

CARTERS INC  
Form 10-Q  
October 29, 2007

---

---

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

---

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD  
ENDED SEPTEMBER 29, 2007

OR

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

Commission file number:  
001-31829

---

CARTER'S, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(state or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

13-3912933  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

The Proscenium  
1170 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(404) 745-2700  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

---

Edgar Filing: CARTERS INC - Form 10-Q

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

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

Large Accelerated Filer  Accelerated Filer  Non-Accelerated Filer

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

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

Common Stock	Outstanding Shares at October 29, 2007
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share	57,956,190

CARTER'S, INC.  
INDEX

		Page
<u>Part I.</u>	<u>Financial Information</u>	
<u>Item 1.</u>	<u>Financial Statements</u>	
	<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 29, 2007 and December 30, 2006</u>	3
	<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 and September 30, 2006</u>	4
	<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 and September 30, 2006</u>	5
	<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007</u>	6
	<u>Notes to the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	7
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	19
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u>	31
<u>Item 4.</u>	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	31
<u>Part II.</u>	<u>Other Information</u>	
<u>Item 1.</u>	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	32
<u>Item 1A.</u>	<u>Risk Factors</u>	32
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	37
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Defaults upon Senior Securities</u>	37
<u>Item 4.</u>	<u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	37
<u>Item 5.</u>	<u>Other Information</u>	37

<u>Item 6.</u>	<u>Exhibits</u>	37
<u>Signatures</u>		38
<u>Certifications</u>		39

## PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CARTER'S, INC.  
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
 (dollars in thousands, except for share data)  
 (unaudited)

	September 29, 2007	December 30, 2006
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,254	\$ 68,545
Accounts receivable, net	160,069	110,615
Finished goods inventories, net	246,529	193,588
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	13,385	7,296
Assets held for sale	6,109	--
Deferred income taxes	20,729	22,377
Total current assets	456,075	402,421
Property, plant, and equipment, net	72,829	87,940
Tradenames	308,233	322,233
Cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired	136,570	279,756
Deferred debt issuance costs, net	5,031	5,903
Licensing agreements, net	9,829	12,895
Leasehold interests, net	801	1,151
Other assets	8,234	10,892
Total assets	\$ 997,602	\$ 1,123,191
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 2,627	\$ 2,627
Accounts payable	69,971	70,878

Edgar Filing: CARTERS INC - Form 10-Q

Other current liabilities	51,454	63,012
Total current liabilities	124,052	136,517
Long-term debt	361,378	342,405
Deferred income taxes	114,481	125,784
Other long-term liabilities	32,443	22,994
Total liabilities	632,354	627,700
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock; par value \$.01 per share; 100,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding at September 29, 2007 and December 30, 2006	--	--
Common stock, voting; par value \$.01 per share; 150,000,000 shares authorized; 57,926,790 and 58,927,280 shares issued and outstanding at September 29, 2007 and December 30, 2006, respectively	579	589
Additional paid-in capital	242,780	275,045
Accumulated other comprehensive income	3,965	5,301
Retained earnings	117,924	214,556
Total stockholders' equity	365,248	495,491
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 997,602	\$ 1,123,191

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

CARTER'S, INC.  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(unaudited)

	For the		For the	
	three-month periods ended	September	September	September
	29,	30,	29,	30,
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Net sales	\$ 410,949	\$ 391,977	\$ 1,018,852	\$ 966,001
Cost of goods sold	265,093	244,757	671,198	613,382
Gross profit	145,856	147,220	347,654	352,619
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	94,241	93,496	267,122	258,944
Intangible asset impairment (Note 3)	--	--	154,886	--
Closure costs	256	--	5,233	91
Royalty income	(8,649)	(7,782)	(22,894)	(21,610)
Operating income (loss)	60,008	61,506	(56,693)	115,194
Interest expense, net	6,021	6,554	17,453	20,367
Income (loss) before income taxes	53,987	54,952	(74,146)	94,827
Provision for income taxes	19,369	19,975	25,074	35,046
Net income (loss)	\$ 34,618	\$ 34,977	\$ (99,220)	\$ 59,781
Basic net income (loss) per common share	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.60	\$ (1.71)	\$ 1.03
Diluted net income (loss) per common share	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.57	\$ (1.71)	\$ 0.98
Basic weighted-average number of shares outstanding	57,745,717	57,949,783	58,010,633	57,845,521
Diluted weighted-average number of shares outstanding	59,975,130	61,094,141	58,010,633	61,173,247

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

CARTER'S, INC.  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(dollars in thousands)  
(unaudited)

	For the nine-month periods ended	
	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net (loss) income	\$ (99,220)	\$ 59,781
<b>Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash used in operating activities:</b>		
Depreciation and amortization	22,526	18,272
Amortization of debt issuance costs	872	1,460
Non-cash intangible asset impairment charges	154,886	--
Non-cash stock-based compensation expense	4,653	4,349
Income tax benefit from exercised stock options	(7,797)	(2,472)
Loss on sale of property, plant, and equipment	620	197
Deferred income taxes	(8,890)	5,666
Non-cash closure costs	2,450	--
<b>Effect of changes in operating assets and liabilities:</b>		
Accounts receivable	(49,454)	(54,691)
Inventories	(52,941)	(11,395)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(5,302)	(3,090)
Accounts payable and other liabilities	(1,020)	(23,310)
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(38,617)</b>	<b>(5,233)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Capital expenditures	(13,228)	(15,861)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant, and equipment	53	348
	<b>(13,175)</b>	<b>(15,513)</b>



Edgar Filing: CARTERS INC - Form 10-Q

Net cash used in investing activities		
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Payments on term loan	(2,627)	(37,133)
Share repurchase	(47,406)	--
Borrowings from revolving loan facility	117,600	5,000
Payments on revolving loan facility	(96,000)	(5,000)
Income tax benefit from exercised stock options	7,797	2,472
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	2,576	1,087
Book overdraft	10,561	--
Net cash used in financing activities	(7,499)	(33,574)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(59,291)	(54,320)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	68,545	84,276
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 9,254	\$ 29,956

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

CARTER'S, INC.  
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY  
 (dollars in thousands, except for share data)  
 (unaudited)

	Common stock	Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	Retained earnings	Total stockholders' equity
Balance at December 30, 2006	\$ 589	\$ 275,045	\$ 5,301	\$ 214,556	\$ 495,491
Income tax benefit from exercised stock options		7,797			7,797
Exercise of stock options (901,464 shares)	9	2,567			2,576
Stock-based compensation expense		4,173			4,173
Issuance of common stock (23,482 shares)	1	584			585
FIN 48 cumulative effect of adoption (Note 4)				2,588	2,588
Share repurchase (1,985,519 shares)	(20)	(47,386)			(47,406)
Comprehensive loss:					
Net loss				(99,220)	(99,220)
Settlement of pension plan, net of tax benefit of \$75			(132)		(132)
Unrealized loss on interest rate swap, net of tax benefit of \$606			(1,058)		(1,058)
Unrealized loss on interest rate collar, net of tax benefit of \$84			(146)		(146)
Total comprehensive loss	--	--	(1,336)	(99,220)	(100,556)
Balance at September 29, 2007	\$ 579	\$ 242,780	\$ 3,965	\$ 117,924	\$ 365,248

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

CARTER'S, INC.  
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(unaudited)

NOTE 1 – THE COMPANY:

Carter's, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company," "we," "us," "its," and "our") design, source, and market branded childrenswear under the Carter's, Child of Mine, Just One Year, OshKosh, and related brands. Our products are sourced through contractual arrangements with manufacturers worldwide for wholesale distribution to major domestic retailers, including the mass channel, and to our Carter's and OshKosh retail stores that market our brand name merchandise and other licensed products manufactured by other companies.

NOTE 2 – BASIS OF PREPARATION:

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements comprise the consolidated financial statements of Carter's, Inc. and its subsidiaries. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

In our opinion, the Company's accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments necessary for a fair statement of our financial position as of September 29, 2007, the results of our operations for the three and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 and September 30, 2006, cash flows for the nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 and September 30, 2006 and changes in stockholders' equity for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007. Operating results for the three and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending December 29, 2007. Our accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 30, 2006 is from our audited consolidated financial statements included in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K, but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Certain information and footnote disclosure normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been condensed or omitted pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the instructions to Form 10-Q. The accounting policies we follow are set forth in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K in the notes to our audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 30, 2006.

Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday in December or January nearest to the last day of December. The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007 reflect our financial position as of September 29, 2007. The third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2006 ended on September 30, 2006.

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified for comparative purposes.

**NOTE 3 – COST IN EXCESS OF FAIR VALUE OF NET ASSETS ACQUIRED AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS:**

In connection with the acquisition of OshKosh B’Gosh, Inc. on July 14, 2005 (the “Acquisition”), the Company recorded the cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired and other intangible assets in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (“SFAS”) No. 141, “Business Combinations.”

