despite the economic downturn, we plan to continue opening new stores in the U.S. and internationally. In addition to the store growth, we also regularly evaluate strategic acquisitions and alliances and pursue those that we believe will support and contribute to our overall growth initiatives. For instance, we completed the acquisition of our former European jeanswear licensee in 2005, the acquisition of $75 \%$ of the outstanding shares of our European licensee of GUESS by MARCIANO apparel in December 2006 and the acquisition of our former European licensee of children's apparel in January 2008.

This expansion effort places increased demands on our managerial, operational and administrative resources that could prevent or delay the successful opening of new stores, adversely impact the performance of our existing stores and adversely impact our overall results of operations. In addition, acquired businesses and additional store openings may not provide us with increased business opportunities, or result in the growth that we anticipate, particularly during economic downturns. Furthermore, integrating acquired operations is a complex, time-consuming and expensive process. Failing to acquire and successfully integrate complementary businesses, or failing to achieve the business synergies or other anticipated benefits of acquisitions, could materially adversely affect our business and results of operations.

## We may be unsuccessful in implementing our planned U.S. and international retail expansion, which could harm our business and negatively affect our results of operations.

To open and operate new stores successfully, we must:

- identify desirable locations, the availability of which is out of our control;
- negotiate acceptable lease terms, including desired tenant improvement allowances;
- efficiently build and equip the new stores;
- source sufficient levels of inventory to meet the needs of the new stores;
- hire, train and retain competent store personnel;
- successfully integrate the new stores into our existing operations; and
- satisfy the fashion preferences of customers in the new geographic areas.

Any of these challenges could delay our store openings, prevent us from completing our store opening plans or hinder the operations of stores we do open. We cannot be sure that we can successfully complete our planned expansion or that our new stores will be profitable. Such things as unfavorable economic and business conditions and changing consumer preferences could also interfere with our plans to expand.

## Failure to successfully develop and manage our new store concepts could adversely affect our results of operations.

In addition to our core GUESS? retail and factory stores, we continue to develop and refine the GUESS by MARCIANO, GUESS? Accessories and G by GUESS store concepts. The introduction and growth of several new store concepts as part of our overall growth strategy could strain our financial and management resources. Additionally, successfully developing new brands is subject to a number of risks,
including customer acceptance, product differentiation, competition and obtaining desirable locations. These risks may be compounded during the current or any future economic downturn. There can be no assurance that these concepts will achieve or maintain sales and profitability levels that justify the required investments. If we are unable to successfully develop and manage these multiple store concepts, or if consumers are not receptive to the products or store concepts, our results of operations and financial results could be adversely affected.

## Our business is global in scope and can be impacted by factors beyond our control.

During fiscal 2010, we sourced the majority of our finished products with partners and suppliers outside the U.S. and we continued to design and purchase fabrics globally. As we focus strategically on progressively more direct sourcing, we are expanding our Hong Kong office infrastructure to allow us to develop, engineer and source directly from Asian factories.

In addition, we have been increasing our international sales of product outside of the United States. In fiscal 2010, over half of our consolidated net revenue was generated by sales from outside of the United States. We anticipate that these international revenues will continue to grow as a percentage of our total business. Further, as a global company, our effective tax rate is highly dependent upon the geographic composition of worldwide earnings and tax regulations governing each region.

As a result of our increasing international operations, we face the possibility of greater losses from a number of risks inherent in doing business in international markets and from a number of factors which are beyond our control. Such factors that could harm our results of operations and financial condition include, among other things:

- political instability or acts of terrorism, which disrupt trade with the countries where we operate or in which our contractors, suppliers or customers are located;
- recessions in foreign economies;
- reduced global demand resulting in the closing of manufacturing facilities;
- challenges in managing our foreign operations;
- local business practices that do not conform to legal or ethical guidelines;
- adoption of additional or revised quotas, restrictions or regulations relating to imports or exports;
- additional or increased customs duties, tariffs, taxes and other charges on imports or exports;
- delays in receipts due to our distribution centers as a result of increasing security requirements at U.S. or other ports;
- significant fluctuations in the value of the dollar against foreign currencies;
- increased difficulty in protecting our intellectual property rights in foreign jurisdictions;
- social, labor, legal or economic instability in the foreign markets in which we do business, which could influence our ability to sell our products in these international markets;
- restrictions on the transfer of funds between the United States and foreign jurisdictions; and
- our ability and the ability of our international licensees and distributors to locate and continue to open desirable new retail locations.

In addition to these factors, our imports have been limited by textile agreements between the United States and some foreign jurisdictions, most notably China. The United States and the countries in which our products are produced or sold may also, from time to time, impose new quotas, duties, tariffs or other restrictions, or adversely adjust prevailing quota, duty or tariff levels. If we are unable to obtain our raw materials and finished apparel
from the countries where we wish to purchase them, either because of
capacity constraints or visa availability under the required quota category or for any other reason, or if the cost of doing so should increase, it could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Changes in tax laws and unanticipated tax liabilities could adversely affect our effective income tax rate and profitability.
We are subject to income taxes in the United States and numerous foreign jurisdictions. Our effective income tax rate in the future could be adversely affected by a number of factors, including: changes in the mix of earnings in countries with differing statutory tax rates, changes in tax laws, the outcome of income tax audits in various jurisdictions around the world, and any repatriation of non-U.S. earnings for which we have not previously provided for U.S. taxes. We regularly assess all of these matters to determine the adequacy of our tax provision, which is subject to significant discretion. Recently the Obama administration proposed legislation that would change how U.S. multinational corporations are taxed on their foreign income. If such legislation is enacted, or if our tax provision is inadequate, our tax rate and, in turn, our profitability could be materially impacted.

## A significant disruption at our Louisville, Kentucky distribution center or our other international distribution facilities could have a material adverse impact on our sales and operating results.

We primarily rely on a single distribution center located in Louisville, Kentucky to receive, store and distribute merchandise to all of our stores and wholesale customers in the U.S. Distribution of our products in Canada is handled primarily from a Company operated distribution center in Montreal, Quebec. Our European business primarily utilizes two independent third party distributors with three locations in Italy, as well as one Company operated distribution center in Italy. In November 2009, one of our independent distributors opened a new distribution center in Piacenza, Italy, which we now utilize as our primary distribution center in Europe. Additionally, we utilize six contract warehouses in Hong Kong, South Korea and China that service the Pacific Rim. Any significant interruption in the operation of our Kentucky distribution center or any of our other foreign facilities due to natural disasters, accidents, system failures or other unforeseen causes could have a material adverse effect on our ability to replace inventory and fill orders, negatively impacting our sales and operating results.

## Our reliance on third parties to deliver merchandise to our stores and wholesale customers could lead to disruptions to our business.

The efficient operation of our North American retail and wholesale businesses depends on the timely receipt of merchandise from our Louisville, Kentucky distribution center. We deliver merchandise to our stores and wholesale customers using independent third parties, primarily one contract carrier. The independent third parties have employees which may be represented by labor unions. Disruptions in the delivery of merchandise or work stoppages by employees or contractors of any of these third parties could delay the timely receipt of merchandise. There can be no assurance that such stoppages or disruptions will not occur in the future. Any failure by a third party to respond adequately to our distribution needs could disrupt our operations and negatively impact our financial condition or results of operations.

## Our two most senior executive officers own a significant percentage of our common stock. Their interests may differ from the interests of our other stockholders.

Maurice Marciano and Paul Marciano, our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, respectively, collectively beneficially own approximately $33 \%$ of our outstanding shares of common stock. The sale or prospect of the sale of a substantial number of these shares could have an adverse impact on the market price of our common stock. Moreover, these individuals may have different interests than our other stockholders and, accordingly, they may direct the operations of our business in a manner contrary to
the interests of our other stockholders. As long as these individuals own a significant percentage of our common stock, they may effectively be able to:

- elect our directors;
- amend or prevent amendment of our Restated Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws;
- effect or prevent a merger, sale of assets or other corporate transaction; and
- control the outcome of any other matter submitted to our stockholders for vote.

Their stock ownership, together with the anti-takeover effects of certain provisions of applicable Delaware law and our Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, may discourage acquisition bids or allow the Marcianos to delay or prevent a change in control that may be favored by our other stockholders, which in turn could reduce our stock price or prevent our stockholders from realizing a premium over our common stock price.

Our failure to retain our existing senior management team or to retain or attract other key personnel could adversely affect our business.
Our business requires disciplined execution at all levels of our organization in order to ensure the timely delivery of desirable merchandise in appropriate quantities to our stores and our wholesalers' stores. This execution requires experienced and talented management in design, production, merchandising and advertising. Our success depends upon the personal efforts and abilities of our senior management, particularly Maurice Marciano and Paul Marciano, and other key personnel. Although we believe we have a strong management team with relevant industry expertise, the extended loss of the services of one or both of the Marcianos or other key personnel could materially harm our business. Although we are the beneficiary of a $\$ 10$ million "key man" insurance policy on the life of Paul Marciano, we do not have any other "key man" insurance with respect to either of the Marcianos or other key employees, and any of them may leave us at any time, which could severely disrupt our business and future operating results.

## Fluctuations in our quarterly results of operations, comparable store sales, sales per square foot, wholesale operations, royalty net revenue or other factors could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and our stock price.

Our quarterly results of operations for each of our business segments have fluctuated in the past and can be expected to fluctuate in the future. Further, if our retail store expansion plans, both domestically and internationally, fail to meet our expected results, our overhead and other related expansion costs would increase without an offsetting increase in sales and net revenue. This could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Our net revenue and operating results have historically been lower in the first half of our fiscal year due to general seasonal trends in the apparel and retail industries. Our comparable store sales and quarterly results of operations are also affected by a variety of other factors, including:

- shifts in consumer tastes and fashion trends;
- the timing of new store openings and the relative proportion of new stores to mature stores;
- calendar shifts of holiday or seasonal periods;
- the timing of seasonal wholesale shipments;
- the effectiveness of our inventory management;
- changes in our merchandise mix;
- changes in our mix of revenues by segment;
- the timing of promotional events;
- actions by competitors;
- weather conditions;
- changes in the business environment;
- changes in currency exchange rates;
- population trends;
- changes in patterns of commerce such as the expansion of electronic commerce; and
- the level of pre-operating expenses associated with new stores.

An unfavorable change in any of the above factors could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and our stock price.

## Violation of labor and other laws and practices by our licensees or suppliers could harm our business.

We require our licensing partners and suppliers to operate in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. While our internal and vendor operating guidelines and monitoring programs promote ethical business practices, we do not control our licensees or suppliers or their labor or other business practices. The violation of labor or other laws by any of our licensees or suppliers, or divergence of a licensee's or supplier's business practices from those generally accepted as ethical in the United States, could interrupt or otherwise disrupt the shipment of our products, harm the value of our trademarks, damage our reputation or expose us to potential liability for their wrongdoings.

## We rely on third parties and our own personnel for upgrading and maintaining our management information systems. If these parties do not perform these functions appropriately, our business could be disrupted and adversely impacted.

The efficient operation of our business is very dependent on our information systems. In particular, we rely heavily on the merchandise management and ERP (enterprise resource planning) systems used to track sales and inventory and manage our supply chain. We depend on our vendors to maintain and periodically upgrade these systems to support our business as we expand. The software programs supporting the processing of our inventory management information are licensed to us by independent software developers. The inability of these developers to continue to maintain or upgrade our software programs could result in incorrect information being supplied to management, inefficient ordering and replenishment of products and disruption of our operations. The failure of these and other systems to operate effectively, problems with transitioning to upgraded or replacement systems, difficulty in integrating new systems or systems of acquired businesses or a breach in security of our systems could adversely impact the business. In addition significant expenditures could be required to remediate any such failure, problem or breach.

## ITEM 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.

None.

## ITEM 2. Properties.

Certain information concerning our principal facilities, all of which are leased at January 30, 2010, is set forth below:

| Location | Use | Approximate <br> Area in |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Square Feet |  |  |


| Louisville, Kentucky | Distribution and warehousing facility used by our Wholesale and Retail <br> segments | 506,000 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| New York, New York | Administrative offices, public relations, and showrooms used by our <br> Wholesale segment | 13,400 |


| Montreal/Toronto/Vancouver, <br> Canada | Administrative offices, showrooms and warehouse facilities used by <br> our Wholesale and Retail segments | 111,000 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Florence/Crevalcore, Italy | Administrative offices, showrooms and warehouse used by our <br> European segment | 179,200 |


| Lugano, Switzerland | Administrative, sales and marketing offices used by our European <br> segment | 78,900 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Barcelona/Madrid, Spain | Administrative, sales and marketing offices, and showrooms used by <br> our European segment | 15,400 |


| Dusseldorf/Munich, <br> Germany | Showrooms used by our European segment | 9,400 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| London, U.K. | Showrooms used by our European segment | 7,800 |


| Paris, France | Administrative office and showrooms used by our European segment | 9,800 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Kowloon, Hong Kong | Administrative offices, showrooms, sourcing and licensing coordination <br> facilities used by our Wholesale segment | 34,600 |
| Seoul, South Korea | Administrative offices and showrooms used by our Wholesale segment | 23,500 |
| Shanghai/Beijing, China | Administrative offices, showrooms and warehouse facility used by our | 22,400 |

Taipei, Taiwan
Our corporate, wholesale and retail headquarters and certain warehouse facilities are located in Los Angeles, California, consisting of four buildings totaling approximately 355,000 square feet. All of these properties are leased by us from limited partnerships in which the sole partners are trusts controlled by and for the benefit of Maurice Marciano and Paul Marciano (the "Principal Stockholders"), Armand Marciano, their brother and former executive of the Company, and their families pursuant to a lease that expires in July 2018. The total lease payments to these limited partnerships are approximately $\$ 0.3$ million per month with aggregate minimum lease commitments to these partnerships at January 30, 2010, totaling approximately $\$ 23.8$ million.

In addition, the Company, through a wholly-owned Canadian subsidiary, leases warehouse and administrative facilities in Montreal, Quebec from a partnership affiliated with the Principal Stockholders. The lease expires in December 2015. The monthly lease payment is $\$ 44,400$ Canadian (US $\$ 41,500$ ) with aggregate minimum lease commitments through the term of the lease totaling approximately $\$ 3.3$ million Canadian (US\$3.1 million) at January 30, 2010.

See Note 11 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding related party transactions.

Through early 2000, distribution of our products in the U.S. was centralized in our Los Angeles, California facility. In 2000, we leased an automated distribution center in Louisville, Kentucky, to replace the distribution center in Los Angeles as our primary distribution center. Distribution of our products in Canada is handled primarily from a Company operated distribution center in Montreal, Quebec. Our European business primarily utilizes two independent third party distributors with three locations in Italy, as well as one Company operated distribution center in Italy. In November 2009, one of our independent distributors opened a new distribution center in Piacenza, Italy, which we now utilize as our primary distribution center in Europe. Additionally, we utilize six contract warehouses in Hong Kong, South Korea and China that service the Pacific Rim.

We lease our showrooms, advertising, licensing, sales and merchandising offices, remote distribution and warehousing facilities and retail and factory outlet store locations under non-cancelable operating lease agreements expiring on various dates through September 2027. These facilities are located principally in North America with aggregate minimum lease commitments, at January 30, 2010, totaling approximately $\$ 966.2$ million excluding related party commitments. In addition, in 2005 we started leasing a building in Florence, Italy for our Italian operations under a capital lease agreement. The capital lease obligation, including build-outs, amounted to $\$ 15.8$ million as of January 30, 2010.

The terms of our store and concession leases, excluding renewal options, as of January 30, 2010, expire as follows:

| Years Lease Terms Expire | Number of Stores and Concessions |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | U.S. and Canada | Asia | Europe | Mexico |
| Fiscal 2011-2013 | 111 | 155 | 45 | 7 |
| Fiscal 2014-2016 | 128 | 2 | 28 | 6 |
| Fiscal 2017-2019 | 162 | - | 27 | - |
| Fiscal 2020-2022 | 29 | - | 9 | - |
| Thereafter | 2 | - | 4 | - |
|  | 432 | 157 | 113 | 13 |

We believe our existing facilities are well maintained, in good operating condition and are adequate to support our present level of operations. See Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding current lease obligations.

## ITEM 3. Legal Proceedings.

In 2006, the Officers of the Florence Customs Authorities ("Customs Authorities") began an import customs audit with respect to the Company's Italian subsidiary, Maco Apparel S.p.A. ("Maco"), which the Company acquired in 2005. Prior to the acquisition, Maco was the Italian licensee of GUESS? jeanswear for men and women in Europe. The Customs Authorities contended that the Italian subsidiary should have included the royalty expense payable to Guess?, Inc., the parent company, as part of the cost of the product subject to customs duties. The Company disagreed with this position and disputed the assessment in a series of hearings on the matter with the Florence Provincial Tax Commission ("Tax Commission")
beginning in October 2007. At the request of a judge from the Tax Commission, the Company and the Customs Authorities entered into settlement discussions in 2009. These discussions ultimately led to the execution of a full out-of-court settlement agreement in October 2009, which has since been formally approved by the Tax Commission. The settlement was consistent in amount with the Company's previous accrual recorded in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2009 and did not include any admission of liability or wrongdoing on the part of the Company. The resolution of this matter did not have a material impact on the Company's financial results or financial position.

On May 6, 2009, Gucci America, Inc. filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York against Guess?, Inc. and Guess Italia, S.r.l. asserting, among other things, trademark and trade dress law violations and unfair competition. The complaint seeks injunctive relief, unspecified compensatory damages, including treble damages, and certain other relief. A similar complaint has also been filed in the Court of Milan, Italy. The Company plans to defend the allegations vigorously. The Company believes that it is too early to predict the outcome of this action or whether the outcome will have a material impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

The Company is also involved in various other claims and other matters incidental to the Company's business, the resolution of which is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial position. No material amounts were accrued as of January 30, 2010 or January 31, 2009 related to any of the Company's legal proceedings.

## ITEM 4. Reserved.

## PART II

## ITEM 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.

Since August 8, 1996, the Company's common stock has been listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol 'GES.' The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sales prices per common share of the Company's common stock, and the dividends paid with respect thereto:

|  | Market Price |  | Dividends <br> Paid |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | High | Low |  |
| Fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 |  |  |  |
| First Quarter Ended May 3, 2008 | \$ 44.66 | \$ 33.33 | \$ 0.080 |
| Second Quarter Ended August 2, 2008 | 45.01 | 31.01 | 0.080 |
| Third Quarter Ended November 1, 2008 | 42.49 | 18.66 | 0.100 |
| Fourth Quarter Ended January 31, 2009 | 22.81 | 10.62 | 0.100 |

Fiscal year ended January 30, 2010

| First Quarter Ended May 2, 2009 | \$ 26.04 | $\$ 13.16$ | $\$$ | 0.100 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Second Quarter Ended August 1, 2009 | 29.22 | 21.97 | 0.100 |  |
| Third Quarter Ended October 31, 2009 | 40.49 | 27.19 | 0.125 |  |
| Fourth Quarter Ended January 30, 2010 | 45.28 | 36.05 | 0.125 |  |

On March 22, 2010, the closing sales price per share of the Company's common stock, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape, was $\$ 47.85$. On March 22,2010 , there were 359 holders of record of the Company's common stock.

Prior to the initiation of a quarterly dividend on February 12, 2007, the Company had not declared any dividends on our common stock since our initial public offering in 1996. The payment of cash dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will be based upon a number of business, legal and other considerations, including our cash flow from operations, capital expenditures, debt service requirements, cash paid for income taxes, earnings, share repurchases, economic conditions and liquidity. The agreement governing our Credit Facility limits our ability to pay dividends unless immediately after giving effect thereto the aggregate amount of unrestricted cash and cash equivalents held by Guess?, Inc. and its Canadian subsidiary is at least $\$ 50$ million. At January 30, 2010, Guess?, Inc. and its Canadian subsidiary had approximately $\$ 367$ million in unrestricted cash and cash equivalents.

## Performance Graph

The Stock Price Performance Graph below compares the cumulative stockholder return of the Company with that of the S\&P 500 Index (a broad equity market index) and the S\&P 1500 Apparel Retail Index (a published industry index) over the five fiscal year period beginning December 31, 2004. The graph also includes information with respect to February 3, 2007, the last day of the fiscal month transition period which resulted from the change in our fiscal year end from December 31 to the Saturday nearest January 31 of each year. The return on investment is calculated based on an investment of $\$ 100$ on December 31, 2004, with dividends, if any, reinvested. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

COMPARISON OF FIVE YEAR TOTAL RETURN

## AMONG GUESS?, INC.,

S\&P 500 INDEX AND S\&P 1500 APPAREL RETAIL INDEX


## Stock Split

On February 12, 2007, our Board of Directors approved a two-for-one stock split of the Company's common stock to be effected in the form of a $100 \%$ stock dividend. Each stockholder of record at the close of business on February 26, 2007 was issued one additional share of common stock for every share of common stock owned as of that time. The additional shares were distributed on or about March 12, 2007, and the Company's common stock began trading on the New York Stock Exchange on a post-split basis on March 13, 2007. All share and per share amounts in this Annual Report on Form 10-K have been adjusted to reflect the 2007 stock split.

## Share Repurchase Program

The Company's share repurchases during each fiscal month of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 were as follows:

| $\frac{\text { Period }}{\text { November 1, }}$2009 toNovember 28,2009 | Total Number of Shares Purchased |  | Average <br> Price <br> Paid <br> per Share | Total Number of Shares <br> Purchased as Part of <br> Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Repurchase program(1) | - |  | - | - | \$ | 134,241,107 |
| Employee transactions(2) | 364 | \$ | 38.19 |  |  |  |
| November 29, 2009 to January 2, 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Repurchase program(1) | - |  | - | - | \$ | 134,241,107 |
| Employee transactions(2) | 55,414 |  | 42.32 |  |  |  |
| January 3, 2010 to January 30, 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Repurchase program(1) | - |  | - | - | \$ | 134,241,107 |
| Employee transactions(2) | 329 | \$ | 40.93 |  |  |  |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Repurchase program(1) | - |  | - | - |  |  |
| Employee transactions(2) | 56,107 |  | 42.29 |  |  |  |

(1) On March 19, 2008, the Company announced that its Board of Directors had authorized a new 2008 Share Repurchase Program to repurchase, from time-to-time and as market and business conditions warrant, up to $\$ 200$ million of the Company's common stock. Repurchases may be made on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plans or other available means. There is no minimum or maximum number of shares to be repurchased under the program and the program may be discontinued at any time, without prior notice.
(2) Consists of shares surrendered to, or withheld by, the Company in satisfaction of employee tax withholding obligations that occur upon vesting of restricted stock awards granted under the Company's 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.

## ITEM 6. Selected Financial Data.

The selected financial data set forth below has been derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and the related notes thereto (except for the unaudited selected statement of income financial data presented for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2007). All share and per share amounts included in the following consolidated financial data have been adjusted to reflect the two-for-one stock split which became effective on March 13, 2007. The following selected financial data should be read in conjunction with the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements and the related notes contained herein and with "ITEM 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" for information regarding accounting changes, acquisitions and other items affecting comparability.

|  | Year Ended(1) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Jan. 31, } \\ 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Feb. 2, } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb. 3, } \\ \text { 2007(2) } \end{gathered}$ | Dec. 31, <br> 2006 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec. 31, } \\ 2005 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | (in thousands, except per share data) (unaudited) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Statement of income data: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net revenue | \$2,128,466 \$2,093,390 \$1,749,916\$1,252,664 \$1,185,184\$936,092 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Earnings from operations | 358,816 | 328,787 | 309,139 | 205,519 | 193,023 | 101,810 |
| Income taxes | 115,599 | 103,784 | 124,099 | 77,615 | 72,715 | 38,882 |
| Net earnings attributable to |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Guess?, Inc. | 242,761 | 213,562 | 186,472 | 131,172 | 123,168 | 58,813 |

Earnings per
common
share
attributable
to common
stockholders:

| Basic(3) | $\$$ | $2.63 \$$ | $2.27 \$$ | $1.99 \$$ | $1.44 \$$ | $1.35 \$$ | 0.66 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Diluted(3) $\$$ $2.61 \$$ $2.25 \$$ <br> Dividends <br> declared per   $1.96 \$$ <br> common    |  |  | $1.42 \$$ | $1.33 \$$ | 0.65 |  |  |
| chare | $\$$ | $0.45 \$$ | $0.36 \$$ | 0.28 | - | - | - |

Weighted
average shares
outstanding

| $-b a s i c$ | $3)$ | 90,893 | 92,561 | 92,307 | 90,786 | 90,618 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 88,589 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Weighted
average shares
outstanding

| - diluted $(3)$ | 91,592 | 93,258 | 93,518 | 92,031 | 91,885 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | $\mathbf{8 9 , 9 3 3}$


| $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 31, } \\ 2009 \end{gathered}$ | Feb. 2, <br> 2008 | Feb. 3, 2007 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec. } 31 \text {, } \\ 2006 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec. 31, } \\ 2005 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Balance sheet
data:
Working capital \$ 781,410\$ 558,305\$432,583\$283,938\$274,996\$190,792
Total assets $\quad 1,530,175 \quad 1,246,566 \quad 1,186,228 \quad 843,322 \quad 836,925 \quad 633,374$
Borrowings and
capital lease,
excluding

| current |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| installments | 14,137 | 14,586 | 18,724 | 17,336 | 18,018 | 53,199 |
| Stockholders' <br> equity | $1,026,343$ | 775,454 | 652,913 | 433,281 | 435,812 | 288,293 |

(1) Beginning with fiscal 2008, the Company changed its fiscal year to a $52-53$ week year ending on the Saturday closest to January 31; previously, the Company's fiscal year ended on December 31.
(2) For comparative purposes, the Company has presented unaudited selected statement of income results for the 12 month period ended February 3, 2007.
(3) In June 2008, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which requires unvested share-payment awards that contain rights to receive nonforfeitable dividends or dividend equivalents to be included in the two-class method of computing earnings per share. The guidance also requires retrospective application to all periods presented. The Company adopted the guidance on February 1, 2009 and has applied it retrospectively to all periods presented herein.

## ITEM 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

## General

Unless the context indicates otherwise, when we refer to "we," "us" or the "Company" in this Form 10-K, we are referring to Guess?, Inc. and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

## Business Segments

The Company's businesses are grouped into four reportable segments for management and internal financial reporting purposes: retail, wholesale, European and licensing. Information relating to these segments is summarized in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Management evaluates segment performance based primarily on revenue and earnings from operations. The Company believes this segment reporting reflects how its business segments are managed and each segment's performance is evaluated. The retail segment includes the Company's retail operations in North America. The wholesale segment includes the wholesale operations in North America and our Asian operations. The European segment includes both wholesale and retail operations in Europe and the Middle East. The licensing segment includes the worldwide licensing operations of the Company. The segment operating results exclude corporate overhead costs, which consist of shared costs of the organization. These costs are presented separately and generally include, among other things, the following unallocated corporate costs: information technology, human resources, accounting and finance, global advertising and marketing, executive compensation, facilities and legal.

We acquired Focus Europe S.r.l. ("Focus"), our former licensee for GUESS by MARCIANO products in Europe, the Middle East and Asia, in December 2006, and its Spanish subsidiary ("Focus Spain") in October 2007. We also acquired BARN S.r.l. ("Barn"), our former kids licensee in Europe, in January 2008. Each of these entities is reported in our European segment. G by GUESS is a relatively new retail brand concept that was launched in early fiscal 2008 and is included in our retail segment. Our South Korea and China businesses, which we have operated directly since January 2007 and April 2007, respectively, are also relatively new businesses for us and are reported in our wholesale segment. Our international jewelry license agreement, which expired in December 2009, was not renewed as the Company decided to directly operate this business going forward. Beginning in January 2010, the operating results of our international jewelry business are included in our European segment. Prior to that date, we recorded the related royalty income in our licensing segment.

## Products

We derive our net revenue from the sale of GUESS?, GUESS by MARCIANO and G by GUESS men's and women's apparel, and our licensees' products through our worldwide network of retail stores, wholesale customers and distributors, as well as our on-line sites. We also derive royalty revenues from worldwide licensing activities.

## Recent Global Economic Developments

The state of the global economy negatively impacted our results in fiscal 2010. When economic conditions deteriorated in the latter part of 2008, we reacted quickly by adjusting our short-term goals to focus on protecting our liquidity, strong balance sheet position, and the integrity of our brands. As a result, we limited our store expansion in North America and managed both inventories and costs carefully. While we believe conditions have become more stable and predictable, unfavorable macroeconomic conditions may continue to have a negative effect on our business.

The deterioration in the global economic environment has also resulted in significant volatility in the global currency markets. Since the majority of our international operations are conducted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar (primarily the euro, the Canadian dollar and the Korean won), currency
fluctuations can have a significant impact on the translation of our international revenues and earnings into U.S. dollar amounts. During the first half of fiscal 2010, the U.S. dollar strengthened against these three currencies versus the comparable prior year period, unfavorably impacting the translation of our international revenues and earnings during that period. However, in the second half of fiscal 2010, the U.S. dollar weakened against these currencies versus the comparable prior year period, positively impacting the translation of our international revenues and earnings during that period.

In addition, some of our transactions that occur in Europe, Canada and South Korea are denominated in U.S. dollars, Swiss francs and British pounds exposing them to exchange rate fluctuations when converted to their local currencies. These transactions include U.S. dollar denominated purchases of merchandise, U.S. dollar and British pound intercompany liabilities and certain operating expenses denominated in Swiss francs. Fluctuations in exchange rates can impact the profitability of our foreign operations and reported earnings and are largely dependent on the transaction timing and magnitude during the period that the currency fluctuates. The Company enters into derivative financial instruments to manage exchange risk on certain foreign currency transactions. However, the Company does not hedge all transactions denominated in foreign currency.

## Long-Term Growth Strategy

Despite the recent economic conditions, our key long-term strategies remain unchanged. Global expansion continues to be the cornerstone of our growth strategy. Our combined revenues outside of the U.S. and Canada currently represent approximately $45 \%$ of the total Company's revenues, compared to $21 \%$ in 2005. We expect this trend to continue as we expand both in Europe and Asia. Expanding our retail business across the globe is another important part of our growth strategy. We see opportunities to increase the number of GUESS? branded retail stores in Europe, as we expand outside of Italy, and also in North America, where we see opportunities particularly with our newer store concepts. We will continue to regularly evaluate and implement initiatives that we believe will build brand equity, grow our business and enhance profitability.

Our North American retail growth strategy is to increase retail sales and profitability by expanding our network of retail stores and improving the productivity and performance of existing stores. We will continue to emphasize our new G by GUESS store concept and our accessories business. This includes greater focus on our accessories line in our existing stores and the expansion of our GUESS? Accessories store concept. We plan to open 52 retail stores across all concepts in the U.S. and Canada during fiscal 2011.

In Europe, we will continue to focus on growing our business in the countries where our brand is well known but under penetrated. The Company is also planning to expand the number of directly operated GUESS? retail stores in Europe. We and our partners plan to continue our international expansion in Europe by opening 85 retail stores in fiscal 2011.

The Company's capital expenditures for the full fiscal year 2011 are planned at approximately $\$ 180$ million (before deducting estimated lease incentives of approximately $\$ 10$ million), which includes key money investments for new European stores. The planned capital expenditures are primarily for retail store expansion in the U.S. and Canada, store remodeling programs, expansion of our European retail business and infrastructure, investments in information systems, expansion of our Asian business, and other infrastructure improvements.

## Other

The Company operates on a 52/53-week fiscal year calendar, which ends on the Saturday nearest to January 31 of each year. Fiscal years 2010 . 2009 and 2008 all included 52 weeks.

The Company reports National Retail Federation ("NRF") calendar comparable store sales on a quarterly basis for our full-price retail and factory outlet stores in the U.S. and Canada. A store is considered comparable after it has been open for 13 full months. If a store remodel results in a square footage change of more than $15 \%$, or involves a relocation or a change in store concept, the store is removed from the comparable store base until it has been opened at its new size, in its new location or under its new concept for 13 full months.

## Executive Summary

## The Company

Net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. was $\$ 242.8$ million, or diluted earnings of $\$ 2.61$ per common share, for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. of $\$ 213.6$ million, or diluted earnings of $\$ 2.25$ per common share, for the year ended January 31 , 2009. The fiscal 2010 and 2009 results included the unfavorable impact of long-lived asset impairment charges of $\$ 4.7$ million before taxes (or $\$ 0.03$ per diluted share) and $\$ 24.4$ million before taxes (or $\$ 0.16$ per diluted share), respectively. The asset impairment charges reflected the write-down of the asset base for a number of our retail stores primarily as a result of adverse retail conditions arising from the deterioration in the global economic environment.

During the first quarter ended May 2, 2009, the Company adopted authoritative guidance issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") which requires unvested share-payment awards that contain rights to receive non-forfeitable dividends or dividend equivalents to be included in the two-class method of computing earnings per share. The adoption negatively impacted diluted earnings per common share by approximately $\$ 0.03$ per share for each of the years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008. Refer to Note 16 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Total net revenue increased $1.7 \%$ to $\$ 2,128.5$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 2,093.4$ million in the prior year. Despite the difficult economic environment, our European, retail and wholesale segments all increased revenues in the current year, while royalty revenues were lower in our licensing business. Currency translation fluctuations relating to all our foreign operations unfavorably impacted net revenue in fiscal 2010 by $\$ 47.0$ million, driven mostly by the impact of fluctuations in the euro when translating revenues from our European segment.

Gross margin (gross profit as a percentage of total net revenues) increased slightly to $44.2 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $44.1 \%$ in the prior year. Overall, the higher product margins in our retail and wholesale segments were offset by occupancy deleverage in our European and retail segments as a result of a larger mix of European retail stores and negative comparable store sales.

Selling, general and administrative ("SG\&A") expenses decreased $1.9 \%$ to $\$ 582.7$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 593.8$ million in the prior year. The decrease was driven by lower asset impairment charges on our retail stores and lower marketing expenses as compared to the prior year. The Company also benefited from the favorable impact of the stronger dollar versus the prior year when translating SG\&A expenses for our foreign operations into U.S. dollars. The decrease was partially offset by higher store selling expenses in Europe to support our retail expansion in Europe, as well as higher performance-based and other compensation related expenses. SG\&A expense as a percentage of revenues ("SG\&A rate") improved by 100 basis points to $27.4 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to the prior year. The net impact of the asset impairment charges in the current and prior fiscal year accounted for all of this improvement.

Earnings from operations increased $9.1 \%$ to $\$ 358.8$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 328.8$ million in the prior year. Operating margin increased 120 basis points to $16.9 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $15.7 \%$ in the prior year due primarily to the lower SG\&A rate.

Currency translation fluctuations relating to all our foreign operations unfavorably impacted earnings from operations by $\$ 7.8$ million.
Other income, net, (including interest income and expense) totaled $\$ 3.1$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to other expense, net, of $\$ 10.0$ million in the prior year. The net gain for the year ended January 30,2010 included mark-to-market gains related to our insurance policy investments, partially offset by mark-to-market losses related to the revaluation of foreign currency forward contracts and other foreign currency transactions. Other expense, net, for the year ended January 31, 2009 primarily resulted from the decline in value of insurance policy investments and other non-operating assets.

Our effective income tax rate decreased 70 basis points to $31.9 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $32.6 \%$ in the prior year, primarily due to a higher proportion of earnings in lower tax jurisdictions.

The Company had $\$ 502.1$ million in cash and cash equivalents as of January 30, 2010, up $\$ 208.0$ million, compared to $\$ 294.1$ million as of January 31, 2009. Total debt, including capital lease obligations, as of January 30, 2010 was $\$ 16.5$ million, down $\$ 22.1$ million from $\$ 38.6$ million as of January 31, 2009. Accounts receivable increased by $\$ 27.3$ million, or $10.4 \%$, to $\$ 289.6$ million at January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 262.3$ million at January 31, 2009. The accounts receivable balance at January 30, 2010 included a positive translation impact of approximately $\$ 18.9$ million due to currency fluctuations compared to the prior year end. Inventory increased by $\$ 6.5$ million, or $2.7 \%$, to $\$ 246.2$ million as of January 30 , 2010, compared to $\$ 239.7$ million as of January 31, 2009.

## Retail

Our retail segment, comprising North American full-priced retail stores, factory outlet stores and e-commerce, generated net sales of $\$ 983.9$ million during the year ended January 30, 2010, an increase of $\$ 5.9$ million, or $0.6 \%$, from $\$ 978.0$ million in the prior year. The slight increase was driven by a larger store base, which represented a net $5.6 \%$ increase in average square footage compared to the year ended January 31, 2009, partially offset by a decline in comparable store sales of $4.5 \%$, which included an unfavorable translation impact of currency fluctuations for our Canadian retail stores compared to the prior year. Retail earnings from operations increased by $\$ 39.1$ million, or $42.0 \%$, to $\$ 132.3$ million for the year ended January 30 , 2010, compared to $\$ 93.2$ million in the prior year. In addition, the operating margin increased by 390 basis points to $13.4 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $9.5 \%$ for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase in both earnings from operations and operating margin was driven by lower asset impairment charges, improved product margins, and lower SG\&A expenses, partially offset by higher occupancy costs. The lower asset impairment charges in the retail segment of $\$ 3.7$ million during the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 23.3$ million during the year ended January 31 , 2009, favorably impacted operating margin by 200 basis points.

In the year, we opened 18 new stores in the U.S. and Canada and closed 11 stores. At January 30, 2010, we operated 432 stores in the U.S. and Canada, comprised of 191 full-priced GUESS? retail stores, 107 GUESS? factory outlet stores, 52 GUESS by MARCIANO stores, 44 G by GUESS stores and 38 GUESS? Accessories stores. This compares to 425 stores as of January 31, 2009.

## Wholesale

Wholesale segment revenue increased by $\$ 3.8$ million, or $1.3 \%$, to $\$ 300.0$ million for the year ended January 30 , 2010, from $\$ 296.2$ million in the prior year. This increase was driven by higher sales in our Asian business, partially offset by lower sales in our North American wholesale business. Wholesale earnings from operations increased by $\$ 5.5$ million, or $12.1 \%$, to $\$ 51.0$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 45.5$ million in the prior year. Operating margin increased by 160 basis points to $17.0 \%$ for the year ended January 30 , 2010, compared to $15.4 \%$ for the year ended January 31,
2009. The operating margin expansion was primarily driven by product margin improvements and SG\&A expense leverage in Asia compared to the prior year.

## Europe

In Europe, revenues increased by $\$ 28.2$ million, or $3.9 \%$, to $\$ 747.2$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 719.0$ million in the prior year. The increase was primarily driven by higher sales in the retail business and sales from our new international jewelry business, partially offset by the unfavorable translation impact to revenues due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates. At January 30, 2010, we directly operated 84 stores in Europe compared to 61 stores at January 31, 2009. Earnings from operations from our European segment increased by $\$ 4.6$ million, or $2.7 \%$, to $\$ 173.2$ million for the year ended January 30,2010 , compared to $\$ 168.6$ million in the prior year. Operating margin decreased 30 basis points to $23.2 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $23.5 \%$ for the prior year. The decline resulted from higher occupancy costs, given our retail expansion in the region, mostly offset by a lower SG\&A rate.

## Licensing

Our licensing royalty revenues decreased by $\$ 2.9$ million, or $2.9 \%$, to $\$ 97.4$ million, compared to $\$ 100.3$ million in the prior year. Earnings from operations for the year ended January 30, 2010, were essentially flat at $\$ 86.6$ million, compared to $\$ 86.4$ million in the prior year.

## Corporate Overhead

Corporate overhead expenses increased by $\$ 19.4$ million, or $29.9 \%$, to $\$ 84.3$ million for the year ended January 30,2010 , from $\$ 64.9$ million in the same prior year period. The increase was driven by higher performance-based and other compensation related expenses, and higher professional fees, partially offset by lower brand marketing expenses.

## Global Store Count

In the year, together with our partners, we opened 161 new stores worldwide, including 90 stores in Europe and the Middle East, 45 stores in Asia, 18 stores in the U.S. and Canada and 8 stores in Central and South America. Together with our partners we closed 63 stores worldwide, including 22 stores in Europe and the Middle East, 29 stores in Asia, 11 stores in the U.S. and Canada and 1 store in Central and South America.

We ended fiscal 2010 with 1,210 stores worldwide, comprised as follows:

| Region | Total Stores |  | Directly <br>  <br> Operated Stores | Licensee Stores |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| United States and Canada | 432 | 432 | - |  |
| Europe and the Middle East | 388 | 84 | 304 |  |
| Asia | 335 | 28 | 307 |  |
| Other | 55 | 13 | 42 |  |
| Total | 1,210 |  | 557 | 653 |

These stores exclude 229 concessions operated by us and our partners located primarily in South Korea and Greater China because of their smaller store size in relation to our standard international store size. Of the 778 stores located outside of the U.S. and Canada, 557 were GUESS? stores, 176 were GUESS? Accessories stores and 45 were GUESS by MARCIANO stores.

## Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S., which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of the assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Management bases its estimates and judgments on its historical experience and other relevant factors, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Management evaluates its estimates and judgments on an ongoing basis including those related to the valuation of inventories, accounts receivable allowances, sales return allowances, loyalty accrual, the useful life of assets for depreciation, restructuring expense and accruals, evaluation of impairment, recoverability of deferred taxes, workers compensation accruals, litigation accruals, pension obligations and stock-based compensation.

The Company believes that the following significant accounting policies involve a higher degree of judgment and complexity. In addition to the accounting policies mentioned below, see Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for other significant accounting policies.

## Accounts receivable reserves

In the normal course of business, the Company grants credit directly to certain wholesale customers after a credit analysis is performed based on financial and other criteria. Accounts receivable are recorded net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. The Company maintains allowances for doubtful accounts for estimated losses that result from the inability of its wholesale customers to make their required payments. The Company bases its allowances on analysis of the aging of accounts receivable at the date of the financial statements, assessments of historical collection trends, an evaluation of the impact of current economic conditions and whether the Company has obtained credit insurance or other guarantees.

Costs associated with customer markdowns are recorded as a reduction to revenues, and are included in the allowance for accounts receivable. Historically, these markdown allowances resulted from seasonal negotiations with the Company's wholesale customers, as well as historical trends and the evaluation of the impact of economic conditions. During fiscal 2008, the Company renegotiated its arrangements with its major customers in the U.S. to fix the percentage of sales that will be expensed as markdown allowances. The negotiation of a fixed rate allows the Company to process credit memos against the outstanding balance immediately which has resulted in a reduction of our outstanding markdown allowance accrual.

## Sales returns reserves

The Company accrues for estimated sales returns in the period in which the related revenue is recognized. To recognize the financial impact of sales returns, the Company estimates the amount of goods that will be returned based on historical experience and reduces sales and cost of sales accordingly based on historical return experience. The Company's policy allows retail customers a 30 day period to return merchandise following the date of sale. Substantially all of these returns are considered to be resalable at a price that exceeds the cost of the merchandise.

## Inventory reserves

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (weighted average method) or market. The Company continually evaluates its inventories by assessing slow moving product as well as prior seasons' inventory. Market value of aged inventory is estimated based on historical sales trends for each product line category, the impact of market trends, an evaluation of economic conditions and the value of current orders relating to the future sales of this type of inventory. The Company closely monitors its off-price sales to ensure the actual results closely match initial estimates. Estimates are regularly updated based upon this continuing review.

## Valuation of goodwill, intangible and other long-lived assets

The Company assesses the impairment of its long-lived assets (i.e., goodwill, intangible assets and property and equipment), which requires the Company to make assumptions and judgments regarding the carrying value of these assets on an annual basis, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the assets might be impaired. An asset is considered to be impaired if the Company determines that the carrying value may not be recoverable based upon its assessment of the asset's ability to continue to generate income from operations and positive cash flow in future periods or if significant changes in the Company's strategic business objectives and utilization of the assets occurred. If the assets (other than goodwill) are assessed to be recoverable, they are depreciated or amortized over the periods benefited. If the assets are considered to be impaired, an impairment charge is recognized representing the amount by which the carrying value of the assets exceeds the fair value of those assets. Fair value is determined based upon the discounted cash flows derived from the underlying asset. We use various assumptions in determining current fair market value of these assets, including future expected cash flows and discount rates. Future expected cash flows for store assets are based on management's estimates of future cash flows over the remaining lease period or expected life, if shorter. If actual results are not consistent with our assumptions and judgments used in estimating future cash flows and asset fair values, we may be exposed to future impairment losses that could be material to our results of operations. See Notes 1 and 5 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion.

## Pension benefit plan actuarial assumptions

The Company's pension obligations and related costs are calculated using actuarial concepts, within the authoritative guidance framework. The discount rate is an important element of expense and/or liability measurement. We evaluate this critical assumption annually which enables us to state expected future payments for benefits as a present value on the measurement date. Refer to Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan related information.

## Litigation reserves

Estimated amounts for claims that are probable and can be reasonably estimated are recorded as liabilities in our consolidated balance sheet. The likelihood of a material change in these estimated reserves would be dependent on new claims as they may arise and the expected favorable or unfavorable outcome of each claim. As additional information becomes available, the Company assesses the potential liability related to new claims and existing claims and revises estimates as appropriate. As new claims arise, such revisions in estimates of the potential liability could materially impact the results of operations and financial position.

## Share-based compensation

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the fair value recognition provisions of authoritative guidance using the modified prospective transition method. Under this method, compensation cost recognized after January 1, 2006 includes: (a) compensation expense for all share-based payments granted prior to, but not yet vested as of December 31, 2005, based on the grant date fair value and (b) compensation expense for all sharebased payments granted on or after January 1, 2006, based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with authoritative guidance. The fair value of each stock option is estimated on the grant date using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions used for new grants. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect for the expected term of the option at the time of grant. The expected volatility is determined based on an average of both historical volatility and implied volatility. Implied volatility is derived from exchange traded options on the Company's common stock. The expected life used prior to November 2007 was based on the "simplified" method described in authoritative guidance. For options granted beginning November 2007, the expected term is determined based on historical trends. The
dividend yield for 2006 and prior years was assumed to be zero since the Company had not historically declared and did not have a plan to declare dividends on an ongoing basis until the Board of Directors authorized and approved the initiation of quarterly dividends in February 2007. The expected dividend yield starting from 2007 is based on the Company's history and expectations of dividend payouts. The expected forfeiture rate is determined based on historical data. Compensation expense for new stock options and nonvested stock awards is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

In addition, the Company grants certain nonvested stock awards and stock options that require the recipient to achieve certain minimum performance targets in order for these awards to vest. If the minimum performance targets have not been achieved or are not expected to be achieved, no expense is recorded during the period.

## Income taxes

The Company adopted authoritative guidance in January 2007, which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements and prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. For those benefits to be recognized, a tax position must be more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities. Guidance was also provided on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position and results of operations. The Company's continuing practice is to recognize interest and penalties related to income tax matters in income tax expense.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between financial reporting bases and tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using the enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the periods in which the deferred tax asset or liability is expected to be realized or settled. Deferred tax assets are reduced by valuation allowances if we believe it is more likely than not that some portion or the entire asset will not be realized. As all earnings from the Company's foreign operations are permanently reinvested and not distributed, the Company's income tax provision does not include additional U.S. taxes on foreign operations.

## Hedge accounting

The Company operates in foreign countries, which exposes it to market risk associated with foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. The Company has entered into certain forward contracts to hedge the risk of foreign currency rate fluctuations. The Company has elected to apply the hedge accounting rules in accordance with authoritative guidance for certain of these hedges. The Company's objective is to hedge the variability in forecasted cash flows due to the foreign currency risk associated with certain anticipated inventory purchases, intercompany royalties and other expenses on a first dollar basis for specific months. Changes in the fair value of forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity, and are recognized in cost of product sales, SG\&A or other income and expenses in the period which approximates the time the hedged merchandise inventory is sold or the hedged operating expense and hedged intercompany royalty is incurred.

The Company also has foreign currency contracts that are not designated as hedges for accounting purposes. Changes in fair value of foreign currency contracts not qualifying as cash flow hedges are reported in net earnings as part of other income and expenses.