During the second quarter of fiscal 2007, as a result of negative trends in sales and profitability of the Company’s OshKosh B’Gosh wholesale and retail segments and re-forecasted projections for such segments for the balance of fiscal 2007, the Company conducted an interim impairment assessment on the value of the intangible assets that the Company recorded in connection with the Acquisition. This assessment was performed in accordance with SFAS No. 142, “Goodwill and Intangible Assets.” Based on this assessment, charges of approximately \$36.0 million and \$106.9 million were recorded for the impairment of the cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired for the OshKosh wholesale and retail segments, respectively. In addition, an impairment charge of \$12.0 million was recorded to reflect the impairment of the value ascribed to the OshKosh tradename asset. For cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired, the fair value was determined using the expected present value of future cash flows. For the OshKosh tradename, the fair value was determined using a discounted cash flow analysis which examined the hypothetical cost savings that accrue as a result of our ownership of the tradename.

During the three-month period ended September 29, 2007, approximately \$1.2 million related to pre-Acquisition tax contingencies were reversed due to settlement with taxing authorities. The reversal resulted in a corresponding reduction to the OshKosh tradename asset of \$2.0 million and a reduction in our deferred tax liability of \$0.8 million in accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force No. 93-7, “Uncertainties Related to Income Taxes in a Purchase Business Combination” (“EITF 93-7”).

As of September 29, 2007, the remaining intangible assets resulting from the Acquisition were as follows:

(dollars in thousands)	Weighted- average useful life	Gross Accumulated amount amortization	
OshKosh tradename	Indefinite	\$ 88,000	\$ --
OshKosh licensing agreements	4.7 years	\$ 19,100	\$ 9,271
Leasehold interests	4.1 years	\$ 1,833	\$ 1,032

Amortization expense for intangible assets was approximately \$1.0 million and \$3.4 million for the three and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 and \$1.2 million and \$3.5 million for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006. Annual amortization expense for the OshKosh licensing agreements and leasehold interests is expected to be as follows:

(dollars in thousands)	Fiscal Year	Estimated amortization expense
2007 (period from September 30 through December 29)		\$ 1,030
2008		4,106
2009		3,717

Edgar Filing: CARTERS INC - Form 10-Q

2010	1,777
Total	\$ 10,630

As described in Note 2 “Summary of Significant Accounting Policies” to our audited consolidated financial statements included in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Carter’s tradename and cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired assets have been deemed to have indefinite lives and are not being amortized.

NOTE 4 – INCOME TAXES:

Effective December 31, 2006, we adopted the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Interpretation No. 48, “Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109” (“FIN 48”). FIN 48 prescribes a comprehensive model for how a company should recognize, measure, present, and disclose in its financial statements uncertain tax positions that the company has taken or expects to take on a tax return. FIN 48 states that a tax benefit from an uncertain position may be recognized only if it is “more likely than not” that the position is sustainable, based on its technical merits. The tax benefit of a qualifying position is the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than fifty percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement with a taxing authority having full knowledge of all relevant information.

In connection with the adoption of FIN 48, we recorded a cumulative effect of adoption, reducing our reserves for unrecognized tax benefits by approximately \$2.6 million as of December 31, 2006 and increasing retained earnings by \$2.6 million. Additionally, we reclassified, as of December 31, 2006, approximately \$6.9 million of reserves for unrecognized tax benefits from current liabilities to long-term liabilities on the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.

The Company and its subsidiaries file income tax returns in the U.S. and in various states and local jurisdictions. The Internal Revenue Service is currently conducting an examination of the Company’s U.S. income tax returns for fiscal 2004 and fiscal 2005. In most cases, the Company is no longer subject to state and local tax authority examinations for years prior to fiscal 2003.

As of December 31, 2006, the Company had gross unrecognized tax benefits of approximately \$8.1 million, excluding interest and penalties of approximately \$1.5 million. The amount of net unrecognized tax benefits that could result in an adjustment to our effective tax rate in future periods, if recognized, was approximately \$3.1 million as of December 31, 2006.

During the three-month period ended September 29, 2007, we recognized approximately \$0.6 million in tax benefits previously reserved for which the statute of limitations expired in September 2007. In addition, we recognized approximately \$2.0 million of pre-Acquisition tax obligations previously reserved for which were settled in September 2007 with taxing authorities. The settlement of these pre-Acquisition uncertainties have been reflected as an adjustment to the OshKosh tradename asset in accordance with EITF 93-7.

Included in the reserves for unrecognized tax benefits are approximately \$1.2 million of reserves for which the statute of limitations expires in September 2008. Such exposures relate primarily to the deductibility of certain operating expenses from various jurisdictions. If these tax benefits are ultimately recognized, such recognition will not have a material impact on our annual effective tax rate for fiscal 2008, although the effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2008 may be impacted. In addition, our unrecognized tax benefits include approximately \$0.9 million of pre-Acquisition reserves for which the statute of limitations expires in September 2008. Recognition of these uncertainties would be reflected as an adjustment to the OshKosh tradename asset in accordance with EITF 93-7.

We recognize interest related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of interest expense and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of income tax expense. The Company had approximately \$1.1 million of interest and penalties accrued as of September 29, 2007.

The Company’s effective tax rate for the first nine months of fiscal 2007 was impacted by the impairment of the cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired as such charge is not deductible for tax purposes.



## NOTE 5 – EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS:

Under a defined benefit plan frozen in 1991, we offer a comprehensive post-retirement medical plan to current and certain future retirees and their spouses until they become eligible for Medicare or a Medicare supplement plan. We also offer life insurance to current and certain future retirees. Additionally, we have an obligation under a defined benefit plan covering certain former officers and their spouses. See Note 8 “Employee Benefit Plans” to our audited consolidated financial statements included in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K for further information.

The components of post-retirement life and medical benefit expense charged to operations are as follows:

(dollars in thousands)	For the three-month periods ended		For the nine-month periods ended	
	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006
Service cost – benefits attributed to service during the period	\$ 26	\$ 42	\$ 82	\$ 126
Interest cost on accumulated post-retirement benefit obligation	131	160	405	477
Amortization of prior service cost	--	23	(18)	69
Total net periodic benefit cost	\$ 157	\$ 225	\$ 469	\$ 672

The components of pension expense charged to operations are as follows:

(dollars in thousands)	For the three-month periods ended		For the nine-month periods ended	
	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006
Interest cost on accumulated pension benefit obligation	\$ 13	\$ 19	\$ 43	\$ 57
Actuarial gain	(53)	--	(53)	--
Total net periodic benefit cost	\$ (40)	\$ 19	\$ (10)	\$ 57

The Company acquired two defined benefit pension plans in connection with the Acquisition. The benefits for certain current and former employees of OshKosh under these pension plans were frozen as of December 31, 2005.



During the second quarter of fiscal 2007, the Company liquidated the OshKosh B’Gosh Collective Bargaining Pension Plan (the “Plan”), distributed each participant’s balance, and the remaining net assets of \$2.2 million were contributed to the Company’s defined contribution plan to offset future employer contributions. In connection with the liquidation of the Plan, the Company recorded a pre-tax gain of approximately \$0.3 million related to the Plan settlement during the second quarter of fiscal 2007.

The Company’s net periodic pension benefit related to these plans is comprised of the following components:

(dollars in thousands)	For the three-month periods ended		For the nine-month periods ended	
	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006
Interest cost on accumulated pension benefit obligation	\$ 551	\$ 650	\$ 1,654	\$ 1,951
Expected return on assets	(897)	(1,035)	(3,213)	(3,104)
Amortization of actuarial gain	(34)	--	(104)	--
Gain on settlement	--	--	(276)	--
Total net periodic benefit	\$ (380)	\$ (385)	\$ (1,939)	\$ (1,153)

#### NOTE 6 – COMMON STOCK:

On February 16, 2007, the Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program, pursuant to which the Company is authorized to purchase up to \$100 million of its outstanding common shares. Such repurchases may occur from time to time in the open market, in negotiated transactions, or otherwise. This program has no time limit. The timing and amount of any repurchases will be determined by management, based on its evaluation of market conditions, share price, and other factors.

During the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007, the Company repurchased and retired 338,100 and 1,985,519 shares, or approximately \$7.4 million and \$47.4 million, of its common stock at an average price of \$21.87 and \$23.88 per share, respectively. Accordingly, we have reduced common stock by the par value of such shares and have deducted the remaining excess repurchase price over par value from additional paid-in capital.

During the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007, the Company issued 2,062 shares and 23,482 shares of common stock to its non-management board members.

## NOTE 7 – STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION:

We account for stock-based compensation expense in accordance with SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), “Share-Based Payment.” The fair value of time-based and performance-based stock option grants are estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing method with the following weighted-average assumptions used for grants issued during the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007.

	For the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007
Volatility	38.16%
Risk-free interest rate	4.74%
Expected term (years)	6.0
Dividend yield	--

The fair value of restricted stock is determined based on the quoted closing price of our common stock on the date of grant.

The following table summarizes our stock option and restricted stock activity during the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007:

	Time-based stock options	Performance-based stock options	Retained stock options	Restricted Stock
Outstanding, December 30, 2006	4,666,678	620,000	1,071,870	222,620
Granted	189,200	--	--	90,383
Exercised	(491,464)	--	(410,000)	--
Vested restricted stock	--	--	--	(28,800)
Forfeited	(194,450)	--	--	(30,300)
Expired	--	--	--	--
Outstanding, September 29, 2007	4,169,964	620,000	661,870	253,903
Exercisable, September 29, 2007	3,448,110	--	661,870	--

During the three-month period ended September 29, 2007, we granted 6,000 time-based stock options with a weighted-average Black-Scholes fair value of \$9.60 and a weighted-average exercise price of \$21.40. In connection with these grants, we recognized approximately \$2,000 in stock-based compensation expense.