## Gift card breakage

Gift card breakage is income recognized due to the non-redemption of a portion of gift cards sold by the Company for which a liability was recorded in prior periods. Beginning with the quarter ended August 4, 2007, these estimated breakage amounts are accounted for under the redemption recognition method and are classified as additional net revenues as the gift cards are redeemed. The Company determined a gift card breakage rate based upon historical redemption patterns, which represented the cumulative estimated amount of gift card breakage from the inception of the electronic gift card program in late 2002. Any future revisions to the estimated breakage rate may result in changes in the amount of breakage income recognized in future periods. See Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding the recognition of gift card breakage.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth actual operating results for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 as a percentage of net revenue:

|  | Year Ended |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 31, } \\ 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb. 2, } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ |
| Product sales | 95.4\% | 95.2\% | 94.8\% |
| Net royalties | 4.6 | 4.8 | 5.2 |
| Total net revenue | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Cost of product sales | 55.8 | 55.9 | 54.7 |
| Gross profit | 44.2 | 44.1 | 45.3 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 27.2 | 27.2 | 27.6 |
| Asset impairment charges | 0.2 | 1.2 | - |
| Earnings from operations | 16.9 | 15.7 | 17.7 |
| Interest expense | (0.1) | (0.2) | (0.2) |
| Interest income | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| Other income (expense), net | 0.1 | (0.6) | (0.1) |
| Earnings before income taxes | 17.0 | 15.2 | 17.8 |
| Income taxes | 5.4 | 5.0 | 7.1 |
| Net earnings | 11.6 | 10.2 | 10.7 |
| Net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests | 0.2 | - | 0.0 |
| Net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. | 11.4\% | 10.2\% | 10.7\% |

## Year Ended January 30, 2010 Compared to Year Ended January 31, 2009

NET REVENUE. Net revenue for the year ended January 30, 2010 increased by $\$ 35.1$ million, or $1.7 \%$, to $\$ 2,128.5$ million, from $\$ 2,093.4$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. Our European, retail and wholesale segments all increased revenues in the current year, while royalty revenues in our licensing business declined. Currency translation fluctuations relating to all our foreign operations unfavorably impacted net revenue by $\$ 47.0$ million compared to the prior year.

Net revenue from retail operations increased by $\$ 5.9$ million, or $0.6 \%$, to $\$ 983.9$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 978.0$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The slight increase was driven by an average of 26 net additional stores during the year ended January 30, 2010, resulting in a net $5.6 \%$ increase in average square footage compared to the prior year. This growth was partially offset by a decline in comparable stores sales of $4.5 \%$. Currency translation fluctuations relating to our Canadian retail stores unfavorably impacted net revenue in our retail segment by $\$ 4.2$ million.

Net revenue from wholesale operations increased by $\$ 3.8$ million, or $1.3 \%$, to $\$ 300.0$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 296.2$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase was driven by growth in our Asian business, with revenue increases in both South Korea and Greater China. The increase in Asia was partially offset by lower North American wholesale sales. Our U.S. wholesale business continued to be impacted by the economic downturn as department stores continued to manage their inventories tightly. Our products were sold in the U.S. in approximately 947 doors at the end of the year compared to approximately 1,057 doors at the end of the prior year. Currency translation fluctuations relating to our South Korean and Canadian operations unfavorably impacted net revenue in our wholesale segment by $\$ 9.7$ million.

Net revenue from European operations increased by $\$ 28.2$ million, or $3.9 \%$, to $\$ 747.2$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 719.0$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase was driven primarily by our retail business in Europe. Wholesale revenues in Europe increased slightly, resulting from the addition of our new international jewelry business, which before January 2010, was operated as a licensed business. Currency translation fluctuations relating to our European operations unfavorably impacted net revenue by $\$ 29.5$ million. At January 30 , 2010, we directly operated 84 stores in Europe compared to 61 stores at the prior year end.

Net royalty revenue from licensing operations decreased by $\$ 2.9$ million, or $2.9 \%$, to $\$ 97.4$ million for the year ended January 30 , 2010, from $\$ 100.3$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. This decrease was driven primarily by lower royalties resulting from lower watch product sales.

GROSS PROFIT. Gross profit increased by $\$ 18.9$ million, or $2.0 \%$, to $\$ 941.5$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 922.6$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. This increase was primarily driven by our retail, wholesale and European segments as follows:

- Gross profit for the retail segment increased due to higher product margins resulting primarily from fewer markdowns and less promotional activity. These improvements were partially offset by higher occupancy costs and the unfavorable translation impact of currency fluctuations.
- Gross profit for the wholesale segment increased due to higher sales in Asia and improved product margins in both our Asian and North American wholesale businesses. These were partially offset by a decline in sales in our North American wholesale business and an unfavorable currency translation impact.
- Gross profit for the European segment increased as a result of higher sales in our European retail business and from our international jewelry business. These improvements were partially offset by higher occupancy costs due to our retail expansion in Europe and the unfavorable translation impact of currency fluctuations.

Gross margin increased slightly by 10 basis points to $44.2 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $44.1 \%$ for the year ended January 31 , 2009. The increase was attributable to higher product margins in our retail and wholesale segments, offset by occupancy deleverage in our European and retail segments as a result of a larger mix of European retail stores and negative comparable store sales.

The Company's gross margin may not be comparable to other entities since some entities include all of the costs related to their distribution in cost of product sales and others, like the Company, exclude the wholesale related distribution costs from gross margin, including them instead in selling, general and administrative expenses.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. SG\&A expenses decreased by $\$ 11.1$ million, or $1.9 \%$, to $\$ 582.7$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 593.8$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The decrease was driven by lower asset impairment charges related to our retail stores of $\$ 4.7$ million for the year ended January 30 , 2010, compared to $\$ 24.4$ million of impairment charges for the year ended January 31, 2009. The decrease was also driven by lower marketing expenses as
compared to the prior year and the favorable impact of the stronger dollar versus the prior year when translating SG\&A expenses for our foreign operations into U.S. dollars. The decrease was partially offset by higher store selling expenses, due to our retail expansion in Europe, as well as higher performance-based and other compensation related costs.

The SG\&A rate improved by 100 basis points to $27.4 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $28.4 \%$ in the prior year. The net impact of the asset impairment charges in the current and prior fiscal year accounted for all this improvement.

EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS. Earnings from operations increased by $\$ 30.0$ million, or $9.1 \%$, to $\$ 358.8$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 328.8$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase in earnings from operations primarily resulted from the following:

- Earnings from operations for the retail segment increased by $\$ 39.1$ million to $\$ 132.3$ million for the year ended January 30 , 2010, compared to $\$ 93.2$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase in earnings from operations was driven by higher gross profit, lower asset impairment charges, and lower operating and marketing expenses.
- Earnings from operations for the wholesale segment increased by $\$ 5.5$ million to $\$ 51.0$ million for the year ended January 30 , 2010, compared to $\$ 45.5$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase in earnings from operations was mainly driven by sales growth in Asia and lower operating and marketing expenses in North America. This was partially offset by lower sales volume in the North American wholesale business and the unfavorable translation impact of the stronger U.S. dollar on the South Korean business. The currency translation fluctuations, related to both our South Korean and Canadian operations, unfavorably impacted earnings from operations in our wholesale segment by $\$ 1.2$ million.
- Earnings from operations for the European segment increased $\$ 4.6$ million to $\$ 173.2$ million for the year ended January 30 , 2010, compared to $\$ 168.6$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase was due primarily to sales growth in our retail business and lower marketing expenses, partially offset by higher store selling expenses to support the expansion of our retail business in the region. The currency translation fluctuations unfavorably impacted earnings from operations by $\$ 5.9$ million.
- Earnings from operations for the licensing segment increased by $\$ 0.2$ million to $\$ 86.6$ million for the year ended January 30,2010 , compared to $\$ 86.4$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase was the result of lower marketing expenses, partially offset by lower royalty revenues.
- Unallocated corporate overhead increased by $\$ 19.4$ million to $\$ 84.3$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 64.9$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase was primarily due to higher performance-based and other compensation related costs, and higher professional fees, partially offset by lower brand marketing expenses.

Operating margin improved 120 basis points to $16.9 \%$ for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $15.7 \%$ for the year ended January 31 . 2009, primarily as a result of the lower SG\&A rate.

INTEREST EXPENSE AND INTEREST INCOME. Interest expense decreased to $\$ 2.2$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 4.7$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. The decrease was due to a combination of lower average debt balances in Europe and lower average interest rates on the debt. Total debt at January 30, 2010 was $\$ 16.5$ million, and was primarily related to our capital lease in Europe. The average debt balance for the year ended January 30 , 2010, was $\$ 42.5$ million, versus an average debt balance of $\$ 59.2$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. Interest income decreased to $\$ 1.7$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 6.1$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, due to lower interest rates on invested cash, partially offset by higher average invested cash balances.

OTHER INCOME OR EXPENSE, NET. Other income, net, was $\$ 3.6$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to other expense, net, of $\$ 11.3$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. Other income, net, in the year ended January 30, 2010, primarily consisted of mark-to-market gains on insurance policy investments, partially offset by net mark-to-market losses on the revaluation of foreign currency forward contracts and other foreign currency transactions. Other expense, net, for the year ended January 31, 2009 primarily resulted from the decline in value of insurance policy investments and other non-operating assets.

INCOME TAXES. Income tax expense for the year ended January 30, 2010 was $\$ 115.6$ million, or a $31.9 \%$ effective tax rate, compared to income tax expense of $\$ 103.8$ million, or a $32.6 \%$ effective tax rate, for the year ended January 31, 2009. The lower tax rate in the current year was due to a higher proportion of earnings in lower tax jurisdictions.

NET EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO NONCONTROLLING INTERESTS. Net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests for the year ended January 30, 2010 was $\$ 3.6$ million, net of taxes, as compared to $\$ 1.5$ million, net of taxes, for the year ended January 31, 2009. The increase was due to higher earnings from our Focus and Mexico operations.

NET EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO GUESS?, INC. Net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. increased by $\$ 29.2$ million, or $13.7 \%$, to $\$ 242.8$ million for the year ended January 30, 2010, from $\$ 213.6$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009. Diluted earnings per common share increased to $\$ 2.61$ per share for the year ended January 30 , 2010, compared to $\$ 2.25$ per share for the year ended January $31,2009$.

## Year Ended January 31, 2009 Compared to Year Ended February 2, 2008

NET REVENUE. Net revenue for the year ended January 31, 2009 increased by $\$ 343.5$ million, or $19.6 \%$, to $\$ 2,093.4$ million, from $\$ 1,749.9$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. All segments contributed to this revenue growth with double-digit percentage increases. The largest contribution to this revenue growth was generated by our European segment.

Net revenue from retail operations increased by $\$ 115.6$ million, or $13.4 \%$, to $\$ 978.0$ million for the year ended January 31 , 2009, from $\$ 862.4$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. The increase was driven by an average of 55 net additional stores during the year ended January 31,2009 , resulting in a $12.8 \%$ increase in average square footage compared to the prior year, and an increase in comparable store sales of $1.0 \%$ in fiscal 2009 compared to fiscal 2008. Currency translation fluctuations relating to our Canadian retail stores unfavorably impacted revenues by $\$ 9.0$ million.

Net revenue from wholesale operations increased by $\$ 37.8$ million, or $14.6 \%$, to $\$ 296.2$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, from $\$ 258.4$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. The revenue growth was generated from our expanding Asian operations, primarily in South Korea and Greater China. During fiscal year 2009, the Company, along with its partners, opened 20 stores and 31 concessions in Greater China and 10 stores and 29 concessions in South Korea. Our U.S. wholesale products were sold in approximately 1,057 major doors as of January 31, 2009, compared to 1,006 major doors at the end of the prior year period. Currency translation fluctuations, relating to both our Canadian and South Korean operations, unfavorably impacted net revenue in our wholesale segment by $\$ 16.3$ million.

Net revenue from European operations increased by $\$ 180.6$ million, or $33.5 \%$, to $\$ 719.0$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, from $\$ 538.4$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. All of our wholesale businesses in Europe contributed to this growth, including BARN, which we acquired in January 2008. The growth was also attributable to same store sales growth in our existing retail stores and the addition of new retail stores, increasing our directly operated store count to 61 stores at January 31, 2009 from 40 stores at February 2, 2008. Currency translation fluctuations accounted for $\$ 34.7$ million of the increase in net revenue relating to our European operations.

Net royalty revenue from licensing operations increased by $\$ 9.6$ million, or $10.5 \%$, to $\$ 100.3$ million for the year ended January 31 , 2009, from $\$ 90.7$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. The increase was the result of the strength of the accessories business, particularly watches, jewelry, footwear, eyewear and handbags. Licensing revenues in fiscal 2009 did not include any royalty revenue from our BARN business which we began operating directly as part of our European operations in January 2008.

GROSS PROFIT. Gross profit increased by $\$ 129.8$ million, or $16.4 \%$, to $\$ 922.6$ million for the year ended January 31,2009 , from $\$ 792.8$ million for the prior period. Most of the increase was driven by the European, retail and licensing segments as follows:

- Gross profit for the European operations increased due to higher sales volume in the existing European wholesale and retail operations, higher wholesale product margins and the impact of the acquisitions of BARN in January 2008 and Focus Spain in October 2007.
- Gross profit for the retail segment increased due to higher unit sales volume driven by the expansion in our store count during the year and an increase in comparable store sales of $1.0 \%$ compared to the prior year. The increase in retail gross profit also includes the unfavorable impact of higher occupancy costs due to the store expansion and lower product margins.
- Gross profit for the licensing segment increased as a result of higher sales by our licensees of accessory and footwear products.

Gross margin (gross profit as a percentage of total net revenues) decreased 120 basis points to $44.1 \%$ for the year ended January 31 , 2009, from $45.3 \%$ for the year ended February 2, 2008. The decline in the overall gross margin was attributable to lower product margins in our retail and wholesale segments, partially offset by higher product margins in Europe and a higher mix of European net revenues, which generated a relatively higher gross margin than the other segments.

The Company's gross margin may not be comparable to other entities since some entities include all of the costs related to their distribution in cost of product sales and others, like the Company, exclude the wholesale related distribution costs from gross margin, including them instead in selling, general and administrative expenses.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. SG\&A expenses increased by $\$ 110.2$ million, or $22.8 \%$, to $\$ 593.8$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, from $\$ 483.6$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. About $\$ 46.1$ million of the increase was attributable to higher store selling, merchandising and distribution costs due to the higher sales volumes. Approximately $\$ 36.1$ million of the increase was attributable to spending to support newer businesses, including BARN, Focus Spain, our G by GUESS brand, and Greater China, as well as spending to support the continued build-out of our European headquarters in Lugano, Switzerland. In addition, approximately $\$ 24.4$ million of asset impairment charges were recorded during fiscal year 2009 compared to $\$ 0.6$ million in the prior year.

As a percentage of net revenues, SG\&A expense increased to $28.4 \%$ for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to $27.6 \%$ for prior year period, driven by additional spending for infrastructure and new businesses in Europe and the asset impairment charges, partially offset by expense leverage in our wholesale segment and in our corporate overhead.

EARNINGS FROM OPERATIONS. Earnings from operations increased by $\$ 19.7$ million, or $6.4 \%$, to $\$ 328.8$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to earnings from operations of $\$ 309.1$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008.

- Earnings from operations for the retail segment were $\$ 93.2$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to earnings from operations of $\$ 128.5$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. The decrease was driven by the store impairment charges of $\$ 23.3$ million and the impact of lower product margins. This was partially offset by higher sales and the resulting gross profit due to the
larger store base, and lower advertising and marketing costs. Currency translation fluctuations relating to our Canadian retail stores unfavorably impacted earnings from operations by $\$ 1.7$ million.
- Earnings from operations for the wholesale segment were $\$ 45.5$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to earnings from operations of $\$ 49.9$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. While segment revenues increased, the decrease in earnings from operations was driven by lower segment product margins and higher occupancy and SG\&A expenses to support our expanding Asian operations. Currency translation fluctuations, relating to both our Canadian and South Korean operations, unfavorably impacted earnings from operations in our wholesale segment by $\$ 2.5$ million.
- Earnings from operations for the European segment were $\$ 168.6$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to $\$ 120.8$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. The increase was primarily due to the higher sales and gross profit resulting from growth in our existing European wholesale businesses, and our acquisition of BARN. This increase was partially offset by higher volume related operating costs and infrastructure spending, along with higher advertising and marketing costs. Currency translation fluctuations favorably impacted earnings from operations in our European segment by $\$ 9.7$ million.
- Earnings from operations for the licensing segment were $\$ 86.4$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to $\$ 77.9$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. The increase was the result of higher revenues generated by our product licensees. This increase was partially offset by the loss of royalty revenue from BARN, our kids product licensee, which we acquired and now report as part of our European operations.
- Unallocated corporate overhead, included in SG\&A, was $\$ 64.9$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to $\$ 68.0$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008, mainly due to lower compensation related costs.

The lower gross margin and higher SG\&A expenses as a percentage of net revenues resulted in a decrease in operating margin of 200 basis points to $15.7 \%$ for the year ended January 31, 2009 from $17.7 \%$ for the prior year period.

INTEREST EXPENSE AND INTEREST INCOME. Interest expense increased to $\$ 4.7$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, compared to $\$ 3.4$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008, primarily due to higher average debt balances in Europe to support working capital growth. On a comparable basis, the average debt balance for the year ended January 31 , 2009 was $\$ 59.2$ million versus an average debt balance of $\$ 48.6$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. Interest income decreased to $\$ 6.1$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009 compared to $\$ 7.5$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008, due to lower interest rates on invested cash, partially offset by higher average invested cash balances.

OTHER EXPENSE, NET. Other expense was $\$ 11.3$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, versus other expense of $\$ 1.8$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. Other expense for the year ended January 31, 2009 primarily resulted from the decline in value of insurance policy investments and other non-operating assets. For the year ended January 31, 2009, other expense included a net charge of $\$ 0.3$ million relating to changes in foreign exchange rates on foreign currency forward contracts and other foreign currency transactions. The forward contracts are used to hedge currency exposure primarily relating to U.S. dollar transactions in our foreign operations in the event of a strengthening U.S. dollar. The impact of the strengthening U.S. dollar on the forward contracts during the year ended January 31, 2009 resulted in a mark-to-market gain of $\$ 18.8$ million. This gain was primarily offset by the unfavorable revaluation of U.S. dollar denominated liabilities in our foreign operations of $\$ 18.5$ million during the same period.

INCOME TAXES. Income tax expense for the year ended January 31, 2009 was $\$ 103.8$ million, resulting in a $32.6 \%$ effective tax rate, compared to income tax expense for the prior year of $\$ 124.1$ million, or a $39.8 \%$ effective tax rate. The lower tax rate in fiscal year 2009 was due to a higher mix of profits in lower tax jurisdictions and a decline in the Italian statutory tax rate at the end of fiscal 2008 that resulted in a devaluation of our Italian deferred tax assets at the end of fiscal year 2008.

NET EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO NONCONTROLLING INTERESTS. Net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests for the year ended January 31,2009 was $\$ 1.5$ million, net of taxes, as compared to $\$ 0.9$ million, net of taxes, for the year ended February 2, 2008. The increase was primarily due to the stronger performance of Focus and our Mexican operations.

NET EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO GUESS?, INC. Net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. increased by $\$ 27.1$ million, or $14.5 \%$, to $\$ 213.6$ million for the year ended January 31, 2009, from $\$ 186.5$ million for the year ended February 2, 2008. Diluted earnings per common share increased to $\$ 2.25$ per share for the year ended January 31, 2009 compared to $\$ 1.96$ per share for the year ended February 2, 2008.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We need liquidity primarily to fund our working capital, the expansion and remodeling of our retail stores, shop-in-shop programs, concessions, systems, infrastructure, other existing operations, international growth, potential acquisitions, potential share repurchases and payment of dividends to our stockholders. During the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010, the Company relied on trade credit, available cash, short-term borrowings from our European bank facilities, real estate leases, and internally generated funds to finance our operations and expansion. The Company anticipates that we will be able to satisfy our ongoing cash requirements during the next twelve months for working capital, capital expenditures, interest and principal payments on our debt, potential acquisitions, potential share repurchases and dividend payments to stockholders, primarily with cash flow from operations supplemented by borrowings, if necessary, under the Credit Facility and bank facilities in Europe, as described below under "-Cred Facilities." As of January 30, 2010, the Company had cash and cash equivalents of $\$ 502.1$ million. Excess cash and cash equivalents, which represent the majority of our outstanding cash and cash equivalents balance, are held primarily in four diversified money market funds. The funds are all AAA rated by national credit rating agencies and are generally comprised of high-quality, liquid investments. As of January 30, 2010, we do not have any exposure to auction-rate security investments in these funds. Please see "ITEM 1A Risk Factors" for a discussion of risk factors which could reasonably be likely to result in a decrease of internally generated funds available to finance capital expenditures and working capital requirements.

The Company has presented below the cash flow performance comparison of the year ended January 30, 2010, versus the year ended January 31, 2009.

## Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities was $\$ 358.2$ million for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 228.6$ million for the fiscal year ended January 31,2009 , or an improvement of $\$ 129.6$ million. The increase was primarily due to the favorable impact of working capital changes on operating cash flows as a result of the lower growth in accounts receivable and inventory during the year ended January 30, 2010, compared to the growth in the comparable prior year period. This was primarily driven by our European operations where we experienced a slower rate of growth relative to the prior year as a result of the global economic conditions. The increase is also attributable to higher growth in accrued liabilities during the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010, compared to the decline of accrued liabilities in the comparable prior year period. In addition, net earnings increased from $\$ 215.0$ million for fiscal 2009 to $\$ 246.3$ million for fiscal 2010.

At January 30, 2010, the Company had working capital (including cash and cash equivalents) of $\$ 781.4$ million compared to $\$ 558.3$ million at January 31, 2009. The Company's primary working capital needs are for inventory and accounts receivable. Accounts receivable at January 30, 2010 amounted to $\$ 289.6$ million, up $\$ 27.3$ million, compared to $\$ 262.3$ million at January 31, 2009. The accounts receivable balance at January 30, 2010 included a positive translation impact of approximately $\$ 18.9$ million due to currency fluctuations compared to January 31, 2009. Approximately $\$ 133.9$ million of our receivables, or $46.2 \%$ of the $\$ 289.6$ million in accounts receivable at January 30, 2010, were insured for collection purposes or subject to certain bank guarantees or letters of credit. Inventory at January 30, 2010 amounted to $\$ 246.2$ million compared to $\$ 239.7$ million at January 31, 2009.

## Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities was $\$ 90.8$ million for the fiscal year ended January 30,2010 , compared to $\$ 102.2$ million for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009. Cash used in investing activities related primarily to capital expenditures incurred on new store openings and existing store remodeling programs in the U.S. and Canada, expansion of our European retail business and infrastructure, expansion of our Asian business, improvements to headquarter buildings, investments in information systems and other enhancements.

The lower level of spending on new stores and remodeling of existing stores in the U.S. and Canada during the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010 was the main driver of the lower cash used in investing activities compared to the prior year, partially offset by improvements to our infrastructure in the current year. During the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010, the Company opened 18 new owned stores in the U.S. and Canada, 17 owned stores in Europe, 6 owned stores in Asia and 2 owned stores in Mexico, compared to 57 new owned stores in the U.S. and Canada, 20 owned stores in Europe, 10 owned stores in Asia and 4 owned stores in Mexico that were opened in the prior year.

## Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities was $\$ 61.8$ million for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010, compared to $\$ 99.1$ million for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009. The decrease in net cash used in financing activities compared to the prior year was primarily due to higher repurchases of shares of the Company's common stock under the 2008 Share Repurchase Program during fiscal 2009, partially offset by repayments of borrowings and higher dividends during fiscal 2010.

## Contractual Obligations and Commitments

The following table summarizes the Company's contractual obligations at January 30, 2010 and the effects such obligations are expected to have on liquidity and cash flow in future periods (dollars in thousands):

|  | Payments due by period |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Less than } \\ 1 \text { year } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 1-3 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 3-5 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |  | More than <br> 5 years |  |
| Contractual Obligations: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Short-term borrowings | \$ | 738 | \$ | 738 | \$ | - | \$ | \$ - | \$ | - |
| Capital lease obligations(1) |  | 18,612 |  | 2,280 |  | 4,538 |  | 4,440 |  | 7,354 |
| Operating lease obligations(2) |  | 995,676 |  | 147,280 |  | 269,838 |  | 237,701 |  | 340,857 |
| Purchase obligations(3) |  | 147,476 |  | 147,476 |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Benefit obligations(4) |  | 98,548 |  | 1,191 |  | 1,766 |  | 2,146 |  | 93,445 |
| Total | \$ | 1,261,050 |  | 298,965 |  | 276,142 |  | 244,287 |  | 441,656 |
| Other commercial commitments(5) | \$ | 12,450 | \$ | 12,450 | \$ | - | \$ | \$ - | \$ | - |

(1) Includes interest on capital lease obligations.
(2) Does not include insurance, taxes and common area maintenance charges. In fiscal 2010, these variable charges totaled $\$ 44.5$ million.
(3) Purchase obligations represent open purchase orders for merchandise at the end of the fiscal year. These purchase orders can be impacted by various factors, including the scheduling of market weeks, the timing of issuing orders, the timing of the shipment of orders and currency fluctuations. Accordingly, a comparison of purchase orders from period to period is not necessarily meaningful.
(4) Includes expected payments associated with the deferred compensation plan and the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan through fiscal 2037.
(5) Consists of standby letters of credit for guarantee of foreign subsidiary's borrowings, workers' compensation and general liability insurance.

Excluded from the above contractual obligations table is the non-current liability for unrecognized tax benefits of $\$ 14.5$ million. This liability for unrecognized tax benefits has been excluded because the Company cannot make a reliable estimate of the period in which the liability will be settled, if ever.

## Dividend Policy

During the first quarter of fiscal 2008, the Company announced a quarterly cash dividend of $\$ 0.06$ per share of the Company's common stock. Since that time, the Company has continued to pay a quarterly cash dividend, which has subsequently increased to $\$ 0.16$ per common share.

In continuation of this practice, on March 17, 2010, the Company announced a quarterly cash dividend of $\$ 0.16$ per share of the Company's common stock. The dividend will be payable on April 16, 2010 to stockholders of record at the close of business on March 31, 2010.

The payment of cash dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will be based on a number of business, legal and other considerations, including our cash flow from operations, capital expenditures, debt service requirements, cash paid for income taxes, earnings, share repurchases and liquidity.

## Capital Expenditures

Gross capital expenditures totaled $\$ 82.3$ million, before deducting lease incentives of $\$ 5.4$ million, for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010. This compares to gross capital expenditures of $\$ 90.0$ million, before deducting lease incentives of $\$ 7.5$ million, for the fiscal year ended January $31,2009$. The Company's capital expenditures for the full fiscal year 2011 are planned at approximately $\$ 180$ million (before deducting estimated lease incentives of approximately $\$ 10$ million), which includes key money investments for new European stores. The planned capital expenditures are primarily for retail store expansion in the U.S. and Canada, store remodeling programs, expansion of our European retail business and infrastructure, investments in information systems, expansion of our Asian business, and other infrastructure improvements.

In addition, we periodically evaluate strategic acquisitions and alliances and pursue those that we believe will support and contribute to our overall growth initiatives.

## Credit Facilities

On September 19, 2006, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into a credit facility led by Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent for the lenders (the "Credit Facility"). The Credit Facility provides for an $\$ 85$ million revolving multicurrency line of credit and is available for direct borrowings and the issuance of letters of credit, subject to certain letters of credit sublimits. The Credit Facility is scheduled to mature on September 30, 2011. At January 30, 2010, the Company had $\$ 12.5$ million in outstanding standby letters of credit, no outstanding documentary letters of credit and no outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility. See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding the terms of the Credit Facility.

The Company, through its European subsidiaries, maintains short-term borrowing agreements, primarily for working capital purposes, with various banks in Europe. Under these agreements, which are generally secured by specific accounts receivable balances, the Company can borrow up to $\$ 228.0$ million, limited primarily by accounts receivable balances at the time of borrowing. Based on the applicable accounts receivable balances at January 30, 2010, the Company could have borrowed up to approximately $\$ 211.7$ million under these agreements. However, the Company's ability to borrow through foreign subsidiaries is generally limited to $\$ 185.0$ million under the terms of the Credit Facility. Under these credit agreements the Company had no outstanding borrowings and $\$ 4.1$ million in outstanding documentary letters of credit as of January 30, 2010. The agreements are primarily denominated in euros and provide for annual interest rates ranging from $0.7 \%$ to $3.5 \%$. The maturities of the short-term borrowings are generally linked to the credit terms of the underlying accounts receivable that secure the borrowings. With the exception of one facility for $\$ 20.8$ million that has a minimum net equity requirement, there are no other financial ratio covenants.

The Company entered into a capital lease in December 2005 for a new building in Florence, Italy. At January 30, 2010, the capital lease obligation was $\$ 15.8$ million. The Company entered into a separate interest rate swap agreement designated as a non-hedging instrument that resulted in a swap fixed rate of $3.55 \%$. This interest rate swap agreement matures in 2016 and converts the nature of the capital lease obligation from Euribor floating rate debt to fixed rate debt. The fair value of the interest rate swap liability at January 30, 2010 was approximately $\$ 0.8$ million.

From time-to-time the Company will obtain other short term financing in foreign countries for working capital to finance its local operations.

## Share Repurchases

In March 2008, the Company's Board of Directors terminated the previously authorized 2001 share repurchase program and authorized a new program to repurchase, from time-to-time and as market and
business conditions warrant, up to $\$ 200$ million of the Company's common stock (the "2008 Share Repurchase Program"). Repurchases may be made on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plans or other available means. There is no minimum or maximum number of shares to be repurchased under the program and the program may be discontinued at any time, without prior notice. During the year ended January 30, 2010, the Company repurchased 407,600 shares under the 2008 Share Repurchase Program at an aggregate cost of approximately $\$ 5.3$ million, all of which occurred in the first quarter ended May 2, 2009.

## Other

On August 23, 2005, the Board of Directors of the Company adopted a Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan ("SERP") which became effective January 1, 2006. The SERP provides select employees who satisfy certain eligibility requirements with certain benefits upon retirement, termination of employment, death, disability or a change in control of the Company, in certain prescribed circumstances. The participants in the SERP are Maurice Marciano, Chairman of the Board, Paul Marciano, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of the Board, and Carlos Alberini, President and Chief Operating Officer. As a non-qualified pension plan, no funding of the SERP is required; however, the Company expects to make periodic payments into insurance policies held in a rabbi trust to fund the expected obligations arising under the non-qualified SERP. The amount of future payments may vary, depending on the future years of service, future annual compensation of the participants and investment performance of the trust. The cash surrender value of the insurance policies was $\$ 22.1$ million and $\$ 12.1$ million as of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively and is included in other assets. As a result of an increase in value of the insurance policy investments, the Company recorded a gain of $\$ 3.1$ million in other income during fiscal 2010.

In January 2002, the Company established a qualified employee stock purchase plan ("ESPP"), the terms of which allow for qualified employees (as defined) to participate in the purchase of designated shares of the Company's common stock at a price equal to $85 \%$ of the lower of the closing price at the beginning or end of each quarterly stock purchase period. On January 23, 2002, the Company filed with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-8 registering 4,000,000 shares of common stock for the ESPP. During the year ended January 30, 2010, 73,810 shares of the Company's common stock were issued pursuant to the ESPP at an average price of $\$ 16.92$ per share for a total of $\$ 1.2$ million.

## INFLATION

The Company does not believe that inflation trends in the U.S. and internationally over the last three years have had a significant effect on net revenue or profitability.

## SEASONALITY

The Company's business is impacted by the general seasonal trends characteristic of the apparel and retail industries. U.S. retail operations are generally stronger from July through December, and U.S. wholesale operations generally experience stronger performance from July through November. The European operations are largely wholesale driven and operate with two primary selling seasons. The Spring/Summer season primarily ships from December to March and the Fall/Winter season primarily ships from June to September. The remaining months of the year are relatively smaller shipping months in Europe. The Company's goal is to take advantage of early-season demand and potential reorders by offering a pre-collection assortment for apparel.

## RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING GUIDANCE

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that requires an enterprise to perform an analysis to determine whether the enterprise's variable interest or interests give it a controlling financial
interest in a variable interest entity. This analysis identifies the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity as the enterprise that has both of the following characteristics, among others: (a) the power to direct the activities of a variable interest entity that most significantly impacts the entity's economic performance, and (b) the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits from the entity, that could potentially be significant to the variable interest entity. Under this guidance, ongoing reassessments of whether an enterprise is the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity are required. This guidance is effective for fiscal periods beginning on or after November 15, 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of the adoption of the guidance on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

In January 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that expands the required disclosures about fair value measurements. This guidance provides for new disclosures requiring the Company to (i) disclose separately the amounts of significant transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements and describe the reasons for the transfers and (ii) present separately information about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements in the reconciliation of Level 3 fair value measurements. This guidance also provides clarification of existing disclosures requiring the Company to (i) determine each class of assets and liabilities based on the nature and risks of the investments rather than by major security type and (ii) for each class of assets and liabilities, disclose the valuation techniques and inputs used to measure fair value for both Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements. This guidance is effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, except for the presentation of purchases, sales, issuances and settlements in the reconciliation of Level 3 fair value measurements, which will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of the guidance on its disclosures in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

## ITEM 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

## Exchange Rate Risk

Approximately $46 \%$ of product sales and licensing revenue recorded for the year ended January 30, 2010 were denominated in U.S. dollars. The Company's primary exchange rate risk relates to operations in Canada, Europe and South Korea. Changes in currencies affect our earnings in various ways. For further discussion on currency related risk, please refer to our risk factors under "ITEM 1A. Risk Factors."

Various transactions that occur in Canada, Europe and South Korea are denominated in U.S. dollars, Swiss francs and British pounds and thus are exposed to earnings risk as a result of exchange rate fluctuations when converted to their local functional currencies. These types of transactions include U.S. dollar denominated purchases of merchandise, U.S. dollar and British pound denominated intercompany liabilities and certain operating expenses denominated in Swiss francs that are exposed to earnings risk as a result of exchange rate fluctuations when converted to the functional currency. The Company enters into derivative financial instruments to manage exchange risk on certain anticipated foreign currency transactions. The Company does not hedge all transactions denominated in foreign currency.

## Forward Contracts Designated as Cash Flow Hedges

During the year ended January 30, 2010, the Company purchased U.S. dollar forward contracts in Europe and Canada totaling US $\$ 87.0$ million and US $\$ 40.0$ million, respectively, to hedge forecasted intercompany royalties and merchandise purchases that were designated as cash flow hedges. As of January 30, 2010, the Company had forward contracts outstanding for its European and Canadian operations of US $\$ 62.4$ million and US $\$ 27.7$ million, respectively, that are expected to mature over the next 12 months. The Company's derivative financial instruments are recorded in its consolidated balance sheet at fair value based on quoted market rates. U.S. dollar forward contracts are used to hedge forecasted merchandise purchases over specific months. Changes in the fair value of these U.S. dollar forward contracts, designated as cash flow hedges, are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity, and are recognized in cost of product sales in the
period which approximates the time the hedged merchandise inventory is sold. The Company also hedges forecasted intercompany royalties over specific months. Changes in the fair value of these U.S. dollar forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity, and are recognized in other income and expense in the period in which the royalty expense is incurred.

From time to time, Swiss franc forward contracts are used to hedge certain anticipated Swiss operating expenses over specific months. Changes in the fair value of the Swiss franc forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity, and are recognized in SG\&A in the period which approximates the time the expenses are incurred.

As of January 30, 2010, accumulated other comprehensive income included an unrealized gain of approximately US\$1.8 million, net of tax, that will be recognized as a net decrease to cost of product sales or other income and expense over the following 12 months at the then current values on a pre-tax basis, which can be different than the current year-end values. At January 30, 2010, the net unrealized gain of the remaining open forward contracts recorded in the consolidated balance sheet was approximately US $\$ 3.2$ million.

At January 31, 2009, the Company had forward contracts outstanding for its European and Canadian operations of US $\$ 21.0$ million and US $\$ 38.5$ million, respectively, and Swiss franc/euro forward contracts outstanding for its European operations of CHF18.0 million. At January 31, 2009, the unrealized net gain of these open forward contracts recorded in current assets in the consolidated balance sheet was approximately US\$8.1 million.

The following table summarizes net after-tax derivative activity recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 30, } 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Beginning balance gain (loss) | \$ | 8,763 | \$ | $(1,475)$ |
| Net (losses) gains from changes in cash flow hedges |  | $(1,641)$ |  | 9,093 |
| Net (gains) losses reclassified to income |  | $(5,277)$ |  | 1,145 |
| Ending balance gain | \$ | 1,845 | \$ | 8,763 |

## Forward Contracts Not Designated as Cash Flow Hedges

The Company also has foreign currency contracts that are not designated as hedges for accounting purposes. Changes in fair value of foreign currency contracts not qualifying as cash flow hedges are reported in net earnings as part of other income and expense. For the year ended January 30, 2010, the Company recorded a net loss of US $\$ 10.6$ million for the Canadian dollar, euro, British pound and Swiss franc foreign currency contracts, which has been included in other income and expense. At January 30, 2010, the Company had Canadian dollar foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 22.3$ million expected to mature over the next eight months, euro foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 117.6$ million expected to mature oves the next 12 months and euro foreign currency contracts to purchase GBP14.0 million expected to mature over the next 11 months. At January 30, 2010, the net unrealized gain of these Canadian dollar, euro and British pound forward contracts recorded on the consolidated balance sheet were approximately US $\$ 3.9$ million.

At January 31, 2009, the Company had Canadian dollar foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 36.5$ million, euro foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 104.0$ million and Swiss franc foreign currency contracts to purchase CHF5.3 million. At January 31, 2009, the net unrealized gains of these

Canadian dollar, euro and Swiss franc forward contracts recorded in current assets in the Company's consolidated balance sheet were approximately US\$13.7 million.

## Sensitivity Analysis

At January 30, 2010, a sensitivity analysis of changes in the foreign currencies when measured against the U.S. dollar indicates that, if the U.S. dollar had uniformly weakened by $10 \%$ against all of the U.S. dollar denominated foreign exchange derivatives totaling US $\$ 229.9$ million, the fair value of the instruments would have decreased by US $\$ 25.5$ million. Conversely, if the U.S. dollar uniformly strengthened by $10 \%$ against all of the U.S. dollar denominated foreign exchange derivatives, the fair value of these instruments would have increased by US $\$ 20.9$ million. Any resulting changes in the fair value of the hedged instruments may be more than or partially offset by changes in the fair value of certain balance sheet positions (primarily U.S. dollar denominated liabilities in our foreign operations) impacted by the change in the foreign currency rate. The ability to reduce the exposure of currencies on earnings depends on the magnitude of the derivatives compared to the balance sheet positions during each reporting cycle.

## Interest Rate Risk

At January 30, 2010, approximately $96 \%$ of the Company's indebtedness related to a capital lease obligation which is covered by a separate interest rate swap agreement with a swap fixed interest rate of $3.55 \%$ that matures in 2016. Changes in the related interest rate that result in an unrealized gain or loss on the fair value of the swap are reported in other income or expenses. The change in the unrealized fair value of the interest swap increased other expense, net by $\$ 0.5$ million during fiscal year 2010. Substantially all of the Company's remaining indebtedness is at variable rates of interest. Accordingly, changes in interest rates would impact the Company's results of operations in future periods. A 100 basis point increase in interest rates would have increased interest expense for the year ended January 30, 2010 by approximately $\$ 0.4$ million. This increase would be partially offset by a favorable gain on the interest rate swap.

The fair value of the Company's debt instruments are based on the amount of future cash flows associated with each instrument discounted using the Company's incremental borrowing rate. At January 30, 2010, the carrying value of all financial instruments was not materially different from fair value, as the interest rate on the Company's debt approximates rates currently available to the Company.

## ITEM 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Data listed in ITEM 15 of Part IV of this report.

## ITEM 9. Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.

None.

## ITEM 9A. Controls and Procedures.

## Conclusion Regarding the Effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this annual report.

## Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

The SEC, as directed by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, adopted rules which require the Company to include in its Annual Reports on Form 10-K, an assessment by management of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act. In addition, the Company's independent auditors must attest to and report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act. The Company's internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance to the Company's management and Board of Directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect all misstatements. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation.

The Company's management carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in Internal Control-Integrated Frameworkssued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based upon this evaluation, under the framework in Internal Control-Integrateframework, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of January 30, 2010.

Ernst \& Young LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm that audited the Company's financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010 included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K has issued an attestation report on the Company's internal control over financial reporting, which is set forth below.

## Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Guess?, Inc.
We have audited Guess?, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of January 30, 2010, based on criteria established in Internal Control -Integrate\#Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). Guess?, Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Guess?, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of January 30, 2010, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Guess?, Inc. as of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity and comprehensive income, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended January 30, 2010 and our report dated March 30, 2010 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

## /s/ ERNST \& YOUNG LLP

Los Angeles, California
March 30, 2010

## ITEM 9B. Other Information.

None.

## PART III

## ITEM 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.

The information required by this item can be found under the captions "Directors and Executive Officers," "Corporate Governance and Board Matters," and "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" in the Company's Proxy Statement (the "Proxy Statement") to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year and is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 11. Executive Compensation.

The information required by this item can be found under the caption "Executive and Director Compensation," excluding the Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation, in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.

The information required by this item can be found under the captions "Equity Compensation Plan Information" and "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management" in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.

The information required by this item can be found under the captions "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions" and "Corporate Governance and Board Matters-Board Independence, Structure and Committee Composition" in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein b. reference.

## ITEM 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.

The information required by this item can be found under the caption "Relationship with Independent Registered Public Accountants" in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

## PART IV

## ITEM 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules.

## Documents Filed with Report

Consolidated Financial Statements
The Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and financial statements listed on the accompanying Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedule are filed as part of this report.
(2) Consolidated Financial Statement Schedule

The financial statement schedule listed on the accompanying Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedule is filed as part of this report.
(3)

Exhibits
The exhibits listed on the accompanying Exhibit Index are filed or incorporated by reference as part of this report.

## Guess?, Inc. <br> Form 10-K

## Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedule

1 Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm ..... F-2
2 Consolidated Financial Statements
Consolidated Balance Sheets at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 ..... F-3
Consolidated Statements of Income for the Years Ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 ..... F-4
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income for the Years Ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 ..... F-5
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Years Ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 ..... F-6
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ..... F-7
3 Consolidated Financial Statement Schedule-Valuation and Qualifying Accounts for the Years Ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 ..... F-44

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Guess?, Inc.
We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Guess?, Inc. as of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity and comprehensive income, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended January 30, 2010. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the Index at ITEM 15(2). These financial statements and schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Guess?, Inc. at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, and the consolidated results of operations and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended January 30,2010 , in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, in 2010 the Company changed its method of accounting for noncontrolling interests. As discussed in Note 16 to the consolidated financial statements, in 2010 the Company changed its method of accounting for earnings per share.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the effectiveness of Guess?, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of January 30, 2010, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framewor issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated March 30, 2010 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.
/s/ ERNST \& YOUNG LLP
Los Angeles, California
March 30, 2010

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

## (in thousands, except share data)

|  | January 30, 2010 | $\begin{gathered} \text { January 31, } \\ 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASSETS |  |  |
| Current assets: |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 502,063 | \$ 294,118 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 289,638 | 262,349 |
| Inventories | 246,197 | 239,675 |
| Deferred tax assets | 30,570 | 27,278 |
| Other current assets | 54,621 | 70,769 |
| Total current assets | 1,123,089 | 894,189 |
| Property and equipment, net | 255,308 | 221,416 |
| Goodwill | 29,877 | 27,102 |
| Other intangible assets, net | 15,974 | 16,145 |
| Long-term deferred tax assets | 55,504 | 49,689 |
| Other assets | 50,423 | 38,025 |
|  | \$ 1,530,175 | \$ 1,246,566 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY |  |  |
| Current liabilities: |  |  |
| Current portion of capital lease obligations and borrowings | 2,357 | \$ 24,018 |
| Accounts payable | 195,075 | 192,168 |
| Accrued expenses | 144,247 | 119,698 |
| Total current liabilities | 341,679 | 335,884 |
| Capital lease obligations | 14,137 | 14,586 |
| Deferred rent and lease incentives | 60,642 | 52,563 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 73,561 | 58,029 |
|  | 490,019 | 461,062 |
| Redeemable noncontrolling interests | 13,813 | 10,050 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Note 12) |  |  |
| Stockholders' equity: |  |  |
| Preferred stock, \$. 01 par value. Authorized 10,000,000 shares; no shares issued and outstanding | - | - |
| Common stock, \$. 01 par value. Authorized 150,000,000 shares; issued 136,568,091 and $135,826,959$ shares, outstanding $92,736,761$ and $92,329,419$ shares, at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively | 927 | 923 |
| Paid-in capital | 319,737 | 282,220 |
| Retained earnings | 919,531 | 718,368 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income | $(2,952)$ | $(16,421)$ |
| Treasury stock, 43,831,330 and 43,497,540 shares at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively | $(217,032)$ | $(212,089)$ |
| Guess?, Inc. stockholders' equity | 1,020,211 | 773,001 |
| Nonredeemable noncontrolling interests | 6,132 | 2,453 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 1,026,343 | 775,454 |
|  | \$ 1,530,175 | \$ 1,246,566 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
## (in thousands, except per share data)

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { an. 30, } \mathbf{2 0 1 0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, 2009 } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Feb. 2, } 2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net revenue: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Product sales | \$ | 2,031,114 |  | 1,993,125 |  | 1,659,184 |
| Net royalties |  | 97,352 |  | 100,265 |  | 90,732 |
|  |  | 2,128,466 |  | 2,093,390 |  | 1,749,916 |
| Cost of product sales |  | 1,186,979 |  | 1,170,762 |  | 957,147 |
| Gross profit |  | 941,487 |  | 922,628 |  | 792,769 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses |  | 577,963 |  | 569,398 |  | 483,079 |
| Asset impairment charges |  | 4,708 |  | 24,443 |  | 551 |
| Earnings from operations |  | 358,816 |  | 328,787 |  | 309,139 |
| Other income (expense): |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest expense |  | $(2,176)$ |  | $(4,730)$ |  | $(3,442)$ |
| Interest income |  | 1,697 |  | 6,101 |  | 7,546 |
| Other income (expense), net |  | 3,592 |  | $(11,349)$ |  | $(1,780)$ |
|  |  | 3,113 |  | $(9,978)$ |  | 2,324 |
| Earnings before income tax expense |  | 361,929 |  | 318,809 |  | 311,463 |
| Income tax expense |  | 115,599 |  | 103,784 |  | 124,099 |
| Net earnings |  | 246,330 |  | 215,025 |  | 187,364 |
| Net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests |  | 3,569 |  | 1,463 |  | 892 |
| Net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. | \$ | 242,761 | \$ | 213,562 | \$ | 186,472 |
| Earnings per common share attributable to common stockholders (Note 16): |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 2.63 | \$ | 2.27 | \$ | 1.99 |
| Diluted | \$ | 2.61 | \$ | 2.25 | \$ | 1.96 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding attributable to common stockholders (Note 16): |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic |  | 90,893 |  | 92,561 |  | 92,307 |
| Diluted |  | 91,592 |  | 93,258 |  | 93,518 |
| Dividends declared per common share | \$ | 0.45 | \$ | 0.36 | \$ | 0.28 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME



| Noncontrolling interest capital contribution |  | - | - | - |  | - | - |  | 1,001 | 1,001 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Noncontrolling interest capital distribution |  | - | (109) | ) - |  | - | - |  | $(1,202)$ | (1,311) |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Balance at } \\ & \text { January } 30, \\ & 2010 \end{aligned}$ | \$ | 927 | \$319,737 | \$919,531 | \$ | $(2,952)$ | \$(217,032) | \$ | 6,132 | ,026,343 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (in thousands)

|  |  | Year <br> Ended <br> 30, 2010 |  | Year <br> Ended <br> . 31, 2009 |  | Year <br> Ended <br> b. 2, 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash flows from operating activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net earnings | \$ | 246,330 | \$ | 215,025 | \$ | 187,364 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment |  | 56,521 |  | 53,190 |  | 44,538 |
| Amortization of intangible assets |  | 7,853 |  | 7,906 |  | 6,041 |
| Share-based compensation expense |  | 27,339 |  | 22,846 |  | 19,519 |
| Unrealized forward contract (gains) losses |  | $(3,720)$ |  | $(14,553)$ |  | 3,354 |
| Deferred income taxes |  | $(4,678)$ |  | $(8,805)$ |  | $(12,369)$ |
| Net loss on disposition of long-term assets and property and equipment |  | 5,514 |  | 29,574 |  | 4,015 |
| Other items, net |  | $(6,093)$ |  | 3,993 |  | 8,638 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts receivable |  | $(12,803)$ |  | $(34,917)$ |  | $(89,481)$ |
| Inventories |  | (72) |  | $(18,447)$ |  | $(55,883)$ |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets |  | 15,044 |  | $(17,592)$ |  | $(23,523)$ |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses |  | 17,330 |  | $(15,164)$ |  | 78,633 |
| Deferred rent and lease incentives |  | 8,108 |  | 6,392 |  | 5,943 |
| Other long-term liabilities |  | 1,537 |  | (823) |  | 3,974 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities |  | 358,210 |  | 228,625 |  | 180,763 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Purchases of property and equipment |  | $(82,286)$ |  | $(89,971)$ |  | $(100,178)$ |
| Proceeds from dispositions of long-term assets and property and equipment |  | 474 |  | - |  | 17,248 |
| Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired |  | 549 |  | (897) |  | $(12,129)$ |
| Net cash settlement of forward contracts |  | $(2,693)$ |  | (812) |  | $(5,303)$ |
| Purchases of long-term investments and deposits on property and equipment |  | $(6,880)$ |  | $(10,537)$ |  | $(16,799)$ |
| Net cash used in investing activities |  | $(90,836)$ |  | $(102,217)$ |  | $(117,16)$ |
| Cash flows from financing activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Certain short-term borrowings, net |  | $(24,861)$ |  | $(9,887)$ |  | 5,647 |
| Proceeds from borrowings |  | 40,000 |  | - |  | 3,894 |
| Repayment of borrowings and capital lease obligation |  | $(41,596)$ |  | $(2,684)$ |  | $(1,937)$ |
| Dividends paid |  | $(41,598)$ |  | $(34,019)$ |  | $(26,295)$ |
| Noncontrolling interest capital contributions |  | 1,001 |  | 2,230 |  | 490 |
| Noncontrolling interest capital distributions |  | $(1,311)$ |  | - |  | - |
| Issuance of common stock, net of nonvested award repurchases |  | 5,778 |  | 412 |  | 6,047 |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation |  | 6,133 |  | 5,353 |  | 12,068 |
| Purchase of treasury stock |  | $(5,309)$ |  | $(60,531)$ |  | - |
| Net cash used in financing activities |  | $(61,763)$ |  | $(99,126)$ |  | (86) |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents |  | 2,334 |  | $(8,759)$ |  | 4,462 |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents |  | 207,945 |  | 18,523 |  | 67,978 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period |  | 294,118 |  | 275,595 |  | 207,617 |



See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices

## Description of the Business

Guess?, Inc. (the "Company" or "GUESS?") designs, markets, distributes and licenses a leading lifestyle collection of contemporary apparel and accessories for men, women and children that reflect the American lifestyle and European fashion sensibilities. The Company's designs are sold in GUESS? owned stores, to a network of wholesale accounts that includes better department stores, selected specialty retailers and upscale boutiques and through the Internet. GUESS? branded products, some of which are produced under license, are also sold internationally through a series of licensees and distributors.