During the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007, we granted 189,200 time-based stock options with a weighted-average Black-Scholes fair value of \$10.52 and a weighted-average exercise price of \$23.36. In connection with these grants, we recognized approximately \$231,000 in stock-based compensation expense.

During the three-month period ended September 29, 2007, we granted 7,583 shares of restricted stock to an employee and a director with a weighted-average fair value on the date of grant of \$21.65. In connection with these grants, we recognized approximately \$7,000 in stock-based compensation expense.



During the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007, we granted 90,383 shares of restricted stock to employees and a director with a weighted-average fair value on the date of grant of \$22.85. In connection with these grants, we recognized approximately \$244,000 in stock-based compensation expense.

Unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to outstanding stock options and restricted stock awards is expected to be recorded as follows:

(dollars in thousands)	Time-based stock options	Performance -based stock options	Restricted stock	Total
2007 (period from September 30 through December 29)	\$ 612	\$ 375	\$ 421	\$ 1,408
2008	2,427	1,519	1,765	5,711
2009	1,437	721	1,296	3,454
2010	567	84	593	1,244
2011	102	--	86	188
Total	\$ 5,145	\$ 2,699	\$ 4,161	\$ 12,005

## NOTE 8 – SEGMENT INFORMATION:

We report segment information in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 131, “Disclosure about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information,” which requires segment information to be disclosed based upon a “management approach.” The management approach refers to the internal reporting that is used by management for making operating decisions and assessing the performance of our reportable segments.

The table below presents certain segment information for the periods indicated:

(dollars in thousands)	For the three-month periods ended				For the nine-month periods ended			
	September 29, 2007	% of Total	September 30, 2006	% of Total	September 29, 2007	% of Total	September 30, 2006	% of Total
Net sales:								
Wholesale-Carter’s	\$ 149,918	36.4%	\$ 143,624	36.6%	\$ 355,865	34.9%	\$ 330,080	34.2%
Wholesale-OshKosh	28,197	6.9%	25,778	6.6%	63,417	6.2%	74,870	7.8%
Retail-Carter’s	102,429	24.9%	93,493	23.9%	253,530	24.9%	233,956	24.2%
Retail-OshKosh	62,800	15.3%	62,739	16.0%	157,533	15.5%	155,754	16.1%
Mass								
Channel-Carter’s	67,605	16.5%	66,343	16.9%	188,507	18.5%	171,341	17.7%
Total net sales	\$ 410,949	100.0%	\$ 391,977	100.0%	\$ 1,018,852	100.0%	\$ 966,001	100.0%
Operating income (loss):								
Wholesale-Carter’s	\$ 33,740	22.5%	\$ 32,238	22.4%	\$ 71,228	20.0%	\$ 64,974	19.7%
Wholesale-OshKosh								
(a)	2,624	9.3%	3,812	14.8%	(37,005)	(58.4)%	8,396	11.2%
Retail-Carter’s	21,602	21.1%	16,989	18.2%	35,238	13.9%	36,940	15.8%
Retail-OshKosh (b)	2,541	4.0%	7,444	11.9%	(107,369)	(68.2)%	10,276	6.6%
Mass								
Channel-Carter’s	10,639	15.7%	11,703	17.6%	27,784	14.7%	26,681	15.6%
Mass								
Channel-OshKosh								
(c)	615	--	604	--	1,503	--	1,440	--
Segment operating income (loss)								
	71,761	17.5%	72,790	18.6%	(8,621)	(0.8)%	148,707	15.4%
Other reconciling items (d)								
	(11,753)	(2.9)%	(11,284)	(2.9)%	(48,072)	(4.7)%	(33,513)	(3.5)%
Total operating income (loss)	\$ 60,008	14.6%	\$ 61,506	15.7%	\$ (56,693)	(5.6)%	\$ 115,194	11.9%

(a) OshKosh wholesale includes a charge of approximately \$36.0 million related to the impairment of the OshKosh cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired related to the wholesale segment for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007.

- (b) OshKosh retail includes a charge of approximately \$106.9 million related to the impairment of the OshKosh cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired related to the retail segment for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007.
- (c) OshKosh mass channel consists of a licensing agreement with Target. Operating income consists of royalty income, net of related expenses.
- (d) Other reconciling items include a charge of \$12.0 million related to the impairment of the OshKosh tradename for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007.

The following represents cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired by segment:

(dollars in thousands)	Wholesale – Carter’s	Wholesale – OshKosh	Retail – Carter’s	Retail – OshKosh	Mass Channel – Carter’s	Total
Balance at December 30, 2006	\$ 51,814	\$ 36,071	\$ 82,025	\$ 107,115	\$ 2,731	\$ 279,756
Intangible asset impairment	--	(35,995)	--	(106,891)	--	(142,886)
Adjustments	--	(76)	--	(224)	--	(300)
Balance at September 29, 2007	\$ 51,814	\$ --	\$ 82,025	\$ --	\$ 2,731	\$ 136,570

#### NOTE 9 – FACILITY CLOSURE AND RESTRUCTURING COSTS:

##### White House Distribution Facility

The Company continually evaluates opportunities to reduce its supply chain complexity and lower costs. In the first quarter of fiscal 2007, the Company determined that OshKosh brand products could be effectively distributed through its other distribution facilities and third-party logistics providers. On February 15, 2007, the Company’s Board of Directors approved management’s plan to close the Company’s White House, Tennessee distribution facility, which was utilized to distribute the Company’s OshKosh brand products.

In accordance with SFAS No. 144, “Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets,” under a held and used model, it was determined that the distribution facility assets were impaired as of the end of January 2007, as it became “more likely than not” that the expected life of the White House distribution facility would be significantly shortened. Accordingly, we have written down the assets to their estimated recoverable fair value as of the end of January 2007. The adjusted asset values were subject to accelerated depreciation over their remaining estimated useful life. Distribution operations at the White House facility ceased as of April 5, 2007, at which point the White House land, building, and equipment assets of \$6.1 million were reclassified as held for sale on the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.

For a majority of the affected employees, severance benefits were communicated on February 20, 2007. Approximately 215 employees were terminated. In connection with this closure, we expect to incur approximately \$3.6 million in cash expenses. These cash expenses consist of severance and other costs to exit the facility. The Company also incurred approximately \$4.6 million of non-cash charges relating to accelerated depreciation and asset impairment.

During the first nine months of fiscal 2007, we recorded costs of \$7.4 million, consisting of asset impairment charges of \$2.4 million related to a write-down of the related land, building, and equipment, \$2.0 million of severance charges, \$2.1 million of accelerated depreciation (included in selling, general, and administrative expenses), and \$0.9 million of other closure costs.

Edgar Filing: CARTERS INC - Form 10-Q

The following table summarizes restructuring reserves related to the closure of the White House facility which are included in other current liabilities on the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet:

(dollars in thousands)	Severance	Other exit costs	Total
Balance at March 31, 2007	\$ 2,040	\$ 45	\$ 2,085
Provisions	--	470	470
Payments	(1,234)	(515)	(1,749)
Balance at June 30, 2007	806	--	806
Provisions	--	256	256
Payments	(223)	(256)	(479)
Balance at September 29, 2007	\$ 583	\$ --	\$ 583

Acquisition Restructuring

In connection with the Acquisition, management developed a plan to restructure and integrate the operations of OshKosh. In accordance with EITF No. 95-3, "Recognition of Liabilities in Connection with a Purchase Business Combination," liabilities were established for OshKosh severance, lease termination costs associated with the closure of 30 OshKosh retail stores, contract termination costs, and other exit costs. These liabilities also covered costs related to the closure of OshKosh's Choloma, Honduras sewing facility, the Uman, Mexico sewing facility, and the Liberty, Kentucky distribution center. The Honduras and Kentucky facilities were closed during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005. The Mexico facility was closed during the first quarter of fiscal 2006 and all remaining liabilities have been paid.

The following table summarizes restructuring reserves related to the Acquisition which are included in other current liabilities on the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet:

(dollars in thousands)	Severance	Other exit costs	Lease termination costs	Contract termination costs	Total
Balance at December 30, 2006	\$ 2,135	\$ 719	\$ 1,733	\$ 200	\$ 4,787
Payments	(626)	(473)	(610)	--	(1,709)
Balance at March 31, 2007	1,509	246	1,123	200	3,078
Payments	(288)	(154)	(469)	--	(911)
Adjustments to cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired	(100)	--	--	(200)	(300)
Balance at June 30, 2007	1,121	92	654	--	1,867
Payments	(391)	(43)	--	--	(434)
Balance at September 29, 2007	\$ 730	\$ 49	\$ 654	\$ --	\$ 1,433

Sewing Facility Closures

In May 2005, we decided to exit two Carter's brand sewing facilities in Mexico. During the first nine months of fiscal 2006, we recorded total charges of \$91,000, including \$74,000 in severance charges and \$17,000 in other exit costs related to these closures.