## Fiscal Year End

The Company operates on a 52/53-week fiscal year calendar, which ends on the Saturday nearest to January 31 of each year. All references herein to "fiscal 2010", "fiscal 2009", and "fiscal 2008" represent the results of the 52-week fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009, and February 2, 2008, respectively.

## Classification of Certain Costs and Expenses

The Company includes inbound freight charges, purchasing costs and related overhead, retail store occupancy costs and a portion of the Company's distribution costs related to its retail business in cost of product sales. Distribution costs related to the wholesale business are included in selling, general and administrative ("SG\&A") expenses and amounted to $\$ 30.2$ million, $\$ 33.6$ million, and $\$ 24.5$ million for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively. The Company also includes store selling, selling and merchandising, advertising, design and other corporate overhead costs as a component of selling, general and administrative expenses.

The Company classifies amounts billed to customers for shipping fees as revenues, and classifies costs related to shipping as cost of product sales in the accompanying consolidated statements of income.

## Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Guess?, Inc., its wholly-owned direct and indirect subsidiaries and its majorityowned subsidiaries. Accordingly, all references herein to "Guess?, Inc." include the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated during the consolidation process.

## Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and disclosed in the accompanying notes. Significant areas requiring the use of management estimates relate to the valuation of inventories, accounts receivable allowances, sales return allowances, pension obligations, the useful life of assets for depreciation, evaluation of asset impairment, litigation accruals, recoverability of deferred taxes, unrecognized tax benefits, workers compensation and medical self-insurance expense and accruals and stock-based compensation. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices (Continued)

## Reclassifications

The Company has made certain reclassifications to the prior years' consolidated financial statements to conform to classifications in the current year. These reclassifications, none of which are material, had no impact on previously reported results of operations or net cash provided by operating activities. The Company adopted authoritative guidance issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") in the first quarter ended May 2, 2009, which requires that redeemable noncontrolling interests be reclassified outside of permanent equity as a component of mezzanine instruments. The Company has restated the consolidated balance sheet as of January 31, 2009 to reflect the reclassification of $\$ 10.1$ million to redeemable noncontrolling interests and restated the accompanying consolidated statements of stockholders' equity and comprehensive income.

## Business Segment Reporting

Where applicable, the Company reports information about business segments and related disclosures about products and services, geographic areas and major customers. The Company's businesses are grouped into four reportable segments for management and internal financial reporting purposes: retail, European, wholesale and licensing. Information regarding these segments is summarized in Note 15 . Management evaluates segment performance based primarily on revenue and earnings from operations. The Company believes this segment reporting reflects how its four business segments are managed and each segment's performance is evaluated. The retail segment includes the Company's retail operations in North America. The wholesale segment includes the wholesale operations in North America and the Company's Asian operations. The European segment includes both wholesale and retail operations in Europe and the Middle East. The licensing segment includes the worldwide licensing operations of the Company.

## Revenue Recognition

General
The Company recognizes retail operations revenue at the point of sale and wholesale operations revenue from the sale of merchandise when products are shipped and the customer takes title and assumes risk of loss, collection of relevant receivable is reasonably assured, pervasive evidence of an arrangement exists, and the sales price is fixed or determinable. The Company accrues for estimated sales returns and other allowances in the period in which the related revenue is recognized. To recognize the financial impact of sales returns, the Company estimates the amount of goods that will be returned based on historical experience and reduces sales and cost of sales accordingly.

## Net Royalty Revenue

Royalty revenue is based upon a percentage, as defined in the underlying agreement, of the licensee's actual net sales or minimum net sales, whichever is greater. The Company may receive special payments in consideration of the grant of license rights. These payments are recognized ratably as revenue over the term of the license agreement. The unrecognized portion of upfront payments is included in deferred royalties and accrued expenses depending on the long or short-term nature of the payments to be recognized. During 2005, the Company successfully renegotiated license agreements for certain significant product categories comprising watches, handbags and eyewear. The renewal terms call for certain fixed cash rights payments which are over-and-above normal, ongoing royalty payments. During 2005, the

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices (Continued)

Company received $\$ 42.7$ million in cash for these significant renewals and recorded them as deferred royalties in other long-term liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. The Company recognized revenues relating to these fixed cash rights payments of $\$ 8.2$ million, $\$ 8.5$ million and $\$ 8.5$ million in the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively.

## Gift Cards

Gift card breakage is income recognized due to the non-redemption of a portion of gift cards sold by the Company for which a liability was recorded in prior periods. Beginning with the quarter ended August 4, 2007, these estimated breakage amounts are accounted for under the redemption recognition method and are classified as additional net revenues as the gift cards are redeemed. The Company's gift card breakage rate is approximately $6.5 \%$ and $5.6 \%$ for the U.S. retail business and Canadian retail business, respectively, based upon historical redemption patterns, which represented the cumulative estimated amount of gift card breakage from the inception of the electronic gift card program in late 2002. Based upon historical redemption trends, the Company recognizes estimated gift card breakage as a component of net revenue in proportion to actual gift card redemptions, over the period that remaining gift card values are redeemed. For the years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, the Company recognized $\$ 1.5$ million, $\$ 2.3$ million and $\$ 3.5$ million of gift card breakage to revenue, respectively, of which $\$ 3.1$ million, or $\$ 0.02$ per diluted share was a one-time cumulative adjustment recognized in the quarter ended August 4, 2007 when the Company completed its analysis of unredeemed electronic gift card liabilities. Any future revisions to the estimated breakage rate may result in changes in the amount of breakage income recognized in future periods.

## Loyalty Programs

The Company launched customer loyalty programs for its G by GUESS, GUESS? and GUESS by MARCIANO stores in July 2009, August 2008 and September 2007, respectively. The GUESS? and GUESS by MARCIANO loyalty programs were merged in May 2009. Under the programs, customers accumulate points based on purchase activity. Once a loyalty program member achieves a certain point level, the member earns awards that may be redeemed for merchandise. Unredeemed awards and points are accrued in current liabilities and recorded as a reduction of net sales as points are accumulated by the member. The program has expiration dates for the points and awards. The aggregate amount of the unredeemed points and awards included in accrued liabilities was $\$ 9.8$ million and $\$ 6.2$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively.

## Advertising Costs

The Company expenses the cost of advertising as incurred. Advertising expenses charged to operations for the fiscal years ended January 30 , 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 were $\$ 21.8$ million, $\$ 36.5$ million and $\$ 37.1$ million, respectively.

## Share-based Compensation

In accordance with authoritative accounting guidance the Company adopted the fair value recognition provisions using the modified prospective transition method. Under this method, compensation cost recognized after January 1, 2006 includes: (a) compensation expense for all share-based payments granted prior to, but not yet vested as of, December 31, 2005, based on the grant date fair value and

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices (Continued)

(b) compensation expense for all share-based awards granted on or after January 1, 2006, based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with the guidance. The fair value of each stock option was estimated on the grant date using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model.

See Note 17 for further information regarding share-based compensation.

## Foreign Currency

## Foreign Currency Translation

The local currency is the functional currency for all of the Company's significant international operations. In accordance with authoritative guidance, assets and liabilities of the Company's foreign operations are translated from foreign currencies into U.S. dollars at period-end rates, while income and expenses are translated at the weighted-average exchange rates for the period. The related translation adjustments are reflected as a foreign currency translation adjustment in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) within stockholders' equity. The foreign currency translation adjustment increased accumulated other comprehensive income by $\$ 22.7$ million, from a foreign currency translation loss of $\$ 14.9$ million as of January 31, 2009 to a foreign currency translation gain of \$7.8 million as of January 30, 2010.

## Foreign Currency Transaction Gains and Losses

Transaction gains and losses that arise from exchange rate fluctuations on transactions denominated in a currency other than the local functional currency, including gains and losses on foreign currency contracts (see below), are included in the consolidated statements of income. Net foreign currency transaction gains (losses) included in the determination of net earnings were $\$ 4.3$ million, $\$(2.0)$ million and $\$(2.8)$ million for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively.

## Forward Contracts Designated as Cash Flow Hedges

The Company operates in foreign countries, which exposes it to market risk associated with foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. Various transactions that occur in Canada, Europe and South Korea are denominated in U.S. dollars, British pounds or Swiss francs and thus are exposed to earnings and cash flow risk as a result of exchange rate fluctuations when converted to their local functional currencies. These types of transactions include U.S. dollar denominated purchases of merchandise, U.S. dollar and British pound intercompany liabilities and certain Swiss franc denominated operating expenses. The Company has entered into forward contracts to hedge the risk of a portion of these anticipated foreign currency transactions against foreign currency rate fluctuations. The Company has elected to apply the hedge accounting rules in accordance with authoritative guidance for certain of these hedges. The Company does not hedge all transactions denominated in foreign currency.

Changes in the fair value of the U.S. dollar/euro forward contracts for anticipated U.S. dollar merchandise purchases designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity and are recognized in cost of product sales in the period which approximates the time the hedged merchandise inventory is sold. Changes in the fair value of the Swiss franc/euro forward contracts for anticipated operating expenses designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity and are

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices (Continued)

recognized in SG\&A in the period which approximates the time the expenses are incurred. Changes in the fair value of U.S. dollar/euro forward contracts for U.S. dollar intercompany royalties designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) within stockholders' equity and are recognized in other income/expense in the period which the royalty expense is incurred.

## Forward Contracts Not Designated as Cash Flow Hedges

The Company also has forward contracts that are not designated as cash flow hedges for accounting purposes. Changes in the fair value of forward contracts not qualifying as cash flow hedges are reported in net earnings as part of other income and expenses.

## Income Taxes

The Company uses the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under this method, deferred income taxes are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to be applied to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred taxes of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

The Company accounts for uncertainty in income taxes in accordance with FASB issued authoritative guidance, which prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. It also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition.

## Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per share represent net earnings attributable to common stockholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share represent net earnings attributable to common stockholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding, inclusive of the dilutive impact of common equivalent shares outstanding during the period. However, nonvested restricted stock awards (referred to as participating securities) are excluded from the dilutive impact of common equivalent shares outstanding in accordance with FASB issued authoritative guidance under the two-class method since the nonvested restricted stockholders are entitled to participate in dividends declared on common stock as if the shares were fully vested and hence are deemed to be participating securities. Under the two-class method, earnings attributable to nonvested restricted stockholders are excluded from net earnings attributable to common stockholders for purposes of calculating basic and diluted earnings per common share.

See Note 16 for further information regarding the calculation of earnings per share.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices (Continued)

## Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income consists of net earnings, Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan ("SERP") related prior service cost and actuarial valuation loss amortization, unrealized gains or losses on investments available for sale, foreign currency translation adjustments and the effective portion of the change in the fair value of cash flow hedges. Comprehensive income is presented in the consolidated statements of stockholders' equity and comprehensive income.

## Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and marketable securities with original maturities of three months or less.

## Investment Securities

The Company accounts for its investment securities in accordance with FASB authoritative guidance which requires investments to be classified into one of three categories based on management's intent: held-to-maturity securities, available-for-sale securities and trading securities. Held-tomaturity securities are recorded at their amortized cost. Available-for-sale securities are recorded at fair value with unrealized gains and losses reported as a separate component of stockholders' equity. Trading securities are recorded at market value with unrealized gains and losses reported in operations. The Company accounts for its long-term investment securities as available-for-sale. See Note 18 for further information.

## Concentration of Credit and Liquidity Risk

The Company's financial instruments that are exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of accounts receivable. In addition, cash used primarily for working capital purposes is maintained with various major financial institutions. The Company performs evaluations of the relative credit standing of these financial institutions in order to limit the amount of asset and liquidity exposure with any institution. Excess cash and cash equivalents, which represent the majority of the Company's outstanding cash and cash equivalents balance, are held primarily in four diversified money market funds. The funds, each of which is rated AAA by national credit rating agencies, are generally comprised of high-quality, liquid instruments. As of January 30, 2010, the Company does not have any exposure to auction-rate security investments in these funds.

The Company extends credit to corporate customers based upon an evaluation of the customer's financial condition and credit history and generally requires no collateral but does obtain credit insurance when considered appropriate. As of January 30, 2010, approximately $46 \%$ of total accounts receivable was insured or supported by bank guarantees. The Company maintains allowances for doubtful accounts for estimated losses that result from the inability of its wholesale customers to make their required payments. The Company bases its allowances on analysis of the aging of accounts receivable at the date of the financial statements, assessments of historical collection trends and an evaluation of the impact of current economic conditions. The Company's corporate customers are principally located throughout North America, Europe, and Asia, and their ability to pay amounts due to the Company may be dependent on the prevailing economic conditions of their geographic region. However, such credit risk is considered limited due to the Company's large customer base. Management performs regular evaluations concerning the ability of its customers to satisfy their obligations and records a provision for doubtful accounts based on these evaluations. The Company's credit losses for the periods presented are immaterial and have not

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices (Continued)

significantly exceeded management's estimates. One of the Company's domestic wholesale customers has accounted for approximately $3.4 \%, 4.1 \%$, and $4.4 \%$ of the Company's consolidated net revenue in the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively. The Company does not have significant credit exposure to any one European or Asian customer.

## Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (weighted average method) or market. The Company continually evaluates its inventories by assessing slow moving product as well as prior seasons' inventory. Market value of aged inventory is estimated based on historical sales trends for each product line category, the impact of market trends, an evaluation of economic conditions and the value of current orders relating to the future sales of this type of inventory.

## Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment, which includes depreciation of the property under the capital lease, are provided using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

| Building and building improvements including properties under capital <br> lease | 10 to 33 years |
| :--- | ---: |
| Land improvements | 5 years |
| Furniture, fixtures and equipment | 2 to 10 years |
| Corporate aircraft | 5 years |

Leasehold improvements are amortized over the lesser of the estimated useful life of the asset or the term of the lease, unless the renewal is reasonably assured. Construction in progress is not depreciated until the related asset is completed and placed in service.

## Long-Lived Assets

Long-lived assets, such as property, plant, and equipment, and purchased intangibles subject to amortization, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to the estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized in the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the estimated discounted future cash flows. The impairment loss calculations require management to apply judgment in estimating future cash flows and the discount rates that reflect the risk inherent in future cash flows. The estimated cash flows used for this nonrecurring fair value measurement is considered a Level 3 input as defined in Note 18.

See Note 5 for further details on asset impairments.

## Goodwill

Goodwill is tested annually for impairment or more frequently if events and circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. An impairment loss is recognized to the extent that the carrying amount

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices (Continued)

exceeds the asset's fair value. This determination is made at the reporting unit level and consists of two steps. First, the Company determines the fair value of a reporting unit and compares it to its carrying amount. The Company determines the fair value using a discounted cash flow analysis, which requires unobservable inputs (Level 3) within the fair value hierarchy as defined in Note 18. These inputs include selection of an appropriate discount rate and the amount and timing of expected future cash flows. Second, if the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, an impairment loss is recognized for any excess of the carrying amount of the reporting unit's goodwill and other intangibles over the implied fair value. The implied fair value is determined by allocating the fair value of the reporting unit in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation, in accordance with authoritative guidance.

See Note 6 for further information regarding goodwill.

## Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan

In accordance with authoritative accounting guidance for defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans, an asset for a plan's overfunded status or a liability for a plan's underfunded status is recognized in the consolidated balance sheets; plan assets and obligations that determine the plan's funded status are measured as of the end of the Company's fiscal year; and changes in the funded status of defined benefit postretirement plans are recognized in the year in which they occur. Such changes are reported in other comprehensive income and as a separate component of stockholders' equity.

See Note 10 for further information regarding the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan.

## Deferred Rent and Lease Incentives

When a lease includes lease incentives (such as a rent holiday) or requires fixed escalations of the minimum lease payments, rental expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease and the difference between the average rental amount charged to expense and amounts payable under the lease is included in deferred rent and lease incentives in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. For construction allowances, the Company records a deferred lease credit on the consolidated balance sheets and amortizes the deferred lease credit as a reduction of rent expense on the consolidated statements of income over the term of the leases.

## Litigation Reserves

Estimated amounts for claims that are probable and can be reasonably estimated are recorded as liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets. The likelihood of a material change in these estimated reserves would be dependent on new claims as they may arise and the expected favorable or unfavorable outcome of each claim. As additional information becomes available, the Company assesses the potential liability related to new claims and existing claims and revises estimates as appropriate. As new claims arise, such revisions in estimates of the potential liability could materially impact the results of operations and financial position.

## (2) New Accounting Guidance

In December 2007, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree and the goodwill

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (2) New Accounting Guidance (Continued)

acquired. The guidance also modifies the recognition for preacquisition contingencies, such as environmental or legal issues, restructuring plans and acquired research and development value in purchase accounting. The guidance requires the acquirer to recognize changes in the amount of its deferred tax benefits that are recognizable because of a business combination either in income from continuing operations in the period of the combination or directly in contributed capital, depending on the circumstances. The guidance also establishes disclosure requirements which will enable users to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. The Company adopted the guidance on February 1, 2009 and has applied the provisions of the statement to all acquisitions from such date.

In December 2007, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which clarifies the classification of noncontrolling interests in consolidated statements of financial position and the accounting for and reporting of transactions between the reporting entity and holders of such noncontrolling interests. The Company adopted the guidance on February 1, 2009. Refer to Note 1 for further information. The guidance has been applied prospectively with the exception of reclassifying nonredeemable noncontrolling interests to equity in the Company's consolidated balance sheets and consolidated statements of stockholders' equity and comprehensive income and recasting consolidated net earnings to include net earnings prior to fiscal 2010 attributable to both the controlling and noncontrolling interests, which are required to be adopted retrospectively.

In February 2008, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that relates to the measurement of fair value for all nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis (at least annually). The Company adopted the guidance effective February 1, 2009 for all nonfinancial assets and liabilities as required. Refer to Note 1 for additional information. The adoption of the guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

In March 2008, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that expands disclosures to include information about the fair value of derivatives, related credit risks and a company's strategies and objectives for using derivatives. The Company adopted the guidance on February 1, 2009 and has included the expanded disclosures in Note 19.

In June 2008, the FASB issued authoritative guidance, which requires unvested share-payment awards that contain rights to receive non-forfeitable dividends or dividend equivalents to be included in the two-class method of computing earnings per share. The guidance also requires retrospective application to all periods presented. The Company adopted the guidance on February 1, 2009 and applied it retrospectively to all periods presented. Refer to Note 16. The adoption resulted in a reduction in diluted earnings per common share of approximately $\$ 0.03$ per share for the years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009, and February 2, 2008

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to improve the presentation and disclosure of other-than-temporary impairment on debt and equity securities in the financial statements. The guidance does not amend existing recognition and measurement guidance related to other-thantemporary impairment of equity securities. The guidance is effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009 and was adopted by the Company during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. The adoption of the guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations. See additional disclosure in Note 18.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (2) New Accounting Guidance (Continued)

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to require disclosures about the fair value of financial instruments in interim reporting periods. Such disclosures were previously required only in annual financial statements. The guidance is effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009 and was adopted by the Company during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. The adoption of the guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

In May 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance, which establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued or are available to be issued. The guidance is effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009. The Company adopted the guidance during the second quarter of fiscal 2010 and, accordingly, evaluates subsequent events through the date its financial statements are issued. See Note 21 for additional information.

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance, which establishes the FASB Accounting Standards Codification. This has become the source of authoritative generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, and superseded all existing non-SEC accounting and reporting standards but does not change U.S. GAAP. The Codification is effective for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009, and was adopted by the Company during the third quarter of fiscal 2010. Accordingly, references to standards issued prior to the codification have been replaced with a description of the applicable accounting guidance.

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that requires an enterprise to perform an analysis to determine whether the enterprise's variable interest or interests give it a controlling financial interest in a variable interest entity. This analysis identifies the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity as the enterprise that has both of the following characteristics, among others: (a) the power to direct the activities of a variable interest entity that most significantly impacts the entity's economic performance, and (b) the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits from the entity, that could potentially be significant to the variable interest entity. Under this guidance, ongoing reassessments of whether an enterprise is the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity are required. This guidance is effective for fiscal periods beginning on or after November 15, 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of the adoption of the guidance on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In January 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that expands the required disclosures about fair value measurements. This guidance provides for new disclosures requiring the Company to (i) disclose separately the amounts of significant transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements and describe the reasons for the transfers and (ii) present separately information about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements in the reconciliation of Level 3 fair value measurements. This guidance also provides clarification of existing disclosures requiring the Company to (i) determine each class of assets and liabilities based on the nature and risks of the investments rather than by major security type and (ii) for each class of assets and liabilities, disclose the valuation techniques and inputs used to measure fair value for both Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements. This guidance is effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, except for the presentation of purchases, sales, issuances and settlements in the reconciliation of Level 3 fair value measurements, which will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of the guidance on its disclosures in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (3) Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consists of trade receivables primarily relating to the Company's wholesale businesses in Europe, North America and Asia. The Company provided for allowances relating to these receivables of $\$ 24.0$ million and $\$ 21.3$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively. In addition, accounts receivable includes royalty receivables relating to licensing operations of $\$ 23.0$ million and $\$ 20.7$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively, for which, the Company recorded an allowance for doubtful accounts of $\$ 0.7$ million and $\$ 0.5$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively. The accounts receivable allowance includes allowances for doubtful accounts, wholesale markdowns and wholesale sales returns. Retail sales returns allowances are included in accrued expenses.

## (4) Inventories

Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Jan. 31, $2009$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Raw materials | \$ 9,405 | \$ 8,615 |
| Work in progress | 2,689 | 2,286 |
| Finished goods | 234,103 | 228,774 |
|  | \$ 246,197 | \$ 239,675 |

As of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, inventories had been written down to the lower of cost or market by $\$ 16.8$ million and $\$ 20.0$ million, respectively.

## (5) Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is summarized as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 31, } \\ 2009 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Land and land improvements | \$ 3,052 | \$ 3,052 |
| Building and building improvements | 4,839 | 4,678 |
| Leasehold improvements | 277,283 | 228,853 |
| Furniture, fixtures and equipment | 269,324 | 246,442 |
| Corporate aircraft | 1,175 | 1,175 |
| Construction in progress | 18,701 | 7,871 |
| Properties under capital lease | 23,565 | 21,782 |
|  | 597,939 | 513,853 |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | 342,631 | 292,437 |
|  | \$ 255,308 | \$ 221,416 |

Construction in progress at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 represents the costs associated with the construction in progress of leasehold improvements to be used in the Company's operations, primarily for new and remodeled stores in retail operations. Interest costs capitalized in construction in progress were negligible during the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (5) Property and Equipment (Continued)

The Company recorded charges related to asset impairments of $\$ 4.7$ million, $\$ 24.4$ million and $\$ 0.6$ million, respectively, for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008. The fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2009 impairment charges, primarily charged to the retail segment, related to the impairment of long-lived assets for certain retail stores in North America as a result of adverse retail conditions arising from the deterioration in the global economic environment.

The accumulated depreciation and amortization related to the property under the capital lease was approximately $\$ 3.0$ million and $\$ 2.0$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively. Amortization expense for the property under the capital lease is included in depreciation expense. See Notes 8 and 12 for information regarding the associated capital lease obligations.
(6) Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill activity is summarized by business segment as follows (in thousands):

|  | Retail |  | Europe |  | Wholesale |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Goodwill balance at February 2, 2008 | \$ | 914 | S | 17,502 | \$ | 11,015 |  | 29,431 |
| Adjustments: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Acquisitions |  | - |  | 242 |  | - |  | 242 |
| Translation Adjustments |  | (156) |  | $(2,387)$ |  | (28) |  | $(2,571)$ |
| Goodwill balance at January 31, 2009 |  | 758 |  | 15,357 |  | 10,987 |  | 27,102 |
| Adjustments: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Acquisitions |  | - |  | 1,318 |  | - |  | 1,318 |
| Translation Adjustments |  | 98 |  | 1,342 |  | 17 |  | 1,457 |
| Goodwill balance at January 30, 2010 | \$ | 856 | \$ | 18,017 | \$ | 11,004 |  | 29,877 |

The Company has no accumulated impairment related to goodwill.
Other intangible assets as of January 30, 2010 primarily consisted of lease and license acquisition costs related to European acquisitions. Gross intangible assets were $\$ 44.9$ million and $\$ 35.4$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively. The accumulated amortization of intangible assets with finite useful lives was $\$ 29.0$ million and $\$ 19.3$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively. For these assets, amortization expense over the next five years is expected to be approximately $\$ 5.1$ million in fiscal 2011, $\$ 2.5$ million in fiscal 2012, $\$ 2.3$ million in fiscal 2013, \$1.9 million in fiscal 2014 and \$1.5 million in fiscal 2015.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (7) Accrued Expenses

Accrued expenses are summarized as follows (in thousands):

|  | Jan. 30, $2210$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 31, } \\ 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Accrued compensation and benefits | \$ 60,860 | \$ 48,055 |
| Store credits, loyalty and gift cards | 15,865 | 12,426 |
| Sales and use taxes, property taxes, and other taxes | 15,399 | 12,646 |
| Deferred royalties | 13,434 | 12,258 |
| Advertising | 5,253 | 5,107 |
| Construction costs | 4,994 | 3,869 |
| Professional fees | 4,659 | 4,278 |
| Income taxes | 4,354 | 4,344 |
| Other | 19,429 | 16,715 |
|  | \$ 144,247 | \$ 119,698 |

## (8) Borrowings and Capital Lease Obligations

Borrowings and capital lease obligations are summarized as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Jan. 31, 2009 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Short-term borrowings with European banks | \$ | \$ 22,304 |
| European capital lease, maturing quarterly through 2016 | 15,756 | 16,300 |
| Other | 738 | - |
|  | 16,494 | 38,604 |
| Less current installments | 2,357 | 24,018 |
| Long-term capital lease obligations | \$ 14,137 | \$ 14,586 |

On September 19, 2006, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into a credit facility led by Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent for the lenders (the "Credit Facility"). The Credit Facility provides for an $\$ 85$ million revolving multicurrency line of credit and is available for direct borrowings and the issuance of letters of credit, subject to certain letters of credit sublimits. The Credit Facility is scheduled to mature on September 30, 2011. The obligations under the Credit Facility are guaranteed by certain of the Company's existing and future domestic subsidiaries, and such obligations, including the guarantees, are secured by (a) substantially all present and future property and assets of the Company and each guarantor and (b) the equity interests of certain of the Company's direct and indirect U.S. subsidiaries and $65 \%$ of the equity interests of the Company's first tier foreign subsidiaries.

Direct borrowings under the Credit Facility will be made, at the Company's option, as (a) Eurodollar Rate Loans, which shall bear interest at the published LIBOR rate for the respective interest period plus an applicable margin (which was $0.75 \%$ at January 30, 2010) based on the Company's leverage ratio at the time, or (b) Base Rate Loans, which shall bear interest at the higher of (i) for domestic loans, $0.50 \%$ in excess of the federal funds rate, and for Canadian loans, $0.50 \%$ in excess of the average rate for 30 day Canada dollar bankers' acceptances, or (ii) the rate of interest as announced by Bank of America as its "prime rate," in each case as in effect from time to time, plus an applicable margin (which was $0.0 \%$ at

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (8) Borrowings and Capital Lease Obligations (Continued)

January 30, 2010) based on the Company's leverage ratio at the time. The Company is also obligated to pay certain commitment, letter of credit and other fees customary for a credit facility of this size and type.

The Credit Facility requires the Company to comply with a leverage ratio and a fixed charge coverage ratio. In addition, the Credit Facility contains customary covenants, including covenants that limit or restrict the Company and its subsidiaries' ability to: incur liens, incur indebtedness, make investments, dispose of assets, make certain restricted payments, merge or consolidate and enter into certain transactions with affiliates. Upon the occurrence of an event of default under the Credit Facility, the lenders may cease making loans, terminate the Credit Facility and declare all amounts outstanding to be immediately due and payable. The Credit Facility specifies a number of events of default (some of which are subject to applicable grace or cure periods), including, among other things, non-payment defaults, covenant defaults, cross-defaults to other material indebtedness, bankruptcy and insolvency defaults and material judgment defaults.

At January 30, 2010, the Company had $\$ 12.5$ million in outstanding standby letters of credit, no outstanding documentary letters of credit and no outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility.

The Company, through its European subsidiaries, maintains short-term borrowing agreements, primarily for working capital purposes, with various banks in Europe. Under these agreements, which are generally secured by specific accounts receivable balances, the Company can borrow up to $\$ 228.0$ million, limited primarily by accounts receivable balances at the time of borrowing. Based on the applicable accounts receivable balances at January 30, 2010, the Company could have borrowed up to approximately $\$ 211.7$ million under these agreements. However,the Company's ability to borrow through foreign subsidiaries is generally limited to $\$ 185.0$ million under the terms of the Credit Facility. Under these credit agreements the Company had no outstanding borrowings and $\$ 4.1$ million in outstanding documentary letters of credit as of January 30, 2010. The agreements are primarily denominated in euros and provide for annual interest rates ranging from $0.7 \%$ to $3.5 \%$. The maturities of the short-term borrowings are generally linked to the credit terms of the underlying accounts receivable that secure the borrowings. With the exception of one facility for $\$ 20.8$ million that has a minimum net equity requirement, there are no other financial ratio covenants.

The Company entered into a capital lease in December 2005 for a new building in Florence, Italy. At January 30, 2010, the capital lease obligation was $\$ 15.8$ million. The Company entered into a separate interest rate swap agreement designated as a non-hedging instrument that resulted in a swap fixed rate of $3.55 \%$. This interest rate swap agreement matures in 2016 and converts the nature of the capital lease obligation from Euribor floating rate debt to fixed rate debt. The fair value of the interest rate swap liability at January 30, 2010 was approximately $\$ 0.8$ million.

From time-to-time the Company will obtain other short term financing in foreign countries for working capital to finance its local operations.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (8) Borrowings and Capital Lease Obligations (Continued)

Maturities of debt and capital lease obligations at January 30, 2010 are as follows (in thousands):

|  | Capital Lease |  |  | Debt |  | Total |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $\$$ | 1,619 |  | 738 |  |

## (9) Income Taxes

Income tax expense (benefit) is summarized as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. } \mathbf{3 0 , 2 0 1 0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Feb. } 2,2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Federal: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current | \$ | 60,106 | \$ | 55,655 | \$ | 59,980 |
| Deferred |  | (18) |  | $(6,743)$ |  | $(3,333)$ |
| State: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current |  | 10,820 |  | 9,351 |  | 9,831 |
| Deferred |  | (500) |  | 431 |  | 550 |
| Foreign: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current |  | 49,351 |  | 47,583 |  | 66,657 |
| Deferred |  | $(4,160)$ |  | $(2,493)$ |  | $(9,586)$ |
| Total | \$ | 115,599 | \$ | 103,784 | \$ | 124,099 |

Except where required by U.S. tax law, no provision was made for U.S. income taxes on the undistributed earnings of the foreign subsidiaries as the Company intends to utilize those earnings in the foreign operations for an indefinite period of time or repatriate such earnings only when taxeffective to do so. That portion of accumulated undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries as of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 was approximately $\$ 363$ million and $\$ 238$ million, respectively.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (9) Income Taxes (Continued)

Actual income tax expense differs from expected income tax expense obtained by applying the statutory Federal income tax rate to earnings before income taxes as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \begin{array}{c} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \end{array} \\ \text { Jan. } \mathbf{3 0 , 2 0 1 0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, 2009 } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Feb. } 2,2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Computed "expected" tax expense | \$ | 126,675 | \$ | 111,583 | \$ | 109,012 |
| State taxes, net of federal benefit |  | 6,708 |  | 6,359 |  | 6,747 |
| Incremental foreign taxes in excess of/(less than) federal statutory tax rate |  | $(16,434)$ |  | $(13,995)$ |  | 10,178 |
| Exempt interest |  | (343) |  | $(1,436)$ |  | $(1,883)$ |
| Other |  | $(1,007)$ |  | 1,273 |  | 45 |
| Total | \$ | 115,599 | \$ | 103,784 | \$ | 124,099 |

Total income tax expense (benefit) was allocated as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. } \mathbf{3 0 , 2 0 1 0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Feb. 2, 2008 } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operations | \$ | 115,599 | \$ | 103,784 | \$ | 124,099 |
| Stockholders' equity |  | $(6,209)$ |  | 717 |  | $(11,714)$ |
| Total income taxes | \$ | 109,390 | \$ | 104,501 | \$ | 112,385 |

The tax effects of the components of other comprehensive income were allocated as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. } \mathbf{3 0 , 2 0 1 0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. } 31,2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Feb. 2, } 2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 88 |
| Unrealized net gain (loss) on hedges |  | $(2,690)$ |  | 2,922 |  | - |
| Unrealized gain (loss) on investments or reclassification of loss to income |  | 58 |  | 895 |  | (117) |
| SERP |  | $(1,435)$ |  | 3,651 |  | 290 |
| Total income tax expense (income) | \$ | $(4,067)$ | \$ | 7,468 | \$ | 261 |

Total earnings before income tax expense and noncontrolling interests were comprised of the following (in thousands):

|  | Year <br> Ended <br> Jan. 30, 2010 |  | Year <br> Ended <br> Jan. 31, 2009 |  | Year <br> Ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $\$$ | 201,081 | $\$$ | 163,839 | $\$$ | 200,873 |
| Domestic operations |  | 160,848 |  | 154,970 |  | 110,590 |
| Foreign operations |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Earnings before income tax expense and <br> noncontrolling interests | $\mathbf{\$}$ | 361,929 | $\$$ | 318,809 | $\$$ | 311,463 |

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## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (9) Income Taxes (Continued)

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of current and non-current deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 are presented below (in thousands):

|  | Jan. 30, 2010 |  | Jan. 31, 2009 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Deferred tax assets: |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed assets bases difference | \$ | 17,004 | \$ | 13,990 |
| SERP |  | 14,656 |  | 11,531 |
| Deferred compensation |  | 13,278 |  | 13,214 |
| Rent expense |  | 10,677 |  | 8,358 |
| Bad debt reserve |  | 8,887 |  | 6,161 |
| Deferred income |  | 7,496 |  | 11,171 |
| Accrued bonus |  | 5,909 |  | 3,098 |
| Inventory valuation |  | 4,252 |  | 4,914 |
| Net operating loss |  | 3,638 |  | 3,210 |
| Uniform capitalization |  | 1,870 |  | 1,844 |
| Foreign tax credits |  | 764 |  | 3,244 |
| Other |  | 9,571 |  | 6,123 |
| Total deferred assets |  | 98,002 |  | 86,858 |
| Deferred tax liabilities: |  |  |  |  |
| Goodwill amortization |  | $(3,512)$ |  | $(4,109)$ |
| Other |  | $(3,591)$ |  | $(1,669)$ |
| Valuation allowance |  | $(4,825)$ |  | $(4,113)$ |
| Net deferred tax assets | \$ | 86,074 | \$ | 76,967 |

Included above at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, are $\$ 30.6$ million and $\$ 27.3$ million for current deferred tax assets, respectively, and $\$ 55.5$ million and $\$ 49.7$ million in non-current deferred tax assets at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively. Based on the historical earnings of the Company and projections of future taxable income, management believes it is more likely than not that the results of operations will generate sufficient taxable earnings to realize net deferred tax assets.

At January 30, 2010, the Company's U.S., China and certain European retail operations had net operating loss carryforwards of $\$ 19.1$ million and capital loss carryforwards of $\$ 2.4$ million, of which $\$ 8.8$ million have an unlimited carryforward life. In addition, there are $\$ 7.1$ million of potential tax benefits for foreign operating loss carryforwards that expire between 2014 and 2017, $\$ 2.4$ million of benefits for U.S. capital loss carryforwards that expire in fiscal 2014 and $\$ 3.2$ million of benefits for state operating loss carryforwards that expire between 2010 and 2020. Based on the historical earnings of these operations, management believes that it is more likely than not that these operations will not generate sufficient income or capital gains to utilize all of the net operating loss and the capital loss. Therefore, the Company has recorded a valuation allowance of $\$ 4.8$ million, which is an increase of $\$ 0.7$ million from the prior year.

At January 30, 2010, the Company had approximately $\$ 9.6$ million of total gross unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties. Of this total, $\$ 8.5$ million (net of the federal benefit on state issues) represents the amount of unrecognized tax benefits that, if recognized, would favorably affect the effective income tax rate in any future periods.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (9) Income Taxes (Continued)

The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to U.S. federal and foreign income tax as well as income tax of multiple state and foreign local jurisdictions. The Company has substantially concluded all U.S. federal income tax matters for years through 2005. Substantially all material state, local, and foreign income tax matters have been concluded for years through 2004.

The Company's continuing practice is to recognize interest and/or penalties related to income tax matters in income tax expense. Net income tax expense (benefit) recognized for interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions was $\$ 4.1$ million, $\$(0.4)$ million and $\$ 0.4$ million for the years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively. As of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, the Company accrued interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions of $\$ 5.8$ million and $\$ 1.9$ million, respectively.

The following changes occurred in the amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties during the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 (in thousands):

|  | Year <br> Ended <br> Jan. 30, 2010 |  | Year <br> Ended <br> Jan. 31, 2009 |  | Year <br> Ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Beginning Balance | \$ | 3,427 | \$ | 6,034 | \$ | 5,846 |
| Additions: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tax positions related to the prior year |  | 5,608 |  | - |  | 554 |
| Tax positions related to the current year |  | 1,107 |  | - |  | - |
| Reductions: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tax positions related to the prior year |  | - |  | $(1,946)$ |  | - |
| Settlements |  | (294) |  | (661) |  | - |
| Expiration of statutes of limitation |  | (233) |  | - |  | (366) |
| Ending Balance | \$ | 9,615 | \$ | 3,427 | \$ | 6,034 |

## (10) Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan

On August 23, 2005, the Board of Directors of the Company adopted a Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, which became effective January 1, 2006. The SERP provides select employees who satisfy certain eligibility requirements with certain benefits upon retirement, termination of employment, death, disability or a change in control of the Company, in certain prescribed circumstances. The participants in the SERP are Maurice Marciano, Chairman of the Board, Paul Marciano, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of the Board, and Carlos Alberini, President and Chief Operating Officer. As a non-qualified pension plan, no funding of the SERP is required; however, the Company expects to make periodic payments into insurance policies held in a rabbi trust to fund the expected obligations arising under the non-qualified SERP. The amount of future payments may vary, depending on the future years of service, future annual compensation of the participants and investment performance of the trust. The cash surrender value of the insurance policies was $\$ 22.1$ million and $\$ 12.1$ million as of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively, and is included in other assets. As a result of an increase in value of the insurance policy investments, the Company recorded a gain of $\$ 3.1$ million in other income and expenses during fiscal 2010. The Company recorded a charge of $\$ 3.2$ million during fiscal 2009 as a result of a decline in insurance policy investments.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (10) Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (Continued)

In accordance with authoritative accounting guidance for defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans, an asset for a plan's overfunded status or a liability for a plan's underfunded status is recognized in the consolidated balance sheet; plan assets and obligations that determine the plan's funded status are measured as of the end of the Company's fiscal year, and changes in the funded status of defined benefit postretirement plans are recognized in the year in which they occur. Such changes are reported in other comprehensive income and as a separate component of stockholders' equity.

The components of net periodic pension cost to comprehensive income for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, are (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. } \mathbf{3 0 , 2 0 1 0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. } 31,2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Feb. 2, } 2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Service cost | \$ | 213 | \$ | 244 | \$ | 213 |
| Interest cost |  | 2,053 |  | 2,319 |  | 1,724 |
| Net amortization of unrecognized prior service cost |  | 1,743 |  | 1,743 |  | 1,743 |
| Net amortization of actuarial losses |  | - |  | 927 |  | 579 |
| Net periodic defined benefit pension cost | \$ | 4,009 | \$ | 5,233 | \$ | 4,259 |
| Unrecognized prior service cost charged to comprehensive income | \$ | 1,743 | \$ | 1,743 | \$ | 1,743 |
| Unrecognized net actuarial loss charged to comprehensive income |  | - |  | 927 |  | 579 |
| Actuarial (losses)/gains |  | $(5,569)$ |  | 6,826 |  | $(1,498)$ |
| Related tax impact |  | 1,435 |  | $(3,651)$ |  | (290) |
| Total periodic costs and other charges to comprehensive income | \$ | $(2,391)$ | \$ | 5,845 | \$ | 534 |

Accumulated other comprehensive income, before tax, as of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 consists of the following amounts that have not yet been recognized in net periodic benefit cost (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 30, } \\ 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Jan. 31, <br> 2009 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unrecognized prior service cost | \$ 12,558 | \$ 14,301 |
| Unrecognized net actuarial loss | 7,645 | 2,076 |
| Net balance sheet impact | \$ 20,203 | \$ 16,377 |

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (10) Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (Continued)

The following chart summarizes the SERP's funded status and the amounts recognized in the Company's consolidated balance sheets (in thousands):

|  | Jan. 30, <br> $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ | Jan. 31, <br>  <br> 2009 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Projected benefit obligation | $\$(37,165)$ | $\$(29,329)$ |
| Plan assets at fair value(1) | - | - |
| Net liability (included in other long-term liabilities) | $\underline{\$(37,165)}$ | $\$(29,329)$ |

(1) The SERP is a non-qualified pension plan and hence the insurance policies are not considered to be plan assets. Accordingly, the table above does not include the insurance policies with market values of $\$ 22.1$ million and $\$ 12.1$ million at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively.

The Company assumed a discount rate of $6.0 \%$ at January 30, 2010 compared to $7.0 \%$ at January 31, 2009, as part of the actuarial valuation performed to calculate the projected benefit obligation disclosed above, based on the timing of cash flows expected to be made in the future to the participants, applied to high quality yield curves. The assumed rate of increase in future compensation level was $3.0 \%$ as of January 30,2010 and January 31, 2009. At January 30, 2010, amounts included in comprehensive income that are expected to be recognized as components of net periodic defined benefit pension cost in fiscal 2011 consist of prior service costs of $\$ 1.7$ million and actuarial losses of $\$ 0.6$ million. Benefits projected to be paid in the next five fiscal years amount to $\$ 1.3$ million with all such payments to be paid in the fifth year. Aggregate benefits projected to be paid in the following five fiscal years amount to $\$ 15.5$ million.

## (11) Related Party Transactions

The Company and its subsidiaries periodically enter into transactions with other entities or individuals that are considered related parties, including certain transactions with entities affiliated with trusts for the respective benefit of Maurice and Paul Marciano, who are executives of the Company, Armand Marciano, their brother and former executive of the Company, and certain of their children (the "Marciano Trusts").

## Licensee Transactions

On January 1, 2003, the Company entered into a license agreement with BARN S.r.l. ("BARN"), an Italian corporation, under which the Company granted BARN the right to manufacture and distribute children's clothing in certain territories of Europe for a term of three years. The license agreement was amended as of June 19, 2006 to, among other things, extend the term until December 31, 2009. The license agreement had terms substantially similar to the Company's other license agreements. Two key employees of the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, GUESS? Italia, S.r.l., owned BARN. On January 16, 2008, the Company, through a subsidiary, acquired $100 \%$ of the capital stock of BARN for a purchase price of approximately $€ 5.0$ million ( $\$ 7.4$ million). During the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008, the Company recorded $\$ 1.4$ million in royalty revenues related to this license for the period prior to the acquisition.

## Leases

The Company leases warehouse and administrative facilities from partnerships affiliated with the Marciano Trusts and certain of their affiliates. There were three of these leases in effect at January 30,

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (11) Related Party Transactions (Continued)

2010, including a lease with respect to the Company's corporate headquarters in Los Angeles, California which was amended on June 10, 2008 (the "First Amendment"). The corporate headquarters consist of approximately 355,000 square feet and serve primarily as the Company's principal executive and administrative offices, design facilities and sales offices.

The First Amendment amended the original lease agreement dated July 29, 1992 which provided for a 16 year term expiring July 29, 2008 (the "Original Lease"). The First Amendment provides for a ten year lease renewal term ending July 31, 2018, with an additional five year renewal option tc July 31, 2023 at the Company's sole discretion. The First Amendment provides for a triple net lease with annual rent in the amount of $\$ 2.9$ million for the first lease year of the renewal term (which amount is approximately $5.6 \%$ lower than the most recent annual rent under the terms of the Original Lease), subject to an increase each year equal to the lesser of the increase of a specified consumer price index or four percent (which amount is lower than the five percent maximum annual adjustment provided for under the Original Lease). In the event the renewal option is exercised by the Company, the annual rent will reset in year eleven at the then-prevailing market rate. All other material terms of the Original Lease remain in full force and effect.

The other two related party Company leases are currently scheduled to expire in February 2011 and December 2015.
Aggregate rent expense under these related party leases was $\$ 3.8$ million, $\$ 3.8$ million and $\$ 3.5$ million, respectively, for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008. Refer to Note 12 for more information on lease commitments to related parties. The Company believes the related party lease terms have not been significantly affected by the fact that the Company and the lessors are related.

## Aircraft Arrangements

The Company periodically charters aircraft owned by MPM Financial, LLC ("MPM Financial"), an entity affiliated with the Marciano Trusts, through an independent third party management company contracted by MPM Financial to manage its aircraft. Under an informal arrangement with MPM Financial and the third party management company, the Company has chartered and may from time-to-time continue to charter aircraft owned by MPM Financial at a discount from the third party management company's preferred customer hourly charter rates. The total fees paid under these arrangements for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 were approximately $\$ 0.8$ million, $\$ 1.3$ million and $\$ 1.4$ million, respectively.