## NOTE 10 – EARNINGS PER SHARE:

In accordance with SFAS No. 128, “Earnings Per Share,” basic earnings per share is based on the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the year, whereas diluted earnings per share also gives effect to all potentially dilutive shares of common stock, including time-based and retained stock options and unvested restricted stock, that were outstanding during the period. All such stock options are reflected in the denominator using the treasury stock method. This method assumes that shares are issued for stock options that are “in the money,” but that we use the proceeds of such stock option exercises (generally, cash to be paid plus future compensation expense to be recognized and the amount of tax benefits, if any, that will be credited to additional paid-in capital assuming exercise of the stock options) to repurchase shares at the average market value of our shares for the respective periods. Unvested shares of restricted stock are reflected in the denominator using the treasury stock method with proceeds of the amount, if any, the employees must pay upon vesting, the amount of compensation cost attributed to future services and not yet recognized in earnings, and the amount of tax benefits, if any, that would be credited to additional paid-in capital (i.e., the amount of the tax deduction in excess of recognized compensation cost) assuming vesting of the shares at the current market price.

For the three-month period ended September 29, 2007, anti-dilutive shares of 658,100 and performance-based stock options of 620,000 were excluded from the computations of diluted earnings per share. For the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007, diluted net loss per common share is the same as basic net loss per common share, as the Company has a net loss. For the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006, anti-dilutive shares of 545,950 and 315,750, respectively, and performance-based stock options of 620,000, were excluded from the computations of diluted earnings per share.

The following is a reconciliation of basic common shares outstanding to diluted common and common equivalent shares outstanding:

(dollars in thousands, except per share data)	For the three-month periods ended		For the nine-month periods ended	
	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006
Net income (loss)	\$ 34,618	\$ 34,977	\$ (99,220)	\$ 59,781
Weighted-average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding:				
Basic number of common shares outstanding	57,745,717	57,949,783	58,010,633	57,845,521
Dilutive effect of unvested restricted stock	60,190	35,400	--	65,310
Dilutive effect of stock options	2,169,223	3,108,958	--	3,262,416
Diluted number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding	59,975,130	61,094,141	58,010,633	61,173,247
Basic net income (loss) per common share	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.60	\$ (1.71)	\$ 1.03
	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.57	\$ (1.71)	\$ 0.98

Diluted net income (loss) per common  
share

NOTE 11 – RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS:

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, “Fair Value Measurements” (“SFAS 157”), which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The provisions of SFAS 157 are effective as of the beginning of our 2008 fiscal year. We are evaluating the impact that SFAS 157 will have on our consolidated financial statements based on evolving interpretive guidance.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, “The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities — Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115” (“SFAS 159”), which provides entities with an option to report selected financial assets and liabilities at fair value. SFAS 159 also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. This statement is effective as of the beginning of the first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. We are currently evaluating the impact that SFAS 159 will have on our consolidated financial statements.

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

The following is a discussion of our results of operations and current financial position. You should read this discussion in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes included elsewhere in this quarterly report.

Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday in December or January nearest to the last day of December. The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007 reflect our financial position as of September 29, 2007. The third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2006 ended on September 30, 2006.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth for the periods indicated (i) selected statement of operations data expressed as a percentage of net sales and (ii) the number of retail stores open at the end of each period:

	Three-month periods ended		Nine-month periods ended	
	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 29, 2007	September 30, 2006
<b>Wholesale sales:</b>				
Carter's	36.4%	36.6%	34.9%	34.2%
OshKosh	6.9	6.6	6.2	7.8
Total wholesale sales	43.3	43.2	41.1	42.0
<b>Retail store sales:</b>				
Carter's	24.9	23.9	24.9	24.2
OshKosh	15.3	16.0	15.5	16.1
Total retail store sales	40.2	39.9	40.4	40.3
Mass channel sales	16.5	16.9	18.5	17.7
Consolidated net sales	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cost of goods sold	64.5	62.4	65.9	63.5
Gross profit	35.5	37.6	34.1	36.5
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	22.9	23.9	26.2	26.8
Intangible asset impairment	--	--	15.2	--
Closure costs	0.1	--	0.5	--
Royalty income	(2.1)	(2.0)	(2.2)	(2.2)
Operating income (loss)	14.6	15.7	(5.6)	11.9
Interest expense, net	1.5	1.7	1.7	2.1
Income (loss) before income taxes	13.1	14.0	(7.3)	9.8

Edgar Filing: CARTERS INC - Form 10-Q

Provision for income taxes	4.7	5.1	2.4	3.6
Net income (loss)	8.4%	8.9%	(9.7)%	6.2%
Number of retail stores at end of period:				
Carter's	222	205	222	205
OshKosh	162	146	162	146
Total	384	351	384	351

## Edgar Filing: CARTERS INC - Form 10-Q

Three and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2007 compared to the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006

### CONSOLIDATED NET SALES

In the third quarter of fiscal 2007, consolidated net sales increased \$19.0 million, or 4.8%, to \$410.9 million. This increase reflects sales growth across all of our distribution channels. In the first nine months of fiscal 2007, consolidated net sales increased \$52.9 million, or 5.5%, to \$1.0 billion. This increase reflects growth in all of our Carter's brand distribution channels and our OshKosh brand retail store segment.

(dollars in thousands)	For the three-month periods ended				For the nine-month periods ended			
	September		September		September		September	
	29, 2007	% of Total	30, 2006	% of Total	29, 2007	% of Total	30, 2006	% of Total
<b>Net sales:</b>								
Wholesale-Carter's	\$ 149,918	36.4%	\$ 143,624	36.6%	\$ 355,865	34.9%	\$ 330,080	34.2%
Wholesale-OshKosh	28,197	6.9%	25,778	6.6%	63,417	6.2%	74,870	7.8%
Retail-Carter's	102,429	24.9%	93,493	23.9%	253,530	24.9%	233,956	24.2%
Retail-OshKosh	62,800	15.3%	62,739	16.0%	157,533	15.5%	155,754	16.1%
Mass Channel-Carter's	67,605	16.5%	66,343	16.9%	188,507	18.5%	171,341	17.7%
<b>Total net sales</b>	<b>\$ 410,949</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 391,977</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 1,018,852</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 966,001</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### CARTER'S WHOLESALE SALES

Carter's brand wholesale sales increased \$6.3 million, or 4.4%, in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 to \$149.9 million. Excluding off-price sales, Carter's brand wholesale sales increased \$9.4 million, or 6.9%, to \$144.0 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2007. The increase in Carter's brand wholesale sales, excluding off-price sales, was driven by a 7% increase in units shipped as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2006. The increase in units shipped was driven by increased demand for our baby and sleepwear product categories, partially offset by lower playwear units shipped due to timing of shipments. The average price per unit was comparable to the third quarter of fiscal 2006.

Carter's brand wholesale sales increased \$25.8 million, or 7.8%, in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 to \$355.9 million. Excluding off-price sales, Carter's brand wholesale sales increased \$29.1 million, or 9.5%, to \$336.3 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2007. The increase in Carter's brand wholesale sales, excluding off-price sales, was driven by a 9% increase in units shipped as compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2006. The increase in units shipped occurred across all product categories. The average price per unit was comparable to the first nine months of fiscal 2006.

Off-price sales decreased \$3.1 million, or 33.9%, in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 to \$6.0 million. In the first nine months of fiscal 2007, off-price sales decreased \$3.3 million, or 14.5%, to \$19.5 million. These decreases resulted primarily from a decrease in off-price units shipped due to improvements in managing the exposure of excess inventory.

### OSHKOSH WHOLESALE SALES

OshKosh brand wholesale sales increased \$2.4 million, or 9.4%, in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 to \$28.2 million. Excluding off-price sales, OshKosh brand wholesale sales increased \$2.4 million, or 9.9%, to \$27.2 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2007. The increase in OshKosh wholesale sales, excluding off-price sales, was driven by a 28% increase in units shipped as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2006. The increase in units shipped reflects

the timing of fall shipments. In the prior year, more fall product was shipped in the second quarter as compared to heavier shipments of fall product in the third quarter of the current year. Average prices were down 14% compared to the prior year, primarily due to changes in product mix. Average prices also declined due to an increase in customer accommodations reflecting lower demand.



OshKosh brand wholesale sales decreased \$11.5 million, or 15.3%, in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 to \$63.4 million. Excluding off-price sales, OshKosh brand wholesale sales decreased \$7.8 million, or 11.3%, to \$61.2 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2007. The decrease in OshKosh wholesale sales, excluding off-price sales, was due primarily to an 18% decrease in average prices, partially offset by an 8% increase in units shipped. The decrease in average prices reflects changes in product mix and higher levels of customer accommodations as compared to the prior year.

In the third quarter of fiscal 2007, off-price sales decreased 2.4% as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2006. In the first nine months of fiscal 2007, off-price sales decreased \$3.6 million, or 61.9%, to \$2.2 million. These decreases resulted primarily from improvements in managing the exposure of excess inventory.

#### MASS CHANNEL SALES

Mass channel sales increased \$1.3 million, or 1.9%, in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 to \$67.6 million. The increase was driven by increased sales of \$1.5 million, or 6.5%, of our Just One Year brand to Target. This increase in sales resulted primarily from increased sleepwear productivity. Sales of our Child of Mine brand to Wal-Mart were comparable to the third quarter of fiscal 2006 due to the timing of shipments and lower fixture productivity and product performance than expected.