In May 2006, the Company entered into an agreement to acquire a new corporate aircraft with a scheduled delivery date in December 2007. The Company made down payments of $\$ 16.5$ million toward the $\$ 18.9$ million aggregate purchase price for the aircraft. The Company was considering entering into a sale and leaseback arrangement on completion of construction of the aircraft. However, after a further review of the Company's investment options and related expenses, the Company concluded that it would be more cost effective and beneficial if a third party were to acquire the aircraft and make the aircraft available for charter use to the Company on a similar basis as described above. As a result of this determination, Maurice Marciano and Paul Marciano were approached and agreed to have the aircraft purchase agreement assigned to MPM Financial in exchange for payment to the Company of an amount equal to the full $\$ 16.5$ million in down payments made by the Company plus certain other related costs incurred by the Company. The aircraft purchase agreement was assigned to MPM Financial during the

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (11) Related Party Transactions (Continued)

fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, and resulted in a gain to the Company of approximately $\$ 0.5$ million, related to interest income on the deposits.

## (12) Commitments and Contingencies

## Leases

The Company leases its showrooms and retail store locations under operating lease agreements expiring on various dates through September 2027. Some of these leases require the Company to make periodic payments for property taxes, utilities and common area operating expenses. Certain retail store leases provide for rents based upon the minimum annual rental amount and a percentage of annual sales volume, generally ranging from $3 \%$ to $6 \%$, when specific sales volumes are exceeded. Some leases include lease incentives, rent abatements and fixed rent escalations, which are amortized and recorded over the initial lease term on a straight-line basis. The Company also leases some of its equipment under operating lease agreements expiring at various dates through January 2016.

The Company entered into a capital lease in December 2005 for a new building in Florence, Italy. At January 30, 2010, the capital lease obligation was $\$ 15.8$ million. The Company entered into a separate interest rate swap agreement designated as a non-hedging instrument resulting in a swap fixed rate of $3.55 \%$. This interest rate swap agreement matures in 2016 and converts the nature of the capital lease obligation from Euribor floating rate debt to fixed rate debt. The fair value of the interest rate swap liability as of January 30, 2010 was approximately $\$ 0.8$ million.

Future minimum property lease payments under capital lease and non-cancelable operating leases at January 30, 2010 are as follows (in thousands):

|  | Capital Lease |  | Operating Leases |  |  |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Non- <br> Related <br> Parties |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { lated } \\ & \text { rties } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Fiscal 2011 | \$ | 2,280 | \$ | 142,344 | \$ | 3,452 | \$ | 148,076 |
| Fiscal 2012 |  | 2,281 |  | 133,885 |  | 3,480 |  | 139,646 |
| Fiscal 2013 |  | 2,257 |  | 127,880 |  | 3,563 |  | 133,700 |
| Fiscal 2014 |  | 2,233 |  | 119,632 |  | 3,652 |  | 125,517 |
| Fiscal 2015 |  | 2,207 |  | 110,572 |  | 3,745 |  | 116,524 |
| Thereafter |  | 7,354 |  | 331,883 |  | 8,974 |  | 348,211 |
| Total minimum lease payments | \$ | 18,612 | \$ | 966,196 | \$ | 26,866 | \$ | 1,011,674 |
| Less interest |  | $(2,856)$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital lease obligations | \$ | 15,756 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less current portion |  | $(1,619)$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Long-term capital lease obligations | \$ | 14,137 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Rental expense for all operating leases during the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 aggregated $\$ 180.5$ million, $\$ 159.4$ million, and $\$ 122.3$ million, respectively, including percentage rent of $\$ 33.8$ million, $\$ 27.5$ million and $\$ 23.1$ million, respectively.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (12) Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

## Purchase Commitments

Inventory purchase commitments as of January 30,2010 were $\$ 147.5$ million. These purchase commitments can be impacted by various factors, including the scheduling of market weeks, the timing of issuing orders, the timing of the shipment of orders and currency fluctuations. Accordingly, a comparison of purchase orders from period to period is not necessarily meaningful.

## Incentive Bonuses

Certain officers and key employees of the Company are eligible to receive annual cash incentive bonuses based on the achievement of certain performance criteria. These bonuses are based on performance measures such as earnings per share and earnings from operations of the Company or particular segments thereof, as well as other objective and subjective criteria as determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. In addition to such annual incentive opportunities, Paul Marciano, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of the Company, is entitled to receive a $\$ 3.5$ million special cash bonus in December 2012, subject to the receipt by the Company of a fixed cash rights payment of $\$ 35.0$ million that is due in January 2012 from one of its licensees. In connection with this special bonus, the Company will accrue an expense of $\$ 3.5$ million, plus applicable payroll taxes, through December 2012.

## Litigation

In 2006, the Officers of the Florence Customs Authorities ("Customs Authorities") began an import customs audit with respect to the Company's Italian subsidiary, Maco Apparel S.p.A. ("Maco"), which the Company acquired in 2005. Prior to the acquisition, Maco was the Italian licensee of GUESS? jeanswear for men and women in Europe. The Customs Authorities contended that the Italian subsidiary should have included the royalty expense payable to Guess?, Inc., the parent company, as part of the cost of the product subject to customs duties. The Company disagreed with this position and disputed the assessment in a series of hearings on the matter with the Florence Provincial Tax Commission ("Tax Commission") beginning in October 2007. At the request of a judge from the Tax Commission, the Company and the Customs Authorities entered into settlement discussions in 2009. These discussions ultimately led to the execution of a full out-of-court settlement agreement in October 2009, which has since been formally approved by the Tax Commission. The settlement was consistent in amount with the Company's previous accrual recorded in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2009 and did not include any admission of liability or wrongdoing on the part of the Company. The resolution of this matter did not have a material impact on the Company's financial results or financial position.

On May 6, 2009, Gucci America, Inc. filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York against Guess?, Inc. and Guess Italia, S.r.l. asserting, among other things, trademark and trade dress law violations and unfair competition. The complaint seeks injunctive relief, unspecified compensatory damages, including treble damages, and certain other relief. A similar complaint has also been filed in the Court of Milan, Italy. The Company plans to defend the allegations vigorously. The Company believes that it is too early to predict the outcome of this action or whether the outcome will have a material impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

The Company is also involved in various other claims and other matters incidental to the Company's business, the resolution of which is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (12) Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

consolidated results of operations or financial position. No material amounts were accrued as of January 30, 2010 or January 31, 2009 related to any of the Company's legal proceedings.

## (13) Savings Plan

The Company established the Guess?, Inc. Savings Plan (the "Savings Plan") under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. Under the Savings Plan, employees ("associates") may contribute up to $100 \%$ of their compensation per year subject to the elective limits as defined by IRS guidelines, and the Company may make matching contributions in amounts not to exceed $3.0 \%$ of the associates' annual compensation. Investment selections consist of mutual funds and do not include any Company common stock. The Company's contributions to the Savings Plan for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 amounted to $\$ 1.1$ million, $\$ 1.0$ million and $\$ 0.5$ million, respectively.

In January 2002, the Company established a qualified employee stock purchase plan ("ESPP"), the terms of which allow for qualified employees (as defined) to participate in the purchase of designated shares of the Company's common stock at a price equal to $85 \%$ of the lower of the closing price at the beginning or end of each quarterly stock purchase period. See Note 17 for further details.

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted a Non-qualified Deferred Compensation Plan (the "DCP"). Under the DCP, select employees who satisfy certain eligibility requirements and members of the Board of Directors may make annual irrevocable elections to defer a portion of their base compensation and/or bonuses. The deferred amounts and earnings thereon are payable to participants at specified future distribution dates, upon termination of employment, retirement, disability, death or change in control of the Company, in a lump sum or installments, pursuant to elections under the rules of the DCP. The DCP is not funded by the Company, and participants have an unsecured contractual commitment by the Company to pay the amounts due under the DCP. The Company has purchased corporate-owned life insurance to offset this liability which is held in a rabbi trust. The assets held in the rabbi trust are not available for general corporate purposes except in the event of bankruptcy of the Company. All earnings and expenses of the rabbi trust are reported in the Company's consolidated statement of income in other income and expenses. For fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2009, the Company incurred a gain of $\$ 3.6$ million and a loss of $\$ 4.6$ million, respectively, related to the change in the value of the insurance policy investments. The deferred compensation liability as of January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 was $\$ 6.7$ million and $\$ 7.3$ million, respectively. The related long-term asset as of January 30, 2010, and January 31, 2009 was $\$ 11.7$ million and $\$ 8.1$ million, respectively.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (14) Quarterly Information (Unaudited)

The following is a summary of the unaudited quarterly financial information for the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 (in thousands, except per share data):

| Year ended January 30, 2010 | First Quarter | Second Quarter | Third Quarter | Fourth Quarter |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net revenue | \$ 441,201 | \$ 522,423 | \$ 522,812 | \$ 642,030 |
| Gross profit | 177,503 | 231,777 | 236,891 | 295,316 |
| Net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. | 32,542 | 59,560 | 64,070 | 86,589 |
| Earnings per common share attributable to common stockholders: |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ 0.35 | 0.65 | 0.69 | 0.94 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.35 | \$ 0.64 | \$ 0.69 | \$ 0.93 |



## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (15) Segment Information

The Company's reportable business segments and respective accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in Note 1. Management evaluates segment performance based primarily on revenue and earnings from operations. Corporate overhead, interest income, interest expense and other income and expense are evaluated on a consolidated basis and not allocated to the Company's business segments.

Segment information is summarized as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 30, } 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Year Ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net revenue: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Retail operations | \$ | 983,903 | \$ | 977,980 | \$ | 862,381 |
| European operations |  | 747,242 |  | 718,964 |  | 538,358 |
| Wholesale operations |  | 299,969 |  | 296,181 |  | 258,445 |
| Licensing operations |  | 97,352 |  | 100,265 |  | 90,732 |
|  | \$ | 2,128,466 | \$ | 2,093,390 |  | 1,749,916 |
| Earnings (loss) from operations: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Retail operations | \$ | 132,287 | \$ | 93,156 | \$ | 128,523 |
| European operations |  | 173,235 |  | 168,630 |  | 120,818 |
| Wholesale operations |  | 50,991 |  | 45,501 |  | 49,894 |
| Licensing operations |  | 86,640 |  | 86,422 |  | 77,941 |
| Corporate overhead |  | $(84,337)$ |  | $(64,922)$ |  | $(68,037)$ |
|  | \$ | 358,816 | \$ | 328,787 | \$ | 309,139 |
| Capital expenditures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Retail operations | \$ | 27,290 | \$ | 59,044 | \$ | 64,821 |
| European operations |  | 32,362 |  | 18,113 |  | 17,741 |
| Wholesale operations |  | 6,454 |  | 7,375 |  | 8,171 |
| Corporate overhead |  | 16,180 |  | 5,439 |  | 9,445 |
|  | \$ | 82,286 | \$ | 89,971 | \$ | 100,178 |


|  | Jan. 30, 2010 | Jan. 31, 2009 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total assets: |  |  |
| Retail operations | \$ 275,324 | \$ 263,968 |
| European operations | 590,109 | 460,109 |
| Wholesale operations | 168,681 | 147,513 |
| Licensing operations | 20,783 | 18,607 |
| Corporate overhead | 475,278 | 356,369 |
|  | \$ 1,530,175 | \$ 1,246,566 |

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## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (15) Segment Information (Continued)

The table below presents information related to geographic areas in which the Company operated. Net revenue is primarily classified based on the country where the Company's customer is located (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 30, } 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Year Ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net revenue: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. | \$ | 908,107 | \$ | 934,190 | \$ | 848,354 |
| Italy |  | 366,563 |  | 365,192 |  | 291,976 |
| Canada |  | 252,523 |  | 246,786 |  | 220,130 |
| Other foreign countries |  | 601,273 |  | 547,222 |  | 389,456 |
|  | \$ | 2,128,466 | \$ | 2,093,390 | \$ | 1,749,916 |


|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 30, } \\ \mathbf{2 0 1 0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. 31, } \\ \hline 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Long-lived assets: |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. | \$ | 134,731 | \$ | 133,537 |
| Italy |  | 58,883 |  | 57,738 |
| Canada |  | 33,385 |  | 30,993 |
| Other foreign countries |  | 59,096 |  | 28,501 |
|  | \$ | 286,095 | \$ | 250,769 |

## (16) Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per share represent net earnings attributable to common stockholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share represent net earnings attributable to common stockholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding, inclusive of the dilutive impact of common equivalent shares outstanding during the period. However, nonvested restricted stock awards (referred to as participating securities) are excluded from the dilutive impact of common equivalent shares outstanding in accordance with FASB issued authoritative guidance under the two-class method since the nonvested restricted stockholders are entitled to participate in dividends declared on common stock as if the shares were fully vested and hence are deemed to be participating securities. Under the two-class method, earnings attributable to nonvested restricted stockholders are excluded from net earnings attributable to common stockholders for purposes of calculating basic and diluted earnings per common share.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (16) Earnings per Share (Continued)

The computation of basic and diluted net earnings per common share attributable to common stockholders is as follows (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 30, } 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Year Ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net earnings attributable to Guess?, Inc. | \$ | 242,761 | \$ | 213,562 | \$ | 186,472 |
| Net earnings attributable to nonvested restricted stockholders |  | 3,498 |  | 3,743 |  | 3,093 |
| Net earnings attributable to common stockholders | \$ | 239,263 | \$ | 209,819 | \$ | 183,379 |
| Weighted average shares used in basic computations |  | 90,893 |  | 92,561 |  | 92,307 |
| Effect of dilutive securities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stock options and restricted stock units |  | 699 |  | 697 |  | 1,211 |
| Weighted average shares used in diluted computations |  | 91,592 |  | 93,258 |  | 93,518 |
| Net earnings per common share attributable to common stockholders: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 2.63 | \$ | 2.27 | \$ | 1.99 |
| Diluted | \$ | 2.61 | \$ | 2.25 | \$ | 1.96 |

For the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, equity awards granted for 1,604,360, 1,071,871 and 309,324 , respectively, of the Company's common shares were outstanding but were excluded from the computation of diluted weighted average common shares and common share equivalents outstanding because their effect would have been anti-dilutive.

In addition to the participating securities discussed above, the Company also excluded 563,400 nonvested stock options granted to certain employees from the computation of diluted weighted average common shares and common share equivalents outstanding for the year ended January 31, 2009, because they are subject to certain performance-based annual vesting conditions. For the year ended January 30, 2010, the annual performance criteria were achieved, resulting in a dilutive impact of approximately 14,989 shares.

## (17) Share-Based Compensation

The Company has four share-based compensation plans. The Guess?, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan") provides that the Board of Directors may grant stock options and other equity awards to officers, key employees and certain consultants and advisors to the Company or any of its subsidiaries. The Plan authorizes grants of options to purchase up to $20,000,000$ authorized but unissued shares of common stock. At January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, there were $13,863,982$ and $15,063,630$ shares available for grant under the Plan, respectively. Stock options granted under the Plan have ten-year terms and typically vest and become fully exercisable in increments of one-fourth of the shares granted on each anniversary from the date of grant. The three most recent annual grants have initial vesting periods of nine months, nine months and ten months, respectively, followed by three annual vesting periods. The Guess?, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP") allows for qualified employees to participate in the purchase of

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (17) Share-Based Compensation (Continued)

designated shares of the Company's common stock at a price equal to $85 \%$ of the lower of the closing price at the beginning or end of each quarterly stock purchase period. The Guess?, Inc. 2006 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Grant and Stock Option Plan (the "Director Plan") provides for the grant of certain stock and stock options to non-employee directors. The Director Plan authorizes grants of options to purchase up to $2,000,000$ authorized but unissued shares of common stock which consists of $1,000,000$ shares that were initially approved for issuance on July 30,1996 plus an additional $1,000,000$ shares that were approved for issuance effective May 9, 2006. At January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009, there were 973,838 and 1,029,943 shares available for grant under this plan, respectively. In addition, the Guess?, Inc. 1996 Equity Incentive Plan, under which equity grants have not been permitted since the approval of the Plan in 2004, continues to govern outstanding awards previously made thereunder.

On May 1, 2008, the Company granted an aggregate of 167,000 nonvested stock awards to certain employees which are subject to certain annual performance-based vesting conditions over a five-year period. On October 30, 2008, the Company granted an aggregate of 563,400 nonvested stock options to certain employees which are scheduled to vest over a four-year period, subject to the achievement of performance-based vesting conditions for fiscal 2010. During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, the Compensation Committee determined that the performance goals established in the prior year were no longer set at an appropriate level to incentivize and help retain employees given the greater than previously anticipated deterioration of the economy that had occurred since the goals were established. In April 2009, the Compensation Committee modified the performance goals of the outstanding performance-based stock awards and options to address the challenges associated with the current economic environment. The modifications did not have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

Compensation expense for new stock options and nonvested stock awards is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. The Company estimates forfeitures in calculating the expense relating to share-based compensation as opposed to recognizing forfeitures as an expense reduction as they occur.

The following table summarizes the share-based compensation expense recognized under all of the Company's stock plans during the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008 (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 30, } 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Year Ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Stock options | \$ | 8,051 | \$ | 5,642 | \$ | 5,623 |
| Nonvested stock awards/units |  | 18,923 |  | 16,621 |  | 13,345 |
| ESPP |  | 365 |  | 583 |  | 551 |
| Total share-based compensation expense | \$ | 27,339 | \$ | 22,846 | \$ | 19,519 |

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (17) Share-Based Compensation (Continued)

## Stock options

The following table summarizes the stock option activity under all of the Company's stock plans during the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010:

|  | Number of Shares | Weighted- <br> Average <br> Exercise $\qquad$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Weighted- } \\ \text { Average } \\ \text { Remaining } \\ \text { Contractual } \\ \text { Term (Years) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aggregate } \\ \text { Intrinsic } \\ \text { Value } \\ (\$ 000 ' s) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Options outstanding at January 31, 2009 | 2,666,462 | \$ 20.24 |  |  |
| Granted | 1,128,400 | 22.31 |  |  |
| Exercised | $(693,900)$ | 10.72 |  |  |
| Forfeited | $(44,150)$ | 32.53 |  |  |
| Expired | $(15,000)$ | 33.62 |  |  |
| Options outstanding at January 30, 2010 | 3,041,812 | \$ 22.97 | 7.73 | \$ 52,165 |
| Exercisable at January 30, 2010 | 1,319,222 | \$ 19.85 | 6.34 | \$ 26,706 |
| Options exercisable and expected to vest at January 30, 2010 | 2,939,713 | \$ 22.94 | 7.73 | \$ 50,343 |

The fair value of each stock option was estimated on the grant date using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weightedaverage assumptions used for grants during fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008.

| Valuation Assumptions | Year ended <br> Jan. 30, 2010 | Year ended <br> Jan. 31, 2009 | Year ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1.28 \%$ | $2.48 \%$ | $4.63 \%$ |  |
| Risk-free interest rate | $61.3 \%$ | $52.9 \%$ | $46.2 \%$ |  |
| Expected stock price volatility | $1.80 \%$ | $1.47 \%$ | $0.60 \%$ |  |
| Expected dividend yield | 3.66 | 3.66 | 6.25 |  |
| Expected life of stock options in years(1) |  |  |  |  |

(1) The expected life used prior to November 2007 was based on the "simplified" method described in the guidance. For options granted beginning November 2007, the expected term is determined based on historical trends.

The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect for the expected term of the option at the time of grant. The expected volatility is determined based on an average of both historical volatility and implied volatility. Implied volatility is derived from exchange traded options on the Company's common stock. The dividend yield for fiscal 2006 and prior years was assumed to be zero since the Company had not historically declared and did not have a plan to declare dividends on an ongoing basis until the Board of Directors authorized and approved the initiation of quarterly dividends in February 2007. The expected dividend yield starting from 2007 is based on the Company's history and expectations of dividend payouts. The expected forfeiture rate is determined based on historical data.

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of options granted was $\$ 8.97, \$ 11.30$ and $\$ 19.96$ during the years ended January 30, 2010, January 31 . 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively. The total intrinsic value of stock options exercised during the years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (17) Share-Based Compensation (Continued)

was $\$ 19.7$ million, $\$ 14.1$ million and $\$ 31.7$ million, respectively. The intrinsic value of stock options is defined as the difference between the Company's stock price on the exercise date and the grant-date exercise price. The total cash received from option exercises was $\$ 7.4$ million, $\$ 4.0$ million and $\$ 6.7$ million during the years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively.

The excess tax benefit realized for the tax deductions from these option exercises for fiscal 2010 was $\$ 5.6$ million and is included in cash flows from financing activities for the year ended January 30, 2010. The excess tax shortfall of $\$ 0.1$ million was included in cash flows from operating activities for the year ended January 30,2010 . The compensation expense recognized was $\$ 8.1$ million before the recognized income tax benefit of $\$ 3.0$ million during the year ended January 30, 2010. As of January 30, 2010, there was approximately $\$ 15.5$ million of unrecognized compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to nonvested stock options. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.7 years.

## Nonvested stock awards/units

The following table summarizes the nonvested stock awards/units activity under all of the Company's stock plans during the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010:

|  | Number of Shares/Units | Weighted- <br> Average <br> Grant-Date <br> Fair Value |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nonvested at January 31, 2009 | 1,648,165 | \$ | 35.85 |
| Granted | 274,505 |  | 20.03 |
| Vested | $(483,942)$ |  | (33.04) |
| Forfeited or expired | $(13,873)$ |  | (36.68) |
| Nonvested at January 30, 2010 | 1,424,855 | \$ | 33.76 |

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of nonvested stock awards/units granted was $\$ 20.03, \$ 40.23$ and $\$ 44.55$ during the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, respectively. The total fair value at grant date of previously nonvested stock awards/units that were vested during fiscal 2010, 2009 and 2008 was $\$ 16.0$ million, $\$ 16.9$ million, and $\$ 6.0$ million, respectively. During fiscal 2010, 2009 and 2008 the total intrinsic value of nonvested stock awards/units that vested was $\$ 14.3$ million, $\$ 15.1$ million, and $\$ 11.9$ million, respectively.

The excess tax benefit realized for the tax deductions from these vested shares for fiscal 2010 was $\$ 0.5$ million and has been included in cash flows from financing activities for the year ended January 30, 2010. The excess tax shortfall of $\$ 1.4$ million was included in cash flows from operating activities for the year ended January 30, 2010. The total intrinsic value of nonvested stock awards/units outstanding and unvested at January 30, 2010 was $\$ 56.2$ million. The compensation expense included in SG\&A recognized during fiscal 2010 was $\$ 18.9$ million, before the recognized income tax benefit of $\$ 6.6$ million. As of January 30, 2010, there was approximately $\$ 34.5$ million of total unrecognized compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to nonvested stock awards/units. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.5 years.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (17) Share-Based Compensation (Continued)

ESPP
In January 2002, the Company established an ESPP, the terms of which allow for qualified employees (as defined) to participate in the purchase of designated shares of the Company's common stock at a price equal to $85 \%$ of the lower of the closing price at the beginning or end of each quarterly stock purchase period. Prior to March 4, 2009, the ESPP was a straight purchase plan with no holding period requirement. Effective March 4, 2009, the ESPP was amended to require participants to hold any shares purchased under the ESPP after April 1, 2009 for a minimum period of six months after purchase. In addition, all Company employees are subject to the terms of the Company's securities trading policy which generally prohibits the purchase or sale of any Company securities during the two weeks before the end of each fiscal quarter through two days after the public announcement by the Company of its earnings for that period. On January 23, 2002, the Company filed with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-8 registering $4,000,000$ shares of common stock for the ESPP.

During the fiscal years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009 and February 2, 2008, 73,810, 67,917 and 54,243 shares of the Company's: common stock were issued pursuant to the ESPP at an average price of $\$ 16.92, \$ 26.03$ and $\$ 33.18$ per share, respectively.

The fair value of stock compensation expense associated with the Company's ESPP was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing valuation model and the following weighted-average assumptions for grants during fiscal years 2010, 2009 and 2008.

| Valuation Assumptions | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year ended } \\ \text { Jan. 30, } 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, } 2009 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Year ended <br> Feb. 2, 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Risk-free interest rate | 0.19\% | 1.74\% | 4.60\% |
| Expected stock price volatility | 62.3\% | 72.4\% | 48.5\% |
| Expected dividend yield | 2.39\% | 0.95\% | 0.65\% |
| Expected life of ESPP options (in months) | 3 | 3 | 3 |

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of ESPP options granted during fiscal 2010, 2009 and 2008 was $\$ 5.19, \$ 10.60$ and $\$ 11.44$. respectively.