Mass channel sales increased \$17.2 million, or 10.0%, in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 to \$188.5 million. The increase was driven by increased sales of \$10.8 million, or 9.9%, of our Child of Mine brand to Wal-Mart and increased sales of \$6.3 million, or 10.1%, of our Just One Year brand to Target. These increases in sales resulted primarily from increased productivity and new door growth.

#### CARTER'S RETAIL STORES SALES

Carter's retail store sales increased \$8.9 million, or 9.6%, in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 to \$102.4 million. The increase was driven by incremental sales of \$5.4 million generated by new store openings and a comparable store sales increase of \$3.8 million, or 4.1%, partially offset by the impact of a store closure of \$0.3 million.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2007, unit volume increased 7.3% and average prices decreased 3.0%. Average prices during the third quarter decreased primarily due to increased promotional pricing on fall playclothes and spring sleepwear products. We believe increased promotional pricing drove the increase in unit volume. On a per door basis, inventory at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2007 was up approximately 3%.

Carter's retail store sales increased \$19.6 million, or 8.4%, in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 to \$253.5 million. The increase was driven by incremental sales of \$17.4 million generated by new store openings and a comparable store sales increase of \$4.8 million, or 2.1%, partially offset by the impact of store closures of \$2.6 million.

During the first nine months of fiscal 2007, unit volume increased 6.3% and average prices decreased 4.0%. Average prices decreased primarily due to increased promotional pricing on fall playclothes. We believe increased promotional pricing drove the increase in unit volume.

The Company's comparable store sales calculations include sales for all stores that were open during the comparable fiscal period, including remodeled stores and certain relocated stores. If a store relocates within the same center with no business interruption or material change in square footage, the sales for such store will continue to be included in the comparable store calculation. If a store relocates to another center or there is a material change in square footage, such store is treated as a new store. Stores that are closed during the period are included in the comparable store sales calculation up to the date of closing.

There were a total of 222 Carter's retail stores as of September 29, 2007. During the third quarter of fiscal 2007, we opened one store. During the first nine months of fiscal 2007, we opened three Carter's retail stores. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, we plan to open seven and close one Carter's retail stores.

## OSHKOSH RETAIL STORES SALES

OshKosh retail store sales of \$62.8 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 were comparable to last year and included \$3.3 million of sales from new stores, offset by a comparable store decrease of \$3.1 million, or 5.0%, and the impact of store closings of \$0.2 million. Average prices decreased 11.1% and unit volume increased 6.8%. Average prices decreased due to increased promotional activity across all major product categories. We believe increased promotional activity drove increased unit volume. On a per door basis, inventory at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2007 was up approximately 2%.

OshKosh retail store sales increased \$1.8 million, or 1.1%, in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 to \$157.5 million. The increase was driven by incremental sales of \$10.2 million generated by new store openings, partially offset by a comparable store sales decrease of \$7.6 million, or 4.9%, and the impact of store closings of \$0.8 million. Average prices decreased 4.6% and unit volume decreased 0.3%. Average prices decreased due to increased promotional activity across all major product categories.

There were a total of 162 OshKosh retail stores as of September 29, 2007. During the third quarter of fiscal 2007, we opened three stores. During the first nine months of fiscal 2007, we opened five OshKosh retail stores. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, we plan to open three and close three OshKosh retail stores.

## GROSS PROFIT

Our gross profit decreased \$1.4 million, or 0.9%, to \$145.9 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2007. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 35.5% in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 as compared to 37.6% in the third quarter of fiscal 2006. Our gross profit decreased \$5.0 million, or 1.4%, to \$347.7 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2007. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 34.1% in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 as compared to 36.5% in the first nine months of fiscal 2006.

These decreases in gross profit as a percentage of net sales reflect:

- a decrease in gross profit in our consolidated retail segments, primarily OshKosh, due to increased promotional (i) pricing (gross profit dollars in our consolidated retail business decreased in both periods despite an increase in consolidated retail net sales of 5.8% in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 and 5.5% in the first nine months of fiscal 2007);
- (ii) the impact of Carter's brand wholesale product performance, which led to higher levels of customer accommodations in the third quarter of fiscal 2007; and
- (iii) the impact of OshKosh brand wholesale product performance, which led to higher levels of customer accommodations in the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007.

The Company includes distribution costs in its selling, general, and administrative expenses. Accordingly, the Company's gross profit may not be comparable to other companies that include such distribution costs in their cost of goods sold.

## SELLING, GENERAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Selling, general, and administrative expenses in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 increased \$0.7 million, or 0.8%, to \$94.2 million. As a percentage of net sales, selling, general, and administrative expenses in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 were 22.9% as compared to 23.9% in the third quarter of fiscal 2006. Selling, general, and administrative expenses in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 increased \$8.2 million, or 3.2%, to \$267.1 million. As a percentage of net sales, selling, general, and administrative expenses in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 were 26.2% as compared to 26.8% in the first nine months of fiscal 2006.

These decreases in selling, general, and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales reflect:

- (i) controlling growth in spending to a rate lower than the growth in net sales for both the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007; and
- (ii) a reduction in incentive compensation expense of \$4.3 million and \$7.5 million as compared to the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2006, respectively.

Partially offsetting these decreases were:

- (i) increased severance, recruiting, and relocation expenses of \$2.5 million and \$2.3 million as compared to the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2006; and
- (ii) accelerated depreciation charges of \$2.1 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 related to the closure of our White House, Tennessee distribution facility.

## INTANGIBLE ASSET IMPAIRMENT

During the second quarter of fiscal 2007, as a result of negative trends in sales and profitability of the OshKosh wholesale and retail segments and revised projections for such segments, the Company conducted an interim impairment assessment on the value of the intangible assets that the Company recorded in connection with the acquisition of OshKosh B'Gosh, Inc. (the "Acquisition"). This assessment was performed in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 142, "Goodwill and Intangible Assets." Based on this assessment, charges of approximately \$36.0 million and \$106.9 million were recorded for the impairment of the cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired for the wholesale and retail segments, respectively. In addition, an impairment charge of \$12.0 million was recorded to reflect the impairment of the value ascribed to the OshKosh tradename.

## CLOSURE COSTS

On February 15, 2007, the Board of Directors approved management's plan to close the Company's White House, Tennessee distribution facility, which was utilized to distribute the Company's OshKosh brand products. During the third quarter of fiscal 2007, we recorded \$0.3 million of closure costs.

In the first nine months of fiscal 2007, we recorded costs of \$7.4 million, consisting of asset impairment charges of \$2.4 million related to a write-down of the related land, building, and equipment, \$2.0 million of severance charges, \$2.1 million of accelerated depreciation (included in selling, general, and administrative expenses), and \$0.9 million in other closure costs.

In May 2005, we decided to exit two Carter's brand sewing facilities in Mexico. In the first nine months of fiscal 2006, in connection with these closures, we recorded costs of \$91,000, including \$74,000 of severance and \$17,000 of other exit costs.



## ROYALTY INCOME

We license the use of our Carter's, Just One Year, Child of Mine, OshKosh, and Genuine Kids from OshKosh brand names. Royalty income from these brands increased \$0.9 million, or 11.1% to \$8.6 million (including \$1.7 million of international royalty income from our OshKosh brands) in the third quarter of fiscal 2007. This increase was driven by increased sales of our Carter's brand and OshKosh brand domestic licensees.

Royalty income from these brands was approximately \$22.9 million (including \$5.1 million of international royalty income from our OshKosh brands) in the first nine months of fiscal 2007, an increase of 5.9%, or \$1.3 million, as compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2006. This increase was driven primarily by increased sales by our OshKosh brand domestic licensees.

## OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)

As a result of the factors described above, operating income decreased \$1.5 million, or 2.4%, to \$60.0 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2007. Our operating loss was \$56.7 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 as compared to operating income of \$115.2 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2006. These decreases in operating results are due to the factors described above, including the charges incurred in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 related to the impairment of OshKosh's intangible assets and the closure of our White House, Tennessee distribution facility.

## INTEREST EXPENSE, NET

Interest expense in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 decreased \$0.5 million, or 8.1%, to \$6.0 million. The decrease is attributable to lower average borrowings in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 due to accelerated debt reduction in fiscal 2006 and a lower effective interest rate. Weighted-average borrowings in the third quarter of fiscal 2007 were \$366.1 million at an effective interest rate of 6.8% as compared to weighted-average borrowings in the third quarter of fiscal 2006 of \$393.6 million at an effective interest rate of 7.1%. In the third quarters of fiscal 2007 and 2006, our interest rate swap agreement reduced our interest expense under the term loan by approximately \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million.

Interest expense in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 decreased \$2.9 million, or 14.3%, to \$17.5 million. The decrease is attributable to lower average borrowings in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 due to accelerated debt reduction in fiscal 2006 and a lower effective interest rate. Weighted-average borrowings in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 were \$351.6 million at an effective interest rate of 7.0% as compared to weighted-average borrowings in the first nine months of fiscal 2006 of \$408.8 million at an effective interest rate of 7.1%. In the first nine months of fiscal 2007 and 2006, our interest rate swap agreement reduced our interest expense under the term loan approximately \$1.3 million and \$0.9 million.