## (18) Fair Value Measurements

Authoritative guidance defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The guidance establishes a fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value into three broad levels as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs are unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that can be accessed at the measurement date.
Level 2 - Inputs include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability (i.e. interest rates, yield curves, etc.), and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means (market corroborated inputs).

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (18) Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

Level 3 - Unobservable inputs that reflect assumptions about what market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. These inputs would be based on the best information available, including the Company's own data.

The following table presents the fair value hierarchy for those assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of January 30 , 2010 and January 31, 2009 (in thousands):

| Recurring Fair Value Measur | Fair Value Measurementsat Jan. 30, 2010 |  |  |  | Fair Value Measurements at Jan. 31, 2009 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | sLevel | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total | Level 1 | evel 2 | vel 3 | Total |
| Assets: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange currency contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Securities available for sale | 399 | - | - | 399 | 712 | - | - | 712 |
| Total | \$ 399 \$8,075 \$ - \$8,474 \$ 712 \$21,737\$ - \$22,449 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Liabilities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest rate swaps | - 1,231 |  | - 1,231 |  | - | 574 | - | 574 |
| Deferred compensation obligations |  | 6,677 |  | 6,677 |  | 7,287 | - | 7,287 |
| Total | \$ - \$8,830 \$ |  | \$ - \$ | \$8,830 \$ | \$ - \$ | 7,861 \$ | -\$ | 7,861 |

The fair values of the Company's available-for-sale securities are based on quoted prices. Fair value of the interest rate swaps are based upon inputs corroborated by observable market data. The foreign exchange forward contracts are entered into by the Company principally to hedge the future payment of inventory, intercompany transactions and certain expenses by non-U.S. subsidiaries. The fair values of the Company's foreign exchange forward contracts are based on quoted forward foreign exchange prices at the reporting date. Deferred compensation obligations to employees are adjusted based on changes in the fair value of the underlying employee-directed investments. Fair value of these obligations is based upon inputs corroborated by observable market data.

Long-term investments are recorded at fair value and consist of certain marketable equity securities of $\$ 0.4$ million and $\$ 0.7$ million at January 30 , 2010 and January 31, 2009, respectively, and are included in other assets in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. Unrealized gains (losses), net of taxes, are included as a component of stockholders' equity and comprehensive income. The accumulated unrealized losses, net of taxes, included in accumulated other comprehensive income relates to marketable equity securities owned by the Company at January 30, 2010 and January 31, 2009 were $\$ 0.1$ million and $\$ 0.2$ million, respectively.

The carrying amount of the Company's remaining financial instruments, which principally include cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables, accounts payable and accrued expenses, approximates fair value due to the relatively short maturity of such instruments. The fair values of the Company's debt instruments (see Note 8) are based on the amount of future cash flows associated with each instrument discounted using the Company's incremental borrowing rate. At January 30, 2010, the carrying value of all financial instruments was not materially different from fair value, as the interest rates on variable rate debt including the capital lease obligation approximated rates currently available to the Company.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (19) Derivative Financial Instruments

## Hedging Strategy

The Company operates in foreign countries, which exposes it to market risk associated with foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. The Company has entered into certain forward contracts to hedge the risk of foreign currency rate fluctuations. The Company has elected to apply the hedge accounting rules in accordance with authoritative guidance for certain of these hedges.

The Company's objective is to hedge the variability in forecasted cash flows due to the foreign currency risk. Various transactions that occur in Canada, Europe and South Korea are denominated in U.S. dollars, British pounds or Swiss francs and thus are exposed to earnings risk as a result of exchange rate fluctuations when converted to their local functional currencies. These types of transactions include U.S. dollar denominated purchases of merchandise and U.S. dollar and British pound intercompany liabilities. In addition, certain operating expenses are denominated in Swiss francs and are exposed to earnings risk as a result of exchange rate fluctuations when converted to the functional currency. The Company enters into derivative financial instruments, including forward exchange contracts to manage exchange risk on certain anticipated foreign currency transactions. The Company does not hedge all transactions denominated in foreign currency.

The impact of the credit risk of the counterparties to the derivative contracts is considered in determining the fair value of the foreign currency forward contracts. As of January 30, 2010, credit risk has not had a significant effect on the fair value of the Company's foreign currency contracts.

The Company also has interest rate swap agreements, which are not designated as hedges for accounting purposes, to effectively convert a portion of its floating-rate debt to a fixed-rate basis. The principal objective of these contracts is to eliminate or reduce the variability of the cash flows in interest payments associated with the Company's variable rate debt, thus reducing the impact of interest rate changes on future interest cash flows. For fiscal 2010, the Company recorded a net loss of $\$ 0.6$ million in other expense/interest expense related to the interest rate swaps. Refer to Note 8 for further information.

## Hedge Accounting Policy

U.S. dollar forward contracts are used to hedge forecasted merchandise purchases over specific months. Changes in the fair value of these U.S. dollar forward contracts, designated as cash flow hedges, are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity, and are recognized in cost of product sales in the period which approximates the time the hedged merchandise inventory is sold. The Company also hedges forecasted intercompany royalties over specific months. Changes in the fair value of these U.S. dollar forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity, and are recognized in other income/expense in the period in which the royalty expense is incurred.

From time to time, Swiss franc forward contracts are used to hedge certain anticipated Swiss operating expenses over specific months. Changes in the fair value of the Swiss franc forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity, and are recognized in SG\&A in the period which approximates the time the expenses are incurred.

The Company also has foreign currency contracts that are not designated as hedges for accounting purposes. Changes in fair value of foreign currency contracts not qualifying as cash flow hedges are reported in net earnings as part of other income and expense.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (19) Derivative Financial Instruments (Continued)

## Summary of Derivative Instruments

The fair value of derivative instruments in the consolidated balance sheet as of January 30, 2010 was as follows (in thousands):

|  | Asset Derivatives |  |  | Liability Derivatives |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Balance Sheet Location | Fair Value |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Balance Sheet } \\ \text { Location } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Fair Value |  |
| Derivatives designated as hedging instruments: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange currency contracts | Other current assets | \$ | 3,351 | Current liabilities | \$ | 116 |
| Total derivatives designated as hedging instruments |  |  | 3,351 |  |  | 116 |
| Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange currency contracts | Other current assets |  | 4,724 | Current liabilities |  | 806 |
| Interest rate swaps |  |  | - | Long-term liabilities |  | 1,231 |
| Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments |  |  | 4,724 |  |  | 2,037 |
| Total derivatives |  | \$ | 8,075 |  | \$ | 2,153 |

## Forward Contracts Designated as Cash Flow Hedges

During the year ended January 30, 2010, the Company purchased U.S. dollar forward contracts in Europe and Canada totaling US $\$ 87.0$ million and US $\$ 40.0$ million, respectively, to hedge forecasted intercompany royalties and merchandise purchases that were designated as cash flow hedges. As of January 30, 2010, the Company had forward contracts outstanding for its European and Canadian operations of US $\$ 62.4$ million and US\$27.7 million, respectively, that are expected to mature over the next 12 months.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (19) Derivative Financial Instruments (Continued)

The following table summarizes the gains (losses) before taxes recognized on the derivative instruments designated as cash flow hedges in other comprehensive income ("OCI") and net earnings for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010 (in thousands):

|  | Gain/(Loss) <br> Recognized in <br> OCI <br> Year <br> Ended <br> Jan. 30, 2010 |  | Location of Gain/(Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income(1) | Gain/(Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into <br> Jan. 30, 2010 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Derivatives designated as hedging instruments: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange currency contracts | \$ | $(2,915)$ | Cost of sales | \$ | 6,479 |
| Foreign exchange currency contracts | \$ | (166) | SG\&A expenses | \$ | 406 |
| Foreign exchange currency contracts | \$ | 580 | Other expense |  | (101) |

(1) The ineffective portion was immaterial during the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010 and was recorded in net earnings and included in interest income/expense.

As of January 30, 2010, accumulated other comprehensive income included an unrealized gain of approximately US\$1.8 million, net of tax, that will be recognized as a net decrease to cost of product sales or other income/expense over the following 12 months at the then current values on a pretax basis, which can be different than the current year-end values.

The following table summarizes net after-tax derivative activity recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (in thousands):

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { an. 30, } 2010 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { Ended } \\ \text { Jan. 31, 2009 } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Beginning balance gain (loss) | \$ | 8,763 | \$ | $(1,475)$ |
| Net (losses) gains from changes in cash flow hedges |  | $(1,641)$ |  | 9,093 |
| Net (gains) losses reclassified to income |  | $(5,277)$ |  | 1,145 |
| Ending balance gain | \$ | 1,845 | \$ | 8,763 |

At January 31, 2009, the Company had forward contracts outstanding for its European and Canadian operations of US $\$ 21.0$ million and US $\$ 38.5$ million, respectively, and Swiss franc/euro forward contracts outstanding for its European operations of CHF18.0 million. At January 31, 2009, the unrealized net gain of these open forward contracts recorded in current assets in the consolidated balance sheet was approximately US\$8.1 million.

## Forward Contracts Not Designated as Cash Flow Hedges

At January 30, 2010, the Company had Canadian dollar foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 22.3$ million expected to mature over the next eight months, euro foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 117.6$ million expected to mature over the next 12 months and euro foreign currency contracts to purchase GBP14.0 million expected to mature over the next 11 months.

## GUESS?, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## (19) Derivative Financial Instruments (Continued)

The following table summarizes the gains (losses) before taxes recognized on the derivative instruments not designated as cash flow hedges in other expense and net earnings for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2010 (in thousands):

|  | Location of <br> Gain/(Loss) <br> Recognized in <br> Income |  | Gain/(Loss) <br> Recognized in Income |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year <br> Ended <br> Jan. 30, 2010 |  |  |  |
| Derivatives not designated as hedging <br> instruments: |  |  |  |
| Foreign exchange currency contracts | Other expense | $\$$ | $(10,567)$ |

At January 31, 2009, the Company had Canadian dollar foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 36.5$ million, Euro foreign currency contracts to purchase US $\$ 104.0$ million and Swiss franc foreign currency contracts to purchase CHF5.3 million. At January 31, 2009, the net unrealized gains of these Canadian dollar, euro and Swiss franc forward contracts recorded in current assets in the Company's consolidated balance sheet were approximately US\$13.7 million.

## (20) Share Repurchase Program

In March 2008, the Company's Board of Directors terminated the previously authorized 2001 share repurchase program and authorized the new 2008 Share Repurchase Program to repurchase, from time-to-time and as market and business conditions warrant, up to $\$ 200$ million of the Company's common stock. Repurchases may be made on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plans or other available means. There is no minimum or maximum number of shares to be repurchased under the program and the program may be discontinued at any time, without prior notice. During the year ended January 30, 2010, the Company purchased 407,600 shares of its common stock in open market transactions at a cost of $\$ 5.3$ million (at an average price of $\$ 13.00$ ). At January 30, 2010, the Company had remaining authority under the 2008 Share Repurchase Program to purchase an additional $\$ 134.2$ million of its common stock.

## (21) Subsequent Events

On March 17, 2010, the Company announced a regular quarterly cash dividend of $\$ 0.16$ per share on the Company's common stock. The cash dividend will be paid on April 16, 2010 to stockholders of record as of the close of business on March 31, 2010.

## SCHEDULE II

GUESS?, INC. \& SUBSIDIARIES
VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

## Years ended January 30, 2010, January 31, 2009, and February 2, 2008 <br> (in thousands)

|  | Balance at beginning of period |  | Costs charged / credited to expenses |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Deductions } \\ \text { and } \\ \text { write-offs } \end{gathered}$ |  | Balance at end of period |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| As of January 30, 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Allowance for accounts receivable | \$ | 13,832 | \$ | 32,502 | \$ | $(30,126)$ |  | 16,208 |
| Allowance for royalties receivable |  | 518 |  | 135 |  | - |  | 653 |
| Allowance for sales returns |  | 8,949 |  | 38,107 |  | $(37,722)$ |  | 9,334 |
| As of January 31, 2009 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Allowance for accounts receivable | \$ | 13,945 | \$ | 34,228 | \$ | $(34,341)$ |  | 13,832 |
| Allowance for royalties receivable |  | 325 |  | 193 |  | - |  | 518 |
| Allowance for sales returns |  | 7,483 |  | 37,452 |  | $(35,986)$ |  | 8,949 |
| As of February 2, 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Allowance for accounts receivable | \$ | 12,653 | \$ | 36,049 | \$ | $(34,757)$ |  | 13,945 |
| Allowance for royalties receivable |  | 276 |  | 49 |  | - |  | 325 |
| Allowance for sales returns |  | 4,806 |  | 27,793 |  | $(25,116)$ |  | 7,483 |

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.
Guess?, Inc.

| By:Paul Marciano <br>  <br> Chice Chairman of the Board |
| :---: |.

## Date: March 30, 2010

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| /s/ PAUL MARCIANO | Chief Executive Officer, <br> Paul Marciano <br> Vice Chairman of the Board and Director <br> (Principal Executive Officer) | March 30, 2010 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Maurice Marciano | Chairman of the Board and Director | March 30, 2010 |
| /s/ CARLOS ALBERINI | President, Chief Operating Officer and Director | March 30, 2010 |
| Carlos Alberini | Senior Vice President and <br> /s/ DENNIS R. SECOR | Chief Financial Officer <br> (Principal Financial Officer and <br> Chief Accounting Officer) |

/s/ JUDITH BLUMENTHAL

| Judith Blumenthal | Director | March 30, 2010 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Anthony Chidoni |  |  |
| /s/ KAY ISAACSON-LEIBOWITZ | Director | March 30, 2010 |
| Kay Isaacson-Leibowitz | Director | March 30, 2010 |
| /s/ ALICE KANE |  |  |
| Alice Kane | Director | MLEX YEMENIDJIAN |

3.1. Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (incorporated by reference from Amendment No. 3 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-4419) filed on July 30, 1996).
3.2. Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed December 4, 2007).
4.1. Specimen Stock Certificate (incorporated by reference from Amendment No. 3 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-4419) filed on July 30, 1996).
*10.1. 1996 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from Amendment No. 3 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-4419) filed on July 30, 1996).
*10.2. First Amendment to the 1996 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 2, 2008).
*10.3. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from Appendix A to the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement on Form 14A filed April 14, 2004).
*10.4. First Amendment to the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended April 1, 2006).
*10.5. Second Amendment to the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 3, 2007).
*10.6. Third Amendment to the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 2, 2008).
*10.7. 2006 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Grant and Stock Option Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective September 28, 2007) (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 3, 2007).
*10.8. First Amendment to the 2006 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Grant and Stock Option Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective September 28, 2007) (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 2, 2008).
*10.9. Annual Incentive Bonus Plan (As Amended and Restated December 18, 2008) (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009).
*10.10. 2002 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Amended and Restated Effective March 4, 2009) (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009).
*10.11. Amended and Restated Executive Employment Agreement dated December 18, 2008 between the Registrant and Maurice Marciano (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009).
*10.12. Amended and Restated Executive Employment Agreement dated December 18, 2008 between the Registrant and Paul Marciano (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009).
*10.13. Amended and Restated Executive Employment Agreement dated December 18, 2008 between the Registrant and Carlos Alberini (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009).
*10.14. Employment Letter Agreement dated February 20, 2004 between the Registrant and Michael Relich (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 1, 2006).
*10.15. Employment Letter Agreement dated June 8, 2006 between the Registrant and Dennis Secor (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 1, 2006).
*10.16. Written Description of Performance-Based Bonus Criteria for Paul Marciano (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 1, 2005).
*10.17. Restricted Stock Agreement dated as of January 1, 2007 between the Registrant and Paul Marciano (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006).
*10.18. Restricted Stock Agreement dated as of August 6, 2007 between the Registrant and Carlos Alberini (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended August 4, 2007).
*10.19. Form of Nonqualified Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed May 16, 2005).
*10.20. Form of Restricted Stock Award Agreement (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed May 16, 2005).
*10.21. Form of Restricted Stock Award Agreement for Awards with Performance-Based Vesting (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 3, 2008).
*10.22. Indemnification Agreements between the Registrant and certain executives and directors (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1996).
*10.23. Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan (Amended and Restated Effective as of December 18, 2008) (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009).
*10.24. Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (Amended and Restated Effective as of December 18, 2008) (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009).
10.25. Lease Agreement between the Registrant and Robert Pattillo Properties, Inc. (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999).
10.26. First Amendment to Lease Agreement between the Registrant and 1444 Partners, Ltd. with respect to the Registrant's corporate headquarters (including original lease agreement) (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 3, 2008).
10.27. Licensing Contribution Agreement dated as of April 28, 2003, by and between Guess? Licensing, Inc. and Guess? IP Holder L.P. (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 29, 2003).
10.28. Guess? License Agreement dated as of April 28, 2003, by and between Guess? IP Holder L.P. and the Registrant (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 29, 2003).
10.29. Purchase Agreement among the Registrant, Guess Italia S.r.l., Fingen S.p.A. and Fingen Apparel N.V. dated December 31, 2004 (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed January 5, 2005).
10.30. Credit Agreement by and among the Registrant and Guess? Canada Corporation, as Borrowers, lenders from time to time party thereto, Bank of America, N.A., as Domestic Administrative Agent and Domestic L/C Issuer, and Bank of America, N.A., acting through its Canada Branch, as Canadian Administrative Agent and Canadian L/C Issuer, dated as of September 19, 2006 ("Credit Agreement") (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 25, 2006).
10.31. Amendment No. 1 to Credit Agreement, dated as of March 29, 2007 (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 5, 2007).

Exhibit
Number
10.32. Amendment No. 2 to Credit Agreement, dated as of July 5, 2007 (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended August 4, 2007).
$\dagger$ 21.1. List of Subsidiaries.
$\dagger$ 23.1. Consent of Ernst \& Young LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
$\dagger$ 31.1. Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of the Board pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
$\dagger$ 31.2. Certification of President and Chief Operating Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
$\dagger$ 31.3. Certification of Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the SarbanesOxley Act of 2002.
$\dagger$ 32.1. Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of the Board pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
$\dagger$ 32.2. Certification of President and Chief Operating Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
$\dagger$ 32.3. Certification of Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the SarbanesOxley Act of 2002.

Guess?, Inc.

## List of Subsidiaries

(as of $1 / 30 / 10$ )

| Investment In | Location | Owned By | Percentage of Ownership |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Aix Verdi Sarl | France | ONE Sarl | 100\% |
| Avignon Le Pontet Sarl | France | ONE Sarl | 100\% |
| Focus Europe S.r.l. | Italy | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 75\%(1) |
| Guess? Apparel Retail, B.V. | Netherlands | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess Apparel Spain, S.L. | Spain | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? Asia Limited | Hong Kong | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? Asia Limited (Hong Kong) <br> (Taiwan Branch) | Taiwan | Guess? Asia Limited | 100\% |
| Guess? Bermuda Holdings, LLC | United States | Guess?, Inc. | 100\% |
| Guess? Bermuda Holdings, L.P. | Bermuda | Guess?, Inc. | 99\%(2) |
| Guess? Canada Corporation | Canada | Guess? Euro-Canada, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess Canary Islands, S.L. | Spain | Guess Apparel Spain, S.L. | 51\%(3) |
| Guess.com, Inc. | United States | Guess?, Inc. | 100\% |
| Guess? Deutschland GmbH | Germany | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? Euro-Canada, B.V. | Netherlands | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? Europe, B.V. | Netherlands | Guess? Bermuda Holdings, L.P. | 100\% |
| Guess Europe Sagl | Switzerland | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 99\%(4) |
| Guess France S.A.S. | France | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? Holdings Korea Limited Liability Company | Korea | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? IP GP LLC | United States | Guess? Licensing, Inc. | 100\% |
| Guess? IP Holder L.P. | United States | Guess? IP LP LLC | 82.7\%(5) |
| Guess? IP LP LLC | United States | Guess?, Inc. | 100\% |
| Guess Italia S.r.l. | Italy | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess Jewelry Sagl | Switzerland | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? Licensing, Inc. | United States | Guess?, Inc. | 100\% |
| Guess Macau, Ltd. | Macau | Guess? Asia Ltd. | 96\%(6) |
| Guess? Retail, Inc. | United States | Guess?, Inc. | 100\% |
| Guess Service S.r.l. | Italy | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? (Shanghai) Limited | China | Guess? Asia Limited | 100\% |
| Guess Sud S.A.S. | France | Guess France SAS | 60\%(7) |
| Guess Swiss Sagl | Switzerland | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 99\%(8) |
| Guess U.K. Limited | United Kingdom | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 100\% |
| Guess? Value LLC | United States | Guess? Retail, Inc. | 100\% |
| Grupo Guess, S. de R.L. de C.V. | Mexico | Guess? Europe, B.V. | 51\%(9) |
| Lyon Herriot Sarl | France | ONE Sarl | 100\% |
| Marlit Sarl | France | ONE Sarl | 100\% |
| Montpellier Sarl | France | ONE Sarl | 100\% |
| ONE Sarl | France | Guess Sud S.A.S. | 100\% |
| Toulouse Blagnac Sarl | France | ONE Sarl | 100\% |
| Ydile Sarl | France | ONE Sarl | 100\% |

(1) The remaining $25 \%$ is owned by Focus Pull SpA, an Italian company
(2) The remaining $1 \%$ is owned by Guess? Bermuda Holdings, LLC
(3) The remaining $49 \%$ is owned by Depositos Almacenes Numero Uno, S.A.
(4) The remaining $1 \%$ is owned by Guess? Apparel Retail, B.V.
(5)The remaining $17.3 \%$ is owned by Guess? IP GP LLC
(6) The remaining 4\% is owned by Guess? Holdings Korea Limited Liability Company
(7) The remaining $40 \%$ is owned by Sebastien Chiche (36\%) and Anne-Flor Chiche (4\%), individuals
(8) The remaining $1 \%$ is owned by Guess Italia, S.r.l.
(9) The remaining 49\% is owned by Adivina S.A. de C.V., a Mexican company

## CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the following Registration Statements:
(1) Registration Statement (Form S-3 No. 333-111895),
(2) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-135079) pertaining to the 2006 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Grant and Stock Option Plan,
(3) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-129349) pertaining to the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan,
(4) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-121552) pertaining to the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan,
(5) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-81274) pertaining to the 2002 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, and
(6) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-10069) pertaining to the 1996 Equity Incentive Plan and the 1996 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan;
of our reports dated March 30, 2010, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and schedule of Guess?, Inc., and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Guess?, Inc., included in this Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended January 30, 2010.
/s/ ERNST \& YOUNG LLP
Los Angeles, California
March 30, 2010

## QuickLinks -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

I, Paul Marciano, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Guess?, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 30, 2010
By: /s/ PAUL MARCIANO
Paul Marciano
Chief Executive Officer and
Vice Chairman of the Board

QuickLinks
Exhibit 31.1

## QuickLinks -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

I, Carlos Alberini, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Guess?, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 30, 2010
By: /s/ CARLOS ALBERINI
Carlos Alberini
President and Chief Operating Officer

QuickLinks
Exhibit 31.2

## QuickLinks -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

I, Dennis R. Secor, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Guess?, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 30, 2010
By: /s/ DENNIS R. SECOR
Dennis R. Secor
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

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Exhibit 31.3

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO

18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002
I, Paul Marciano, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of the Board of Guess?, Inc. (the "Company"), do hereby certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to my knowledge:

- the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the period ended January 30, 2010, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m); and
- the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: March 30, 2010

By: /s/ PAUL MARCIANO
Paul Marciano
Chief Executive Officer and
Vice Chairman of the Board

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to Guess?, Inc. and will be retained by Guess?, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

QuickLinks
Exhibit 32.1

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Exhibit 32.2

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO

18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002
I, Carlos Alberini, President and Chief Operating Officer of Guess?, Inc. (the "Company"), do hereby certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to my knowledge:

- the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the period ended January 30, 2010, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m); and
- the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: March 30, 2010

By: /s/ CARLOS ALBERINI
Carlos Alberini
President and Chief Operating Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to Guess?, Inc. and will be retained by Guess?, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

## QuickLinks

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO

18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002
I, Dennis R. Secor, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Guess?, Inc. (the "Company"), do hereby certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to my knowledge:

- the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the period ended January 30, 2010, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m); and
- the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: March 30, 2010

By: /s/ DENNIS R. SECOR
Dennis R. Secor
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to Guess?, Inc. and will be retained by Guess?, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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Exhibit 32.3