## INCOME TAXES

Our effective tax rate was 35.9% for the third quarter of fiscal 2007 as compared to 36.3% in the third quarter of fiscal 2006. This decrease was the result of the reversal of certain reserves for tax positions due to the closure of the statute of limitations for federal and state purposes. Our effective tax rate was (33.8%) for the first nine months of fiscal 2007 as compared to 37.0% for the first nine months of fiscal 2006. This change in our effective rate is a result of the impairment of our OshKosh cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired asset, which is not deductible for income tax purposes.

## NET INCOME (LOSS)

As a result of the factors above, our third quarter fiscal 2007 net income decreased to approximately \$34.6 million as compared to approximately \$35.0 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2006. We recorded a net loss for the first nine months of fiscal 2007 of \$99.2 million as compared to net income of \$59.8 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2006.

## FINANCIAL CONDITION, CAPITAL RESOURCES, AND LIQUIDITY

Our primary cash needs are working capital and capital expenditures. Our primary source of liquidity will continue to be cash flow from operations and borrowings under our revolver, and we expect that these sources will fund our ongoing requirements for working capital and capital expenditures. These sources of liquidity may be impacted by continued demand for our products and our ability to meet debt covenants under our senior credit facility.

Net accounts receivable at September 29, 2007 were \$160.1 million compared to \$150.8 million at September 30, 2006 and \$110.6 million at December 30, 2006. The increase as compared to September 30, 2006 reflects higher levels of Carter's brand revenue in the latter part of the third quarter of fiscal 2007 as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2006. Due to the seasonal nature of our operations, the net accounts receivable balance at September 29, 2007 is not comparable to the net accounts receivable balance at December 30, 2006.

Net inventories at September 29, 2007 were \$246.5 million compared to \$199.8 million at September 30, 2006 and \$193.6 million at December 30, 2006. The increase of \$46.7 million, or 23.4%, as compared to September 30, 2006 is due primarily to the timing of receipts of playwear product inventory, carrying higher levels of inventory to better support our retail stores, and increased inventory levels of Carter's baby products to support higher demand. Due to the seasonal nature of our operations, net inventories at September 29, 2007 are not comparable to net inventories at December 30, 2006.

Net cash used in operating activities for the first nine months of fiscal 2007 was \$38.6 million compared to \$5.2 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2006. This change is primarily attributable to increased levels of inventory.

On February 16, 2007, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program, pursuant to which the Company is authorized to purchase up to \$100 million of its outstanding common shares. Such repurchases may occur from time to time in the open market, in negotiated transactions, or otherwise. This program has no time limit. The timing and amount of any repurchases will be determined by management, based on its evaluation of market conditions, share price, and other factors.

During the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007, the Company repurchased and retired 338,100 and 1,985,519 shares, or approximately \$7.4 million and \$47.4 million, of its common stock at an average price of \$21.87 and \$23.88 per share, respectively. Accordingly, we have reduced common stock by the par value of such shares and have deducted the remaining excess repurchase price over par value from additional paid-in capital. Subject to market conditions and availability on the revolver, the Company plans to continue to repurchase shares during the balance of fiscal 2007.

As a result of the closure of our White House, Tennessee distribution facility, we recorded costs in the first nine months of fiscal 2007 of \$7.4 million, consisting of asset impairment charges of \$2.4 million related to a write-down of the related land, building, and equipment, \$2.0 million of severance charges, \$2.1 million of accelerated depreciation (included in selling, general, and administrative expenses), and \$0.9 million of other closure costs. We expect to incur \$0.8 million of additional cash charges in the balance of fiscal 2007 and the first half of fiscal 2008, consisting primarily of other exit costs. The estimated annual savings resulting from the closure of this facility are approximately \$4.0 million.





The estimated value of the White House assets as of September 29, 2007 was \$6.1 million. These assets are classified as assets held for sale on the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.

In connection with the Acquisition, management developed an integration plan that includes severance, certain facility and store closings, and contract termination costs. The following liabilities, included in other current liabilities on the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet, were established at the closing of the Acquisition, will be funded by cash flows from operations and borrowings under our revolver, and are expected to be paid in fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2008:

(dollars in thousands)	Severance	Other exit costs	Lease termination costs	Contract termination costs	Total
Balance at December 30, 2006	\$ 2,135	\$ 719	\$ 1,733	\$ 200	\$ 4,787
Payments	(626)	(473)	(610)	--	(1,709)
Balance at March 31, 2007	1,509	246	1,123	200	3,078
Payments	(288)	(154)	(469)	--	(911)
Adjustments to cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired	(100)	--	--	(200)	(300)
Balance at June 30, 2007	1,121	92	654	--	1,867
Payments	(391)	(43)	--	--	(434)
Balance at September 29, 2007	\$ 730	\$ 49	\$ 654	\$ --	\$ 1,433

We invested approximately \$13.2 million in capital expenditures during the first nine months of fiscal 2007 compared to approximately \$15.9 million during the first nine months of fiscal 2006. We plan to invest an additional \$14 million to \$17 million in capital expenditures during the remainder of fiscal 2007. Major investments include retail store openings and remodelings, investments in information technology, and fixturing programs for wholesale customers.

Weighted-average borrowings for the nine-month period ended September 29, 2007 were \$351.6 million at an effective interest rate of 7.0% as compared to weighted-average borrowings of \$408.8 million at an effective interest rate of 7.1% for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2006.

At September 29, 2007, we had approximately \$342.4 million in term loan borrowings and \$21.6 million in borrowings outstanding under our revolver, exclusive of approximately \$12.3 million of outstanding letters of credit. Principal borrowings under our term loan are due and payable in quarterly installments of \$0.9 million through June 30, 2012 with the remaining balance of \$325.8 million due on July 14, 2012.

Our senior credit facility requires us to hedge at least 25% of our variable rate debt under the term loan. On September 22, 2005, we entered into a swap agreement to receive floating interest and pay fixed interest. This swap agreement is designated as a cash flow hedge of the variable interest payments on a portion of our variable rate term loan debt. The swap agreement matures on July 30, 2010. As of September 29, 2007, approximately \$152.5 million of our outstanding term loan debt was hedged under this agreement.

On May 25, 2006, we entered into an interest rate collar agreement (the "collar") with a floor of 4.3% and a ceiling of 5.5%. The collar covers \$100 million of our variable rate term loan debt and is designated as a cash flow hedge of the variable interest payments on such debt. The collar matures on January 31, 2009.

Our senior credit facility also sets forth mandatory and optional prepayment conditions, including an annual excess cash flow requirement, as defined, that may result in our use of cash to reduce our debt obligations. No such prepayment was required for fiscal 2006.

Based on our current level of operations, we believe that cash generated from operations and available cash, together with amounts available under our revolver, will be adequate to meet our debt service requirements, capital expenditures, and working capital needs for the foreseeable future, although no assurance can be given in this regard. We may, however, need to refinance all or a portion of the principal amount of amounts outstanding under our revolver on or before July 14, 2011 and amounts outstanding under our term loan on or before July 14, 2012.

#### EFFECTS OF INFLATION AND DEFLATION

We are affected by inflation and changing prices primarily through purchasing product from our global suppliers, increased operating costs and expenses, and fluctuations in interest rates. The effects of inflation on our net sales and operations have not been material. In recent years, there has been deflationary pressure on selling prices. While we have been successful in offsetting such deflationary pressures through product improvements and lower costs with the expansion of our global sourcing network, if deflationary price trends outpace our ability to obtain further price reductions from our global suppliers, our profitability may be affected.

#### SEASONALITY

We experience seasonal fluctuations in our sales and profitability, with generally lower sales and gross profit in the first and second quarters of our fiscal year. Over the past five fiscal years, excluding the impact of the Acquisition in fiscal 2005, approximately 57% of our consolidated net sales were generated in the second half of our fiscal year. Accordingly, our results of operations for the first and second quarters of any year are not indicative of the results we expect for the full year.

As a result of this seasonality, our inventory levels and other working capital requirements generally begin to increase during the second quarter and into the third quarter of each year. During these peak periods we have historically borrowed under our revolving credit facility.

#### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances, 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. Actual results may differ from these

estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

Our significant accounting policies are described in Note 2 to our audited consolidated financial statements contained in our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K. The following discussion addresses our critical accounting policies and estimates, which are those policies that require management's most difficult and subjective judgments, often as a result of the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain.

**Revenue recognition:** We recognize wholesale and mass channel revenue after shipment of products to customers, when title passes, when all risks and rewards of ownership have transferred, the sales price is fixed or determinable, and collectibility is reasonably assured. In certain cases, in which we retain the risk of loss during shipment, revenue recognition does not occur until the goods have reached the specified customer. In the normal course of business, we grant certain accommodations and allowances to our wholesale and mass channel customers in order to assist these customers with inventory clearance and promotions. Such amounts are reflected as a reduction of net sales and are recorded based upon historical trends and annual forecasts. Retail store revenues are recognized at the point of sale. We reduce revenue for customer returns and deductions. We also maintain an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of our customers to make payments and other actual and estimated deductions. If the financial condition of our customers were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payments, an additional allowance could be required. Past due balances over 90 days are reviewed individually for collectibility. Our credit and collections department reviews all other balances regularly. Account balances are charged off against the allowance when we feel it is probable the receivable will not be recovered.

We contract with a third-party service to provide us with the fair value of cooperative advertising arrangements entered into with certain of our major wholesale and mass channel customers. Such fair value is determined based upon, among other factors, comparable market analysis for similar advertisements. In accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 01-09, "Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer/Reseller," we have included the fair value of these arrangements of approximately \$0.8 million and \$1.4 million in the third quarter and the first nine months of fiscal 2007 and \$0.9 million and \$2.6 million in the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2006 as a component of selling, general, and administrative expenses in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations rather than as a reduction of revenue. Amounts determined to be in excess of the fair value of these arrangements are recorded as a reduction of net sales.

**Inventory:** We provide reserves for slow-moving inventory equal to the difference between the cost of inventory and the estimated market value based upon assumptions about future demand and market conditions. If actual market conditions are less favorable than those we project, additional write-downs may be required.

**Cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired and tradename:** As of September 29, 2007, we had approximately \$444.8 million in Carter's cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired and Carter's and OshKosh tradename assets. The fair value of the Carter's tradename was estimated at the 2001 acquisition to be approximately \$220.2 million using a discounted cash flow analysis, which examined the hypothetical cost savings that accrue as a result of our ownership of the tradename. The fair value of the OshKosh tradename is currently estimated to be approximately \$88.0 million, also using a discounted cash flow analysis. The cash flows, which incorporated both historical and projected financial performance, were discounted using a discount rate of 10% and 12% for Carter's and OshKosh, respectively. The tradenames were determined to have indefinite lives. The carrying value of these assets is subject to annual impairment reviews as of the last day of each fiscal year. Factors affecting such impairment reviews include the continued market acceptance of our offered products and the development of new products. Impairment reviews may also be triggered by any significant events or changes in circumstances.

Accrued expenses: Accrued expenses for health insurance, workers' compensation, incentive compensation, and other outstanding obligations are assessed based on actual commitments, statistical trends, and estimates based on projections and current expectations, and these estimates are updated periodically as additional information becomes available.

Accounting for income taxes: As part of the process of preparing our consolidated financial statements, we are required to estimate our actual current tax exposure (state, federal, and foreign), together with assessing permanent and temporary differences resulting from differing bases and treatment of items for tax and accounting purposes, such as the carrying value of intangibles, deductibility of expenses, depreciation of property, plant, and equipment, and valuation of inventories. Temporary differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included within our consolidated balance sheets. We must then assess the likelihood that our deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income. Actual results could differ from this assessment if sufficient taxable income is not generated in future periods. To the extent we determine the need to establish a valuation allowance or increase such allowance in a period, we must include an expense within the tax provision in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations.

Stock-based compensation arrangements: The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment." The Company uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which requires the use of subjective assumptions. These assumptions include the following:

Volatility— This is a measure of the amount by which a stock price has fluctuated or is expected to fluctuate. The Company uses actual monthly historical changes in the market value of our stock since the Company's initial public offering on October 29, 2003, supplemented by peer company data for periods prior to our initial public offering covering the expected life of stock options being valued. An increase in the expected volatility will increase compensation expense.

Risk-free interest rate— This is the U.S. Treasury rate as of the grant date having a term equal to the expected term of the stock option. An increase in the risk-free interest rate will increase compensation expense.

Expected term— This is the period of time over which the stock options granted are expected to remain outstanding and is based on historical experience and estimated future exercise behavior. Separate groups of employees that have similar historical exercise behavior are considered separately for valuation purposes. An increase in the expected term will increase compensation expense.

Dividend yield— The Company does not have plans to pay dividends in the foreseeable future. An increase in the dividend yield will decrease compensation expense.

Forfeitures— The Company estimates forfeitures of stock-based awards based on historical experience and expected future activity.

Changes in the subjective assumptions can materially affect the estimate of fair value of stock-based compensation and consequently, the related amount recognized in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations.

## RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, “Fair Value Measurements” (“SFAS 157”), which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The provisions of SFAS 157 are effective as of the beginning of our 2008 fiscal year. We are evaluating the impact that SFAS 157 will have on our consolidated financial statements based on evolving interpretive guidance.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, “The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities — Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115” (“SFAS 159”), which provides entities with an option to report selected financial assets and liabilities at fair value. SFAS 159 also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. This statement is effective as of the beginning of the first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. We are currently evaluating the impact that SFAS 159 will have on our consolidated financial statements.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements contained herein that relate to our future performance, including, without limitation, statements with respect to our anticipated results of operations or level of business for fiscal 2007 or any other future period, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements are based on current expectations only and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties, and assumptions. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those anticipated, estimated, or projected. These risks are described herein under Item 1A of Part II. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

CURRENCY AND INTEREST RATE RISKS

In the operation of our business, we have market risk exposures including those related to foreign currency risk and interest rates. These risks and our strategies to manage our exposure to them are discussed below.

We contract for production with third parties primarily in the Far East and South and Central America. While these contracts are stated in United States dollars, there can be no assurance that the cost for the future production of our products will not be affected by exchange rate fluctuations between the United States dollar and the local currencies of these contractors. Due to the number of currencies involved, we cannot quantify the potential impact of future currency fluctuations on net income (loss) in future years. In order to manage this risk, we source products from approximately 100 vendors worldwide, providing us with flexibility in our production should significant fluctuations occur between the United States dollar and various local currencies. To date, such exchange fluctuations have not had a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations. We do not hedge foreign currency exchange rate risk.

Our operating results are subject to risk from interest rate fluctuations on our senior credit facility, which carries variable interest rates. As of September 29, 2007, our outstanding debt aggregated \$364.0 million, of which \$111.5 million bore interest at a variable rate. An increase of 1% in the applicable rate would increase our annual interest cost by \$1.1 million, exclusive of variable rate debt subject to our swap and collar agreements, and could have an adverse effect on our net income (loss) and cash flow.

OTHER RISKS

We enter into various purchase order commitments with full-package suppliers. We can cancel these arrangements, although in some instances, we may be subject to a termination charge reflecting a percentage of work performed prior to cancellation. As we rely exclusively on our full-package global sourcing network, we could incur more of these termination charges, which could increase our cost of goods sold and have a material impact on our business.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined under Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

(b) Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:

N/A

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS:

You should carefully consider each of the following risk factors as well as the other information contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission in evaluating our business. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently consider immaterial may also impair our business operations. If any of the following risks actually occur, our operating results may be affected.

Risks Relating to Our Business

The loss of one or more of our major customers could result in a material loss of revenues.

In the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007, we derived approximately 52.2% and 53.0% of our consolidated net sales from our top eight customers, including mass channel customers. Wal-Mart accounted for approximately 13% and 15%, and Kohl's accounted for approximately 13% and 10% of our consolidated net sales for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2007, respectively. We expect that these customers will continue to represent a significant portion of our sales in the future. However, we do not enter into long-term sales contracts with our major customers, relying instead on long-standing relationships with these customers and on our position in the marketplace. As a result, we face the risk that one or more of our major customers may significantly decrease its or their business with us or terminate its or their relationships with us. Any such decrease or termination of our major customers' business could result in a material decrease in our sales and operating income (loss).

The acceptance of our products in the marketplace is affected by consumers' tastes and preferences, along with fashion trends.

We believe that continued success depends on our ability to provide a unique and compelling value proposition for our consumers in the Company's distribution channels. There can be no assurance that the demand for our products will not decline, or that we will be able to successfully evaluate and adapt our product to be aware of consumers' tastes and preferences and fashion trends. If consumers' tastes and preferences are not aligned with our product offerings, promotional pricing may be required to move seasonal merchandise. Increased use of promotional pricing would have a material adverse affect on our sales, gross margin, and results of operations.

The value of our brand, and our sales, could be diminished if we are associated with negative publicity.

Although our employees, agents, and third-party compliance auditors periodically visit and monitor the operations of our vendors, independent manufacturers, and licensees, we do not control these vendors, independent manufacturers, licensees, or their labor practices. A violation of our vendor policies, licensee agreements, labor laws, or other laws by these vendors, independent manufacturers, or licensees could interrupt or otherwise disrupt our supply chain or damage our brand image. As a result, negative publicity regarding our Company, brands, or products, including licensed products, could adversely affect our reputation and sales.



The security of the Company's databases that contain personal information of our retail customers could be breached, which could subject us to adverse publicity, litigation, and expenses. In addition, if we are unable to comply with security standards created by the credit card industry, our operations could be adversely affected.

Database privacy, network security, and identity theft are matters of growing public concern. In an attempt to prevent unauthorized access to our network and databases containing confidential, third-party information, we have installed privacy protection systems, devices, and activity monitoring on our network. Nevertheless, if unauthorized parties gain access to our networks or databases, they may be able to steal, publish, delete, or modify our private and sensitive third-party information. In such circumstances, we could be held liable to our customers or other parties or be subject to regulatory or other actions for breaching privacy rules. This could result in costly investigations and litigation, civil or criminal penalties, and adverse publicity that could adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, and reputation. Further, if we are unable to comply with the security standards, established by banks and the credit card industry, we may be subject to fines, restrictions, and expulsion from card acceptance programs, which could adversely affect our retail operations.

The Company's royalty income is greatly impacted by the Company's brand reputation.

The Company's brand image, which is associated with providing a consumer product with outstanding quality and name recognition, makes it valuable as a royalty source. The Company is able to license complementary products and obtain royalty income from use of its Carter's, Child of Mine, Just One Year, OshKosh, Genuine Kids from OshKosh, and related trademarks. The Company also generates foreign royalty income as our OshKosh B'Gosh label carries an international reputation for quality and American style. While the Company takes significant steps to ensure the reputation of its brand is maintained through its license agreements, there can be no guarantee that the Company's brand image will not be negatively impacted through its association with products outside of the Company's core apparel products.

There are deflationary pressures on the selling price of apparel products.

In part due to the actions of discount retailers, and in part due to the worldwide supply of low cost garment sourcing, the average selling price of children's apparel continues to decrease. To the extent these deflationary pressures are offset by reductions in manufacturing costs, there is a modest affect on the gross margin percentage. However, the inability to leverage certain fixed costs of the Company's design, sourcing, distribution, and support costs over its gross sales base could have an adverse impact on the Company's operating income (loss).

Our business is sensitive to overall levels of consumer spending, particularly in the apparel segment.

The Company believes that spending on children's apparel is somewhat discretionary. While certain apparel purchases are less discretionary due to size changes as children grow, the amount of clothing consumers desire to purchase, specifically brand name apparel products, is impacted by the overall level of consumer spending. Overall economic conditions that affect discretionary consumer spending include employment levels, gasoline and utility costs, business conditions, tax rates, interest rates, and levels of consumer indebtedness. Reductions in the level of discretionary spending or shifts in consumer spending to other products may have a material adverse affect on the Company's sales and results of operations.

We source substantially all of our products through foreign production arrangements. Our dependence on foreign supply sources could result in disruptions to our operations in the event of political instability, international events, or new foreign regulations and such disruptions may increase our cost of goods sold and decrease gross profit.

We source substantially all of our products through a network of vendors in the Far East, coordinated by our Far East agents. The following could disrupt our foreign supply chain, increase our cost of goods sold, decrease our gross profit, or impact our ability to get products to our customers:

- political instability or other international events resulting in the disruption of trade in foreign countries from which we source our products;
- the imposition of new regulations relating to imports, duties, taxes, and other charges on imports including the China safeguards;
- the occurrence of a natural disaster or an epidemic, the spread of which may impact our ability to obtain products on a timely basis;
  - changes in U.S. Customs procedures concerning the importation of apparel products;
    - unforeseen delays in customs clearance of any goods;
  - disruption in the global transportation network such as a port strike, world trade restrictions, or war;
    - the application of foreign intellectual property laws; and
- exchange rate fluctuations between the United States dollar and the local currencies of foreign contractors.

These and other events beyond our control could interrupt our supply chain and delay receipt of our products into the United States.

We operate in a highly-competitive market and the size and resources of some of our competitors may allow them to compete more effectively than we can, resulting in a loss of market share and, as a result, a decrease in revenues and gross profit.

The baby and young children's apparel market is highly competitive. Both branded and private label manufacturers compete in the baby and young children's apparel market. Our primary competitors in our wholesale and mass channel businesses include Disney, Gerber, and private label product offerings. Our primary competitors in the retail store channel include Old Navy, The Gap, The Children's Place, Gymboree, and Disney. Because of the fragmented nature of the industry, we also compete with many other manufacturers and retailers. Some of our competitors have greater financial resources and larger customer bases than we have and are less financially leveraged than we are. As a result, these competitors may be able to:

- adapt to changes in customer requirements more quickly;
- take advantage of acquisition and other opportunities more readily;
- devote greater resources to the marketing and sale of their products; and
  - adopt more aggressive pricing strategies than we can.



The Company's retail success and future growth is dependent upon identifying locations and negotiating appropriate lease terms for retail stores.

The Company's retail stores are located in leased retail locations across the country. Successful operation of a retail store depends, in part, on the overall ability of the retail location to attract a consumer base sufficient to make store sales volume profitable. If the Company is unable to identify new retail locations with consumer traffic sufficient to support a profitable sales level, retail growth may consequently be limited. Further, if existing outlet centers do not maintain a sufficient customer base that provides a reasonable sales volume, there could be a material adverse impact on the Company's sales, gross margin, and results of operations.

Our leverage could adversely affect our financial condition.

On September 29, 2007, we had total debt of approximately \$364.0 million, including \$21.6 million of borrowings under our revolver.

Our indebtedness could have negative consequences. For example, it could:

- increase our vulnerability to interest rate risk;
- limit our ability to obtain additional financing to fund future working capital, capital expenditures, and other general corporate requirements, or to carry out other aspects of our business plan;
- require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to pay principal of, and interest on, our indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of that cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures, or other general corporate purposes, or to carry out other aspects of our business plan;
  - limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry; and
    - place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt.

In addition, our senior credit facility contains financial and other restrictive covenants that may limit our ability to engage in activities that may be in our long-term best interests such as selling assets, strategic acquisitions, paying dividends, and borrowing additional funds. Our failure to comply with those covenants could result in an event of default which, if not cured or waived, could result in the acceleration of all of our debt which could leave us unable to meet some or all of our obligations.

Profitability could be negatively impacted if we do not adequately forecast the demand for our products and, as a result, create significant levels of excess inventory or insufficient levels of inventory.

If the Company does not adequately forecast demand for its products and purchases inventory to support an inaccurate forecast, the Company could experience increased costs due to the need to dispose of excess inventory or lower profitability due to insufficient levels of inventory.

We may not achieve sales growth plans, cost savings, and other assumptions that support the carrying value of our intangible assets.

In connection with the 2001 acquisition of the Company by investment funds affiliated with Berkshire Partners LLC, we recorded cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired of \$136.6 million and a Carter's brand tradename asset of \$220.2 million. Additionally, in connection with the Acquisition of OshKosh, we recorded cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired of \$142.9 million and a tradename asset of \$102.0 million. The carrying value of these assets is subject to annual impairment reviews as of the last day of each fiscal year or more frequently, if deemed necessary, due to any significant events or changes in circumstances. During the second quarter of fiscal 2007, the Company performed an interim impairment review of the OshKosh intangible assets due to continued negative trends in sales and profitability of the Company's OshKosh wholesale and retail segments and the re-forecasted projections for such segments for the balance of fiscal 2007. As a result of this review, the Company wrote off our OshKosh cost in excess of fair value net assets acquired asset of \$142.9 million and wrote down the OshKosh tradename by \$12.0 million. During the third quarter of fiscal 2007, the OshKosh tradename asset was reduced by \$2.0 million to reflect the settlement of pre-Acquisition tax obligations as described in Note 4 "Income Taxes" to the Company's unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Estimated future cash flows used in these impairment reviews could be negatively impacted if we do not achieve our sales growth plans, planned cost savings, and other assumptions that support the carrying value of these intangible assets, which could result in potential impairment of the remaining asset value.

The Company's success is dependent upon retaining key individuals within the organization to execute the Company's strategic plan.

The Company's ability to attract and retain qualified executive management, marketing, merchandising, design, sourcing, operations, and support function staffing is key to the Company's success. If the Company were unable to attract and retain qualified individuals in these areas, an adverse impact on the Company's growth and results of operations may result.

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

The following table provides information about purchases by the Company during the three-month period ended September 29, 2007, of equity securities that are registered by the Company pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act:

Period	Total number of shares purchased	Average price paid per share	Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs (1)	Approximate dollar value of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs (1)
July 1, 2007 through July 28, 2007	--	\$ --	--	\$ 59,988,041
July 29, 2007 through August 25, 2007	338,100(2)	\$ 21.87	338,100	\$ 52,594,393
August 26, 2007 through September 29, 2007	--	\$ --	--	\$ 52,594,393
<b>Total</b>	<b>338,100</b>	<b>\$ 21.87</b>	<b>338,100</b>	<b>\$ 52,594,393</b>

(1) On February 16, 2007, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program, pursuant to which the Company is authorized to purchase up to \$100 million of its outstanding common shares. Such repurchases may occur from time to time in the open market, in negotiated transactions, or otherwise. This program has no time limit. The timing and amount of any repurchases will be determined by the Company's management, based on its evaluation of market conditions, share price, and other factors. This program was announced in the Company's report on Form 8-K, which was filed on February 21, 2007. The total remaining authorization under the repurchase program was \$52,594,393 as of September 29, 2007.

(2) Represents repurchased shares which were retired.

## ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES:

N/A

## ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS:

N/A

## ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION:

N/A

## ITEM 6. EXHIBITS:

(a) Exhibits:

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibits
31.1	Rule 13a-15(e)/15d-15(e) and 13a-15(f)/15d-15(f) Certification
31.2	Rule 13a-15(e)/15d-15(e) and 13a-15(f)/15d-15(f) Certification
32	Section 1350 Certification

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrants have duly caused this report to be signed on their behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

CARTER'S, INC.

Date: October 29,  
2007      /s/ FREDERICK  
                 J. ROWAN, II  
                 Frederick J.  
                 Rowan, II  
                 Chairman of the  
                 Board of  
                 Directors and  
                 Chief Executive  
                 Officer

Date: October 29,  
2007      /s/ MICHAEL  
                 D. CASEY  
                 Michael D.  
                 Casey  
                 Executive  
                 Vice  
                 President and  
                 Chief  
                 Financial  
                 Officer



